

# CITY WATER Sales Show Big Increase

## MUNICIPAL SYSTEM IN THIRD YEAR

### Water Bond Claim Of Lower Cost True

One of the reasons why Torrance residents supported a \$400,000 bond issue for the acquisition of a municipal water system several years ago was the statement that "city-owned water service will save consumers' money."

That statement has been proved by substantial reductions in water tariffs in the city until today the 1,524 consumers are paying a minimum domestic rate of only \$1.25 per 1,000 cubic feet.

### NEAR FOURTH BIRTHDAY

The municipal water system will be four years old in December. The plant has a valuation of more than the original bond issue altho only \$323,000 of that appropriation has been spent.



**SUPERINTENDENT . . .** of the Municipal Water District system is William H. Stanger, former mayor and one of the best known men in the city.

**D**ESPITE the fact that oil field activity is responsible for a major share this year of Torrance's amazing building permit totals, Torrance is developing residentially as well as industrially, according to William H. Stanger, superintendent of the Municipal Water department. For proof he offers his audited 1937-38 fiscal report.

"We had 57 new water service connections in the year ending June 30 which was the most in the three-year history of the department," he said. "This extension of our facilities is continuing and the present fiscal year should break that record. There are 1,434 water outlets in Torrance now as compared to 1,265 when I was appointed superintendent March 1, 1937."

Water sales for the last fiscal year totaled \$47,210.88. The department's assets total \$434,792 while liabilities (including outstanding bonds of \$323,000)

amounted to \$338,403.75. Net earnings for the last fiscal year totaled \$16,785.

### Two Excellent Wells

Those figures show that the water department is in the "big business" class and yet the local water rate is one of the lowest in Los Angeles county. The consumers—and there were 16,735 of them in 1937-38—are paying the water bond interest charges which amount to \$16,920 a year while the bond redemption fund is being raised by general district taxation. The bonds will start being redeemed in 1941.

Included in the 16,735 consumers (each month's total consumers are added to previous month totals) served by the municipal system are 15,996 domestic, 526 industrial and 213 irrigation outlets.

The department sold 47,265,900 cubic feet of water last year from its two wells, which average a production of 1,308 gal-

lons per minute each. The 1936-37 production was 43,062,700 cubic feet. July, 1937, was the peak month—4,562,000 cubic feet of water being poured thru the municipal mains. Last month's distribution amounted to 5,922,000 cubic feet.

It took 654,140 kilowatts to pump the 1937-38 production as compared to 593,650 kilowatts for 1936-37. To purify the water, the department used 7,570 pounds of chlorine and 2,196 pounds of pure ammonia last year, according to Superintendent Stanger's reports which are audited quarterly by C. J. Rambo, city auditor.

### Here's a Challenge Yet to be Answered

Torrance challenges any other city on the Pacific Coast, of similar size, to match her some 50 industries within the city boundaries, possessing a monthly payroll of approximately \$1,000,000.00.

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