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SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1937

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Oil Interest Spurs in Southwest Field

BIG SCHOOL TAX BOOST LOOMS

Three Factors Cause 41 to 44-Cent Rise

Taxpayers in the Los Angeles city school district are awaiting an expression from the members of the board of education following a statement from the school budget director that next year's school levy may go as high as \$1.78.

Members of the board are to hold a special meeting tonight to discuss further proposed buildings to cost a total of \$5,000,000. If PWA funds can be obtained, the school district's share would amount to \$2,777,500, that would increase the tax rate by 20 cents.

Three Raises—44 Cents
Second, it is expected that the board will be asked to restore the remaining six and one-half percent of the ten percent salary reduction amounting to some \$2,000,000 and requiring an estimated 15 cents on the tax rate. The other three and one-half percent was restored last year.

Third, should the state supreme court uphold the decision of Superior Judge Fletcher Bowron that taxpayers are entitled to a rebate on their 1933-34 taxes, the district will have to levy an estimated nine cents more to raise some \$1,200,000 to pay off this rebate. This would amount to taking money from one pocket of the taxpayer and putting it in another, officials state.

The sum of these three tentative increases is 44 cents, which would boost the present \$1.37 tax levy to \$1.81. The only item that will be reduced is an 18 months' payment of principal and interest in the recent building bond issue of \$12,392,900, amounting to three cents, leaving a possible net increase of 41 cents, to \$1.78.

Bay Bridge Films Open to Public

President R. J. Deininger announced today that the Kiwanis Club will screen the pictures of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge under construction next Monday night, Feb. 15, at Dan's cafe. The film will be presented about 7:15 o'clock, following the club's dinner session, and the public is invited to attend without charge. Prexy Deininger especially urges Boy Scouts and high school students to enjoy the films.

Lomitans Generous With Flood Gifts

Lomita's quota for the Red Cross Flood Relief fund was \$150 but Lomitans did not stop contributing to this worthy cause when that was raised. Instead, according to Chairman George Key, they went ahead donating and today the community has sent approximately \$250 to the distressed mid-continent disaster victims.

Salad Bowl Farms In Palos Verdes Being Protected From Soil Erosion

Salad bowl farms in the Palos Verdes hills that furnish housewives with winter peas, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, squash, and onions, are undergoing a major conservation operation to save them from soil erosion. Broad-based terraces, built across sloping cultivated fields, is the major defense against soil loss, and over 40 miles have been constructed by CCC boys under the supervision of soil conservation service technicians, officials of the service announced this week.

Farmers in the demonstration area are giving excellent cooperation in pushing the erosion control program. More than 5,700 acres are under cooperative agreements with the federal government. Contour tilling is being practiced on 1,500 acres. A number of small slab rock dams and grade

Club Teams In Ticket Drive for Hospital Ball

Divided into two teams, members of the Torrance Women's club launched an aggressive ticket-selling campaign for the third annual Hospital Ball that will be held at the Surf and Sand club, Hermosa Beach, on Monday evening, Feb. 22. The tickets are selling at \$1 per person (\$2 per couple).

Mrs. Henry C. Barrington is captain of one team with Mrs. E. E. Banks as lieutenant, while Mrs. Willis M. Brooks is leading the second division, aided by Mrs. Harry U. Higgins. The losing team must serve the victors a complimentary dinner.

The clubwomen, who have been given the exclusive ticket-sales campaign for the Ball this year, are contracting women's organizations in Lomita, Redondo, Hermosa and Gardena to support the social event. All of the proceeds will be used to improve Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and pay for new facilities installed within the past several months.

PAXMAN ON RECOVERY ROAD

Slowly but steadily regaining strength, C. A. Paxman, veteran strength dealer who was stricken seriously ill several weeks ago, is now believed definitely on the road to recovery. Last evening he sat up for several hours without any apparent strain, according to his son, Carl, Jr., who is managing his father's store during the merchant's enforced absence.

ENDING LONG STAY

Expected to return to their homes after a long stay at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital where they were treated for fractured hips are Mrs. Susan Adair, Manhattan Beach nurse who entered the institution Nov. 11, and Cyrus Baldrick, Gardena, who was received Dec. 3.

Flood Aid Fund Soars to More Than \$700 Here

Workers of National Supply Contribute \$330; Other Gifts Reported

A week of steady donations by nearly all workers in all National Supply Company departments ended last Saturday when \$330 was turned over to Mrs. Flora McDonald, local Red Cross chapter chairman, for the Red Cross flood relief fund. The National Supply workers' contribution was added to other funds collected here since last Wednesday noon to make, the total relief donation so far \$728.90. This does not include the fund raised by Columbia Steel workers from their play, "The Harum Scaram," or the subscription taken up at the P. E. shops.

Previously reported, contributions last week amounted to \$328.40. The Torrance quota set by the Red Cross was but \$100. Mrs. McDonald recalled. Additional gifts received after Wednesday noon will be published next week. Those who contributed during the past week were:

National Supply employees	\$330.00
Standard Oil employees	14.50
Phone company employees	5.00
Job's Daughters	5.00
Woman's Auxiliary, Episcopal church	5.00
Torrance Relief Society	5.00
E. H. Grubbs	5.00
A. H. Bartlett	2.00
Unknown	2.00
Jack and Dick Turner	2.00
Mrs. Edith Miller	1.00
J. Abramson	1.00
D. C. Turner	1.00
Worrell's Hardware	1.00
Clara Regan	1.00
Bob Brooks	1.00
Mrs. C. Ericson	1.00
James A. Obole	1.00
Frances Dunas	1.00
Pacific Smelting employees	1.00
A. C. Smith	1.00
L. E. Wagner	1.00
C. E. Pickett	1.00
W. W. Moore	1.00
R. R. Gotts	1.00
Ed Ferguson	1.00
W. E. Barnett	1.00
Floyd Ferguson	1.00
W. Nuttall	1.00
Bob Lannon	1.00
Montie Dobbins	1.00
A. P. Ferguson	1.00
Leroy Wallace	1.00
G. W. Barnett	1.00
Previously reported	\$328.40
Total to date	\$728.90

Bankers Elect New Officers

V. E. Larsen of the Lomita branch of the California bank, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Southwest Clearing House association at the recent meeting in Gardena, succeeding J. N. Blake, cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' National bank of Gardena.

Retiring president of the association was Wallace Post, president of the Torrance National bank, who was succeeded by Charles O. Pierpont of the Redondo Bank of America. H. Nietzer of the Inglewood Security-First National, was named vice-president, succeeding Pierpont.

The next meeting will be held within 30 days at the Palos Verdes Country club. At that time a golf tournament is planned, with Wallace Post in charge. The association includes 13 bankers in Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa, Hyde Park, Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, Redondo, El Segundo, Lomita and Torrance.

CONTINUES 'CAREER'

Frank Anderson, Ephebian of Narbonne high school's winter graduating class, will enter U. C. L. A. next week.

Weekend Storm Drenches City But Causes No Flood Damage

Despite the torrential downpour that accounted for three of the 4.20 inches recorded during the 36-hour storm period, Torrance escaped flood damage that was reported to have caused a million-dollar loss in the Southland last weekend. The sheeting rains, which began with a heavy mist Friday morning and reached cloudburst proportions Saturday morning, caused one accident here.

Mrs. Martha Sparrelch, 1334 1/2 Carson street, was struck by an automobile driven by Arland Palmer, 1731 Gramercy, while she was walking east on Carson street and Palmer was making a left-hand turn onto Cabrillo avenue late Saturday afternoon. Rushed to Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital in Stone and Myers ambulance, Mrs. Sparrelch was treated for shock and nervousness. Her injuries were limited to a few bruises, according to police reports.

Motorist Palmer told investigating officers that he was blinded by the rain on his windshield and the lights of approaching cars and did not see the woman pedestrian.

Sets New Record

The heavy rains taxed the capacity of gutters and storm drains throughout the city but at no time did the water approach dwellings or business places to cause damage. Other harbor district communities were not so fortunate. The rainfall in San Pedro played havoc, flooding cellars and ground floors, choking streets with debris, disrupting rail service and creating numerous cataracts and new gulleys as the runoff raged down from the hills to the sea. Flooded tracks at San Pedro caused suspension of P. E. service. (Continued on Page 4-A.)

20-30 PLANS FLOOD DANCE

Public Bid to Benefit At Auditorium Saturday

Not to be outdone by the older service clubs in the city, the 20-30 club is sponsoring a flood relief benefit in the form of a public dance Saturday night at the Civic Auditorium.

A good "swing band" has been engaged to provide the music and all net proceeds from the 50-cent tickets per couple will be turned over to the National Red Cross for the assistance of flood sufferers in the mid-west. This is the first civic effort on the part of the young clubmen and they hope that many residents will turn out for the festivities.

Members of the committee in charge of the benefit dance are Jimmy Rahl, Ronald Coll, Dick Pullman, Carl Quigley, Vernon Coll and Charles Williams.

Inspiring Pair

Show Lomitans Real Optimism In Conquest of Dread Disease

Two of the most cheerful people in Lomita are Clark Walker and Miss Alice Halliday. Their happy dispositions and sunny smiles are an inspiration to many residents of that community who are aware of their long fight against the ravages of infantile paralysis.

Walker returned to his home on South Narbonne avenue during the week after a stay of a year and a half at the Los Angeles General hospital. He is now able to sit up in a wheel chair and is confident that he will eventually whip the disease which



The top scene shows how heavy rains loosed thousands of tons of dirt and rock which roared down onto the Roosevelt Highway in California, blocking the road and cutting communication lines. Lower photo shows emergency levees thrown around business buildings in Compton to keep out flood waters.

Caesarian Section Delivers Hospital's Smallest Infant

The tiniest mite of humanity ever to arrive at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital was making good progress in an incubator there today, the fifth day of her existence.

She is the two-and-one-half-pound daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Napier of 209 Seaside avenue, Terminal Island. Minusule Miss Diana May was a Caesarian baby, the operation being performed shortly after noon last Saturday. Diana May's head is no larger than an ordinary orange and a good-sized ring would make her an excellent bracelet. Nurses at the hospital smilingly report that she is perfectly formed—a real miniature baby.

Her 20-year-old mother was formerly Elsie Price of this city. Mrs. Napier attended school here and has many friends in Torrance besides her mother, Mrs. Nellie Price, of 2224 230th street, a brother and several sisters. Mrs. Napier is reported making a good recovery from the delivery operation.

Seek Damages for Horse, Mule Crash

Claiming they suffered personal injuries and damage to their automobile when a horse or mule crashed into their car at Roosevelt highway and Narbonne avenue, Samuel Y. Hasvold and Thelma Hasvold had on file this week in Los Angeles superior court suit against Linn Chandler and the Lang Transportation company.

For damages they said resulted when a loose horse or mule owned by the defendants sprang out and collided with their automobile the Hasvolds asked \$1,000 for him, \$20,000 for her and \$150 for automobile repairs.

Hunters Pay More Fines
BISMARCK, N. D. (U.P.)—Violators of North Dakota's game and fish laws paid \$4,017 in fines during 1936, or nearly six times as much as in 1935.

Three Developments Watched Closely by Operators This Week

Attention of oil men and oil developers was divided into three parts this week at the southwest Torrance field which has held prime interest for the past two months. They were watching:

Cancelled Charge for Auditorium City Flood Gift

The city of Torrance has done its part toward the flood relief fund. Members of the city council voted Tuesday night to cancel the rental charge on the civic auditorium for the Columbia Steel workers' benefit show. The employees had previously contracted to pay the regular rental fees. Their account with the city was "squared" when they turned their show into a flood benefit.

City Resumes Safety Effort

Speeders Face Wholesale Arrests On Highway

While another effort is being made to obtain the state highway department's permission to erect some warning signs on Roosevelt highway near the Walteria school to protect lives of children and adult pedestrians there, Motor Officer Ernest Ashton will give all of his attention to arresting speeders on that "race track highway."

This was decided by the city council Tuesday night after a long discussion of the traffic problem on that highway and the state's apparent lack of interest in any safety precautions. The council's attention was again directed at this three-year-old problem by a letter from Mrs. Gladys Butterfield, president of the Walteria P.T.A.

Signs Held Unnecessary
This organization called attention to the serious matter of safety to children attending the Walteria school and asked that a cross-walk be established over the highway. The letter said that the WPA school crossing guard has been unable to stop the fast traffic there and a warning sign was badly needed as the painted marker in the road, seven months old, was hardly visible.

During the councilmanic discussion, it was recalled that efforts have been made since shortly after the improved highway was opened in 1935 to provide pedestrian safety at the Walteria school and at the intersection of Sepulveda boulevard with Roosevelt highway but that the state, sole arbiter of the artery, has maintained the traffic was not heavy enough for signs.

To curb the speeders along (Continued on Page 3-A)

STREET BIDS UNDER STUDY

Narbonne Improvement to Cost About \$13,500

Four bids were opened by the city council Tuesday night on the proposed improvement of Narbonne avenue from Sepulveda boulevard to 240th street. After the figures were read by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, the bids were turned over to City Engineer Frank R. Leonard for study and report next meeting night at the adjourned meeting.

The improvement is to consist of grading, installation of headers, laying of sidewalk as Unit "B." The quotations offered—the first sum being for Unit "A" and the second for Unit "B"—were as follows:

United Concrete Pipe Corporation, \$11,856 and \$3,928.20; George R. Curtiss Paving Company, \$9,325 and \$2,799.90; Amaco Construction Company, \$11,074.55 and \$2,688.50; Oswald Brothers, \$9,806.35 and \$3,402.60.

Move to Get Entire County Under Uniform Building Code Starts

Steps to extend the adoption of the uniform building code to the remaining 12 cities of Los Angeles county were taken this week when the board of supervisors asked the county building department to confer with the respective city officials.

The uniform building code now is used in all cities of the county except Torrance, Arcadia, Avalon, Azusa, Covina, Gardena, Glendale, Glendora, Hermosa Beach, Los Angeles, Vernon and West Covina.

Los Angeles county is so closely connected in all matters of residential, business and industrial development and expansion that there is no excuse for confusion as it now exists in the matter of building and construction codes," the resolution of Supervisor H. C. Legg of Downey stated.

Simplifies Bidding
The so-called uniform code

(1) The flow from the Killingsworth No. 3 well which came in strong last Friday. While operators at this well modestly assert it is producing about 250 barrels daily, veteran observers in the local field claim it is running close to 400. The hole is about 4,800 feet.

(2) Hunt No. 1's difficulty with water. This well was expected to come in late last week but the water flow continues despite cementing, it is reported. Everything is ready to put the Hunt on the pump.

(3) The Swyer's preparations to spud in. Owners of this well, Earl Schwartz and H. R. Eyer, declare they are going to give the southwest field a "real test" by putting in new casing and letting the gas pressure build up.

These were the major interests in this sector but activity was not confined to those three points alone. Walter Hughes was setting surface pipe yesterday and today at the Two-In-One No. 6, adjoining the Swyer lease. This well is down to 700 feet, Hughes said yesterday and is a "grass roots" venture.

Seek Full Strength
Fullerton Oil is starting a second well and C.M.O.'s No. 2 rig was about ready to go up. The No. 1 is expected to come in any day now. Barkus and Abrahams are drilling back of the Hughes' lease and Bass and Goodnight have staked a location immediately south of the Two-In-One No. 6. Another location has been marked by French and Bandy below the B. and G. plot.

The Killingsworth hole is exciting oil operators because of reports of its steady flow and signs that the production is considerably more than the owners will admit. Located near the "discovery well" of the area, the Dearborn No. 1, it is believed in position to tap an almost virgin basin.

P. V. Collier and associates of the Hunt No. 1 are rather disappointed at the water flow from their venture but are reported nearing a shut-off within a short time. Drilling is expected to start on the Swyer well by the end of this week and then the first fresh test of the field will be on.

All the other wells in the vicinity are utilizing old casings and no one, it is said, has any idea as to the production value of the district as yet. The Swyer new hole with new casings is confidently expected to show this extent.

Museum Attracts
TOLEDO. (U.P.)—Attendance at Toledo's Museum of Art in 1936 totaled 320,550.