

Assessed Values Within Torrance Up \$1,282,570

Gain of \$1,282,570 in total assessed valuation of real estate, improvements and personal property in the city of Torrance is shown by the new assessed valuations for 1937-38, released this week by County Assessor Ed. Hopkins. The new figure is \$16,335,145 as compared to \$15,052,575 for last year. When the assessed valuations of public utilities within the city of Torrance and the item of solvent credits (cash) are added, it is anticipated that the new grand total of all assessed property within the city will exceed \$19,540,000, which is the figure used as a basis for levying taxes in the city and school district.

Valuations of public utilities within municipalities are now determined by the state board of equalization, which has not as yet released its evaluations for 1937-38. However, they will remain about the same as last year, according to Hopkins, with the exception of Los Angeles city, where purchase of the electrical plant of the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Company by the municipality caused a drop of about \$16,000,000. Public utility properties within the city of Torrance last year were assessed at \$2,699,760.

May Be Corrected

Exact total figures upon which the tax rate will be determined for Torrance and the various municipalities within the county will not be available until such time as the state board of equalization furnishes the total of its assessments and the assessment roll of the county assessor has been equalized by the county board of equalization, which will be in session until July 19, the veteran county assessor explained.

A county-wide increase of \$84,515,000 was made this year by the county assessor, as compared with last year. The grand total was given as \$2,199,625,000, as compared to \$2,115,110,000 last year. All but \$830,000,000 of the county's valuation is within this and the other 43 cities, Hopkins' figures showed. The odd third of a billion is in the unincorporated territory and included some factories.

COMPARISON OF ASSESSED VALUATIONS WITHIN CITY OF TORRANCE

| | 1936-37 | 1937-38 |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Real Estate..... | \$5,782,390 | \$5,747,340 |
| Improvements..... | 3,878,825 | 4,625,065 |
| Personal Property..... | 5,891,360 | 6,462,740 |
| TOTAL..... | 15,552,575 | 16,835,145 |
| Public Utilities..... | 2,699,760 | 2,699,760* |
| Solvent Credits..... | 7,060 | 7,060* |

**GRAND TOTAL for
Tax Purposes.....** 18,259,395 19,541,965

*Estimated same as last year.

World War Nurse Succumbs To Illness: Known Here

Word of the death of Miss Rachel C. Torrance, a cousin of the late Jared Sidney Torrance founder of this city, was received here Monday in a letter to Torrance C. Welch a relative.

Miss Torrance passed away Saturday, July 10, at St. Luke's hospital, New York City, after an illness of about six months. She had been a patient at the hospital for two months but had been in failing health for some time.

Decorated for Valor

She was born in Gowanda, New York, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Clay Torrance. Her life was one of useful employment, replete with thrilling and dangerous incidents due to the character of her work.

A graduate of St. Luke's hospital, New York, she was a member of one of the first Red Cross units sent from America to Europe during the World war. Crossing into Russia, via the Trans-Siberian railway, she nursed in the Balkans and in Russia for many months. For her valorous services Miss Torrance was decorated by the Czarina of Russia at the Odessa hospital, by Queen Marie of Rumania at Bucharest, and by Queen Eleanor of Bulgaria at Sofia. Her unit was one of the last to leave Russia before the Revolution. She remained in England, helping to care for the wounded until the Armistice ended hostilities.

On her return to the States Miss Torrance came to California, and on one occasion visited this city where she was entertained by the local Red Cross chapter and thrilled a large crowd here with her first-hand accounts of her experiences in war-torn Europe.

In 1922 she returned to Prague and thence to Bulgaria where she organized and established a school of nursing under the supervision of the government. She remained there until one entire class had completed a

four years' course and graduated, when the school was turned over to the government and Miss Torrance returned to Prague where she stayed until the Red Cross unit was dismissed.

Hospital Aide

From 1929 to 1932 Miss Torrance was employed as instructor in nursing at the General hospital in Los Angeles, then as inspector of the schools in the state, which position she held until ill health forced her to retire last fall. She had been residing in Los Angeles until about two months ago when she went to New York to enter the hospital where she passed away last Saturday.

Relief Office May Be Moved

In a letter to Secretary-manager A. Cavalli of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, Supervisor Leland Ford said the county relief office, recently moved from San Pedro to Torrance, should be returned there. The Supervisor's letter came as the result of a protest filed by the Chamber of Commerce whose members complained that the change in the location of the office was unfair in view of the fact that there are 375 relief cases here and only fifty on the rolls in Torrance.

The Supervisor said he anticipated favorable action on the Chamber's request and assured Secretary Cavalli that he would exert every effort to have the change made soon.

Champions South Torrance Cause



DR. J. S. LANCASTER
...wants better street signs.

Pointing out that since the county had erected attractive new street signs in Lomita, the lack of adequate street name posts in the adjoining South Torrance area is a reflection on the progressiveness of this city and a disadvantage to the residents of the southern portion of the city, Dr. J. S. Lancaster, prominent physician and surgeon, addressed a communication to the city council this week requesting that some action be taken to remedy the situation. The council in referring the matter to the street department asked it to investigate the cost of installing new sign posts and to report back at an early session.

Dr. Lancaster is chairman of the Torrance Rotary Club's community service committee and his active interest in the betterment of the community was commended by officers of the Rotary Club, who are supporting him in his effort to aid South Torrance residents.

World's Fair Is Envisioned Near Torrance

Visions of a million and one-half dollar world's fair building to be located at the "front door" of Torrance were glimpsed by local representatives who attended a meeting in Inglewood Monday evening of South Los Angeles committee members endeavoring to bring the Los Angeles Exposition in 1942 to the Nigger Slough area north of Torrance. Bonds for the \$1,500,000 to be erected somewhere in Los Angeles were recently sold.

Fifteen enthusiastic representatives from Gardena staged a convincing demonstration for the Nigger Slough site which lasted for nearly an hour. Motion pictures, maps, and other data prepared especially for the sales talk by the Gardena group proved a novel feature.

The only other site submitted to the joint committee comprising practically all cities in the South Los Angeles area was one at Inglewood adjacent to the Los Angeles Municipal Airport. It was agreed by all present that the decision as to which site would be endorsed would be left to a joint committee comprised of two representatives from each of the communities in the entire area. The site committee is to meet today at Hawthorne to study the two locations and make its recommendations at the next meeting of the general committee next Monday.

Representing Torrance on the site committee are L. J. Gilmeister and DeKalb Spurlin.

Claiming that he had an investment of a quarter million dollars at Nestoria tract adjacent to Main street and East Road and that he hadn't been able to sell a single lot this year because of the flooded condition of the area last winter, T. J. Nestor requested the Torrance city council Tuesday night to join with other bodies and urge that the situation be remedied. City Engineer Leonard was authorized to communicate with officials of the county flood control board in an effort to secure some permanent solution of the problem.

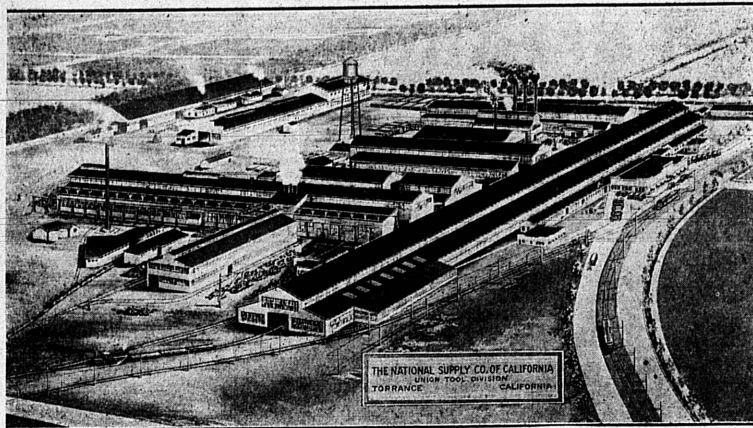
Council Protests Flood Conditions At Nestoria

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National Supply Grants Vacations With Pay; Meeting Held Today With Nat'l Labor Board



Over 1000 employees... largest number in a decade... are now working at the Torrance Plant of the National Supply Company.

Third Man Arrested on Immoral Acts Charge

At the conclusion of testimony in a preliminary hearing held Tuesday before Judge, Robert F. Lessing, Albert Jewell, 49, who has been a resident of Torrance for about a year, employed at the National Supply Company, was held to the Superior Court in bonds of \$2500 to answer to charges of molesting young girls.

Jewell was arrested last Friday and held in jail in another community following arraignment on the charge until his appearance here Tuesday for the preliminary hearing.

His is the third case of its nature to come before the municipal court in the past two weeks. Other defendants, Ralph Daigh, and Granville Hollingshead, are now in the county jail awaiting trial in Superior court on July 23. In default of bail Jewell was taken to the county jail pending a trial and further local action on the additional charges lodged against him.

Yesterday in San Pedro, Abraham Fleming, said to be a resident of Lomita and employed at the Columbia Steel, heard witnesses testify at his preliminary hearing that he had molested a child at Cabrillo Beach where he was arrested last Saturday. Fleming is contesting the charge with Attorney Kenneth Hughes as his attorney. The case was not completed yesterday and the hearing was resumed at San Pedro this afternoon.

Jewell, attired in a natty gray suit, appeared ill at ease and slightly bewildered when he

Vigilantes Organize To Banish Sex Crimes

Organization of the Torrance Vigilantes for the avowed purpose of ridding Torrance of sex crimes and making this city a safe place for young girls and women was revealed this week by L. E. Stanley, former Torrance motorcycle officer, who heads the secret organization.

Already sixty members have been enrolled but none of them are known to the others, except Stanley to whom all members report the results of their investigations. This precaution has been taken in order to discourage mob violence, which is vigorously opposed by the Vigilantes, it is explained.

"We are supporting the police in every way," said Stanley, "and if an instance of mob violence should develop, the Vigilantes would assist the police in quelling the disturbance."

As Stanley explained the functioning of the Torrance Vigilantes, the members are watching all known sexual perverts or those suspected of molesting girls and women. Any evidence obtained is reported immediately to the police. Stanley also requests that the general public cooperate by reporting any information or suspicions to him at his residence, 1962 Carson street. The names of anyone reporting will be held in the strictest confidence, Stanley states. Until he resigned five years ago, Stanley was the motorcycle officer on the Torrance police force. He is now employed at the Columbia Steel.

LOSERS A FINGER
Henry DeLay, 1324 Bennett street, Long Beach, employed at the International Derrick & Equipment Co., lost the ring finger on his left hand last Saturday when a heavy door fell on it.

Laundry Strike Still On, Say Committee

Plant Operating Over 60%
With 50 Employees

Quoting the words of a celebrated American commander of Colonial days, the striking forces of the Torrance Laundry today said, "We have just begun to fight." According to Ethel Kirk and Blanche Cunningham, committee members, the strike, which is now in its seventh week, is still on and the organized workers are more determined than ever to see the affair through to a finish.

Statements to the effect that the strike is over, are not true, say these representatives, who produced checks of worthy amounts to prove their contention that their walk-out has the support of other organized labor groups in the harbor district. "We now have a sizeable bank account," said Mrs. Cunningham, "and daily we are receiving assurances of support from other labor groups, so that we are in a position to carry on the strike indefinitely."

According to these spokesmen for the striking laundry workers, President William Rojo has refused to negotiate with their representatives and two arbitrations made with a view to arbitration of the difficulties have failed.

On the other hand, Mr. Rojo stated to a representative of the Herald this week that the opposing sides "were farther apart than ever" and no prospect is in sight for an immediate settlement.

"We are operating our plant at between 60 to 70 percent of normal with a force of 50 employees beside the nine drivers," said Rojo.

Warrants were issued Tuesday afternoon for the arrest of Ethel Kirk, and two other women strikers, on charges of assault, preferred by Mrs. Nellie Lewis, laundry worker. The warrant was served on Miss Kirk, whose arraignment was set for 10 o'clock this morning in Judge Robert F. Lessing's city court.

HITSKIP DRIVER FOUND GUILTY

Jack McIntosh, arrested on complaint of Mrs. Alice Gravemaker, laundry worker and charged with hit and run driving, was found guilty at the conclusion of a jury trial in the municipal court yesterday. He will come before Judge Robert Lessing for sentence tomorrow. The alleged offense took place several weeks ago on Western avenue, when Mrs. Gravemaker employed at the Torrance laundry asserted that McIntosh swerved into her car as she was on her way home from work, forcing her into a field, and that he failed to stop and give his name and address or render aid as required by the automobile code.

Keystone Dairy Owner Struck and Killed By Car

John Adamoli, 53, proprietor of a dairy at 413 Ocean avenue, Keystone, was struck by a car and instantly killed, while he was crossing Main street a few blocks from his home Sunday evening. The driver of the car, Robert S. Reed, 18, of 855 Fifth street, Los Angeles, was not held.

The victim was a well known resident of Keystone, where he had resided and engaged in the dairy business for the past 16 years. Prior to 1921 he lived near Gardena where he engaged in farming. He was born in Genoa, Italy, and had lived in California for more than 30 years.

Rosary was said for the departed at Reed's Mortuary, in Compton, last night at 7:30 and funeral services were held this morning from the Wilmington Catholic church. Interment was made at the Wilmington cemetery.

Mr. Adamoli leaves his widow, Mrs. Angelina Adamoli, and three sons, Emilio, Tello and Bruno, all residing at the Keystone address.

APPOINTMENT IS CONFIRMED

Appointment of Elizabeth T. Schellenberger as postmaster at Palos Verdes Estates was confirmed by the Senate this week. Mrs. Schellenberger has been acting postmaster since January 1936 when she succeeded E. L. Etter.

LOCAL LAD SAILOR ON S. S. LEXINGTON

His "thrill of a lifetime" is being experienced by Roy Hogberg, local sailor, who is aboard the airplane carrier Lexington on its dash to the equator in search of Amelia Earhart and her companion, Fred Noonan. Young Hogberg is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hogberg of Vermont avenue.

Nearly 600 Columbia Employees To Enjoy Vacations With Pay

Nearly 600 employees of the Columbia Steel Company here will enjoy vacations with pay this year, a check-up revealed this week. To be exact 454 workers on the hourly wage roll and 133 on the salary payroll will be eligible for paid vacations this summer, according to E. M. Barber, general superintendent. Length of the vacation period depends upon the number of years that employees have been working at the Torrance plant.

The idea of taking a vacation without the loss of pay is a new thrill for workers employed on the hourly basis and marks a decided forward step in employee relations. A number of Columbia workers have already taken their vacations and report enjoyable trips which include practically every outlying spot on the coast as well as visits with relatives back

The Employees' Association of Workers, a local union, is conducting an active membership campaign. Considerable rivalry is reported between the two groups.

Rumors have been rife and in an effort to clarify the company's position, a bulletin was posted this week signed by Vice-President Dave Faulkner stating that "the company had not given any organization exclusive bargaining privileges and would remain 'neutral' in the matter. At the same time, the company offered to meet with representatives of any organization as representing its members."

Before Labor Board
In a further effort to bring about a peaceful settlement of the issue, company officials and representatives of the C. I. O. and Employees' Association of Workers are meeting informally today with the National Labor Board in Los Angeles.

Culver City Attorney To Talk At Rotary

Always a big attraction wherever he is scheduled to speak, Mike Telefun, veteran city attorney of Culver City and legal counselor for the League of Municipalities, has been engaged to address the Torrance Rotary Club tonight. The program is in charge of Wm. H. Stanger, manager of the municipal water department, who is program chairman of the Rotary Club this year.

Telefun's topic will be the "Function of the League of Municipalities," which sounds like a serious discussion, but as told by the Culver City attorney in his inimitable style, sprinkled with a liberal amount of dry wit, is sure to prove highly entertaining as well as enlightening, according to Stanger, who is a friend of the speaker.

This week's meeting will be the first at which Grover C. Whyte will preside as president.

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The rolling mill force, which took its vacation en masse during a recent shut down, has returned and this important department of the mill is again operating.