

# VALUATION FIGURES FOR TORRANCE PEGGED AT RECORD \$60,151,580

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20 PAGES

# Funds Continue to Pour In for Townsend Family

## Clubs, Veterans, Others Help Family

Contributions and offers of assistance continued to pour in for the "Townsend Fund" this week as neighbors, veterans groups and other residents of the area opened their hearts and purses for a family in need.

Help for the family of Don Townsend, 20951 Brighton Ave., came in answer to an appeal voiced by neighbors two weeks ago following an auto collision which sent Townsend to the hospital with critical injuries. Mrs. Townsend had just given birth to a 2-lb., 6-oz. baby boy two weeks before and the infant required expensive hospital care including an incubator and special doctors.

Townsend, who had been thrown out of work by the nationwide glass industry strike, had planned to sell the car he was driving to pay for the daily mounting hospital bills. The car was demolished when it was struck by another Aug. 7.

Contributions from individuals and organizations began pouring in immediately following publication of the story in the Torrance Herald Sunday, Aug. 9. Neighbors of the Townsends have assumed payments on the small home the veteran and his wife purchased recently.

The Woodley Square Homeowners Assn. held a dance and benefit social at the American Legion hall last Saturday evening and raised more than \$300 for the family. Earl R. Brunner, president of Mayfair Creamery, sent Mrs. Townsend a check for \$50. Markets have contributed groceries, milk is being furnished, and individuals are donating dimes, quarters, dollars, and checks.

Townsend is still in Harbor General Hospital, where his condition is described as serious. Only members of his family are being allowed to visit him.

Misfortune has come to the steady traveling companion of Townsend, while in Japan with the 578th Combat Engineers last year, he fell 42 feet during a night maneuver and fractured his right hip, and received other serious hurts.

Two weeks after he arrived home he went to work for a glass company only to have it shut down because of a strike. On July 16 his wife, Betty, gave birth to the premature son in a Long Beach hospital. The climax was the auto collision Aug. 7, which sent him to the hospital with a fractured left hip and serious body and head injuries.

Two more benefit functions for the family have been scheduled by Torrance organizations. The



FUND GETS BOOST . . . A check for \$25 is being handed Clifford Boots, brother-in-law of Don Townsend, by Art Moore, commander of Torrance VFW Post No. 3251 while Bill Gall, commander of the Los Angeles County Council, looks on. The check was a gift of the VFW to assist the Townsend family.



RECEIVE AID . . . Three young persons received cuts and bruises when the auto in which they were riding smashed into a pole on 190th St. near Hawthorne Ave. early Tuesday morning. Injured were Earl Harris, 19; Monroe Rutledge, 23, and Marline Martin, 19, all of Redondo Beach. They were taken to Harbor General Hospital.

## Pole too Hard For Old Car; Three Hurt

Three teenagers were injured when the convertible in which they were riding went out of control and crashed into a power pole on 190th St. near Hawthorne Ave. early Tuesday morning.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital by South Bay Ambulance were Earl Dale Harris, 19, the driver, Monroe N. Rutledge, 23, and Marline Lea Martin, 19, all of Redondo Beach. All suffered cuts and bruises.

The car, according to Torrance traffic officers A. L. Jackson and A. W. Winkler, was a total loss.

## CAR HITS BUMP FLIPS IN AIR; TWO INJURED

A bump in the road was blamed for sending a 2-door sedan on a crashing, topsyturvy course 150 feet down Crenshaw Blvd., resulting in injuries to two teen-age boys yesterday shortly before noon.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital by South Bay Ambulance were Neil, 16, and Ellis, 14, Schurman, of 2028 W. 262nd St. They suffered cuts and bruises and are undergoing X-rays to determine possible internal hurts.

Driver Robert A. Griggs, 16, of 301 Harbor Hills, told Officer H. G. Fretz that he was heading down Crenshaw Blvd. when his car plowed into a chuck hole, some 500 feet south of Pacific Coast Hwy.

The auto leaped off the street, skidded on its side, flipped over, scraped along on the other side, and jumped upright off the road. Glass was shattered and seats were thrown around inside of the auto.

Griggs, badly shaken up, was taken home by Officer Fretz.

## Where's the Fire?

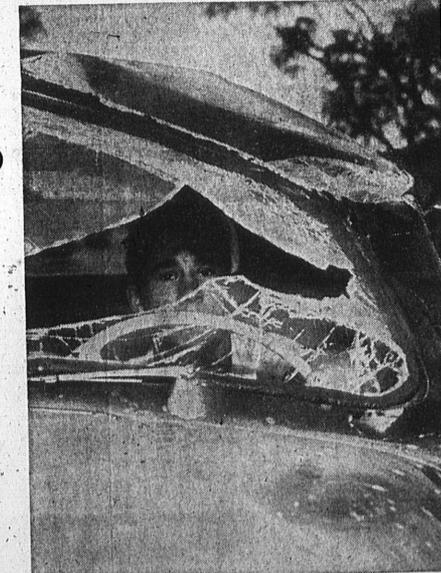
Torrance Fire Department responded to the following calls:

SUNDAY  
9:16 p.m., Cabrillo Ave. south of Carson St., rubbish fire.

MONDAY  
No calls.

TUESDAY  
11:39 a.m., 1200 block Sartori Ave., car fire.

WEDNESDAY  
1:25 p.m., 229th St. and Arlington Ave., grass fire.  
1:55 p.m., 171st St. and Prairie Ave., grass fire.



DAZED DRIVER . . . After hitting a hole in the street, this sedan rolled out of control and went crashing down Crenshaw Blvd. near Pacific Coast Hwy. yesterday, injuring two teen-agers. Driver Robert Griggs, 16, behind the wheel, surveys damage. He was taken home, badly shaken up, by police.

## Many Accidents Keep Police Cars Rolling

(Photo, Page 2)

Traffic accidents kept Harbor Division police extra busy over the warm week-end, but Torrance and California Highway Patrol traffic men had comparatively easy sledding with motorists in their territories.

Injured when he apparently rode his bike into the side of a passing car Monday afternoon was Tommy Ball, 11, of 1608 W. 203rd St., according to police. Tommy said he was riding across the street in front of 1632 W. 203rd St. and didn't see a car driven by Oren P. Davis, 36, of 1530 W. 203rd St.

Lad Taken Home  
He suffered a bruised knee, but refused a ride in the ambulance. He was taken to his home for observation.

A wild-ride after hitting a dip in the road at 150th St. and Normandie Ave. Saturday evening and caroming around the intersection ended in injuries to four teen-agers.

The auto, police reported, leaped into the air, went out of control, and crazily veered off into a highway barricade. Taken to the hospital were Ray, 17, driver, of Comp Vermont Ave., driver of the ton; Mary C. Hornbrook, 16, of

Lawndale; Don Ward, 16, of Long Beach, and Frances Campbell, 16, of Long Beach.  
Mrs. Mary Walker, 50, of Inglewood, fell from a car on Vermont Ave. north of Pacific Coast Hwy. Saturday night, suffering a fractured right leg. Driver of the car in which she was riding fled the scene, police said, and is being sought for questioning.  
Losses Contest  
A tiny foreign-make auto and its driver came out on the wrong end of a collision with a two-ton truck on Pacific Coast Hwy. near Vermont Ave. Sunday night. Car driver William J. Shea, 24, of Los Angeles, was treated for gashes and bruises.  
Alvin Hobbs, 30, of 21206 So. Monday Rosa, 17, driver, of the ton; Mary C. Hornbrook, 16, of



HELEN BICKFORD . . . To Conduct School

## Helen Bickford Will Conduct Cooking School

Miss Helen Bickford, home economist for the Southern California Gas Co., has been chosen to conduct the Torrance, Calif., sponsored cooking school, here Sept. 24, 25 and 26. It was announced yesterday by William E. King Jr., advertising manager for the Herald.

A member of the gas company's home economics department, Miss Bickford will pass along dollar saving food preparation ideas during the three-day school in the Civis Auditorium.

Next month's cooking school will be the first held here since the war, King said. Daily prizes will be awarded during the school and a modern gas range will be given to one of the participants at the end of the three-day affair.

## Set Service For Mrs. Strautman

Funeral services for Lillian Mae Strautman, 49, of 1027 Maple Ave., will be conducted at the Stone and Myers Chapel at 10 o'clock today. Interment will follow at Green Hills Memorial Cemetery.

For 20 years a resident of Torrance, Mrs. Strautman died at Harbor General Hospital last Monday. She was a native of West Virginia.  
Surviving her are her husband, Bernard Fred, three daughters, a son, her mother, a sister, a brother and three grandchildren.

## Two Contract Postal Stations To Be Opened

Opening of two new contract stations for the Torrance Post office was announced yesterday by Mrs. Clara Conner, postmaster.

To open Sept. 2 are stations at 23433 B. Western Ave. and in the Jim Brady Market at Torrance Blvd. and Crenshaw.

The stationing will be open for money orders, parcel post registered mail, and other paid services, the postmaster said. There will be no mail deliveries to the stations, she pointed out.

## Lost Owner Sought For Found Bag, Cash

A lady's "dress" purse containing several dollars in cash was found and turned into the Torrance police station this week, according to Chief of Police John Stroh. The owner can identify and claim the bag and cash at the police station.

## 10 Per Cent Gain In Valuation Noted

Assessed valuation of the city of Torrance has been pegged at \$60,151,580, it was reported yesterday to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

The 1952-53 assessment represents an increase of nearly 10 per cent over last year's figures, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Home building accounted for a greater portion of the increase, according to city officials. The steady parade of subdivisions here during the past few years has skyrocketed the home totals for the city.

Contemplated new building here headed by the \$36,000,000 plant of the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co. indicate early that even greater increases may be expected next year.

Valuation of the Torrance Tax District No. 1 was set at \$28,740,570 by the county assessor. This includes all of the area in the original city. Annexed areas in Tax District No. 2 totaled \$31,411,010. The two make the \$60 million total. Last year's total was \$52,326,100.  
Receipt of the valuations clears the way for the City Council to fix the tax rate for the next year. The budget estimate submitted to the Council last month by the City Manager called for Lawson, and Isenberg.

## Chamber to Seek City Help with Xmas Lighting

A request to the City Council for additional funds to underwrite the Christmas lighting program for Torrance is being prepared by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, it was revealed yesterday by Executive Secretary Dale Isenberg.

Spearheaded by the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber, a drive to light up all of the business section area of the city is being organized, Isenberg said.

A committee headed by Frank Dominguez Jr., is studying the problem. Other committee members include Milt Isbell, Art Strumwasser, Paul Diamond, Jim