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PERMIT FOR REFINERY IS ISSUED TO SUNSET OIL CO.

Formal Approval of Transfer of Assets of Old Julian Oil Company Made Last Friday; Work On New Plant Expected At Early Date

Permission to erect an oil refinery at East Road and Figueroa street was granted the Sunset Oil Company this week by the board of supervisors, clearing the way for work to proceed by the new corporation that today has formal control of the asset of the old Julian firm.

On Monday there was filed with the county recorder the order confirming the sale of the assets under foreclosure, a deed from the special master, and a trust indenture executed by the Sunset Oil Company to secure its bonds in the sum of \$2,965,000. There was represented in these documents the largest transaction to pass through the county recorder's office for some months, according to County Recorder C. L. Loan. Fees on the three instruments amounted to a total of \$213, and in contrast the usual run of \$1 to \$2.50. The trust indenture alone contained 1,085,000 words, and it will require several months for the copying of all of the documents that must be recorded.

The sale under foreclosure as confirmed by United States District Judge Harry Hollister last Friday. The sale was actually made on December 23, 1934, by O. Broxon, vice president of a group of stockholders incorporated under the name of the Sunset Oil Company, bid \$5,000,000 in order for the assets of the Sunset-Pacifi Oil Company, which as the corporation then in control of the assets of the old Julian corporation. It took place in the Hall of Records, with Special Master George H. Day conducting the sale.

Filing of the necessary papers for recording then followed on Monday. First to be filed was the order confirming the sale under foreclosure for the \$5,000,000 worth of assets of the Sunset-Pacifi Oil Company, the Marine Refining Corporation, subsidiary of which was in turn a reorganization of the old Julian Petroleum Company and the California Eastern Oil Company. Filing required the 51,000 words in this document was \$52.

Presented next was a deed from the special master, joined by the three corporations and the receiver of each of the three corporations, to the Sunset Oil Company, the new company formed by Broxon. The fee for recording the 45,100 words in this document was \$46.10.

Last to be presented was the trust indenture, containing an estimated 1,085,000 words, on which the filing fee was \$120.65. Following this there was presented 29 assignments made to her companies by the Sunset company.

The county supervisors voted the application to erect a refinery upon motion of Supervisor John B. Quinn, and upon recommendation of the county general planning commission. The application had been made by H. Rolapp, federal receiver. The planning commission reported that the proposed site was in the Panamint industrial district, in which there are a number of oil fields, tank farms and other oil related facilities.

There are some dwellings within a radius of one-half mile or more of the site, and within a radius of five miles within a radius of a mile to the north. However, the prevailing wind is from the southwest. Owing to residential property in the area cannot expect protection from the development of the oil refinery there, Chief Engineer William Fox also pointed out that the Sunset company bank farm immediately adjoining the refinery site, and it would be unreasonable to prohibit its location under those circumstances.

Only condition was an easement to widen Figueroa to 100 feet.

Zamperini Picked As No. 1 Athlete

Jack Singer, metropolitan sport writer, picks Louis Zamperini, Torrance miler, as the outstanding prep athlete for 1934, basing his claim on the fact that this lower the world's record in the mile, a record that had stood for 18 years. Louis is well deserving of the honor, as he has maintained an unbroken record of no defeats for the past two years, and is the holder of all three records there are for the mile in prepdom.

R. R. Commission Okays Water Sale

At a meeting of the state Railroad Commission held December 29, the sale of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company water system to the City of Torrance was authorized, thus eliminating the last legal obstacle to the transfer.

Recreation Dept. Plans Programs Weekly In Jan.

Colored Orchestra Will Give Concert Here Next Tuesday Evening

Weekly programs of excellent merit are planned for January at the recreation center building, 1320 Cabrillo avenue, under the direction of SERRA playground workers beginning with a concert next Tuesday night, January 8, by a colored orchestra from Los Angeles. The following week, January 15, members of the dramatic department will present a minstrel show; on January 22, a troupe of Hillbillies will appear to sing and play for an old-time dance; and on January 29 a swimming party at the Redondo Beach plunge is planned.

All the talent for the various entertainments is professional in character and of the highest type of merit. The public is invited to attend any or all of the events free of charge.

The Torrance recreation project, under the SERRA, celebrated the New Year with a program and exhibit on Friday of last week, which was attended by more than 300 people. This date marked the first anniversary of the SERRA recreation project, and the first anniversary of the creation of the Torrance department of recreation.

Exhibits were shown by the arts and crafts department, headed by Mrs. Cora Bohrer, in woodwork, rubbercraft, art work and paper cutting; sewing, conducted by Mrs. Bohrer and Beulah Lewis; puppetry, by Elizabeth Moon, and show card work by Charles Fritter. Clubs and hobbies offered an unusual stamp collection by the Philatelist Club; chess display by A. L. Paul, Hugh Seckler and Mr. Peterson of the Chess Club.

The music department, headed by Mrs. Paul Burt Peters, violin instructor, and Esther Dandy, piano and dancing teacher, presented the musical program, which included a cello solo by Margie McNew; saxophone and violin trio; tap dancing, Dorothy McNew, Madelyn Hensley, Margie McNew, Virginia and Marjorie Rhind, Lorraine Robitoux, and Beatrice Micohe; acrobatic dance, Marguerite Wilson, Lorraine Stanley; piano duet, Rava, Falk and Ethel Schmitt; piano solos, Dorothy Cooper, Ralph Martinez, Margie Rhind, Leone Matthews; violin quartet, Margie Rhind, Marcella Paul, Gertrude Unger, Kathleen Mickle; violin solo, Marcella Paul. A reading by Ruth Seaborn represented the city park playgrounds, supervised by Annie Wilson and Ada Kessler.

The increase in postal business for the past 12 months is very gratifying to Mr. Conner and is an excellent indication of the general improvement in business conditions in this city.

Torrance Beach May Front On Submarine Base

Resolution Is Introduced At Board Meeting To Establish Base Off Coast

Torrance's mile of coast line may front upon one of the nation's submarine bases if a move revived this week by Supervisor John R. Quinn bears fruit at the national capital.

Supervisor Quinn introduced a resolution at Monday's board meeting asking Congressman John R. Dockweiler to take up the matter of a submarine base at Redondo Beach with Secretary of the Navy Swanson, and revive the proposal that was under way a year ago when it was dropped.

It was the Redondo Beach American Legion post that made the original proposal, more than a year ago. Petitions were circulated and some 5000 signatures obtained. Nothing came of the movement then, because of the naval treaty existing between the United States, Great Britain and Japan, called the 5-5-2 treaty.

Last Saturday noon it was announced that Japan had scrapped the much-discussed naval treaty. To Redondo Beach citizens and to Supervisor Quinn, this paves the way for revival of the proposal to establish a submarine base at Redondo Beach.

Exceptionally deep water is found just off the coast, which accounts for the excellent locality for deep-sea fishing that makes Redondo Beach so popular in that respect.

ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF HARBOR OFFICERS THURSDAY

Chambers of Commerce Will Hold Their Banquet and Program Welcoming New Staff At Woman's Clubhouse In Torrance

In its 17th year of organization, the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce will install the new officers for the coming year, Thursday night, January 10. The banquet to the new officers will be held in Torrance.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce has had a leading part in the organization since its inception and it is fitting that an important event be held there. Three presidents of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce have been from Torrance and in the early stages of the organization many of the important programs originated in this progressive community.

Supervisor John R. Quinn will be the installing officer, assisted by other prominent officials in the field of commerce.

With a membership of 50 Chambers of Commerce, this organization has always enjoyed perfect harmony in its membership, which is proven by the successful culmination of the programs undertaken. Specializing in state and county highways, transportation facilities have been improved by addition of better roads, short cuts and parallel lines to the leading arteries of the Harbor district. With this program the roads are attracted, thereby adding payrolls and population.

An important feature was the sponsoring of the county sanitation districts. This movement resulted in the establishment of sanitation districts with a county-wide layout and a huge central disposal plant.

Always working in unison, the meetings of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce are well attended, men high in public office being invited to speak, to enlighten the members on the problems before them and affording them an opportunity of broadening their knowledge in the presentations to their respective communities of problems for the good of these cities.

Hon. Frank F. Merriam, governor of California, was elected president of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce five times and helped materially in putting over many of the projects sponsored by his work in the legislature and his interest in community betterment.

The new year of 1935 has much in store for this progressive group of public spirited citizens who voluntarily give much of their valuable time in the interest of commerce.

Fred W. Marlow, district director for Southern California of the Better Housing program, will be the principal speaker.

Reservations for the affair, which will be attended by representatives from all over the district, must be made not later than next Tuesday, January 8. Dinner at 75 cents per plate will be served at the Woman's clubhouse, at 6:30 o'clock.

World's Fair to Celebrate Finish of Boulder Dam Is Recent Plan

If the promoters of the proposed Los Angeles Exposition and World's Fair for 1938-39 want to hold it at the site of Alondra Park, the board of supervisors will lease them the park site if they will pay the interest and the retirement due on the bonds during the period of the fair.

This information was sent to Les D. Mathews, of Los Angeles, president of the group which is proposing the fair as a celebration for the completion of the Boulder dam, the Metropolitan Aqueduct and the All-American Canal, recently started across Imperial Valley.

The promoters would hold the exposition from July 8, 1938, to July 4, 1939, according to communication sent to the supervisors, accompanied by a printed booklet setting forth some of the features proposed.

A stratosphere ride, one mile in the air, on cables supported by large captive balloons would be one of the features of the exposition, the letter stated.

The association wrote the supervisors late last week asking that the county enter into a lease for a nominal sum for the use of Alondra Park, and that the county agree to construct all walks, lay sewer lines, provide fire fighting equipment and emergency hospital facilities, all to be made quake and fireproof. Spanish style of architecture is to be specified, all buildings to be one story with the exception of the administration

Benefit Ball Will Be Given For Hospital

Grand Community Affair Will Be Held Some Time In February

Physicians of Torrance, Redondo Beach, Gardena, and other communities of the South Bay area, who bring their patients to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital for care during illness or for operations, have formed themselves into a committee to promote a ball, to be given some time in February for the benefit of the hospital, which has rendered such splendid service to this district during the past ten years.

Built and equipped by the heirs of the late Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of the city, in order to carry out his wishes as expressed in his will, the hospital was at first amply provided with funds to carry on its work, and maintain itself as a Class A institution, so rated by the examining board of the American College of Surgeons of the United States.

However, like all other institutions, the hospital during the past four years has felt the pinch of the depression. Increased taxes, increased wages for many employees of the Chancellor-Cantfield Midway Oil Company, it was announced this week by Sherwood McIntyre, superintendent of operations at Torrance.

The advance in wage rates authorized about two months ago under the federal oil administrator, did not include workmen who have been hired since August 19, 1933, and these men have been receiving a so-called "split rate." However, officials of the C. C. M. O., effective January 1, voluntarily placed these men on the regular wage basis, which averages about seven cents per hour increase, McIntyre stated. All classes of employees, excepting clerical workers, are affected by the voluntary increase, McIntyre announced.

For the past four years the struggle of the superintendent and hospital board to maintain the high rating of the Torrance hospital has been increasingly hard. Expenses have been cut wherever possible.

At this time, there is a need for further effort, but the effort must come from the people of the communities which this hospital serves, in order to free it from the financial burden under which it has been laboring.

The ball will provide the opportunity for all to do some small part in relieving the strain, and helping to keep the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital up to its present high standard.

By placing the date of the affair at the end of February, the committee feels that it will not interfere with the President's birthday ball on January 30, and all patrons and friends of the hospital are asked to bear the date in mind and to be ready to do their small part in making the benefit dance a big success.

Walter Schlick Resigns Position At National Bank

Resignation of Walter Schlick, effective January 5, as assistant cashier of the Torrance National Bank, was announced today by J. W. Post, president of the bank. Mr. Schlick and Earl Butler, who recently closed out his men's furnishing business in this city, will leave shortly to engage in the manufacture and sale of ice cream at Lodi, California.

"The resignation of Walter Schlick is deeply regretted by myself and other directors of the bank," said Mr. Post. "We are appreciative of the faithful service which Mr. Schlick has rendered during the past 11 years' association with the bank, and extend our best wishes for the success of both Mr. Schlick and Mr. Butler in their new field."

Truck Driver Is Given Stiff Fine

George H. Hoffman, 2344 237th street, Lomita, was arrested this week, charged with drunk driving, after his truck had collided with a car driven by Mitchell Skaff, 308 West Carolina, Hawthorne, on Lomita boulevard. Hoffman was fined \$180 or 90 days in the county jail on the drunk driving charge, suspended on condition that he pay for all damages. Skaff and his companion, Harry Joseph, 522 Jefferson, Hawthorne, were not injured.

TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS IN 1934 EXCELLENT INDICATION

Only One Large Permit Taken Out, For Improvement of High School; Many Smaller Permits Carry Total to \$138,807 For the Year; Excellent Outlook For 1935

Building permits in Torrance for the year 1934 took a considerable drop under the figure set for 1933, but show a good average nevertheless of nearly \$12,000 per month. With only one permit issued during the year of more than average size, the total of \$138,807, indicates that building work has had more than usual activity in this city, and under the drive for improvements sponsored by the federal government under the Better Housing Act, will no doubt exhibit a lively attitude during 1935.

The figures for 1933, showing a total of \$637,710, included some important permits, notably that taken out in February by the General Petroleum for improvements at their refinery site, amounting to \$557,810. The C. C. M. O. Camp took out a permit for improvements to the amount of \$6000, and the D & M Machine Works secured a permit amounting to several thousand dollars for the erection of a building to house their hose-making machinery. All of these exceptionally large permits added to the total.

The largest permit taken out in 1934 was that obtained for work on the rehabilitation of the Torrance high school, amounting to about \$89,000. Many other smaller permits were issued.

All building permits for the construction of the Hughes-Mitchell plant on South Normandie, which is within the shoe-strapping strip, were issued from Los Angeles. So far more than \$150,000 has been expended in construction of buildings and equipment at this plant, and in addition to the activity there, the removal of the Sunset Oil Company's refinery from Vermont to the old Julian property on East Road brings another large plant to the Torrance district.

Additional building activity within the city limits will include the issuance of a permit shortly for rehabilitation of the Torrance elementary school, which is scheduled to begin February 1. All units will be strengthened, at an approximate cost of \$72,744. The work is to be completed by June 23, if it is begun on schedule time.

An influx of small permits is expected when the survey of the federal workers who are calling on property owners in the interest of the Better Housing program is finished, which it will be shortly. Many needed repairs have been listed, and many persons have indicated their desire for making improvements to their homes in the way of plumbing, electrical work and other necessities. The total of such improvements can be expected to amount to a large sum, if all or a major per cent of those who have been contacted, take advantage of the loans to be had under the Better Housing Act.

Water Rates In Harbor City Are Given a Boost

Present Rate Is Deemed Unreasonable By the State Railroad Commission

Present rates of the American States Water Service Company were "unjust and unreasonable" in the Harbor City area, the state Railroad Commission has decided in ordering a 50 per cent boost for the company. The company also has offices in Claremont, Gardena, Hollywood, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, La Habra, Long Beach, Palms, Sunland, Venice and Wilmar.

The new rates became effective on January 1. The former rate was approximately 80 cents a month, according to Engineer F. H. VanHoesen of the commission. The new rate, according to the commission's order, made upon the results of Van Hoesen's investigation, will be a minimum of \$1.25 a month for a five-eighths or three-fourths inch meter. A graduated scale applies up to the three-inch meter, for which the rate is \$10 a month.

Twin Girls Are Born December 31

Twin girls, born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Czuleger, 235 Avenue G, Redondo Beach, at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, will hereafter celebrate their birthdays on New Year's Eve, although they anticipated the midnight celebration at the passing of the old year by less than 24 hours. The first child, which weighed seven pounds and seven ounces, arrived at 2:45 a. m. December 31, her sister, weight six pounds 11 ounces, following 15 minutes later.

The babies have already been interviewed by the press and posed for their pictures which appeared yesterday in a metropolitan daily.

Other babies who arrived at the hospital during the holidays were delivered to Mr. and Mrs. Jos. J. Hodson, 1018 Emerald, Redondo Beach, a boy on December 27; to Mr. and Mrs. E. Newland, 836 West 104th street, Gardena, a girl, December 29.

FAMOUS EVENTS IN HISTORY

On this date, January 3, 1777, the battle of Princeton, one of the decisive events of the Revolutionary War, was fought.