

TORRANCE HERALD

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SECTION A

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Data for New City Directory Being Compiled

Representatives of the Western Directory Company this week began making a house-to-house canvass of every residence and place of business in Torrance and East Torrance to secure data for the publication of a new city directory.

Every person residing within the far-flung corporate limits of Torrance, including North Torrance, Hollywood Riviera, Waverly, and South Torrance will be listed; and in addition, all residents of the Hammett Tract, the Los Angeles Shoring Strip, and east to Vermont avenue will be included, according to Grover Inskeep, manager of the Western Directory company, which publishes directories for a number of Southern California cities as well as municipalities in Arizona and Nevada.

Bus Survey Census

In addition to gathering the usual information for the city directory, canvassers will also conduct a survey to ascertain the desires of local residents regarding the establishment of a bus line connecting Torrance with the yellow car or bus lines in Los Angeles. Authorization for conducting this survey as well as to make a census of the population of Torrance was authorized by the City Council Tuesday evening. This part of the canvass will be directed by The Torrance Herald.

The new city directory will be distributed free of charge to every resident of the city and is expected to be ready for distribution in about two months. All typesetting for the new city directory will be done by The Herald, while the press work and bindery operations will be done by the Automatic Printing company.

Defense Work Cancels Lomita Drain Project

Because the Works Progress Administration will be unable to supply W.P.A. labor for the Lomita storm drain project, the Board of Supervisors this week voted to postpone work on this major undertaking until next year.

The supervisors took this action after Herbert C. Legg, State Administrator of the W.P.A., reported that expansion of national defense facilities at Fort MacArthur and Reeves Field must be given priority over all other W.P.A. projects and that this will consume all relief labor in the harbor district.

Legg presented a telegram he had received from Colonel F. C. Harrington, National W.P.A. Administrator, stressing the need for immediate construction of new temporary facilities for housing troops at Fort MacArthur.

"This work at Fort MacArthur is to be given first priority in assignment of relief labor," the telegram stated. "If necessary, men will be taken off other projects, or other projects will be suspended pending completion of the camp cantonment necessary for the housing of these troops."

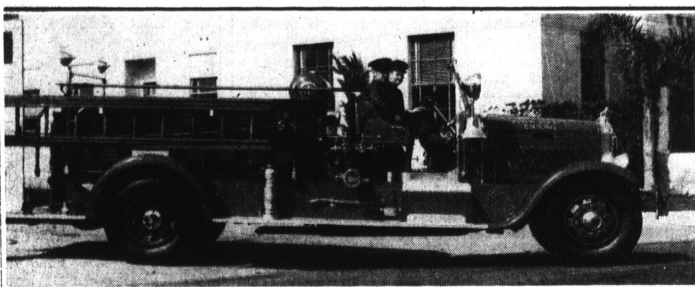
The \$100,000 which the Board of Supervisors had budgeted for Lomita storm drain project was transferred to the East Compton Creek project, thus enabling early start on that undertaking. There remains \$4,800 in the appropriation to the Lomita drain for the purpose of keeping that important project alive for start when labor is available.

Harbor Chambers Meet at Inglewood

Members of the Inglewood Chamber of Commerce will be hosts to the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at a dinner-meeting tonight at the Potrero Country club, starting at 6:30 o'clock. Roy Rosenberg, editor of the Inglewood Daily News, will speak on "Current Topics." Entertainment features are to be presented by E. M. McGough, president of the host chamber.

CITY BUYS HOIST

City councilmen voted to purchase a \$100 hoist for a city truck Tuesday night.



CENTER OF CONTROVERSY

Above is the 1,000-gallon Mack pump truck which was delivered to the Torrance fire department Sept. 29 and has become the subject of considerable controversy. Citizens of the apparatus, which may cost the city \$8,600, plus interest and carrying charges, claim that under its bright red

paint and chromium fixtures is a seven-year-old chassis and that the price is much too much to pay for a used piece of equipment. Mayor Tolson however, disagrees, claims truck is current model, cities letters to prove city got good deal. In the driver's seat is Fireman Gordon Northington and Fireman R. L. Parry.

—Torrance Herald Photo.

Alondra Park Debt Refund Move Meets 'Tax Strikers' Opposition

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT BUS SERVICE TO L. A.?

Now that the Pacific Electric Railway has announced it will follow the recommendation of the State Railroad Commission and abandon all passenger service thru Torrance, the pertinent question arises—"How shall transportation be provided to Los Angeles?"

A city that is isolated, stops growing and ultimately ceases to exist, as few people will live in a community that does not have adequate transportation facilities. The fastest growing cities in Southern California, such as Glendale, Inglewood, West Los Angeles,

all possess good street car or bus service to Los Angeles.

Realizing the seriousness of the situation, the City Council has arranged to contact every resident within the far flung boundaries of Torrance and East Torrance to learn their opinion, so that the wishes of the majority may be followed in the matter.

Canvassers now in the field securing data for a new city directory will also ask each household a few important questions concerning the transportation problem. You are requested to give these questions careful thought.

Give New Lawn on Madrid Park Chance to Grow

Having completed the seeding of the new city parkway on Madrid avenue between Dominguez and Sierra avenues, City Gardener Fred Blake today addressed an earnest plea to residents surrounding the beautified area.

"Will you please ask your children to keep off the street parkway and do what you can to prevent your dogs from gamboling on the seeded area?" he requested.

Blake is very proud of the work done to improve the Madrid park and he's hoping that the many hours of work put in there will not be wasted by youngsters playing in it or dogs digging it up. After the lawn comes up then children and dogs will be welcome to the unrestricted use of the neighborhood park.

Hauge's Absence Delays Action On Drain Plan

Consideration of the joint report of two engineering departments for installation of drainage facilities for the relief of the Laguna De Dominguez area has been delayed by the absence of Supervisor Oscar Hauge at the Hall of Records. It was explained this week at the offices of the board of supervisors.

Other members of the board are reluctant to consider it in the Fourth district supervisor's absence, and he is scheduled to return Oct. 18. This will be too late for next Tuesday's meeting, unless he returns sooner than originally planned. Indications were this week that the plan will not be considered until Oct. 24.

Smith Wants Date Avenue Extended

Extension of Date avenue, between Eldorado and Sonoma avenues, to make property there available to home-builders was asked of the city council Tuesday night by J. C. Smith of the Torrance Investment company. Owners of the 40-foot strip which may be used for the extension are willing to deed the city the property, Smith stated in a letter, providing the city fills in to street level the low portion of a lot adjoining the extended street. The matter was referred to the city engineer for a report.

Fire Truck Deal Draws Criticism at Council Meet

If the city of Torrance goes thru with its "rental-with-option-to-buy" the 1,000-gallon Mack pump truck delivered to the fire department Sept. 29 will it pay too much, for a bright and shining piece of equipment whose chassis was built in 1932?

Doan Heads Red Cross Roll Call Here

Lyle C. Doan, past commander of the American Legion post, has been appointed chairman in charge of the annual American Red Cross Roll Call campaign for membership here. The drive for at least 450 members, the local quota, will be conducted by the Legion post with the co-operation of the Auxiliary and the honorary Mantle club, an organization which has few members on the west coast but is a vital unit in the mid-west and east. The Roll Call will start Armistice Day, Nov. 11, and conclude Nov. 30.

P. E. Outlines Surrender of Cabrillo Strip

A letter outlining the procedure the Pacific Electric Railway company will follow in evacuating the center right-of-way down Cabrillo avenue which the city has offered to purchase for \$8,055 was received by City Engineer Leonard Young Tuesday from E. C. Johnson, chief engineer for the railway. Under Johnson's plan, the P. E. will remove its equipment from the rail line providing the city of Torrance furnishes "all labor and materials necessary for removal of the tracks and overhead facilities after they are disconnected" and reimburse the P. E. for the "actual cost of the work to be done by Pacific Electric forces, estimated to be \$2,250."

When the letter was read to the city council Tuesday night, Councilman James Hitchcock, who opposed purchase of the right-of-way, questioned: "Have we got the money to do it?" Mayor William H. Tolson suggested a meeting to consider the matter later and it was decided to act on the P. E. engineer's proposition at the next meeting.

Relocate on Border

Engineer Johnson's letter follows: "If abandonment of the tracks should be authorized by the California Railroad Commission, I will recommend that the following arrangement concerning the removal of the tracks and facilities be entered into with the City of Torrance: 1. Pacific Electric Railway company will remove the switch and mate turnout near Border avenue and Torrance boulevard and rehabilitate the track. 2. The P. E. will relocate its feeder cable and telephone lines along Border avenue and disconnect the trolley wire at Torrance depot and at the end of the paving. 3. P. E. will unload track material at company stores which will be hauled to the stores by the city of Torrance. 4. City of Torrance will provide all labor and material necessary for the removal of the tracks and overhead facilities after they are disconnected from operative facilities. 5. City of Torrance will be expected to reimburse Pacific Electric Railway company for the actual cost of the work to be done by Pacific Electric forces estimated to be \$2,250."

"As soon as you signify that the above is agreeable to the city of Torrance, necessary agreement will be prepared, providing for the purchase of property and reimbursement for the cost of the structural changes to be done by Pacific Electric forces."

Rain Total Now 5.02 Inches

Bringing the total rainfall for the season up to 6.02 inches, last Friday and Saturday's rains amounted to .12 of an inch, according to city firemen observing the official gauge atop the fire department garage. The rain season started Sept. 11.

That question was debated at length before the city council meeting Tuesday night when four residents expressed their opinion that the city had undertaken the purchase of the vehicle for \$8,600 when it was worth considerably less than that on account of its vintage.

In defending the council's negotiations for the apparatus, Mayor William H. Tolson, at City Councilman James Hitchcock's suggestion, had City Clerk A. H. Bartlett read all available data received by the city from the Mack Truck company regarding the pumper. This revealed that the original equipment was shipped to the Pacific Coast for exhibition in September, 1932 at a San Diego convention. Since then it has been used as a display or show model with a brief period of "stand-by" service at Monterey Park.

No Action Taken

Only 16 of the city council chamber's 80 seats were unoccupied when Attorney Albert Isen launched the discussion of the fire truck deal.

Those who expressed opinions regarding the matter were Carl Marsteller, B. M. Brewett, Abel Beech and Grover C. Whyte. Mayor Tolson was the only member of the council to enter in the discussion.

No action was taken by the council on the matter, members of the municipal board evidently being satisfied that the city had made a fair contract with the Mack Truck company. However, the citizen-critics of the deal indicated that they were not going to drop the matter, several stating that they intended to seek further information as to the value of the pumper and obtain "expert opinions" on its true worth for the presentation at another meeting of the council.

Briefly, the criticisms of the apparatus were: That the truck is not "new" as had been reported; that it has had considerable road usage; that its "reasonable replacement value" is between \$5,500 and \$6,000 instead of the \$8,600 which was the contract price; that the purchase was not opened to competitive bidding; that the truck's tires are of a size that is not being manufactured any more; that the serial number of its motor indicates it has been rebuilt; that it was a relief truck at Monterey Park for seven weeks, and that a "brand-new" pump truck of the same capacity built in 1939 could be purchased for "around \$9,400."

Summarizing, Mayor Tolson's defense of the truck negotiations, he declared: That if the critics' statements were true "we sure bought a wreck" but went on to point out that no bids were asked for such equipment because the city was "merely leasing the truck with option to buy"; that the council had pondered the deal for "five or six weeks"; that the truck itself is "alright and is comparable to a \$13,000 new apparatus"; that the Mack Truck company, a reputable, solvent concern, informed the city it was a demonstrator model but its pump had never been actually used at a fire; that it was a model (No. 95)

(Continued on Page 3-A)

TIME TO REVISE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SECURITY!

X X X X

Hardly a week passes without some improvement in insurance security on behalf of the general public. Your insurance man knows how these changes affect you. Turn now to classification:

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AUTOMOBILE—
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Ask for quotations on other lines

TURN NOW TO CLASSIFICATION 44 AND LET THIS ADVERTISER HELP YOU!

P.V. Votes On City Plan Dec. 9

December 9 has been set for the election on the proposal to incorporate a section of the Palos Verdes Hills as a sixth class city under the name of the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

The date was set by the board of supervisors this week. Boundaries of the district were set two weeks ago by the supervisors.

Illicit Pleasures Put 12 Boys in Hands of Police in 2 Days

Twelve youngsters, ranging in ages from eight to 12 years, found their pleasures interrupted by police Friday afternoon to late Saturday night, according to reports at police headquarters.

Four Mexican boys from nine to 12 years were pleasantly engaged in stealing avocados from a garden on Post avenue Friday afternoon when they were apprehended and brought to the station for a reprimand by Police Chief John Stroh.

After the lecture they were taken to their homes by Special Officer Harry Slover.

A trio of youngsters, using a pass key, broke into Walt Morris' candy canteen at the city park ball diamond and gorged themselves with pop, candy and ice cream "until they could not run," according to police reports. They were nabbed by Dale Riley, city recreation director, and taken to headquarters.

Three more boys were observed playing with fire in the alley of the 2300 block between Gramercy and Arlington Saturday night. They did not make the trip to the station but were ordered to extinguish the blaze by watchful police officers.

Final juvenile report of the weekend was made a few hours later Saturday night when two boys were halted in the act of breaking a large quantity of bottles and other glassware in the rear of B. C. Buxton's real estate office on Torrance boulevard. State Highway Patrolman Bill Mallin brought them to headquarters where they were lectured and given a broom to clean up their debris.

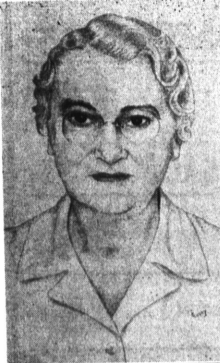
Pencil Portraits of Prominent Personalities

SKETCHED BY ELIZABETH LOSEY

As a Red Cross nurse in France for a year, nine months in two hospitals relieving a steady stream of A.E.F. casualties and three months with the French public health department at a school for children, Miss Esther Z. Maxwell, superintendent of Torrance Memorial hospital, saw World War I at first hand. That is why she is firm in her belief today that the U. S. should stay out of World War II.

A native of Crawfordville, Iowa, Miss Maxwell has been a nurse for many years and has been head of the local institution ever since it was opened in February, 1925. She is regarded as an exceptionally competent anesthetist, a branch of her profession that she has followed almost since the day she entered Mercy hospital at Davenport, Iowa to begin training.

Miss Maxwell went overseas with the American Red Cross after 14 years' service at St. Mary's hospital in Centerville, Iowa. She was stationed at Lyons, France and later at La Chaux, where an abandoned French castle had been taken over for a hospital. With the signing of the Armistice, she was transferred to St. Etienne in the south of France. There she and several other Red Cross workers and specialists trained nurses in the care of children.



MISS ESTHER Z. MAXWELL

... typical of her profession

Arriving home in July, 1919, Miss Maxwell returned to Centerville for two years and then, in 1922, came to California. After a year at Long Beach's Community hospital she came to Torrance. A member of the Torrance Business and Professional Women's club, Women's Overseas League and several professional groups, she is active in everything she undertakes. Kindly, gracious and reserved, she has typified the highest ideals of her profession.