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Torrance Herald

Only Newspaper Published In Torrance Since 1914

Consolidated Edition, Torrance Herald and Lomita News

TWO SECTIONS 14 PAGES THIS ISSUE

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 2. SECTION A TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1937 PER COPY 5c

Steel Plan Defended in East

Carnegie-Illinois Corporation In Decisive Answer to National Labor Board

Of interest to local employes of the Columbia Steel Company is the vigorous manner in which Carnegie-Illinois Corporation, another U. S. Steel subsidiary, is striking out in supoprt of its three-year-old plan of employe representation before the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, with the filing of a formal answer to the complaint lodged by the board in December.

The Carnegie-Illinois Corporation's employe representative plan is similar to that in effect at the local Columbia Steel plant. The eastern corporation's answer came as a prelude to the re-opening this week of the labor board hearing on accusations of the Commitee for Industrial Organization, which seeks to outlaw the present plan and impose a closed shop upon steel workers.

The lengthy complaint, which attacked the plans thru numerous allegations of company domination, was answered in each particular, but the principal point disclosed was a confirmation that the employes' plan will be supported by the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation thru every proper legal means.

Parleys Always Open

The men, the answer stated, now as always, . . . "are free to select any form of collective bargaining that they desire for negotiating purposes." It emphasized that a vast majority of the employes had adopted the plans, which vary in substance at the several mills as employes have amended them.

In answer to an allegation that the plans did not provide for mass meetings, the company pointed to the fact that employes actually had held such meetings and always at times and places determined alone by the men.

In reply to a charge that the company refused to negotiate a wage question with a committee chairman, the answer declared that no request for such discussion was received, and that plan rules provide for open rather than secret negotiations in all matters for adjustment.

Ball Plans

Going Ahead for Jan. 30 Event

With scores of volunteer ticket sellers in the field and the ducats available at many stores here, the pasteboards for the fourth annual President's ball at the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse Saturday night, Jan. 30, are being disposed of rapidly, it was reported today by Mrs. Harry U. Higgins, general chairman. She also announced the list of patrons and patronesses for the event.

The fact that the dance will be held on Saturday is aiding the sale. Many are also purchasing tickets because they want to help the fight against infantile paralysis. Seventy percent of the proceeds from the local ball, which is a combined Torrance - Gardena event, will remain in this area for assistance to local sufferers from that disease. The remaining 30 percent will go toward the national foundation, headed by President Roosevelt, for study and research into the plague.

Announcement was made today of the following list of patrons and patronesses for the Jan. 30 festivities:

Ball Committee

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higgins, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Lewellen, Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Whyte, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Quaggin, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Johnson, Mr.

(Continued on Page 4-A)

'Gunmen' Fete 'Gun Widows' Next Monday

Next Monday night, Jan. 18, the "gun widows" will have an opportunity to see "what all the shooting is about."

The Torrance Revolver and Rifle Club will hold its first ladies' night dinner at the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse that evening.

"The 'gun widows' have never before been honored by our club and we thought it was about time that they be our special guests and smell the powder smoke that we've been smelling for the past 11 months," Captain John H. Stroh, president of the club, said today.

About 100 members and their wives are expected to attend. In addition to the ladies there will be several other honor guests, including members of Sheriff Eugene Biscalluz' crack pistol team who will stage an exhibition of fancy shooting in the clubhouse.

The dinner will begin at 7 o'clock with Captain Stroh and Mayor W. H. Stanger presiding. Reservations positively must be made not later than Friday, says Traffic Officer Ernest Ashton.

Schoolboy Badly Hurt In Collision

Francis Thompson's Legs Crushed Yesterday

Both legs broken and his ankles badly mangled as result of a collision 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the intersection of Beech and Sonoma streets, Francis A. Thompson, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Thompson of 823 Cota avenue, is reported in a critical condition today at the county hospital. He suffered a compound fracture of one leg and both bones were broken in the other when he was pinned under his car after it was struck broadside by a machine driven by Walter Claud West, 18, 2517 Sonoma street.

Young Thompson was rushed to Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and given emergency treatment. Then, because his case demanded attention of specialists, he was removed to the county hospital last night. Physicians said that if he recovers from his grave injuries, it will be at least six months before he will walk again. The boy was one of Torrance high school's best football players last year.

He was riding on the left running board of his car, a Chevrolet coupe, checking the motor while Victor Benstead, 43, 1621 Beech street, who had been helping him "tune it up," drove the car north on Beech street. At the intersection, the coupe was struck on the left side by a Chevrolet touring car, driven east on Sonoma by young West. Robert West, eight-year-old brother of Walter Claude West, suffered a bruised arm and hip in the crash. West was given a court citation for driving without an operator's license by Capt. John H. Stroh, who investigated the accident.

In the seat with Benstead was Harold Clemmer, 1107 Amapola avenue. The police officers reported that the Thompson boy asserted West was driving at an excessive rate of speed.

West, in his report of the accident which occurred about 5 o'clock, said "neither of us could stop so, as he was farther thru the intersection than I, I hit him broadside." Thompson's car was pushed 29 feet across the street and up over the curb, coming to a stop in a lawn by the sidewalk.

Amateurs Sign Up for Shows

Applications for the series of amateur shows, to be given in the civic auditorium, are being received by a Recreation department worker at The Herald office Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Cash awards will be presented the winners. There is no age limit and no fees of any kind. All talented residents of this city are urged to sign up for the shows, the first of which will be given on the night of Jan. 22.

Two Die in Fall from Scaffold

While installing glass windows at the new addition to the National Supply Company plant here late Saturday afternoon, two of three workmen employed by a Los Angeles firm plunged 30 feet to their deaths and the third was critically injured. A scaffold on which the men were working gave way in one corner, letting the plank they were standing on slip off.

Earl K. Woods, 42, 1653 West 53rd street, Los Angeles, died a few minutes after the fall and Clark Dolan, 21, 1003 Coronado street, Los Angeles, succumbed from his injuries at 9:15 p. m., in Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital. The third victim is Frank Gibson, 34, 412 South Rampart avenue, Los Angeles. He suffered two fractures of his right arm, a fractured right leg below the knee and his right collar bone is broken. Gibson was later removed to a Los Angeles hospital.

The men were employed by the Townsend Glass Corporation of Los Angeles and had been engaged in installing windows all day at the National Supply. They were given emergency treatment at the local plant but Mr. Woods passed away before a doctor could be obtained. Rushed to the hospital, Mr. Dolan was given every medical attention but he survived only about eight hours.

Sergeant Ernest H. Ashton, who investigated the accident for the police department, reported that the scaffold built by the three men was "a very poor arrangement, very insecure." Witnesses to the fatal fall were Charles Knowlton, Redondo; Louis Cranston, Alhambra, and Art Fabregat, 1210 El Prado, Torrance. National Supply officials, Tom McGuire, J. H. Morgan and J. O. Bishop, cooperated in giving emergency

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Aud Stage Gets Lights, Setting

City Council Votes $804 to Dress Platform

By the expenditure Tuesday night of about $804.40, the city equipped the civic auditorium stage for future dramatic, lecture, musical and other entertainment. Councilman William H. Tolson served as "stage manager" for the dressing of the auditorium platform and his recommendations met with unanimous approval.

When the new equipment is installed, possibly early next week, the stage will provide lighting and settings for almost any kind of a presentation. Border and floodlights, costing $237.60 and $66.80, respectively, were ordered purchased and a set of scenery ordered that will cost about $500.

SKI QUEEN

MARY HENRIQUES

Of Red Bluff, Calif., who, as queen of the Mt. Lassen Ski Club, will open the winter sports competitive season in this state Sunday in the first meet.

Slot Machines Held by Police

Four alleged gambling machines, one of them valued at $550, are being held by local police pending some uniform disposal that will be followed by all cities in this county while the present drive against such "nickle-in-the-slot" apparatus. The machines were confiscated Saturday and Sunday in local cafes.

Monday the owner of three of the "drop-a-nickle-pull-a-lever" boxes, two "Bones" machines and a "21 Game" apparatus appeared before City Judge Robert Lessing, charged with possession of gambling machines. He was fined $100 which was suspended on condition that he keep out of Torrance and the machines were held.

The largest machine, a horse-racing apparatus, was removed from a cafe here Sunday. Police found that it displayed a city license for another machine of an entirely different make. The "Bones" and "21-Game" machines are said to be valued at $130 each. All of them are believed to contain considerable amounts of nickels.

Scott Bags Large Goat at Catalina

Any Catalina Island wild goat head with a horn spread from 25 to 26 inches is regarded by Southland sportsmen as a splendid trophy. Last Sunday afternoon, just as the sun was dipping into a fog bank and he had given up the idea of bettering the kill he had made of an average sized goat earlier in the day, B. J. Scott saw a big fellow.

"He was standing on a little crag below me and altho I came up on him rather suddenly over the mountain top he did not jump for cover. I had a chance to rest a bit before I got him with my old .35 Remington automatic. He measured 25¾ inches from horn-tip to horn-tip," Scott said.

The Torrance Electric Shop owner is having that prize trophy mounted. He has not decided what to do with his earlier "head" which measures about 18½ inches. Scott was with a party of six Los Angeles and Long Beach hunters who stalked the wily Catalina animals all day with only fair success. He bagged the largest goat shot on the trip. The party covered the windward side of the island and saw a great many goats, most of which were small fellows.

Seeks Silver Tip

This goat-hunting sport is on a par with Scott's previous expeditions for larger game, such as mountain lion, bear, deer and elk and is every bit as arduous. Catalina Island's rugged terrain makes the use of horses mandatory and very few hunters are fortunate enough to bag one of the wild, fleet-footed goats on their first day out.

Having hunted with success on San Clemente Island about three years ago, Scott now wants to complete his goat-head trophy collection with one of the rarely seen silver-tips that live on the western tip of Catalina. This almost inaccessible spot requires several days' trek over some of the roughest country this side of the Rockies and the search for silver-tips sometimes requires a week or more of intensive effort, the local electrician-sportsman says.

While on his hunt Sunday, Scott saw a herd of 18 buffalo in the "bad lands" of the island. These animals are only occasionally seen and hardly ever in such a large herd.

PUBLISHER GOING TO PARLEY AT SAN JOSE

Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Whyte will leave tonight to attend the annual convention of the California Newspaper Publishers' Association at San Jose this week-end. They will return via San Francisco, where they will visit friends and relatives. Special cars have been reserved on the Southern Pacific's Sunset Limited for the exclusive use of Southern California publishers.

Harbor Boosters Dine Here Tonite

All preparations were complete today for the combined dinner-meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and the Harbor District Chambers that will be held at the Woman's clubhouse at 6:30 o'clock tonight. At that time new officers of the Harbor District Booster Association will be installed.

Reservations for more than 100 have been received by Secretary L. J. Gilmeister for the annual event and he expects approximately 150 to attend. The Harbor group has always held its installation meetings in Torrance and the sessions have won much favorable notice for this community.

The new leaders to be installed by Charles A. Bland of the Long Beach Harbor department, are:

Loren Howe, Hawthorne, president; Atty. Irving P. Austin, Compton; Thomas Blair, Redondo Beach; Hugh B. Johnston, Gardena, and E. C. Power, Bell, vice-presidents. George P. Larsen, West Los Angeles, secretary, and Ray O. Baldwin, Long Beach, treasurer.

Ford Will Speak

Retiring officers of the Harbor organization are: Ray O. Baldwin, president; Loren Howe, first vice-president; Thomas Blair, second vice-president; Hugh B. Johnston, third vice-president; Fred Pymm, fourth vice-president; Irving P. Austin, fifth vice-president; Dan L. Holland, secretary, and George P. Larsen, treasures.

With Al Robinson as song-leader the dinner-program will open by the singing of "America" and a couple of popular numbers. Rev. Father Thomas F. Kennedy, pastor of the Catholic Church of the Nativity, will give the invocation. The dinner will be served by members of the Torrance Woman's Club and the municipal band will play during the dinner hour.

Mayor W. H. Stanger is to give the address of welcome to the visitors from other nearby cities and A. F. Franklin, manager of the Lomita branch of the California bank, will make the response. Supervisor Leland M. Ford is scheduled for the main address of the evening.

SPEAKER

LELAND M. FORD

Popular supervisor of the Fourth district who will be the principal speaker tonight at the installation dinner of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at the Woman's clubhouse, 6:30 o'clock.

Ask New Bids on City Bldg.

There will be no change in the structural quality of the proposed civic administration building to arise beside the civic auditorium on El Prado, the city council decided Tuesday night. However, in order to bring the cost of the building down to what the city can afford to pay with the assistance of a PWA allocation, some of the structure's details will be changed. New bids on the work will be opened Feb. 15.

The council was decidedly against substituting concrete for steel in the building, as was suggested by Architect P. A. Eisen. The board members voted to re-advertise for bids on the curtailed plans after rejecting all of the bids received a week ago and asking PWA authorities for an extension of time to begin the project.

Architect Eisen submitted a lengthy report on the comparative costs of the other civic buildings with the proposed structure and said that possible reasons for the increased costs of the new administration center were due to: (1) underesti-

(Continued on Page 4-A)

City Backs Free Orch. Concert

Symphony Association to Test Public Reaction

Scott R. Ludlow, former mayor and present city treasurer, appeared before the city council Tuesday night as champion for the Torrance Symphony Orchestra association and found the municipal board most receptive to the plan for a free public concert "to see how the people would respond to good music here."

He was present as a member of an orchestra committee which was charged with developing the future of the organization which now has 84 members, 56 of whom have paid fees ranging from $1 to $5 for membership in the association. Ludlow said the members, following the first concert last December, decided to throw future concerts open to the public without charge, providing the city would give financial backing of about $75 or $100 for the initial presentation.

Mayor W. H. Stanger reminded Ludlow that the council last year set up $800 in the municipal budget for the orchestra "but this did not suit the leader" G. N. Mershon who "wanted at least $1,600." Ludlow replied that the orchestra is not a "one-man proposition" any more and with more residents taking an active interest, past difficulties could be avoided. The council evidently agreed with him, because the members voted a $100 appropriation for the free concert. No date has been set for this event, but Ludlow promised an early announcement.

RAINFALL REPORT

Tuesday's rainstorm added .27 of an inch to make the season's total here 7.89 inches, according to the high school weather bureau. Last year at this time the rain amounted to 3.25 inches. In Lomita the present total is 8.64 inches as compared to 2.27 at this date in 1936.

Values of Land are Advancing

Local Realtors Say Trend Is Steady; Zoning Study Approved

A survey of real estate firms and realtors operating here revealed this week that:

Good unimproved property is few and far between;

Available rentals are practically non-existent;

Improved property is finding market that has not existed for four years; and,

Realty prices are going up altho none of the Torrance real estate agents desire anything that approaches "boom" proportions.

There are plenty of vacant lots on the market here but the better residential areas are decidedly short on building space. Inquiries by responsible subdividers for large areas that could be built up have met the regretful response: "There just aren't any available here."

C.C.M.O. Interested

All realtors agree that the zoning for residences of the area west of Cedar and installation of public utilities in that area are crying needs that deserve immediate attention from the powers that be.

Regarding the zoning effort, instituted recently by the Chamber of Commerce at the urgent request of local realtors, City Engineer Frank R. Leonard reported progress Tuesday night at city council meeting. He said he had conferred with C.C.M.O. officials and learned that that company was desirous of restricting its property along Torrance boulevard and Cedar to Madrona street.

The C.C.M.O. wants a sketch made of a desirable zoning plan for definite consideration and Leonard was instructed by the council to proceed with this. He will submit it to the C.C.M.O. within a few weeks, he said.

Gain Said Healthy

Lack of subdivision space has curtailed developers who could meet the demand for rentals. Realtors say they average from six to 10 inquiries daily for rentals and a vacant home does not stand on their records for more than a few days.

The advance in prices has been steady without undue pressure, indicating that land values are coming into their own naturally. Real estate firms are hoping this average rise will continue, that no "sky-rocketing" such as hit the Southland in the middle 1920s will occur.

During the past two weeks, some of the more important realty deals closed here were as follows:

Some Recent Deals

By Tom King, associated with his mother, Mrs. Fanny C.

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Landmark

Will be Retired at Steel Plant

Big No. 2 stack, proud veteran in the row of four sentinels at the Columbia Steel Company plant here, is to be retired from service after 21 years. Workmen tomorrow will begin to dismantle the tall old stack as a safety precaution in preparation for the erection of a new and more modern smoke stack in its place, according to E. M. Barber, plant superintendent.

Crews will be busy night and day in order to get the new stack in operation as soon as possible. It is estimated that approximately 30 days will be required to tear down the old stack and construct the new one, which will be built of concrete.

The new chimney will be 125 feet high, 11 feet in diameter at the base and seven feet across at the top. Forms for pouring the concrete will be extended each day as the stack rises.

JUDGE LESSING FINDS SCHOOLS PRIME CHARTER ISSUE

Questions Reveal People Want Data On Local Effect

Questions received during the past week by City Judge Robert Lessing relative to the proposed city charter which will be voted on March 16 indicate that there will be but one issue at the charter election on March 16. That is: "Shall Torrance control its own schools."

Judge Lessing offered to answer any questions submitted in writing about the charter when that document was published for the first time in last week's Herald. He will continue to answer such questions which may be sent him or left at The Herald office. His report this week follows:

"There is a definite indication that the people of Torrance are willing to adopt a charter form of government, but they are anxious to acquire more definite knowledge of the effect that the creation of a new school district would have upon them as taxpayers. The one thing that most local people have overlooked in studying the school issue is that Torrance is in a unique situation financially. It should be remembered that Torrance is tenth in the county from the point of municipal wealth, being led only by such large communities as Los Angeles, Pasadena, Long Beach, and Glendale.

Three Vital Points

"Some of those who have expressed apprehension concerning a new Torrance school district have pointed out communities that compare in population to Torrance, in which communities the acquisition of schools has been a dismal failure. In each of these cities, however, the assessed valuation per capita is less than one-half of that which we in Torrance enjoy.

"Figures are being compiled at this time and will be later released, which will show that we are in a position to furnish in a locally controlled district, all of the advantages that the Los Angeles school district is now furnishing in local schools and at a reduced cost to the taxpayers of this city.

"A number of persons submitted questions this week, all of them aimed at the results of the creation of a new district here. Boiled down, they are, first, "Will it be necessary for the newly formed Torrance city school district to purchase the property now being used by local schools from the Los Angeles school district?" and, second, "How much of the liability of the Los Angeles school district will the newly formed Torrance district be compelled to assume?"

Great Local Advantage

"In answer to the first question, the School Code provides that, upon the creation of a new school district, all of the real property being used for school purposes within the boundaries of the newly-created district becomes the property of that district by operation of law and without the necessity of purchase. This statement is qualified by the answer to the second question, which is that the newly-created district will assume the unpaid balance of the money spent out of bond issues by the Los Angeles school district on Torrance schools.

"As long as Torrance remains a part of the Los Angeles school district, we must continue to pay, not only the expenses of our own schools, but also, a share of the cost of every other school in the entire Los Angeles district. Inasmuch as our share of that cost is based on our high assessed valuation, the cost to the Torrance taxpayers in the past has been tremendous.

"The creation of a Torrance school district, limiting our liabilities to only those expenses necessary for the operation of local schools, will mean a great advantage to local taxpayers. They will be relieved of the burden of paying a large portion of the costs of building schools of all Los Angeles county, of helping to pay for equipment in all those schools and of paying a tremendous and exorbitant amount annually for administration purposes.

"We hope to be able in the near future to release a complete set of figures that will show the saving that may be expected by the creation of a new district in our city," Judge Lessing concludes.

City In Excellent Condition to Pay For Own Schools