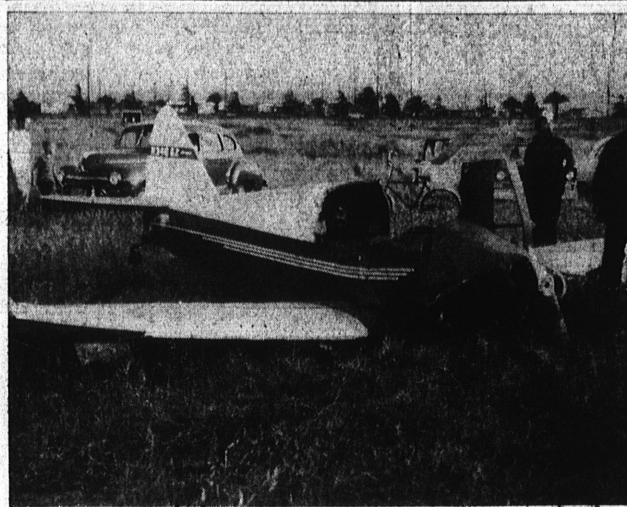


New Hospital Wing On View Now



PLANE CRASH . . . Two persons were injured here late Friday when this light plane crashed in a field north of Sepulveda and west of Madrona. The woman pilot and her companion were taken to Harbor General Hospital. The plane crashed after the engine died over west Torrance.

Two Hurt As Plane Spins In

Light Plane Falls After Engine Dies Over West Torrance

An Inglewood woman pilot and a male companion were seriously injured Friday night when the plane she was piloting crashed into a Torrance field north of Sepulveda Blvd. and west of Madrona Ave.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital were Mrs. Donna Belle Brown, 35, and Cecil Springer, 29, of El Segundo. The pair suffered severe cuts and possible internal injuries.

The flyer related to Officer Charles Oates that she was flying her low-wing Culver Cadet at approximately 2000 feet over Redondo Beach when the engine failed.

Trying to glide the plane to a landing at Torrance Municipal Airport, Mrs. Brown said that the monoplane lost altitude too rapidly and plunged to earth throwing her from the plane by the impact.

Springer stayed in the plane's cockpit and used his finger to stop the flow of gasoline from a ruptured fuel line in an attempt to prevent a possible fire.

The plane had taken off from Hawthorne Municipal Airport about one half hour before the crash. The 1941 model had been mechanically checked three days prior to the mishap.

Capacity Crowd Attends Annual Chamber Dinner

A capacity crowd of more than 450 persons attended the annual Chamber of Commerce installation banquet here Thursday night, according to Manager Dick Fitzgerald.

All in attendance agreed that it was one of the finest chamber banquets served here in recent memory.

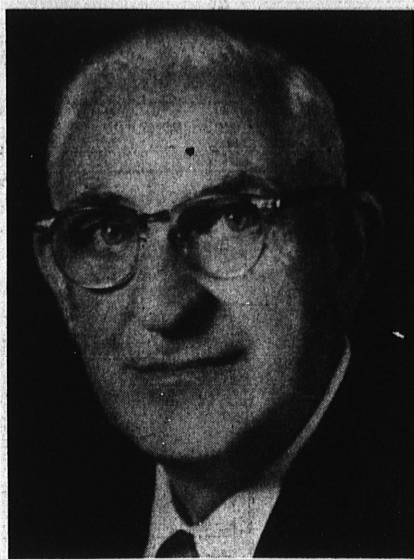
Mrs. Levy Accepts
Accepting the trophy was Mrs. Levy, who expressed deep gratitude for the honor given her husband. Also on hand for the recognition was the couple's daughter, Ella Levy Schwartz. Levy was ill and unable to attend.

The huge trophy, presented each year as a perpetual memorial to the late Dr. William I. Laughon and Grover C. Whyte, former HERALD publisher, has been established by the widows of the two early Torrance community leaders.

Early Physician Honored
Prior to announcing the winner of the "Distinguished Citizen" award, a special plaque for years of service to Tor-

Disaster Group Here Seeking More Workers
Volunteers for the American Red Cross disaster committee here are being sought by City Attorney Stanley Remelymeyer, chairman of the local committee.

SYMBOL OF ACHIEVEMENT . . . Mrs. Sam Levy and Chamber President A. E. Thompson look at the Distinguished Citizen Award trophy after it was announced that Levy had been named winner for 1956. Mrs. Levy accepted the trophy at the Chamber of Commerce banquet here Thursday on behalf of her husband who was unable to attend.



DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN LEVY . . . Wins Coveted Honors

Sam Levy Wins Citizen Award

Sam Levy, Torrance merchant since 1919 and a leader in a large number of the area's philanthropic campaigns, has been named Torrance's "Distinguished Citizen" for 1956.

He became the fourth winning, joining Mervin Schwab, Paul Loranger, and Dean L. Sears.

Announcement of his selection to the coveted honor was made here Thursday night by Sears, the 1955 winner, as a highlight at the annual Chamber of Commerce installation dinner.

Levy's work with the YMCA, YWCA, churches, and other organizations during the year was cited by Sears before naming him the winner. Specifically, Levy was cited for heading up the successful Harbor General Hospital's county-wide bond campaign for \$15,000,000 to construct a new hospital, the Little Company of Mary Catholic hospital campaign which is nearly completed now, and the current support campaign of the Torrance YMCA which prevented a curtailment of the services of the youth organization.

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A staff of trained volunteers would be invaluable in the event of any major disaster in the Torrance area," Remelymeyer said.

He can be contacted at the Torrance city hall through the week.

Staff Schedules Open House Today

Torrance Memorial Hospital's new, modern obstetrical and surgical wing will be open to the public for inspection between 2 and 4 p.m. today, according to Henry W. Creeger, president of the board of directors.

The new wing, which will be occupied on the week end of June 1, includes new delivery rooms, nurseries, surgical facilities, and a new kitchen.

On hand to welcome visitors during the two-hour open house will be President Creeger and other members of the board of directors.

Overcrowding Eased
Addition of the new wing to the hospital will greatly alleviate the overcrowded conditions which have existed for some time in the maternity section. Administrator Leonard Ensminger said yesterday.

Three labor rooms in addition to the two new delivery rooms will be a great improvement for the mothers using the hospital facilities, he said.

The two nursery departments, one pink and one blue, will permit parents and friends to see the newborn infants through large glass windows at all times during visiting hours.

New Kitchen
Modern kitchen facilities which will serve the entire hospital have been incorporated into the new structure and will be ready for operation next week.

The new hospital section was designed by Architect Merrill W. Baird and was financed through an intensive campaign here which raised \$300,000. In addition to this money, state and federal funds were made available to the non-profit hospital.

It was the first time since its founding more than 30 years ago that the hospital had to ask for public support, Creeger said.

The hospital was a dream of

the late Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of Torrance, and was provided for by his heirs following his death. It was constructed in 1924. Five persons have served as president of the hospital's board of directors during the intervening years. First president was Dr. J. S. Lancaster, one of the city's first doctors. He was followed by Brian K. Welch, who died last month; Mrs. Jared S. Torrance, widow of the city's founder; Richard R. Smith, who is now president-emeritus; and Creeger, the current president.

Serving with Creeger on the board of directors are Otto A. Kresse, vice president; Dr. John W. Beaman, treasurer; Donald Findley, secretary; Mrs. Charles A. Curtiss, assistant secretary; and Donald Armstrong, Dr. Eugene L. Cook, Mrs. Paul Loranger, Mrs. John B. Melville, Mervin Schwab, Dean L. Sears, A. E. Thompson, Mrs. Grover C. Whyte, Dr. Howard A. Wood, and Mrs. Boris Woolley.

Man's Auto Returned With Side Smashed In
Somebody apparently took his car for a joyride Friday, returning it yesterday morning with the side smashed in, William J. Rutz, 25005 Narbonne Ave., told sheriff's deputies.

Rutz said his car had been parked in the driveway when he went to bed. When he got up, he found the car out in the street, blocking one lane of traffic. Deputies said the vehicle looked as if it had sideswiped a wooden structure.

Proposed Park Plan Gets Backing 'In Principle'

Torrance Recreation Commissioners yesterday made a tour of the park sites proposed for the city in the Gold Report, after receiving a "vote of confidence in principle" from city and school officials attending the regular Wednesday night meeting.

The commission ordered a letter sent to the City Council, recommending that Robert L. Gold's report be accepted in principle as a working plan, with additional recommendations to be made later. The letter asked that the Council authorize the Recreation Commission to proceed in drawing up a working plan to be presented in a bond issue to the voters.

Support Asked
The action was taken after Commission President Herma Tillim asked representatives of

the City Council, Planning Commission, School Board, and other city officials for their support "in principle." Officials indicated their support, with modifications.

Gold, of Louis J. Kroeger and Associates, which made the detailed study of the city's recreation needs, told the assembled officials that available park sites are dwindling rapidly and urged quick action to prevent prohibitive costs.

He explained the recreation plan outlined in the report—for small neighborhood parks, larger community parks, and one large civic center. The county still is considering Torrance as the number one site for a large regional sports center, Gold said.

Cooperation Asked
Torrance's cooperation in a master plan of recreational development would cost not less than \$5 million, he reported, and would be more if the city does not act quickly. He suggested that the amount of bonded indebtedness to be assumed by the city should be done in two phases—by study and report and by action.

Dr. Warren Hamilton, representing the schools, indicated that the schools would be glad to cooperate in making playgrounds available for recreational use, wherever possible.

City Manager George Stevens said that once the recreational property was purchased, there would be an enormous yearly operation and maintenance cost.

Costs Cited
Gold, however, referred to the report, which indicated that although administrative and program costs would double by 1962, about the same costs per citizen—\$5 a year—would be maintained due to growth and increased city revenues.

City Attorney Stanley Remelymeyer said a clear description of the amount of land required would be needed before the cost could be determined accurately.

As a result, the commission decided to study the sites closely to make recommendations.

There was some discussion about the location of several of the 24 community park sites suggested in the report, with commissioners pointing out that there had been errors in location on some of them.

General approval of the present "gradeless" reporting system used in Torrance schools was indicated by a committee studying the elementary school reporting system, but recommendations were made that teachers avoid "sugarcoating."

The committee, however, recommended that letter grades be made available to seventh and eighth grade parents who request them.

The 19-member committee, headed by Mrs. Margaret Denmark, curriculum consultant, had been studying suggestions that seventh and eighth graders receive letter grades to prepare them for receiving grades in high school. At present, elementary students' report cards contain only written comments, describing the child's work in reading, writing, arithmetic, and other areas of study.

Recommendations Made
Recommendations for strengthening and clarifying the present system were made, with an evaluation of the results to be made at the end of the next year. The committee

rejected the idea of a pilot study in one school, using the grade system.

After getting samplings of opinion from a cross-section of local residents, including letters to the editor in the HERALD, members decided that in some cases, teachers are not telling the parent what he wants to know about his child and are not making the program of the schools clear.

It was reported that many parents of eighth graders felt they had not received elementary schools reports which indicated what type of high school course might be best for their children.

Grades Explained
The "gradeless" report cards are based on the idea that ABC grades have to be explained anyway and that written comments can better describe the work the child is doing. Educators believe that letter grades tend to discourage the slow child who is doing the best he can and to make the better students lazy.

The committee also recommended that parent conferences be held within a few

days after the written reports are sent home, so that the remarks may be explained. It was recommended that a committee be named to work out the details of this system, as well as to draw up a guide for improving the present reporting system.

Points Made
Specific recommendations of the committee included:

1. Helping parents to realize the work a child is doing in comparison to what he is capable of doing. Helping parents to understand the philosophy behind the reporting system.

2. Education of the child to understand his own capabilities.

3. Through teacher and administrator committees or discussion groups, revision of teachers' reporting handbooks to:

City's Building Permits for May Reach \$2,797,676

Torrance is having its biggest building month this year, with building permits issued for 107 tract houses, 32 apartment units, four units of a new Catholic High School, and a new Torrance schools warehouse.

To date, \$2,797,676 in permits has been taken out during May, according to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the City Engineer's office. This brings the year's total to nearly \$8,000,000.

New Home Tract
Biggest permit issued was for \$1,050,594 for 87 houses proposed by the R. A. Watt Co. in a development between 178th and 181st St. and Gramercy and Wilton Pls.

Smaller subdivisions are proposed by Wayne L. Nelson with 13 houses at 160th and Kornblum Aves., valued at \$196,689. Grande Vista Homes plans seven houses in the 2100 block of 161st St., worth \$107,000.

Apartments to Start
Nelson also took out permits for eight four-unit apartments worth \$260,000 at 3718-58 Redondo Beach Blvd., as part of a proposed 64-unit development. Groundbreaking is scheduled today on the first of the million-dollar development.

The Archbishop of Los Angeles took out \$399,000 in permits for four units of the new Catholic High School, to be located on Torrance Blvd. on the west city boundary.

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