

Vista Highlands Sewer Project Gets Under Way at Cost of \$170,510

Work on the first of four authorized WPA projects providing sanitary sewer facilities in Los Angeles county began in Torrance this week.

This unit, representing trunk line and house connecting sewers in the Vista Highlands tract, will be installed at an expenditure of \$170,510, of which \$164,968 is the Federal contribution. The city of Torrance and County Sanitation District No. 5 is to supply the remaining \$5,542 as sponsors of the project.

Trunk line sewers will be installed to augment existing facilities now serving this area, while lateral and house connecting sewers will serve the Vista Highlands district which is now being served by cesspools. These, due to ground water conditions, are said to function improperly and create a menace to public health.

The Torrance project will employ approximately 268 men for a period of eight months, according to Herbert C. Legg, WPA administrator for Southern California.

City Speeds Purchase of Cabrillo Av. Center Strip by Condemnation Suit

Hoping to complete the proceedings within the next three months and finally take possession of the center-strip for the long-proposed paving of Cabrillo avenue curb-to-curb, the city council Tuesday night unanimously authorized City Attorney John E. McCall to institute a friendly condemnation suit.

McCall was ordered to start the suit, which, it is understood, will not be contested by the P. E. immediately after Mayor Tom F. McGuire and P. E. officials sign the agreement for the purchase of the right-of-way which was approved by the council Tuesday night. Both the Mayor and Councilman James E. Hitchcock, the latter having been instrumental in pushing the proceedings to their present advanced status after several years of intermittent negotiations, expressed belief that the "city got a pretty good bargain for the center strip."

According to agreement, the P. E. will accept \$8,055 for the property in the condemnation suit and the city will be required to pay \$2,250 more for the removal of all track, wires and equipment from the right-of-way. The P. E. will route its line over the Border avenue tracks after consummation of the negotiations.

Association Backs Plan Mayor McGuire, in an explanatory statement to the audience at the council session, said that the city has agreed to buy the right-of-way at a cost of the balance due on P. E. bonds whose surety is the Cabrillo property. The city will remove the equipment and load it on P. E. cars under supervision of the railway company and will receive half of the cross ties under the tracks. The city's cash contribution will be paid out of gasoline tax revenues, it is planned.

Last Friday, members of the City-Wide Improvement Association headed by Robert J. Deininger conferred informally with the city council, at which time the Improvement Association members went on record as supporting the proposed plan. McGuire after plan 100 percent. Deininger pointed out that the present P. E. price was "quite a come down from the \$38,000 originally asked," and that he felt the time had come to go thru with the deal.

Supplementing Deininger's remarks, Chas. E. Conner stated that he had confidence in the ability of the city council to drive a good bargain and that

(Continued on Page 6-A)

Police Praised for Crime Prevention

High praise for the work of the Torrance police department under direction of Chief John Stroh for the local cooperation given in investigation of recent mercury thefts from oil wells was contained in a letter read to the city council Tuesday night by the Petroleum Crime Prevention Association, Inc. Motor Officer Percy Bennett was also singled out for special mention by the association for assisting in clearing up some of the thefts.

BUY NEW LIGHT

Purchase of an ornamental light standard for \$114.66 to replace one wrecked in an automobile collision at 222nd and Arlington avenue was voted by the city.

TRUNNELL'S Poultry Ranch

Open 7 a. m. to 10 p. m. 7 Days 25,322 Oak St., Lomita 29

The Winning Rhyme: "Fryers are tastier in the pan—When they never touch the sand So, why pay more when you can pay less."

At Trunnell's, and still get as good as the best."

Second Prize Winner

Mrs. Floyd Baudry, 2100 Lomita Blvd., Lomita, will kindly call at our Torrance office for two tickets to the Lomita theatre.

The Ad: GRAND BEAUTY SALON 1521 CRENSHAW, Torrance 1068 Genuine Durable Oil Permanent including shampoo, etc.

The Winning Rhyme: "If you wish to retain your beauty, Go to Grand Beauty Salon—'tis your duty!"

Get shampoo, wave and permanent, too. You'll be surprised what they can do for you.

(Continued on Page 6-A)

TORRANCE HERALD

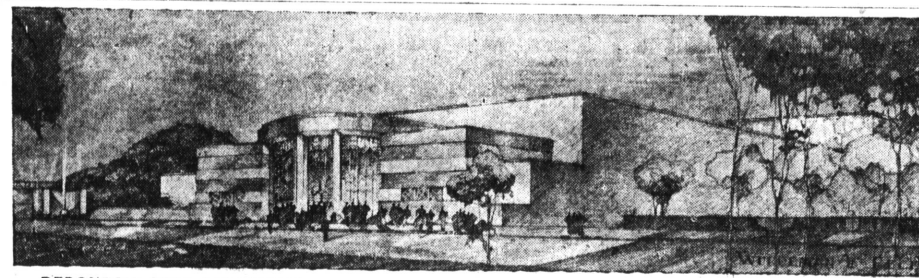
26th YEAR — No. 22

SECTION A

ESTABLISHED 1914 — TWO SECTIONS — 12 PAGES

PER COPY 5c

SECOND OUSTER ATTEMPT FAILS



REDONDO'S NEW AUDITORIUM . . . Here is the architect's sketch of the proposed \$190,000 civic auditorium which will be erected at the north edge of Redondo Beach's city park along the ocean. Funds for construction of this building and another civic center in North Redondo Beach

came from a civic improvement bond issue approved by the voters in September, 1938. Fifty percent of the cost will be borne by the W.P.A. Actual construction is expected to start as soon as final plans have been approved by the W.P.A.

3-2 VOTE BLOCKS POWELL AGAIN IN JUDGE DISMISSAL

A second attempt by Councilman George V. Powell to oust City Judge Robert Lessing because of alleged "irregularities in the police and judge's department . . . shortages of about \$1,239 which had been made up later" failed again Tuesday night by a three-to-two vote. Powell's

*motion that Lessing be dismissed was seconded by Councilman John V. Murray but Mayor Tom F. McGuire and Councilman James E. Hitchcock and Vern Babcock continued to vote against it.

The reason why the three councilmen turned down Powell's

ouster revival (the attempted it first May 14) was the same, altho they made individual statements afterwards: Let the grand jury complete the investigation of the police judge's and police chief's accounts as requested by Powell and then we'll take the jury's word for whatever developments.

According to information available here and in Los Angeles, the grand jury is expected to complete its survey this week of the Torrance city auditor's regular and a special audit covering the period of the alleged discrepancy in handling city funds. A decision from the inquisitorial body is expected next week. The jury was in session Wednesday.

Murray Waxing Sarcastic Every seat in the council chamber was occupied Tuesday night by interested residents, including a large delegation from Welteria, who have been flocking to municipal board sessions ever since the April 9 city election. There was one round of applause during the session. This came following a sarcastic comment by Councilman Murray after the Lessing ouster move was defeated.

"We have the facts," he began, "about discrepancies in the accounts. Now how much shall we allow officials to take and how long shall we allow them to keep it? I just want to know for the future. The finger of scorn has been pointed at us (referring to Powell and himself), calling our interest 'political.' We don't mind this. But I think we should put up a list of what shall be taken and for how long—or shall it be catch-as-catch-can?"

"Are you finished with your speech, Mr. Murray?" Mayor McGuire asked.

Powell Reads Law No mention was made during the session of the action rescinding the ouster of Police Chief Stroh at an adjourned meeting last Thursday. Nor did Chief Stroh submit his resignation. However, it is reported that an agreement has been reached, whereby Chief Stroh is to resign after June 1.

Powell resumed his efforts to dismiss Judge Lessing by reading extracts of what he said were the general laws of California pertaining to sixth class cities. These, according to the councilman, outlined the duties of a police chief regarding the deposit of a police fund collected by him immediately with the city.

(Continued on Page 3-A)

SAVINGS CONTINUED!

One of our oldest electric appliance dealers in Torrance is moving into new quarters and larger quarters and invites you to make very profitable visit to his two new stores—save as much as 50% on your purchases. Gifts, radios, refrigerators, stoves, are all at attractive prices. See classification—

Miscellaneous for Sale — 53

Announcing the Opening of New & Larger Quarters

Read — Use Our Want Ads Regularly for PROFIT!

P. E. SHOPS RUSH NEW EQUIPMENT

Test Mobilization Call Anticipated Early Next Week

Orders have been received by all California American Legion Posts that a test mobilization will be called sometime between June 3 and June 5. Pat Boyle has been appointed chairman in charge of the local disaster relief preparedness move and it will be his duty to assume charge when the mobilization order is given over a state-wide broadcast.

The call, it is understood, will come about 6 p. m. and all members of the Legion, Auxiliary, Boy Scouts, members of fraternal or church organizations who can give aid in time of disaster, civilians, nurses, physicians and persons trained in first aid and others, including police and firemen not on duty are expected to respond to the call by appearing at the Legion hall on Carson.

The purpose of the test is to demonstrate what local aid would be immediately available in case of a major disaster. Earthquakes, fires, and floods during the past few years have shown the necessity for organized preparedness.

Herald Ads Given Honor Rating By National Publication

Three advertisements published in The Herald during the past year were selected from those printed in more than 7,000 newspapers throughout the United States for "star" rating by the Publishers' Idea Exchange, a national monthly publication. The local advertisements were those of the National Home Appliance Company, Ed Thompson, Chevrolet dealer, and J. Lepkin, merchant tailor.

The advertising copy and manner of display was judged exceptionally high by the Exchange, which commented that the merchandise messages in The Herald contained sound selling ideas and pointed out that Torrance is fortunate in having a group of merchants whose variety of stock, value and freshness of merchandise makes this an unusually attractive sales area.

MARCH OF RIMES

UTOPIA — By H. F. NOAKE

Oh would that I could rest awhile on some sequestered, tropic isle, away from tortures man has made, revolving door and razor blade. Some place where I could just relax, untroubled by the income tax, remote from constant care and woe, divorced from press and radio. To live beneath some sheltering palms, annoyed by no one's call to arms; where just a pair of pants would be sufficient garb to cover me. What joy to sit all day and dream while politicians rant and scream; impervious to wars and hate, unpleasing breath and dental paste. An ocean for my weekly bath, no slippery tub, no grapes of wrath. For food a native bowl of fish instead of some dyspeptic dish; with birds singing all about and not one crooner giving out. Oh would that I might sail away to such a place this very day; but as things stand, I'll catch no boat, the Democrats may need my vote.

800 Men Now Employed at Railway Plant on Rehabilitation Program

Effects of the Pacific Electric Railway Company's extensive rehabilitation program—estimated to cost between \$6,000,000 and \$8,000,000—is being reflected in increased employment at two general shops of the company at Torrance.

An additional 265 men have been put on the local payroll already, bringing the total personnel here to nearly 800 employees, it was stated this week by E. C. Thomas, assistant to O. A. Smith, company president. An increasing number of Pacific Electric employees must be re-educating in Torrance, Thomas commented, "as we are only running one three-car train of workers a day to Los Angeles." (Local officials estimate 150 to 175 employees use this train daily.)

Among the types of mechanics which have been added to the Torrance shops are: car-fitters, pipe-fitters, upholsterers, painters, welders, and general utility men.

Rebuilding Cars The greater portion of the six to eight million dollars to be expended in improvements to the system will be for new equipment, Thomas states. Included are 70 new motor coaches for the P. E.'s portion of diesel hydraulic coaches to be used on the Los Angeles Motor Coach Lines, replacing present equipment on the Wilshire boulevard line as well as for the new Olympic boulevard which succeeds and extends the present L line of the L. A. Railway.

All this equipment will come to Torrance where it will be thoroughly tested, the lettering and numbering done, signals installed, seats adjusted, and all the niceties added, Thomas states. Other work to be done at the Torrance shops, include complete rebuilding of 160 of the 600 Class street cars which are on order for delivery September 1; 30 multiple unit President's Conference type streamline cars; and rebuilding a number of 1200 Class cars.

These cars will be completely rebuilt from the bare trucks up, Thomas emphasized. Motors will be reconditioned, trucks, brakes, and bodies overhauled, and all exterior appearances altered. All cars will be re-lighted with individual lamps over each seat. They will be re-seated with the new body posture type seats with mohair upholstery, spun rubber cushions, etc.

Three New Homes Under Construction

New construction in Torrance this month amounted to \$35,120 as compared to \$41,520 for May, 1939. The building total for the first five months this year now stands at \$157,135 as compared to \$362,575 for the same period in 1939.

Recent building permits granted from the city engineer's office here included: Altering a store front at 1328 Sartori by the Bank of America, \$100; to Ralph Hoer for remodeling a residence at 1907 Arlington avenue, \$200; to Charles J. Ellis for a four-room frame house at 23724 Pennsylvania avenue, \$1,400; L. W. Sierbert of Los Angeles for a six-room frame stucco house and two-car garage at 204 Via La Cirela in Hollywood Riviera, \$5,000; Sam Levy for a six-room frame stucco residence and two-car garage at 1528 El Prado, \$5,400, and Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Clayton for a five-room frame residence and two-car garage at 1352 Engracia avenue, \$3,750.

Buckled and torn steel from the Exeter, British warship in the River Plate battle, was the first relic in London's Imperial War museum.

An increase in gasoline sales in California which started more than a year ago continued during April.

Legion Announces Essay Contest On Patriotic Theme

Anticipating many interesting entries, the Torrance American Legion Post announces an essay contest for those who will cast their first ballots for president on the subject of "Why I Am Glad I'm American." The winner will be announced June 14 at the Civic Auditorium during a patriotic program honoring the first voters, according to Edwin A. Bird, who is in charge of the contest.

Essays of not more than 500 words may be left at The Herald office for the Legion's event up to 5 p. m., Friday, June 7. Judges are now being chosen and suitable awards will be secured for presentation during the public demonstration at the Auditorium. Essays should be written on one side of the paper and they will be judged solely on their content and sincerity, Bird said.

All civic organizations have generously endorsed the "first voters' rally" planned by the Legion and an outstanding speaker is being secured. Several features are being planned, including the retirement of the Legion's old colors and dedication of a new flag with a detachment of regular U. S. Marines present to assist in this colorful ceremony.

Open Installation of DeMolay Officers is Set for Saturday Eve

Bob Tolson, master councilor-elect of Torrance chapter, Order of DeMolay, extends a cordial invitation to all residents to attend the installation of officers of the chapter in the Masonic temple Saturday evening, June 1, beginning at 8 o'clock. The ceremonies will be conducted by the installing team from Compton's DeMolay chapter which consists entirely of past master councilors.

Other officers to be seated Saturday night are: Harold Masie, senior councilor; Bob Owens, junior councilor; Hugh Allen, senior deacon; Kenneth Perkins, junior deacon; Dick Miller, senior steward; Al Mason, orator; Dick Beecher, sentinel; Harold Kerber, chaplain; Earl Lock, marshal; Tommy Higgins, standard bearer; Howard Locke, Jr., almoner; Cliff Trezise, Conrad Christensen, O. B. Huber, Armstrong Dowell, Bill Boshe, Fred Lincoln and Cliff Totten, preceptors.

Police Will Honor Calder on Eve of His Retirement

In honor of Captain Gerald M. Calder, who is retiring from the police department tomorrow (Saturday) after 14 years' service, members of the force and several invited guests will hold an informal dinner at the police squad room tonight.

Capt. Calder will be presented with a memento from his fellow officers. He plans to go north shortly to spend several weeks on a ranch with his brother but he will always be a resident of Torrance.

(Continued on Page 3-A)