

25th Year—No. 6.

## City Planners Launch Study of Zoning Law

With all but one member present, the Planning Commission, created by Mayor William H. Tolson last Dec. 13, held its first meeting Tuesday night in the city hall and began a study of a new zoning ordinance for the entire city. This study is expected to take several months and the Commission indicated that it would seek the assistance of a qualified planning consultant.

City Councilman Tom McGuire was elected chairman of the new city body and Charles Curtis was named secretary. Regular meetings are to be held monthly. It was evident that the Commission intends to be a public service group from the manner in which it discussed the proposed zoning measure for the city.

That the general public be kept fully informed and interested in the study of zoning was stressed by A. E. Williamson, city planning and zoning consultant, who addressed the Commission regarding the necessity of a proper foundation for any new zoning measure. Williamson, for 10 years a zoning engineer for the county regional planning commission and engaged in private consulting practice for the past three years, submitted his qualifications for retention as consultant to the city planners.

### Basis For Zoning Told

Further investigation of Williamson's past services for the city as planning consultant at Santa Monica and Anza will be made, before the Commission will recommend retention of a consulting engineer to the city council.

However, those at the meeting evinced approval of his suggestions that a proper foundation for a zoning ordinance should be based on the following:

Some old razor blades and an idea have won a well-known Columbia Steel employee an invitation to display and give actual demonstrations of his unique work carving at the Golden Gate International Exposition from Aug. 1 to 15.

He is Howard Daniels, veteran draughtsman in Columbia's pattern department. He received the San Francisco fair bid this week from the Recreation department of the great show on Treasure Island.

About 50 pieces of his work will be on exhibition there, including carved caricatures of leading radio, screen and stage stars, prominent newscasters and some of the artist's more impressive creations consisting of western, desert, Spanish and Early California life and a few marine carvings.

More Elaborate Subjects  
Daniels' recent "whittlings" of comedy portraits of such writers as Walter Winchell, Damon Runyon, Mark Hellinger, Louis Sobel and Ted Crook drew such praise from the subjects themselves that their solicitation for a fair booth was brought to the attention of the fair's executives and the invitation followed.

Speaking of his work this week, Daniels said that of late it has deviated from the personal and he has been giving more time to desert and mountain scenes carved from plans and sketches of his own making.

This type of carving has found favorable response among collectors of ornamental art and Daniels hopes to develop his craftsmanship still further in that field this year.

"During the past year I carved about 100 pieces," he said. "But I won't make so many this year. I intend to give more time to desert and mountain scenes carved from plans and sketches of his own making."

## 4-Point Highway PROGRAM RECEIVES CITY-WIDE SUPPORT

Enthusiasm for the success of the four-point thruway program, as outlined in last week's issue of the Herald, ran high around the city half this week following a check-up of sentiment in Welteria and North Torrance areas, where it was feared the improvement projects would encounter opposition.

Residents of North Torrance were quick to realize the benefits of extending and improving Crenshaw boulevard (Cedar Ave.) from its present terminus at 190th street north to connect with the paving at Redondo Beach boulevard—formerly called Riverside—Redondo boulevard.

Likewise, Welteria residents were unanimous in their approval of the plan to reconstruct Hawthorne boulevard from Hawthorne boulevard north to the hill to the Palos Verdes Estates.

People contacted in both districts indicated that they would be willing to support the Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard projects in the older part of Torrance if the Crenshaw and Hawthorne boulevard improvements were presented at the same bond election.

Legal papers necessary to secure an option on the right-of-way for the extension of Cabrillo avenue to connect with Eshelman avenue in Long Beach were practically completed today by city officials. Mayor William H. Tolson stated that he expected to have this option signed by representatives of the Kettler Estate in the near future.

Efforts were also being made to contact the owners of property north of 180th street to secure the necessary right-of-way for the extension of Crenshaw boulevard.

"We are going to the people to ask for funds to put thru these highways, we want to be able to tell them that we have the necessary right-of-way to extend the roadways," said Mayor Tolson.

### Week's Building Totals \$25,060

Building permits issued during the past week totaled \$25,060, according to figures from the city engineer's office. Included in this amount was \$16,690 for installation of two new derricks and nine oil tanks in the South Torrance oil field.

Permits were granted as follows: Anderson and Associates for two 1,000-barrel tanks at 237th and Eshelman, \$1,720; Bolling Oil Company for two 1,000-barrel tanks at 1907 237th, \$1,720; Pedro Petroleum company for two 750-barrel tanks at 2252 237th, \$400; A. T. Peterson for two 1,000-barrel tanks at 2008 237th, \$1,720; C. H. Lebow for one 2,000-barrel tank at 23710 Walnut street, \$1,000.

Yesta Petroleum company, Ltd., for a wooden oil derrick at 1939 237th, \$5,000; Alford Development company for a wood derrick at 1904 237th, \$5,000.

Yesta Petroleum company, Ltd., for a five-room frame stucco residence and double garage at 245 Paseo de Garcia in Hollywood, \$16,100.

And Mrs. J. B. Shaw for a five-room frame residence and double garage at 1422 Annapolis, \$3,100, and J. P. Worthington for a 12 by 20-foot additional room in the front of a residence at 2132 237th street, \$300.

Efforts to "do something about the Pueblo," started by Rev. Ben Lingefelter last November, brought a solution to the problem of poor housing and general unsanitary conditions in that section of the city one step nearer this week.

Melville Dozier, executive director of the County Planning Authority, accompanied by Ray Y. Copelin, an investigator from his office; Rev. Lingefelter and Leonard Young, acting city engineer, made a tour of the Pueblo Monday afternoon. They visited a number of the ramshackle houses and interviewed the Mexican residents regarding their needs, accommodations and living conditions.

Dozier and Copelin appeared to be greatly impressed with the evident need for some improvement for the people living in the Pueblo although they did not commit themselves as to just what could be done, with Federal assistance, to improve the conditions.

Dozier said that the local area is too small in size and number of population to justify a Torrance settlement project but that the

### Would Build If Cabrillo Improved

"This letter," Mayor William H. Tolson declared Tuesday morning at his office in the city hall, exhibiting a communication from a Long Beach resident, "proves one of my points about the advantages which will come from the proposed improvement of Cabrillo avenue."

"The writer states that he would build apartments or houses on his vacant property if the main thoroughfare was made into the street it deserves to be—but read it yourself," the Mayor invited. Here is the letter received Tuesday from N. M. Kolbik of Long Beach:

"I was much pleased to note from the Torrance Herald that you have taken active steps to put Torrance on the Highway Map by improving Cabrillo and Torrance boulevards. I am with you 100 percent in your efforts," Kolbik wrote Mayor Tolson.

"I have several lots on Cabrillo and 218th street and would like to build apartments or houses. I was advised not to build on Cabrillo as the street was not dedicated; also that many lost their lots for non-payment of taxes, as they could see no future to the street. I realize by making Cabrillo a boulevard it would increase the valuation of property. I wish you continued success to help the growth of Torrance."

Victims and Injuries  
Hansen, one lives with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Cooper on Madrid avenue—Mrs. Cooper is a daughter of Mr. Inacio, was said about the accident.

(Continued on Page 2A)

## One Killed and 9 Injured in Truck-Car Crash

CRASH 'UNAVOIDABLE'  
Testimony at the inquest this afternoon into the cause of Blaggio Inacio's death Tuesday night revealed that a broken steering knuckle on his truck caused him to lose control of the loaded vehicle. The jury's verdict was "unavoidable accident."

Mr. Inacio's death was due to a ruptured spleen and lung, according to the autopsy report. Tony Martinez, driver of the sedan, testified he tried to avoid the accident.

One man was killed, four adults and five children injured Tuesday evening in a collision on Western avenue south of 190th street that involved a Chevrolet truck and a Chevrolet sedan. Blaggio Inacio, 55-year-old retail meat and fish distributor of Gardena, driver of the truck was instantly killed.

Eight of the injured were Mexicans living at the Pueblo while the ninth victim was John Hansen, 31, of 1414 Madrid avenue. The accident, which investigators described as "the worst in months" was the first fatal motor crash here since Nov. 14, 1938.

Mr. Inacio was driving north on Western with Hansen as a passenger. About a half-mile south of 190th Hansen says that "something went wrong with the truck" and it swerved to one side of the road, side-swiping the sedan which was being driven south by Tony Martinez. 30-year-old Columbia Steel worker. The sedan turned over several times, clinging some of the eight occupants out and pinning others in the wreckage.

Victims and Injuries  
Hansen, one lives with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Cooper on Madrid avenue—Mrs. Cooper is a daughter of Mr. Inacio, was said about the accident.

(Continued on Page 2A)

## Junior College Queries to be Sent Graduates

In an effort to determine probable enrollment in the proposed junior college at Torrance and more particularly to ascertain the type of courses desired, questionnaires will soon be mailed to all high school graduates in this area.

These questionnaires will be sent to the graduates of Torrance and neighboring communities. It was announced by Thomas H. Elson, principal of Torrance high school, who is conducting the junior college survey for the Los Angeles City Board of Education.

The decision to mail questionnaires was announced yesterday following a conference in Elson's office and attended by Mayor William H. Tolson, Chamber of Commerce Secretary L. Z. Gilmeister, and Grover C. Whyte, editor of The Herald. This is the same group that recently met with Dr. Vanier Kersey, superintendent of the Los Angeles City Schools.

"If a junior college is established at Torrance, it is our aim to pattern courses of study to meet the needs of those who wish to attend," Elson said, "and that is the purpose of the questionnaire."

### Suggested Studies Listed

Those answering the questionnaire will be asked to express their desires for such courses of study as: psychology, mathematics, science, English and literature, foreign languages, mechanics, drafting, accounting, journalism, music and dramatics.

In addition to the above more commonly known junior college subjects, it is planned to ask those receiving the questionnaire to express their wishes concerning such courses as: home economics, child training, education, office receptionist, consumer education, family relations, vocational guidance, personnel service, welfare and social service.

"The age of the average high school graduate is between 17 and 18 years, and because many employers have established a minimum age of 20 or 21 years, the high school graduate is confronted with a waiting period of two or three years before he can find employment," said Elson.

Training for Employment  
Following period of inactivity, following graduation, habits and associations are sometimes formed that are not of the best. The junior college course, not only keeps the young man or woman busy during these important two or three years, but also serves to equip him or her with a training and income tax employment, the high school principal pointed out.

Should there be a sufficient demand for such two-year terminal courses, it is the aim to furnish such studies as well as the academic studies preparatory to more advanced university work. Those receiving the questionnaire are requested to return them as soon as possible as much preliminary work must be done if the junior college is to be ready to open here in September.

### State and Federal Income Tax Men Here Until 9 P. M.

E. T. Bergin, income tax examiner for the state, and Robert E. Andre, deputy collector of internal revenue and income tax for the federal government, will be at the Chamber of Commerce until 9 o'clock tonight to assist local residents in filing returns.

He intends to carry out some of his convictions in the class to which 25 picked seniors are being admitted for this term.

### Elson Puts Vocational Guidance Hobby to Work

Principal Thomas H. Elson of Torrance high school believes in putting hobbies into actual practice. That is why he began teaching a class in vocational guidance for senior students this week.

As principal for several years of the Society for Vocational Research, Elson has studied the problems of training for jobs and has made this his prime hobby. He intends to carry out some of his convictions in the class to which 25 picked seniors are being admitted for this term.

While the study course will make no attempt to have students actually decide on a life vocation, it will try to give them a self-analysis and a plan of action. It is the aim to try to get boys and girls may choose work for which they are best fitted. The series of vocational conferences, held in cooperation with the Torrance Kiwanis club for the past several years, will be continued.

The first such conference, open to all students, of the semester was held Tuesday when A. G. Salter of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau directed a discussion of farming as a vocation.

### Boulevard Deed Awaits City's \$1,000 Payment

The long awaited deed covering the Pacific Electric Railway company's right-of-way on Torrance boulevard has at last arrived, it was learned yesterday in a communication from railway executives to Mayor William H. Tolson.

The deed includes eleven parcels of land on Torrance boulevard and the connection with the city. It will be turned over to the city by the bank holding the escrow as soon as the city pays \$1,000, which was the price agreed upon for the center parking zone on Torrance boulevard. The city is to remove the tracks at its own expense.

### One Lease Holds Up N. Torrance Oil Development

Extensive drilling operations on 200 acres located in North Torrance east and west of Western avenue by a new oil development firm known as the Blackstone Oil company will begin as soon as one landowner gives the last lease to the property. One well, started by Oliver B. McDowell, at 203rd street, west of Western will be spudded in immediately. This lease is being received, according to Arthur C. Fisher, who is in charge of drilling operations for the Blackstone company.

"We intend to start a big exploration program on our lease just as soon as one landowner gives the last lease to the property," Fisher told The Herald yesterday. "Our acreage is virgin oil territory because no attempts have ever been made before to bring in wells on the land. The C.C.M.O. prospect about a mile farther north had developed a good well in 1923. South of our lease, the Peterson-Barker well, drilled on 213th and Western by Tuck Eden, got oil but was never put on production because it could not get a water shut-off."

### South Torrance Active

The Blackstone company's operations will be followed with keen interest by North Torrance property owners because the development will open up the area north of 210th street. Other oil news of the week included the report that the Bolling Oil company completed its No. 2 well in the South Torrance field at 237th and Walnut for a 700-barrel flow per day from 8,161 feet. Gas production is said to be 700,000 cubic feet per day.

Tiger Oil finished its initial project, flowing 350 barrels of 27 gravity, cutting one percent, this week. This well is located one block north of the Bolling well at 238th and Walnut. Kovel Oil has completed its Deep Hole No. 2, an output well southeast of the present proven area. No gauge has yet been taken on this well.

### Leading In State

The South Torrance field continued to hold its rating as the (Continued on Page 2A)

### Cows Narrowly Escape Death As Rig Blows Down

Death hovered over 10 or 12 of J. Schipper's cows yesterday morning and only a whim of the wind saved them from being crushed by a toppling wooden oil derrick.

The rig, standing over C. M. O's abandoned well No. 18 in Sepulveda near Eshelman, blew down at 9:30 during the gale which swept the Southland.

If the derrick, many years old, had fallen in the direction the wind was blowing, it would have crashed among the cows feeding directly beneath it. The wind saved them from being crushed by a toppling wooden oil derrick.

The rig was a total loss.

## Co. Has Vital Stake in State Legislation

Los Angeles county has 58 bills before the 1939 state Legislature, as compared with 110 last year, it was announced this week by Chief Deputy Counsel Harold W. Kennedy as he began the task of making a digest of all bills affecting counties.

The digest is made during the recess of each session so that the county may advise its legislators what bills are not in the county's interests, and there usually are many. Kennedy is assigned to act as legal adviser to the county's delegation of 30 assemblymen, including Assemblyman Fred Reeves of this district, and State Senator Robert W. Kenny.

One of the more important county bills would enable delinquent taxes to be paid without interest, penalties or costs of any kind. The county tax collector would be empowered to make this offer for short periods of time, and observe the response. In some instances, penalties practically equal the overdue taxes.

Transfer Relief Burden  
Another bill regarded as important would provide for sale of tax-deeded property by the county in a different manner than at present and include a tax on the sale. This type of relief is needed, the county could sell entire blocks of tax-deeded subdivisions at auction, to the highest bidder. The county tax collector would be permitted to advertise the sale to be made.

Three of the most important bills on the county's list of 58 provide for a transfer of the burden of direct relief, to the state, with local administration, and the cost to be borne jointly by the state and the counties. The theory is that the Federal government will assist the state to a larger degree than at present.

Already in effect are the two bills re-instating the 10-year plan, adopted by both the lower and upper houses as emergency matters, and signed by the Governor. This enables owners of tax-deeded property to deem it in many instances from the state.

### Moose Bid Public to Show Sunday After Initiation

Following initiation of a large class at 2 o'clock next Sunday afternoon, the Torrance Moose lodge, No. 785, will present five acts of vaudeville, staged by professional entertainers who are members of the Los Angeles lodge, No. 29. The public is cordially invited to attend the show, which is scheduled to start about 3:30 o'clock.

There will be no other business than the initiation rites transacted at the lodge meeting, according to H. E. Hedger, district attorney of the local order. Visitors are invited to come to the lodge hall on Carson street and enjoy the clubroom facilities until the entertainment program begins.

### Meadow Park Drainage Plan Held Not Feasible

Drainage of the Meadow Park tract, north of Welteria, and west of Hawthorne boulevard by filling disposal wells is not being considered, according to a report of the county flood control engineer reported to the board of supervisors today.

The area is located in a natural depression which has no surface drainage outlet, Hedger said. It is subject to inundation following rainfall, and due to the impervious surface soil, the ponded water remains on the surface for long periods.

The volume of water to be drained would seep too slowly in the shallow disposal wells and if they were drilled down to the gravel strata, there would be danger of polluting the well-water supply in the area, Hedger said.

O. C. Logan of Glendale proposed the drainage plan, suggesting that a test well be installed on Ocean avenue with a view to sinking future wells to provide adequate drainage later.