

20,000 Accidents Logged in County

Almost two-thirds of pedestrian traffic accidents involve children under 12, according to a report released today by Supervisor Burton W. Chace. The report presents traffic statistics compiled during 1967 in the unincorporated areas and in 24 cities, including Lomita and Carson, served by the County Road Department. Chace is chairman of that department.

"It was alarming to note that youngsters under 12 are responsible for or involved in 64 per cent of the pedestrian accidents," Chace said. "Children in that age bracket comprise only 24 per cent of the county's population."

THE REPORT indicated that among youngsters, those between 8 and 11 are most frequently involved in pedestrian accidents.

The report indicated that traffic accidents increased slightly during 1967—about 2 per cent. This figure matches the increase in registered vehicles.

There were 20,377 accidents logged in the report. Some 15,233 occurred in unincorporated areas and the balance in the 24 county contract cities.

THE REPORT indicates that most auto accidents occur at mid-block rather than at an intersection as might be anticipated. The ratio of mid-block to intersection collisions is 60 per cent to 40 per cent.

The most frequent mid-block type accident was a collision with a parked vehicle—about 19 per cent. The major cause of intersection crashes, about 16 per cent, involved right-angle collisions—cars hit in the side by an oncoming vehicle.

Other significant facts brought out by the report:

- In 94 per cent of the accidents, no vehicle defects were noted.
- The condition of the driver was normal in 80 per cent of the mishaps.
- In 90 per cent of the accidents, the weather was clear.
- Most pedestrian accidents are caused by the victim "darting into the street."

People . . . On the Move

(Promotions, Assignments, Affiliations)

Promotion of Ray L. Linton to the post of assistant personnel relations officer at Bank of America's Los Angeles headquarters. Linton, of 5520 Palos Verdes Blvd., formerly was Orange County area administrative assistant.

Eric S. Burnett has been promoted to the Advanced Systems Staff of the Sensor Systems Laboratory at the Systems Group of TRW, Inc., in Redondo Beach. He will be responsible for administrative direction and technical coordination of the Advanced Systems Staff.

Appointment of Paul E. Bunker as assistant manager of Security Pacific National Bank's Olympic and Flower branch has been announced. Bunker joined the bank in March, 1967, and has been serving as assistant manager. He lives in Redondo Beach.

Two General Telephone Co. employees have received the company's famed La Croix awards for bravery and heroism. The awards were presented to Henry Griffin and Irvin Aronson by R. Parker Sullivan, president of the company. Griffin was honored for saving the life of a drowning child, while Aronson was honored for saving the life of an automobile accident victim.

J. Q. Abel has been named vice president and controller of Southern California Gas Co. Abel, who now holds the same post with Southern Counties Gas Co., will assume his new duties Sept. 1.

Louis F. Varricchio, 29903 Ocean Ave., has been named assistant vice president of United California Bank's headquarters International Division. He joined the bank in 1963 in the International Division.

District manager T. L. Elias and agents Richard Banbrick, Albert Daniels, and O. R. Perez, all of Torrance, are attending the a four-day sales conference of American National Insurance Co. in New Orleans. They staff the firm's Torrance office at 1727 Crenshaw Blvd.

William C. Dixon, 3828 W. 182nd St., has been graduated from the Southern California Edison Co. Substation Operators School. He is operator at the company's El Nido substation.

Welfare Payments Increase

SACRAMENTO—The Department of Social Welfare has an increase of \$7 million in payments for public assistance to a peak of \$86 million for May, 1968, as compared with the \$81 million for the same period of 1967.

Recipients, and persons certified for medical assistance only, totaled 1,522,837, an increase above the 1,397,902 of a year ago.

Actual totals for assistance was \$88,065,723 for May, 1968 as compared with \$81,649,024 for May, 1967.

A breakdown of the programs indicated that persons receiving old age security number 290,162 with payments totaling \$28,938,595; aid to the blind, 12,329 persons, \$1,695,985; aid to the disabled, 123,693 persons receiving \$14,566,956.

Family and children programs totaled \$40,734,605 for all counties in the state.

Police Chief Attends Latin Club Meeting

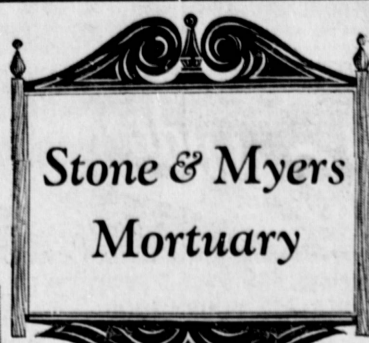
Torrance Chief of Police Walter Koenig recently attended a meeting of the Latin Association held in Torrance.

Chief Lou Sunyich of the Redondo Beach Police Department, Chief Roy Tracy of the Gardena Police Department, and Deputy Chief Daryl Gates of the Los Angeles Police Department were among the many high-ranking law-enforcement officials in attendance.

The Police Latin Club is comprised of officers from various jurisdictions and furnishes scholarships to Latin youngsters seeking a careers in law enforcement.

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