

Importance of Age Proof Told by Social Security

"Inquire before you retire" — that's the social security version of scouting's famous "Be Prepared" motto. Your social security office advises prospective retirees to find out ahead of time how much they can expect from social security, and what papers they will need to bring with them when they apply for social security benefits.

"By inquiring before you retire," says Miles Davis, social security district manager in Torrance, which serves the entire South Bay area, "you help us to get your social security payment to you promptly when you claim your old-age insurance benefits. You can, for example, find out whether you already have on hand a document that may be acceptable to prove your age."

Proof of age was cited by Davis as one difficulty that can usually be overcome by seeking advice from the social security office before retirement. Many people worry needlessly because no public record of their birth was made; this true of many who are now reaching retirement age. Davis said, because less than 45 percent of births in the United States between 1890 and 1920 were reported. But there are many other documents that can be used to establish proof of age, and most people have at least one.

Others never think about proofs until they file their claims and then find that they have to send away for a record. The person who does not know his exact date of birth or who has used different dates in the past, is particularly likely to encounter difficulty with proof of age.

Social security requirements regarding proof of age are not intended to create hardship for the claimant. Certificates of birth or baptism are usually the best types of evidence but other records such as old insurance policies, marriage licenses, family Bibles, census and military records pass-

ports, and immigration records may also be considered. In fact, according to Davis, "Everything from a gold watch to a tombstone has been used as proof of age." The gold watch was engraved to show the owner's name, the date of presentation, and that it was given on his twelfth birthday. The tombstone was examined by a social security field representative because it showed the date of death of the applicant's mother who, according to other evidence, died at his birth.

In some cases, proof of marriage, divorce, adoption, recent earnings, and the like may be required. These may take time to get if not already in the applicant's possession. Thus, the person who does not follow the "inquire before you retire" advice may have to wait for his retirement benefits until the necessary evidence is located, and evaluated.

Information concerning required proofs and other social security matters may be requested in person, by mail, or by telephone from your Torrance social security office at 1408 Crenshaw Blvd. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the telephone number is 320-4020.

The office also serves Gardena, Harbor City, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates.

County Gives Road Portion to Redondo

The Board of Supervisors this week relinquished jurisdiction of a portion of Aviation Blvd. to the City of Redondo Beach.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace explained that in June, 1960, the Board adopted a resolution providing for county improvement of two sections of Aviation, from Manhattan Beach Blvd. to Perry and from Robinson St. to Graham Ave.

The action was acquired to permit the county to improve the thoroughfares as Master Plan Highways.

The completed project, Chace said, no longer requires County jurisdiction of these streets, which are being returned to Redondo Beach.

The project consisted of providing a 64-foot roadway from Manhattan Beach Blvd. to First St. The work also included new pavement, curbs, gutters and appurtenant facilities.

In addition, Aviation Blvd. from First to Sixth Streets was realigned to eliminate an existing jog to facilitate traffic flow, Supervisor Chace said.

Convention Bound Realtors

Local members of the Torrance Lomita Board of Realtors departure from the Los Angeles International Airport bound for the convention of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, Nov. 11 to 14 in New York City include: Wilfred Brugger, executive secretary of the board; Delbert Vaughn, 21st District vice president; Mrs. Delbert Vaughn, Kenneth Peters, president of the board and Mrs. Kenneth Peters.

They will bring back to the board information on the latest concepts in real estate services. Included among the subjects of study will be Condominium, high-rise housing, and economics of Housing Market Population Growth.

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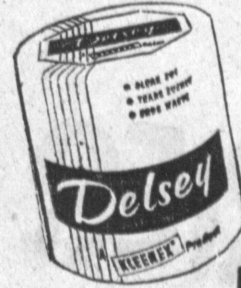
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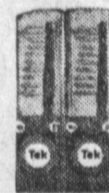
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