

# SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL EDITORIALS

## The Growth Pattern

Santa Cruz county rates as one of the faster growing areas in northern and central California, according to the population forecasts in the 1964 edition of the Pacific Gas and Electric company's Market Outlook.

The Outlook assesses the Santa Cruz county growth rate at 4.1 per cent for the current year, compared to an average throughout the PG&E district of 3.4 per cent.

Only counties with higher growth rates are Contra Costa 4.4, Marin 5.6, Sacramento 5.0 per cent, Santa Clara 6.1 per cent, Sonoma 4.3 and Yolo with 4.4 per cent.

PG&E maintains the current population of the county as of January 1 is 98,000 with 102,000 forecast by January 1, 1965. They estimate that the county's population has grown by 21.1 per cent since the 1960 census, also above the area average of 17.8 per cent.

While it would be our guess that the PG&E population forecast is slightly below the present population, the fact that the utility company puts us in the upper bracket of growing areas adds further emphasis to our growth picture.

PG&E also has some pertinent comments on educational facilities, a major area resource. Included in the service area are 54 institutions of higher education plus the three new campuses in the development stage—the University of California Santa Cruz campus, West Valley junior college in the Los Gatos area and San Luis Obispo junior college.

Here is what the Outlook has to say about the educational facilities:

"No survey of California's astonishing boom would be complete without examination of its effect upon the state's school system — particularly the institutions of higher learning.

"California students ambitious to continue their studies past high school have many choices open to them: The University of California with its eight existing and two planned campuses; such ranking privately-supported universities as Stanford; 18 state colleges, 29 private colleges, 81 junior colleges and five privately-endowed educational institutions. In addition, there are dozens of accredited schools devoted to single special-

Stanford; 18 state colleges, 29 private colleges, 81 junior colleges and five privately-endowed educational institutions. In addition, there are dozens of accredited schools, devoted to single specialties.

"The total number of students in all of California secondary institutions topped the half-million mark in 1960. Enrollment has increased an average of 10 per cent every year since and is expected to approach the three-quarter million mark in the fall of 1964.

"Under the pressure of such a growth rate, both public and private colleges alike have embarked upon expansion programs of heroic proportions, involving immense sums of money. Major construction is under way at dozens of schools, including two completely new campuses of the University of California, which has a quarter billion dollar annual budget, not including federal grants. In 1964, the university will embark on a multi-million dollar expansion of its medical school facility in San Francisco, and has set the fall semester as target date for opening a new medical school on its Davis campus. Stanford's dramatic PACE program, with its stated goal of \$100 million in gifts and matching Ford Foundation funds, is past 90 per cent complete and its pledge goal is expected to be met early this year.

"The immediate benefits of these large expansion programs are felt within the building trades and equipment supply businesses, but their ultimate effect will be felt at every level of California's business and cultural life.

"For example, the research and technical facilities centered at the University of California's Berkeley campus and at Stanford have sparked satellite industries which have made the San Francisco Bay Area pre-eminent in the fields of nucleonics and electronics. And California's position as the leader in "agribusiness"—the entire complex of farming, food processing, marketing and financing—attests to the efficiency of the schools of agriculture.

"The final and most important benefit of school expansion and improvement programs will derive from the graduates themselves as they bring their newly acquired skills into the business community and their tastes and wants into the consumer market.

"Thus, California secondary and collegiate school system — both public and privately-endowed — not only provides another yardstick of the state's growth, but also contributes substantially to it."

Santa Cruz—with Cabrillo college and with the University of California campus—will play a much more active role in this educational program in the years ahead—and we, too, shall benefit greatly from its effect, not only in economics, but in the social and cultural growth of **the community as well.**