Lodi Police Department

ANNUAL REPORT 1955

1955

LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

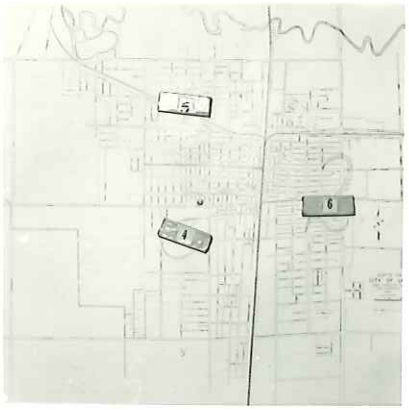
* PATROL *

The personnel of the Patrol Division, consisting of one Captain - four Sergeants - fourteen Patrolmen, work around the clock (days - evenings - nights) on a rotation basis. The personnel of this division are assigned to three shifts, a Sergeant and four Patrolmen to each, with the fourth Sergeant and one Patrolman being assigned to relief. One Patrolman is assigned to the three-wheel service-cycle, and patrols the metered area of the business district.

The Patrol Division is equipped with five patrol cars, and one service-cycle. In 1955 these vehicles traveled a total of 228,273 miles, at an average cost of 4.20¢ per mile, while patroling the 69 miles of streets within the City of Lodi.

The city is divided into three beats, with the Southern Pacific Railroad being used, not as a matter of choice, but of necessity, as the dividing line between the East and West. The West side is also divided into North and South beats, by using Pine Street as a dividing line.

Each Patrolman is assigned a beat for a one week period, and is held responsible for the policing of that area. It is his duty to diligently patrol his beat in an attempt to prevent crime and also to make every attempt to apprehend suspects, if and when a crime has been committed.



The Sergeant on each shift patrols all beats, supervising and giving advice, when needed. The Sergeant is also required to check and sign all reports, which are prepared by beat Officers at the end of each shift.

The Patrol Division investigated a total of 279 accidents during 1955. The Traffic Squad investigated 128 accidents before it was disbanded on July 17th. Complete yearly total for both groups was 407. There were two fatal accidents. An elderly pedestrian died as a result of confinement for accident injuries, in one of these. In the other a motorcycle driver suffered fatal injuries in an intersection collision. There were 47 non-fatal injury accidents investigated during the year.

The total number of accidents for 1955, as compared to 1954, show an increase of 11.6%. Injury accidents were up 26%, however, persons injured only differed by one in number, with 1955 listing 53 injured, as compared to 52 injured in 1954.

During the twelve months of 1955, the officers of the Patrol Division issued a total of 2,553 citations; 2,273 moving and 280 non-moving. This is an increase of 446, or 21% over 1954.

In the same twelve month period a total of 58 physical arrests were made for drunken driving, as compared to 36 such arrests in 1954, an increase of 62%.

A total of 10,601 meter citations were issued during the year 1955.

A break-down of all citations issued in 1955 discloses 37% were for speeding, 32% for non-observance of light or sign, and 31% for all other violations.

During 1955 many hours were spent by officers testifying in court on many of the above citations, especially when the offender was involved in an accident.

The Patrol Division of the Lodi Police Department made 697 misdemeanor arrests for the year 1955. The Division also made or assisted in the arrest of several felons.

Drunkeness accounted for 494 of these arrests. The second highest offense was for driving while intoxicated which accounted for 58 arrests. Thirty-four arrests were made for vagrancy and disorderly conduct.

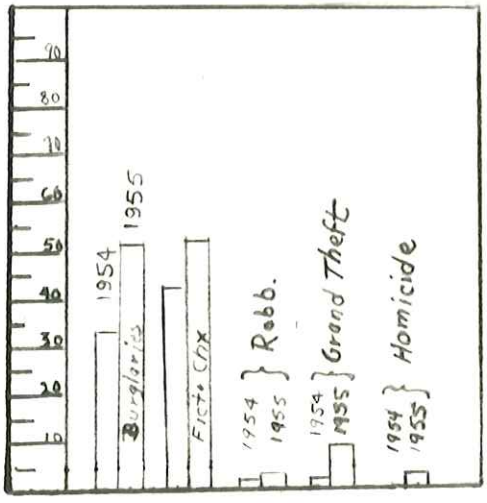
At the present time, the Lodi Police Department is without a jail. Prisoners are kept in a temporary lockup at police headquarters and must be transported to the County Jail in Stockton, a distance of 30 miles. When an arrest is made at night, the Patrol Division must fingerprint and photograph each prisoner before transporting him to the County Jail.

During the year, 5849 special services to the public were performed by the Patrol Division. Listed among these services were, dark house checks, funeral escorts, bank escorts, house moving escorts, vehicle motor verifications, and many others.

It must be remembered that although house checks were only counted once, at the time the request was received, each house was checked two times during each shift or a total of six times during each twenty-four hour period. Had each check been counted the total would have been much higher.

It can readily be seen that dark house checks do take up a good deal of the patrolman's time. However it is felt this is a crime prevention measure, no house on check list was burglarized, and does create good public relations. It is time well spent.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1955
DETECTIVE BUREAU, LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT



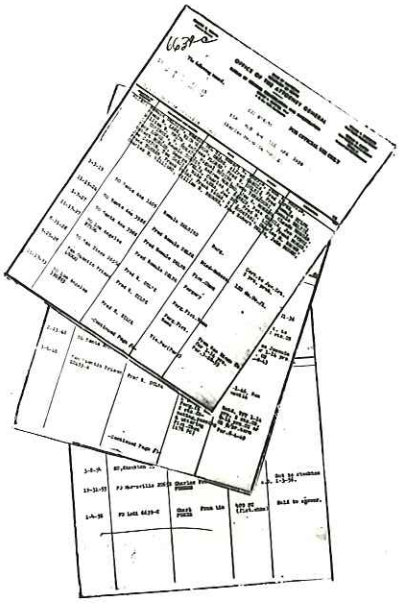
Due to the heavy work load carried by the Bureau during 1955, it was necessary to expand the Bureau to include another man. The Bureau would like to show briefly the increase work load of 1955 in comparison with the year 1954. It is the duty of the Bureau to handle all services of warrants. In 1955, Bureau served 1030 warrants with 567 being served during 1954. This shows a 100% activity increase on warrants alone during 1955. In 1954, Bureau closed 33 burglary crimes with 51 being closed in 1955. Fictitious check cases closed increased from 41 in 1954 to 51 in 1955.

The duties of the Bureau are to make special and followup investigations, to investigate and take necessary procedures to irradicate all forms of vice and gambling, and to keep the Office of the Chief of Police informed as to any criminal activity in the community.

Many man hours are expanded in the investigation of burglary cases -- time spent at the scene of crime, the followup investigation, and the eventual arrest of responsible party or parties. Photograph to left shows, in a specific case, pair of shoe prints and pair of shoe casts, each taken at the scene of a different burglary upon initial investigation which, when compared, were found to match exactly, showing same person to be responsible for both burglaries. If it were not for investigative procedure, in many cases crimes would go unsolved and persons engaged in these activities would be able to continue unchecked. During course of investigation, original scene investigation must be made with proper notes taken as to findings. Then this is followed by accurate written reports which must be carefully prepared. This step, in all cases, is most important in every investigation made. It is clearly perceptible why many man hours are utilized in the preparation of a case. It must be complete and cover every facet of the situation.

Before any one person is sentenced to serve in a penal institution under a bad check charge, an all-out effort is made by the courts to determine the degree of offense. In majority of cases the check offender has been arrested two or three times before courts will send him to a penal institution.

To the right is shown a photograph of three pages of arrest records (known to the police officer as "rap sheet") of one person dating from 1919 up to date of Jan. 4, 1956. This person has used over 50 different aliases. He has been arrested several times for the same offense. Finally the Lodi citizens felt results of his activities and he was again incarcerated. This is not uncommon with check passers as they operate in a continuous cycle until their final restrainment. Time and effort expanded in these cases is very difficult to measure.



THE JUVENILE DIVISION

In the field of Juvenile problems we envisage a growth along with other problems. Our greatest problem is the lack of adequate facilities. The law is well defined in this particular field as to responsibilities and limitations as to dention and judicial process.

With secondary education for the Lodi District located within the city we find a tremendous potential for this activity. There is much to do and we must become more militant in inspections and crime prevention.

THE RECORDS AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

This division is responsible for two vital segments of police work in Lodi. First, it is concerned with communications. Second, it has the very important job of maintaining records of crime in the city.

Our communications are as complete as any department in the country today. With a four trunk switch-board, 3 way radio, state wide teletype, San Joaquin County Sheriff's radio, Civil Defense radio, emergency telephone and alert instrument, the department is in a position to cope with any emergency that may arise. Robbery and burglar alarms from commercial establishments in the community also are a part of our emergency communications system. Receipt of alarms through these devices set into motion pre-arranged plans of road blocks and duties to be preformed by various patrol units in the areas effected.

However, the records Division does far more than to act simply as a communications center. It acts as the business office of the department. It is charged with licensing, budgeting, personnel records, purchasing, etc., in addition to its primary duty of maintaining criminal records and files.

Obviously, the accurate tabulation of crime is absolutely essential if it is to be stamped out. The records now available to the department head are complete and accurate. Every complaint made to the police by telephone, or in person as the police office is made a matter of record on a complaint form which tells at a glance the type of complaint, the location, the date and hour received, complaints name and address, officer assigned, and details of the complaint. Before this complaint form is filed, the full results of any investigation made is entered thereon, or on a supplimental form that becomes part of the complaint. Thus, each and every complaint received becomes a matter of record, and another statistic in our fight against crime.

RELATION BETWEEN OFFENSES KNOWN AND CLEARED

PART I CRIMES FBI CLASS.

MURDER	100% CLEARED	1 Reported
MANSLAUGHTER	NONE REPORTED	0 Reported
RAPE	NONE REPORTED	0 Reported
ROBBERY	40% Cleared	5 Reported
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	100 % CLEARED	2 Reported
BURGLARY	50.2% Cleared	73 Reported
LARCENY-GRAND	50.% Cleared	4 Reported
LARCENY-PETTY	10.8%	417 Reported
AUTO THEFT	14.3%	14 Reported

PERSONS ARRESTED IN 1955
FOR PART II CRIMES

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

OTHER ASSAULTS	10
FORGERY & COUNTERFEITING	4
EMBEZZLEMENT & FRAUD	10
STOLEN PROPERTY: buying, receiving, possessing	3
WEAPONS, Carrying, possessing, etc.	3
PROSTITUTION AND COMMERCIALIZED VICE	1
SEX OFFENSES	1
OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY AND CHILDRED	3
NARCOTIC DRUG LAWS	0
LIQUOR LAWS	1
DRUNKENESS	494
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	13
VAGRANCY	21
GAMBLING	0
DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED	58
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	83
SUSPICION OR HELD FOR INVESTIGATION	9

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

During the year 1955, staffed by 1 man until August 1st when a civilian trainee was assigned to learn ID work, the Identification Bureau "mugged" 445 and fingerprinted 710 prisoners. It "mugged" 121 and fingerprinted 404 civilians for such purposes as card dealers permits, gun permits, taxi permits, solicitor permits, citizenship papers, public employment and etc.

The Identification Bureau took 444 photos, excluding "mug" photos, for the police department and 84 photos for other city departments. 1190 negatives were developed. 2408 contact prints were made. 519 enlargements for the police department and 82 enlargements for other city departments were made. 86 color photos were taken and developed by this bureau. 623 photo copies were made of ficticious checks, accident reports, documents and other related subjects.

The Identification Sergeant answered 54 calls after regular working hours. 17 of these calls were for the search of latent fingerprints and photos of crime scenes, 15 were for photos of serious auto accidents and 22 were for miscellaneous functions such as the collection and preservation of evidence in connection with crimes against persons and property.

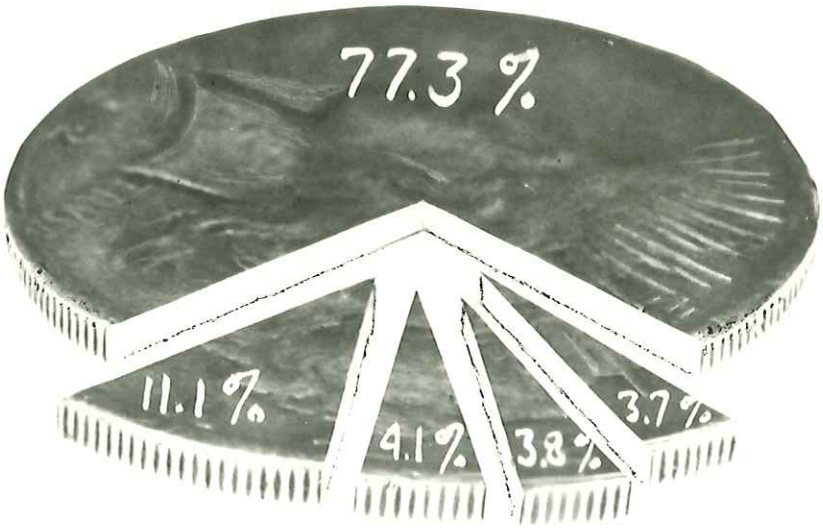
As liason officer between the police department and the court the Identification Bureau gathered information, ordered subpoenas for witnesses, and supplied necessary information to the District Attorney's Office on 151 cases. This function advised the department personnel of preliminary hearings, non-guilty pleas and the continuances of court trials of both traffic and criminal charges that had been delayed for various reasons.

The Bureau has the responsibility of the care and custody of persons arrested by this department. 181 such persons were returned from the County Jail and produced in court.

The Bureau drew up 481 complaints for the department and were presented to the court.

To completely cover the above services required the putting in of about 190½ hours over and above the regular work week. Since the services are of a highly technical nature the occupant has not been able to take compensatory time off which would amount to over seven weeks.

THE AVERAGE
LODI POLICE OFFICER

His average age is 34.3 years. He has 12.5 years of formal education. His average length of residence in Lodi is 17.3 years. He has 1.7 children. 93% of them are married. 86% own or are paying for their homes.

TOTAL POLICE BUDGET	$161,870.00
PERSONAL SERVICES (salaries)	77.3%
UTILITIES, TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION	3.8
SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, & SERVICES	11.1
EQUIPMENT	3.7
DEPRECIATION OF EQUIPMENT	4.1