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SECTION A

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BEVERLY HILLS SHOWS TORRANCE THE WAY

AN EDITORIAL

The penalty which Torrance pays for remaining a part of the Los Angeles city school district is strikingly illustrated by a comparison of the school tax rate in this city with that of Beverly Hills. Torrance property owners will pay \$1.43 per \$100 assessed valuation into the treasury of the Los Angeles school district this year, an increase of 24 cents over last year's rate. On the other hand, Beverly Hills, which recently withdrew its high schools from the Los Angeles district, is able to reduce its school tax rate from \$1.25 in 1935 to \$1.15 in 1936.

And Beverly Hills is not skimping her education expenses in order to secure a lower tax rate. In fact, the school budget at Beverly Hills this year for teachers' salaries and operating expenses alone is \$30,000 more than last year. This in addition to substantial capital outlays for new buildings and equipment. In fact, Beverly Hills is proving the contention of many Torrance citizens that by forming our own school district we can have better school buildings, more modern facilities, and engage the highest priced instructors and still not pay as much in school taxes as we are now charged by the Los Angeles district.

While vastly different in many respects, Beverly Hills and Torrance are very similar in that each city has a large per capita wealth. In other words, both municipalities have large assessed valuations with relative small populations and school enrollments. A recent analysis of the 44 municipalities in Los Angeles county, based on this year's assessed valuations, rated Beverly Hills fifth and Torrance seventh in wealth per family. So for purposes of comparing education costs, the two cities are very similar and the comparison is fair.

Beverly Hills offers an ideal opportunity for studying the operation of schools under home control and also as a part of the Los Angeles system. From the very inception of the city, the grammar schools were operated as a local district, while the high schools were a part of the Los Angeles system. But the advantages of home operation were so apparent that the people of Beverly Hills a little over a year ago voted to withdraw their high schools from the Los Angeles city district. The wisdom of this action is now being reflected in better schools for less tax money. The school tax money contributed by property owners in Beverly Hills is now spent in that city instead of being diverted to other portions of the vast Los Angeles area. And Torrance can reap the same benefits by adopting the new city charter soon to be submitted to vote. Adoption of the charter automatically separates us from the Los Angeles school district and places our schools in our own hands.

Torrance children deserve better education than they are now receiving, and we can give it to them for less money than we are now paying if we will stop donating a large share of our school tax money to other sections of the far-flung Los Angeles city school district.

Widespread Publicity

To Be Given City By Chamber; Assistant Secretary Engaged.

An extensive program of publicity and promotion of Torrance industrial, commercial and civic developments has been started by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and will be continued over a period of several months. It was stated today by L. J. Gilmeister, secretary. Most important in this activity will be the work of inducing the construction of homes to accommodate the large number of local employees who are seeking housing in Torrance. Another item of major importance is that of sending out to thousands of industrialists throughout the east printed matter describing the advantages of Torrance.

Assistant Engaged

To assist in this large volume of office work the services of Miss Eva McCormick have been engaged. Secretary Gilmeister said. Miss McCormick, a graduate of Pacific University, Forest Grove, Ore., school of business administration, has been a resident of Torrance for the past several months, and has visited Torrance numerous times during the past several years. She is a niece of the late Judge John Dennis, former mayor and prominent civic worker in Torrance. Miss McCormick is experienced in real estate, insurance and public affairs.

Mrs. Phoebe Milburn, who has been in charge of the chamber office, will hereafter devote her time as city hostess in contacting and welcoming new residents.

CITY'S BUDGET NOT INCREASED FOR NEXT YEAR

Tax Rate Remains Same As
Last Year Despite Raise
In Employees' Wages

Despite the fact that wages of city employees have been raised, (eliminating cuts during the depression), the general governmental costs of the city will not be increased during the coming fiscal year, and the general municipal tax rate remains the same as last year. This was disclosed Tuesday evening when the Torrance city council adopted its budget and set the tax rates for next year. However, there will be an additional item of 11 cents on the tax bill next year to raise approximately \$20,000 to meet interest and retirement payments on the new civic building bonds for a two-year period.

Income
Estimated income for the next fiscal year, according to the budget, includes: General taxes, \$146,075; Library tax, \$10,986; Motor vehicle tax, \$7,000; Business licenses, \$5,200; Recorder's fines, \$2,000; Building, plumbing and electrical permits, \$1,000; Sewer permits, \$200; Franchise earnings, \$4,000; Moving permits, \$50; Plasterers' permits, \$100; and from the 10 cent advertising, parks, and promotion tax, \$18,259. Total estimated income is \$194,840.

Expenses
Among the expenses anticipated in next year's budget are: Governmental expense, \$36,188; Protection of life and property (fire and police departments), \$61,145; Health and sanitation, \$4,700; Street department, \$33,240; and Park department, \$25,959.

Purchases
Extra items and purchases provided for in the budget include: Street department equipment, \$2,600; Fire department equipment, \$1,500; Office equipment, most of which has already been purchased for the new city hall, \$3,600; Park department equipment, \$500; Lamp post painting, \$500; Traffic painting, \$500; Architect's fees for building, \$250; Christmas tree program, \$185; McDonald Tract water lines, \$500; Alley and street material, \$1,300; Auditorium equipment, \$2,000; Lots adjacent to public library, \$2,490; Lomita lighting district refunds, \$1,000. There remains an unallocated fund of \$14,786.

Valuations
Official assessment valuation figures received by City Clerk Bartlett this week from the county auditor show: Torrance Tax District No. 1 (old town), \$8,125,625; Torrance Tax District No. 2 (annexed territory), \$10,133,770; Total, \$18,259,395.

To Resurface Torrance Blvd.

Resurfacing of Torrance boulevard, east of the tracks between 213th street and Western avenue and elimination of the dangerous jog on Western avenue at the Edison substation on 190th street are sought by the Torrance city council. Applications for both improvements to be paid for out of gasoline tax funds were authorized this week by the city council. The new widening of the curve at 190th street and Western avenue at \$950. Refund of \$1341 to the county of unused funds appropriated for the improvement of Cabrillo avenue was also ordered. The job cost this much less than was estimated and the refund authorized so that the money could be re-allocated for other projects in Torrance.

City May Buy Airport
TOLEDO (U.P.)—Purchase by the city, of Toledo's Transcontinental airport is being considered.

SPARK PLUG



JOHN D. M. HAMILTON
Chairman of the Republican National Committee, invades the Southland this week-end to light the spark in the Landon-Knox campaign. He will address a mass meeting in Hollywood bowl Saturday evening. He is shown above leaving his plane.

LEAVE FOR HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Otto B. Gray, who have been guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Webb, left Tuesday for their home in Portland, Ore.

Alameda Woman

Heads Legion Auxiliary as New State President

Ruth H. Mathebat of Alameda, headed the group of department officers elected at the 17th annual convention of the American Legion Auxiliary held in Hollywood this week. With her staff of officers she was installed by Elizabeth Brendell, past department president, Wednesday evening. Other officers included Florence Chess of San Mateo, first vice president; Ethel M. Flynn, of Oakland, who succeeds herself as secretary and treasurer, and Margaret Carson of Bakersfield, as member of finance committee. Mrs. Mathebat succeeds Ethel Marsh of Upland. Mrs. Marsh wielded the gavel at the convention just closed.

Delegates Chosen

Delegates at large to the national convention to be held at Cleveland are Leah Cloney of Eureka, state historian, and Pauline Ellison of Long Beach, retiring first vice president.

Alternate delegates at large are Elizabeth Brendell, Sarah Nash, Florence Chess, Marie Connelly and Edith Pontius. Twenty three state delegates and an equal number of alternates were chosen.

Mrs. Mathebat named Florence Chess as state membership chairman and Martha Decker, a close friend, as guest chairman. Mrs. Decker is also a past department president.

Honor Carol Marks
As a memorial to Carol Marks, first president of the department of California, the organization voted to establish a perpetual memorial. This will take the form of two scholarships: One at the University of California at Berkeley, and one at the University of California at Los Angeles. The fund will be raised by voluntary gifts during the coming three years. A check for \$100 was presented by Martha Decker.

San Bernardino and San Mateo were the new districts created at the convention, making a total of 26.

National Defense
The closing address of the convention was given by Carrie Baade, national defense chairman, who urged delegates to carry the fight for American defense, using the youth of the nation as a vital channel to reach national consciousness. She urged the sponsoring of oratorical contests in schools and establishing of libraries containing books on defense. These books must of course be selected with care.

Bert S. Crossland Unit 170 sent as delegates to the con-

Habig Is Found

War Veteran Who Disappeared Two
Months Ago Relates Kidnaping Tale

Leo L. Habig, former employee of the Coast Insulating Company, who disappeared under mysterious circumstances two months ago, has been found alive and is now in the Orange county General hospital, recuperating from his experiences. Habig was found yesterday, lying bound and gagged in a ditch near Garden Grove. A party of motorists, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jayne and Wesley Jayne of Fullerton, John Bruton of El Monte and Miss Mildred Dunlop of Anaheim, found the man and took him to a physician.

Habig told officers that he had been overpowered by three men as he was on his way to work at the local plant here, bound and gagged and taken to an abandoned house where he was kept in the basement under guard for the past two months.

Habig's disappearance created a sensation here. His blood-spattered car was found in a side street off East Road between Normandie and Vermont avenues, but no clues to his whereabouts were discovered.

His kidnapers threatened him with death if he did not turn over to them the \$900 in bonus money he was about to receive, Habig related. During the two months he was fed on stale bread and beer. In the absence of his captors he was fed by a masked woman.

Storage Bldg. Planned Next To Auditorium

City May Erect Small Structure
On Rear of Lot to
Store Equipment

Plans for a proposed new building, 30 feet by 50 feet, to be built on the back of the city-owned lot adjoining the civic auditorium was ordered drawn this week by the Torrance city council. Approximate cost of the structure is \$4,800.

In explaining the need for the building, Mayor Stanger pointed out that there was no room in the new auditorium for the storage of tables, boxing rings, or similar equipment, necessary for serving dinners or holding boxing and wrestling matches. If we are going to use the auditorium for such affairs, it is necessary to have convenient space in which to store such equipment when it is not in use, Mayor Stanger stated.

Other than authorizing engineer Leonard to draw up the plans, the council did not take any action toward the actual construction of the building.

Around the Council Table

Purchase of 1,000 feet of 2½-inch American fire hose was authorized by the Torrance city council at its meeting Tuesday evening. The new hose will replace that now in use on the three city fire trucks, which is over three years old. Price quoted, according to Mayor Stanger is about \$1.20 per foot.

Four additional fire hydrants to be located in Walteria were recommended by Fire Chief Stevenson, but the council deferred its decision until the report from the fire insurance underwriters could be obtained.

Rallions on the stairways leading to the stage of the civic auditorium and other minor safety devices were authorized on recommendation of the state safety engineer.

Contract for the purchase of lamps for street lights and other municipal purposes was awarded to the Torrance Electric Shop.

The question of furnishing a float at the National Air Races to be held at the Los Angeles municipal airport in Inglewood in September was referred to the Chamber of Commerce. Participation in the air race program was strongly urged in a letter from the board of supervisors.

Permission to sell Coca-Cola from the kitchen at the auditorium was given to the sponsors of the public dances planned for Saturday. The council specified, however, that the bottled drinks must not be carried into the auditorium proper.

Adjournment was taken on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 4:30 p. m., in order to act upon requests for location of hog ranches in remote unpopulated districts.

MOTHER DIES

R.H. Lockwood, manager of the Woolworth store here, received a message Tuesday conveying the sad news of the death of his mother, Mrs. W.A. Lockwood, who passed away in New York City that day.

PROMOTED



J. R. HAYDEN
Named as assistant to President Samuel T. Bledsoe, of the Santa Fe Railway System, is now direct representative of Santa Fe's president in California. Headquarters, San Francisco.

Dr. Bingham Takes a Bride

Dr. R. A. Bingham, prominent Torrance dentist, who left recently on a vacation trip to the north, returned this week accompanied by his bride, the former Miss Hjordis Dybvik. Dr. Bingham and Miss Dybvik were married Friday, August 7, at the parsonage of the Presbyterian church at Reno, Nevada. They are occupying Dr. Bingham's bachelor quarters until they can find a suitable residence.

PURCHASE HOME

The Stedman home, 2355 El Dorado street, was recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Young, of Los Angeles.

Townsendites Confused

By Political Claims of Various Candidates in August Primary

Most uncertain element of the coming primary election on August 25, is which candidates will receive the support of Townsendites. And with so many claims and counter-claims by the various candidates, it is doubtful if the Townsend Club members themselves will know whom

valid until it had gone through prescribed channels.

"Because:
"Three times that I know of, in public, you stated that you were going to run for Congress whether you received the Townsend endorsement or not.

"Because:
"From these and other facts in my possession I feel that you have proven yourself a political opportunist and that your election would be detrimental to the Plan.

"Therefore, I am not supporting you, although I am, and have been, an active loyal Townsend member. I am placing these facts before you and the public in plenty of time for you to refute them, although hundreds of Townsendites know them to be true.

"Tony Seizes Chance
Quick to grasp the opportunity offered by the apparent break-down in the Townsend Club support for Geyer, Candidate A. P. "Tony" Entenza announces from his headquarters that "hundreds of Townsend Club members throughout the district, are daily pledging their support to my campaign." A Townsend Committee for the support of Entenza's candidacy is in the offing. It is reported.

Colden's Record
Supporters of Congressman Charles J. Colden point out to Townsend Club members that Mr. Colden voted consistently for every humanitarian measure before Congress, and that he voted against the appropriation of \$50,000 to investigate the Townsend plan, on the grounds that the plan should be given a fair hearing with adequate debate on the floor of Congress to determine first if such an investigation were warranted.

"Because:
"You used every means possible to publicize yourself as the "Townsend endorsed" candidate, although you should have known, had you been active in Townsend work, that your endorsement was not

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