

# USC Team Logs 1,000 Open Heart Surgeries

Six-year-old Cheryl Wise left St. Vincent's Hospital last week for her San Jose home unaware that she is a celebrity. She is the 1000th patient to have an open heart surgical operation performed by a team of surgeons from the University of Southern California (USC) School of Medicine since they started using this technique with a heart-lung machine a little more than six years ago.

A hole between the two lower chambers of her heart, a condition known as a ventricular septal defect, and probably would not have lived more than a few years without the operation in which the USC surgeons closed the hole. "We are so thankful," said her mother, Mrs. Frank Wise. "Now Cheryl can grow up like her sisters." They are Suzanne, 10, and Cynthia, 8.

diagnosed when she was four months old and the family lived in San Diego at 3004 Osceola Ave. Her father, a mathematical analyst, recently moved his family to San Jose. The four-hour operation was performed at St. Vincent's Hospital on March 23, and Cheryl made a rapid recovery which enabled her to go home in ten days. She will soon return to the first grade at John Muir elementary school, which her sisters also attend.

Cheryl's constant companion in the hospital was a toy white rabbit almost as big as she is. At home her pets are a hamster, Dusty; a German shepherd, Tippy; and an orange Persian cat, Tinker. Her mother was at the hospital every day, and her father and sisters visited her as much as they could. So did her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John R. Williams of 6919 Georgia Ave. Bell, and Mr. and Mrs. George E. Wise of 3624 E.

60th St., Huntington Park. **THE YOUNGEST** patient USC has had with a similar condition was a two-month-old baby girl who weighed only 4½ pounds and was doomed to die in a few days if her operation had not been performed last December 12 at Los Angeles County General Hospital. Oldest patient among USC's 1000 was a 64-year-old woman whose mitral valve was re-

paired. A 63-year-old business executive recently had his aortic valve replaced with a Starr-Edwards plastic ball valve. The USC heart surgeons have several unique achievements to their credit. In 1959 they performed the world's first operation to remove a tumor from the lower chamber of a woman's heart. They operated four years ago on three young brothers all born with a narrowing of the aorta, the

main vessel leading from the heart. They helped start open heart surgery in Israel five years ago by going there to demonstrate and teach their technique. Although most of their patients have been from the area in and around Los Angeles, one boy came from Greece, young women from Italy and Venezuela, and other patients from Israel and Mexico.

has supported research in open heart surgery at USC through the Los Angeles County Heart Assn. The Red Cross has supplied blood needed in the operations, which have been performed at St. Vincent's and the County Hospital. Members of the USC open heart surgery team at St. Vincent's Hospital are Drs. Jerome Harold Kay, Harold K. Tsuji, John E. Meihaus, Oscar Magidson, Reuben R. Lewis, and Edward R. Bloomquist.

THE DOHENY Foundation

## County Needs 50 Lifeguards

The County Department of Parks and Recreation has openings for lifeguards in the Southwest area, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chase. Fifty positions are vacant. Applicants must be male, between 18 and 40 years of age. Examinations include physical, eye tests, and swimming skills.

Applications are available at the County's Civil Service Commission, 222 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 12, the County Sheriff stations, and recreation headquarters, 3644 W. Manhattan Beach Blvd., Lawndale. Filing deadline is May 15.

## Garden Checklist

1. Plant vegetables now. Set out plants of tomatoes, peppers (in warm areas), lettuce. Plant seed of melons and zucchini.
2. Start both sweetpeas and eating peas. Make sure the rows run north and south. Put the eating peas in rows at least three feet apart.
3. Time to lift and divide Shasta daisy, chrysanthemum, yarrow and any other summer or fall-blooming perennials you may have around the garden.
4. Plant dahlias of all kinds. Nurserymen members have a good selection now.
5. As forsythia, weigela, flowering quince, flowering peach and other flowering trees and shrubs go out of bloom, cut back the old wood. Shrubs can have the old wood cut to within six inches of the ground.



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to 5:30 P.M.