

# ALONDRA PARK CARRY FIGHT TO COUNTY



RAY BROOKS

SHOP TALK

LAST CALL FOR CORRIGAN

Having heard the wrong way once, Atlantic-flier Corrigan appears to be doing it again as regards his relations with newsmen, other celebrities and the public. . . . as witness this week's TIME magazine write-up.

From our Los Angeles correspondent, "in the know," comes the following memorandum about another flyer who also became famous.

"General opinion on Corrigan, after we've all had a look at him, is that he had as good a chance as Lindbergh, but had poor advice.

"You may recall how close the late Ambassador Herrick was with Lindbergh, when the young flyer landed in Paris. He did most of the thinking for the young man. . . . and when Lindbergh came back to America, Herrick wired influential friends in Washington and New York to prevent the young flyer from making as big a fool of himself as had Gertrude Ederle, the channel swimmer, upon her return from across the pond.

"Shortly after his arrival in New York, Lindbergh was closeted for hours with J. P. Morgan and his advisers. There he met his future father-in-law, the late Dwight Morrow. Shortly after that, Lindbergh refused valuable contracts and refused to make a circus of himself as The Corrigan has done.

"Noted public relations firm of Bruno and Blythe were hired as Lindbergh's publicity men. Lindbergh began to take on a more dignified aspect. . . .

"That was fortunate. For at one time Lindbergh was notorious practical joker. Newsmen found that he had once told a lad of 17 who had asked for a drink to get himself out from a bucket in a hanger. The bucket was filled with high-test gasoline.

"Once, at a Long Island dinner party later, they pulled a rib on Lindbergh to cure him from practical joking. There was a little Mexican boy who had flown from Mexico City to New York, (whose name I cannot recall at the moment) who was being honored jointly with Lindbergh. To rib Lindbergh, the guests paid the young Mexican more attention, but the pair were seated side by side. Lindbergh showed bitter jealousy.

"Suddenly the lights went out and when they were turned on, again the Mexican boy was on the floor, a knife in his breast and what looked like blood was streaming down his uniform. (The Mexican boy was in on the rib). Police crashed in and took charge. No one was allowed to touch the body. Everyone was questioned.

"Lindbergh made it known to police just who he was and demanded to be let free. When they would not let him go, they, being in on the rib, told Lindbergh he was the main suspect, because he had been seated next to the supposedly murdered man.

"Newsmen say Lindbergh put in a bad half hour or so before he was let in on the joke. Since then he has restrained his practical joking tendency.

"The Morrow family prior to that time, had been colorless. Anne had made her debut, but was no society beauty. Then a meeting was arranged with the flyer and the family was thrust into the limelight a short time later."

FABULOUS FOUNTAIN

Shop Talk takes time off to call attention to the beautiful but rather amazing fountain that decorates the center of the public square over in Palos Verdes. Boys, you should see it! Teh! Teh! Teh!

KENNEY COMING ALONG

Celebrating only his twenty-fourth birthday next Saturday, American-born but Australian-educated Kenney Buffell (his parents moved to Melbourne when he was but a wee babe) appears to be doing right smart. Kenney now owns two shoe repair shops, one on Sartori and the other on Carson at Cabrillo, has a new Ford, a new house and likes to play ping-pong. . . . at which he beats me every time!

On top of all this Kenney is a very sincere young fellow, knows his own mind and is a Sunday school teacher at the local Baptist church.

Oh, yes. . . . he whips out a top-notch shoe repair job, too!

St. Cecilia's Guild floors 'em with "The Patsy."

## Will Demand Lien Lifting by Board

Having perfected a united front as result of a mass meeting last night in the Civic Auditorium, property owners in the "sour bonded" Alondra Park assessment district will converge on the county board of supervisors next Tuesday morning, Oct. 4, to demand that the Mattoon Act lien on their land be lifted by either (1) the county agreeing to pay the remaining obligations or (2) assume the burden of the annual assessments as they come due.

Judge Frank Carrell of Gardena was elected spokesman for the delegation before the supervisors. He said he intended to segregate the taxes, pay the general levies but refuse payment of the Alondra Park assessment. He will be supported before the county board by Mayor William H. Tolson of this city, president of the recently-organized Alondra Park Property Owners' association; other officers and directors of the group.

More than 400 men and women from Torrance, Gardena, Redondo Beach and county territory listened intently to the informative talks about the Alondra Park situation by Mayor Tolson, Supervisor Leland H. Ford, Hal Kennedy, deputy county counsel; Mayor Colfax Bell of Redondo, Alfred Jones, county surveyor, Pat McNamee of Gardena and others.

Meet Here On Oct. 4. Although there had been reports that a general tax strike would be declared because of the heavy assessment falling on the Acquisition and Improvement district this year (an increase from 98 cents per \$100 assessed valuation last year to \$3.30 this year in the zone immediately adjacent to the park and from 55 cents to \$1.88 per \$100 assessed valuation in the rest of the district) there was no concerted effort toward that drastic step last night.

Instead, at the association directors' session in the city hall and in the general meeting which followed there was a noticeable trend toward more amicable adjustment of the problem which clouded the title to 9,000 acres of territory in this part of the county.

In addition to perfecting plans for the despatch of the board of supervisors at next Tuesday's meeting—which starts at 10 o'clock—the association arranged to hold a second general meeting at the Civic Auditorium Thursday night, Oct. 6, at 8 o'clock. At that time the results—if any—of the supervisory parley will be discussed and the fight to lift the tremendous tax burden continued.

Three-Point Objective. There were about 35 present at the association directors' meeting. Mayor Tolson presided there as he did at the general session in the Auditorium. City Clerk A. H. Bartlett served as secretary. At the smaller gathering, Tolson emphasized that the directors should arrive at a definite understanding of what to do about the "sour bond" issue and present it to the mass gathering as a unanimous opinion.

The possibility of seeking a refunding of the bond debt—the balance due is \$663,000 at seven percent interest—was discussed but discarded. The consensus of directors was that there should be no tax strike but all taxes should be paid and, where possible, the Alondra Park assessments withheld. This segregation is permissible by state law and many property owners have indicated they will take advantage of it.

However, it was pointed out that property being purchased on contract is endangered by this partial payment plan because the usual mortgage contracts specifically require payment of all taxes and assessments. The three steps agreed upon by the directors for attack on the problem were: (1) get something done with the supervisors; results of this are to be known next Tuesday; (2) get the lien off the property to enable the development; and (3) seek the aid of banks and loan companies to obtain from the holders of Alondra

## 'SOUR BONDS' OF ALONDRA PARK AND, HOW THEY GOT THAT WAY REVIEWED

Here are the background facts of the Alondra Park "sour bonds" situation which has troubled many a property owner, put county officials on the well-known "spot" and is certain to plague holders of the Acquisition and Improvement bonds until some kind of settlement is reached.

Alondra Park itself is bounded on the south by Redondo Beach boulevard, on the west by Prairie avenue, on the east by Cypress (extension of Crenshaw which was formerly Cedar in Torrance) and on the north by 156th street.

It contains some 315 acres but the acquisition and improvement district covers about 9,000 acres in Torrance, Gardena, North Redondo Beach and county territory.

The original Mattoon Act bond issue for improvements was for more than a million dollars. This was issued back in 1927. The bonds mature in 1951.

Annual payment due on the principal is \$51,000. The assessed valuation of the District is \$4,750,000. Distribution of the District as-

essment shows 24 percent in Torrance, 18 1/2 percent in Gardena, 18 percent North Redondo Beach, and the balance in unincorporated county area.

When the county first came to the aid of the District, there was a 33 1/2 percent delinquency in taxes—hence the expressive phrase: "Sour bonds."

In 1938 the tax delinquency has been reduced to 13 percent. The balance now due is \$663,000, bearing seven percent interest.

The county board of supervisors have thus far paid a total of \$448,000 on the assessments during the last five years.

The District is divided into two zones, A and B. Zone A, due to lack of aid from the county this year, would have a bond tax burden of \$3.30 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Zone B would have a load of \$1.88 per \$100 assessed valuation due to the failure of the county to grant the \$72,000 sought as District relief.

Last year the assessments were: 98 cents in Zone A, 55 cents in Zone B. There is \$97,645 to be paid this

## Former Local Man Convicted In Fed. Court

One of the seven defendants convicted this week by a Federal court jury of participation in a \$100,000 mail fraud scheme was Ed C. Nelson, former Torrance city councilman and bank cashier. Together with six others Nelson is scheduled to be sentenced next Tuesday.

The evidence presented by assistant U. S. attorneys disclosed that the defendants sold trade acceptances based on their representation they had enough gold and silver bullion to cover these securities. Nelson was found guilty on one count.

## TO DRAIN ALLEY

A depression in the alley behind Carl Steele's home at 1820 Cota avenue is to be filled or provided with drainage facilities as result of Steele's request for such improvement to the city council Tuesday night.

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## People

what they're doing

Mrs. Charles Daley and mother Mrs. J. W. Sullivan of Los Angeles visited Monday with Mrs. Lon Halston, 1667 Gramercy avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilkes and children, 2019 Gramercy avenue, spent Saturday at San Diego.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woodcock their son Arthur and daughter Barbara, 1218 Annapola avenue attended the Pomona Fair Sunday.

Miss Carolyn Stroh returned to her home in Loveland, Colorado, Monday.

Miss Esther Maxwell attended the wedding of Helena Vosburg to John Lamb, Jr., at Pasadena, last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Murphy, 1423 Annapola avenue, had as their dinner guests Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Hefflin of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Goudier, 1807 Gramercy avenue, had as their guests on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Marsh of Altadena. On Monday the Goudiers were hosts to Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Pruitt, of Long Beach. Both the visiting families were former residents of Torrance.

Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Clayton are now in Detroit, Mich., to get delivery of a new Plymouth. They plan to return immediately.

She's a nut! But you'll Love Her! "The Patsy."

and Darby of Ingewood, last week.

63 Cents On Dollar. Hal Kennedy, deputy county counsel, and perhaps the best-informed man in the county on assessment district problems, reviewed the history of Alondra Park, gave information on how the taxes may be segregated and offered some pertinent advice on how to approach the bond holders to get them to scale down their prices.

He urged contacting the owners of the securities and pointing out that the value of the bonds has been "distorted" by reason of the county's contribution. Kennedy reported that "the average price the county has paid for two million dollars' worth of Mattoon Act bonds in recent years has been 63 cents on the dollar."

Ford urged a mass attendance at the supervisors meeting next week and pledged his whole attention to the matter at that time. He said he believed Supervisors Jessup, MacDonough and Legg will support him at that time because of the impression they received of the district's plight from the visit by Mayors Tolson, Bell, Bogart of Gardena, See "The Patsy" at Cut Rate Prices! Only 40c, Kids 25c.

## TORRANCE HIGH LIGHTS . . . by Harvey Abramson

Once more The Herald presents this weekly report on Torrance high school events, this term's comments being supplied by Harvey Abramson who prefaces his first contribution with:

GREETINGS . . . Here we are back at the old grind again and it's time to renew old friendships. We miss all of those who graduated but there are lots of new faces to take their places. To all new students—and old ones too—Torrance High Lights extends a hearty welcome.

SINGERS ORGANIZE. This week the capella choir, the Madrigals, under the direction of Mrs. Marjorie Cooke, elected officers for the coming year. They were: Ralph Gilbert, president; Merle McHenry, vice-president; Elizabeth Fish, secretary; Harvey Abramson, treasurer; Ruth Newman and Lorena Long, librarians; Lynne Boyd, historian; and David Figueroa, student manager. The Madrigals are planning a program to be given at the dedication of the new auditorium sometime in December.

PLAN LIGHT FIXTURES . . . Principal Thomas Elson received word last week from the Board of Education that the architecture section is preparing specifications for special lighting fixtures in the new auditorium; estimated cost, \$1,000.

CLUBS START . . . Every other Friday students are allowed to attend recreational clubs of their own choice. Following are some of the groups that met last Friday:

The Torrence Forum, sponsored by Miss Lockyer, is one of the oldest organized clubs in the school. At present it has 32 members. New officers are: Barbara Hall, president; John MacDonald, vice-president; Georgina Tiffany, secretary; Harry York, treasurer; Kenneth Perkins, sergeant-at-arms; Eugene Hatter, reporter; and Bob Tolson, social chairman. The Forum is a debating and public speaking club. The Latin club has also been going quite awhile. It is composed of members of the Latin

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