



COMPLETE LINE—Of toys, books, hobby and craft materials are available at the Gilbert Toy and Hobby Shop, 22240 Palos Verdes Blvd. Mr. and Mrs. Delvin Rice and Arnette Rice are ready to serve the hobbyist or those looking for gifts. The shop is open 6 days of the week.

Sheriff's Figures Indicate 12% Hike in Major Crimes

Major crimes handled by the Department of Sheriff in 1959-60 indicated an 11.8% increase from the previous fiscal year. The department's conviction rate for this period rose to an all-time high of 97.1%, Sheriff Peter J. Pitches reported Tuesday.

"It is encouraging to note," Pitches stated, "that juvenile cases have declined for the third straight year. The 11,279 juveniles arrested or investigated for criminal actions represent a 5% decrease from the previous year."

Although these major crime figures are encouraging it is significant to note that the total cases handled by the Sheriff's Department requiring investigation for criminal and non-criminal activity increased 19%.

MAJOR CRIMES

Major crimes, as defined by the California Bureau of Criminal Statistics, include criminal homicide, forcible

rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, grand theft, and auto theft. Since the crime index includes those offenses most generally and completely reported to police agencies, it is considered to be a valid indication of crime in a given area.

It is also interesting to note that the major crimes reported to the Sheriff's Department during 1959-60 were below the state-wide increase of 18% for the January to September 1960 period.

CONTINUE TO RISE

Crimes against the person, which include criminal homicide, and aggravated assault, continued to rise during the past year. There were fifty-two criminal homicides during 1959-60 (the same as in 1958-59). Forcible rape decreased 6%, and aggravated assault—the most numerous of crimes against the person—increased 11%. Aggravated assault ranks fourth in total volume of reported major offenses.

The conviction rate is the percentage of guilty pleas and verdicts of guilty handed down to those who appear in court for trial. The total conviction rate of 97.1% for all cases processed through the courts by the Sheriff's Department is an increase of one-tenth of one per cent over 1958-59.

24.6% INCREASE

Robbery cases handled by the Sheriff's Department increased 24.6%. The conviction rate for robbery cases was an impressive 93.1%.

Burglary cases also increased a 12.9% from the previous year. The conviction rate for the crime of burglary rose to 94%.

Thefts annually take a huge toll in money and property from the citizens. Grand thefts showed an 8% increase; however, a recovery of over four million dollars of stolen property, coupled with a conviction rate of 90.6%, helped counter-balance the increase in thefts.

Auto theft showed an increase of 9% and a conviction rate of 86.6%.



OPENS NEW LOCATION—Don Turpin Motors, long time favorite of Southland auto buyers, last week announced its move to a more convenient location, 841 W. Anaheim, Wilmington. Turpin has also added the fabulous Studebaker Lark

to his outstanding agency line. Turpin Motors now is the recognized area agency for Volvo, Fiat and Alfa-Romeo, as well as the Lark.

Harbor Area Attorney Will Head South Bay Hospital Dist. Board

Elected president of South Bay Hospital District Board of Directors last week was Mark Wood, South Bay attorney and member of the hospital board since its creation five years ago.

He succeeds Auten F. Bush who will finish his second year as president Dec. 31.

Elected secretary-treasurer of the board was Lester L. Carlson, succeeding Herman R. Brandt, who will end a 4-year stint as secretary-treasurer Dec. 31. Hospital directors apparently have reverted to their original plan of yearly rotation of officer jobs now that the hospital is on a normal operational basis.

"South Bay Hospital has proved itself a worthy and needed medical facility in the greater South Bay community since its opening in August."

Wood was unanimously voted to the chair by fellow board members.

"The Board, hospital employees and professional staff are striving to make it an outstanding major institution for residents and taxpayers of South Bay who have voted for it and purchased it," Wood said.

The new Board president has practiced law in South Bay for approximately 10 years following his graduation from Loyola University Law School in 1949. He has been prosecutor for the city of Manhattan Beach for approximately five years, and has his law offices in south Redondo Beach.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Wood has been past president of the Loyola University alumni association, the South Bay District Bar Association, and American Martyrs Church Men's Club. In addition to activity in these groups, he belongs to Los Angeles and California bar associations, Redondo Beach Elks and Knights of Columbus.

He lives at 828 Highview Ave., Manhattan Beach, with his wife, Ebba, and three children, Mark Jr., 18; Scott, 16, and Brita Ann, 13.

APPOINTED TO SEAT

Carlson, new secretary-treasurer of the board, is district manager of California Water Service Co. He was appointed last year to the unexpired term of the late Clyde Marsh, and as such is the newest member of the 5-man governing agency of the 150-bed South Bay Hospital. Carlson was born and raised in Chico and studied at the L. L. Cook school of electrical engineering, Chicago. He retired from 18

years service in the National Guard with the rank of captain, and holds membership in Masons, Eastern Star, White Shrine and Redondo Beach Rotary.

He lives at 322 Ruby St., Redondo, with his wife, Ellen. He has three children, Robert, Roberta and Mrs. Nan Nell Haney, and three grandchildren.

SPCA Suggestion, Give Pup, Kitten For Christmas

Here's a Christmas gift suggestion from the local S.P.C.A.—the gift of a new pet, if the family is able and willing to care for the animal properly.

Gift of a dog or cat is one which will provide years of joy, as well as being an excellent means of helping children grow up into dependable adults, able to shoulder responsibility.

A wide selection of healthy, affectionate dogs and cats are available now at any S.P.C.A. shelter, awaiting adoption into suitable homes, says George Crosier, the Society's general manager.

DR. FRANK C. BAXTER

Dr. Frank C. Baxter, professor of English at the University of Southern California, will take the role of a Benedictine monk and narrate the internationally acclaimed 12th century musical drama "The Play of Daniel" at its Los Angeles premiere Friday night in Royce Hall on the UCLA campus in Westwood.

Use classified. Call DA 5-1515

Highway Patrol Warns of Danger

the bright but unsought spotlight this week-end as the traditional Christmas holiday traffic onslaught begins.

"The light is drawn irresistibly by death, and death all too often satifies by producing a traffic fatality toll of record proportions," pointed out Bradford M. Crittenden, commissioner of the California Highway Patrol. "To cut down this toll, the Patrol once again will emphasize firm enforcement against the drinking driver, and against those violations which historically have proven to be the cause of the most severe accidents."

Cooperation Urged

"Of course, cooperation on the part of motorists in observing rules of the road and safe driving practices is also a requisite. A responsible driving public is the primary key to a lower traffic toll."

In some localities, CHP officers will set up or cooperate in the establishment of traffic checks. These will be handled by Patrol Zone com-

manders, and will be conducted as deemed necessary.

The Patrol again is cooperating with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, which will work through the 15,000 on-sale establishments in the state to discourage the combination of drinking and driving.

"The estimate of 82 deaths on the highways during the Christmas and New Year's Holidays can only be reduced through the sincere efforts of drivers and the agencies responsible for the safe movement of traffic," the commissioner concluded.

NEW TOWN GROWING FAST

Thompson, one of Canada's newest towns which adjoins International Nickel's Manitoba project 400 miles north of Winnipeg, is growing rapidly—the population already exceeds 1,000 residents and is expected to reach 8,000 persons within the next few years.



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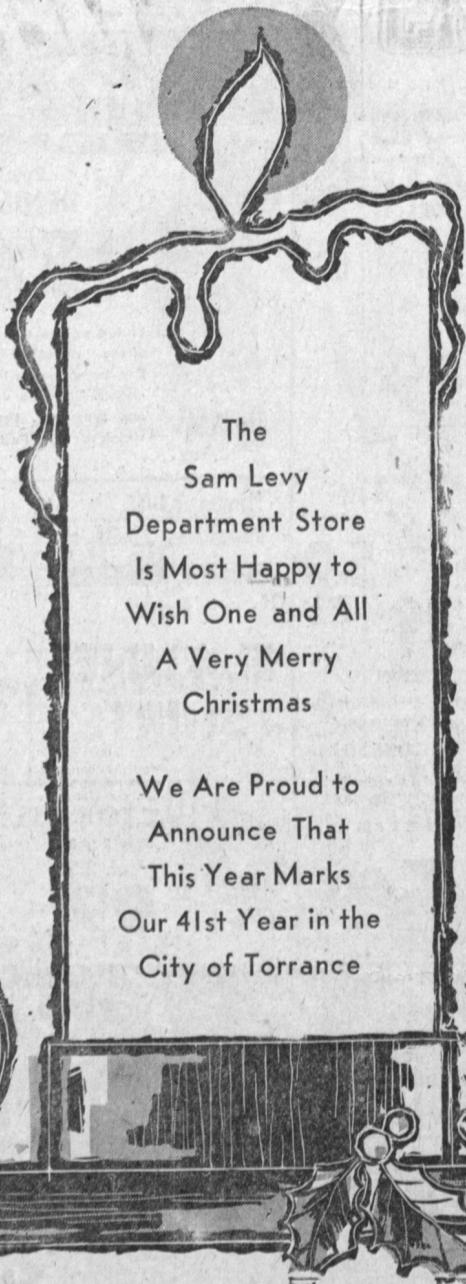
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