



OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FETED . . . A cash award of \$220 was presented to the top male senior in each of the five Torrance high schools at a recent Torrance Rotary Club meeting. The boys were cited for their own personal scholastic achievement as well as contributions to their school. Winners are pictured behind Rotary officials and are, standing, Marvin Kettering, Arthur Ley, James St. Amour, Richard Harris, and Steven Bunch. Seated are Rotary Award Committee members Bret Swartz, John Tweedy, Dr. Albert Posner, and Leonard Ensminger.

Residential Construction Increasing in Southland

Residential construction activity in Southern California during the first half of 1968 is exceeding the expectations of many experts, according to Dr. Ray Jallow, vice president and chief economist of United California Bank. Preliminary data for the first four months of the year reflects an increase of 85 per cent over activity in the same period last year. The overall residential building rate in the 10 counties of Southern California is greater than any period since the summer of 1965.

This increase in homebuilding activity is taking place in both single and multiple unit sectors. Dr. Jallow found that single-family dwellings are now being built at a rate that is 75 per cent higher than last year, while multiple-dwelling unit construction is double that of the 1967 period. Multiple units now account for at least 45 per cent of total dwelling construction.

THERE ARE several reasons for this comparatively high level of building activity in the Southern California area, Dr. Jallow said. First, the excess supply of housing has been virtually exhausted during the past two years, and second, vacancy rates are now approaching their lowest points since 1958. Third is the fact that substantial mortgage fund commitments were made by builders late in 1967 and early this year.

Looking ahead to the remainder of the year, Dr. Jallow feels that residential construction activity in the May-August period will also be substantially above the same period of 1967, still reflecting, as it were, the relative availability of mortgage funds in the early part of the year.

From September through December, expectations are that building activity will level off slightly. This will be due to the fact that a lower rate of commitments are being made by financial institutions at the present time, this

being brought on by tighter mortgage money markets and interest rates that are again approaching their all-time highs. However, there will continue to be substantial increases in residential construction activity if money markets and interest rates ease up towards the end of the year.

FOR THE entire year of 1968, Dr. Jallow expects that at least 85,000 units will be started in the 10 counties of Southern California. This would represent an increase of more than 25,000 units, or

War on Burglary Declared

Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess has announced that in cooperation with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the week of June 23 through 29 has been declared to be "Burglary Prevention Week."

Sheriff Pitchess is requesting the cooperation of all citizens, particularly home owners, to help reduce the increase in residential burglaries which result each summer when families leave their homes for vacation trips. By taking a few simple precautions, residents can greatly reduce the possibility of their homes being victimized by intruders.

The following is a list of recommended precautions:

1. Connect a lamp to an automatic timing device to turn lights in the home on and off each evening.
2. Close and lock all doors, including the garage.
3. Light your porch and yard to increase the likelihood that a burglar would be observed.
4. Cancel all deliveries, such as milk and laundry. Also, be sure to discontinue the newspaper or arrange to have it collected daily by a neighbor.

approximately 40 per cent over the 1967 total of 60,000 dwellings. Multiple units could easily account for 48 per cent to 50 per cent of the total units constructed during 1968.

Dr. Jallow pointed out that while the percentage increase in 1968 will be substantial, residential building activity in Southern California during the year will still only be at approximately 40 per cent of the peak year of 1963.

During the next seven years, Dr. Jallow predicts that residential construction in Southern California will be at much higher levels of activity, with an annual average of 150,000 new single and multiple units possible.

5. Never "advertise" your departure with an item in the local newspaper. Give the story to the paper after you have returned.

6. Notify your local sheriff station or police department of when you will be leaving and how long you expect to be away.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1968

PRESS-HERALD

A-5

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