

## **1920**

Deputy Gordon H. Glidden is killed in Antelope Valley. Planes were used for the first time while searching for Glidden's killer. (November 9)

James Watson was arrested and charged with killing 16 of his 20 wives. Because this case was so involved and so complicated and suspects in other murders were becoming more sophisticated, the Sheriff's Department decided to form a group of investigators with expertise in solving homicides. These investigators were formed into the Homicide Detail the next year.

## **1921**

Sheriff John Cline removed from office for malfeasance and replaced by William I. Traeger 1921-1932. Sheriff Traeger was sworn in on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1921. Later that day the largest jail riot in county history to date occurred. The new Sheriff helped to put this disturbance down.

In response to jail overcrowding issues which caused several jail riots, Sheriff Traeger formed Honor Camps.

Low risk inmates were leased out to farms through the Farm Detail.

In response to jail overcrowding issues that helped caused a series of riots, Sheriff Traeger forms inmate Honor Camps.

Homicide Detail is created.

Record Bureau is formed.

## **1922**

Clara Phillips murders Alberta Meadows and escapes from L. A. County Jail.

Robbery, Narcotic, Auto Theft, and Liquor Detail are created.

Deputy Henry Ronsse was killed off duty during an investigation. (January 2)

Constable William Funkhouser was shot and killed by a burglary suspect in San Dimas. (May 14)

## **1923**

Undersheriff Biscailuz deputizes his wife and heads to Honduras to capture Clara Phillips. Biscailuz's wife contracts malaria while in the Honduras and eventually dies. . (She did not die until 1950.) Clara Philips received a sentence of 10 years to life.

Sheriff Traeger had the District Attorney file charges on Chief Manning and Senior Deputy Coutts for a jail corruption scandal where they took bribes for releasing inmates.

Deputy Robert Magee was shot and killed by a burglary suspect while assisting LAPD.  
(November 20)

## **1924**

Substations are created. Florence (became Firestone Park Station in 1955) and East Los Angeles are the first.

Sheriff's Relief was formed to provide deputies with disability and death benefits and provide low interest loans to prevent them from becoming susceptible to loan sharks who were so prevalent at that time.

## **1925**

Los Angeles County Marshal's Department was established.

## **1926**

New Hall of Justice is completed at 211 W. Temple Street replacing old facility one block to the east.

First inmates are moved from the old county jail to the new Hall of Justice Jail. Inmates are moved into the new facility on February 7 and celebrate the transfer by rioting and wrecking two tanks in the old jail.

The use of an airplane to assist the Sheriff's Department is sanctioned by Sheriff's Traeger. 5 Deputy Sheriff's become the first to start the Aero Detail. (September 27)

Captain Claude Morgan was assigned "part time" command of the Aero Detail and the original 5 Pilots.

Vermont (Lennox), Norwalk, Temple City and Newhall stations are completed.

## **1927**

The first retirement pension given to any member of the Sheriff's Department was granted May 1, 1927. The "Father of the Peace Officers Retirement' System" is Sgt. Dan Crowley of Transportation Bureau, who labored long and hard to pass legislation effective July 1, 1934. Unmarried, his efforts also extended coverage to widows in 1937.

Edward Hickman murders 12 year old Marion Parker and escapes to Oregon.

Altadena and San Dimas Stations are completed.

## **1928**

Edward Hickman is caught in Oregon and extradited back by LAPD and the Sheriff's Department.

The Crime Lab was established. The Laboratory of Criminal Research was located at the Hall of Justice. The laboratory's two person staff was responsible for firearms identification, physical evidence identification and fingerprinting.

Chicken Coop Murders involving kidnapping and murder of young boys in Los Angeles and Riverside County occurred.

The county-wide teletype system was created.

St. Francis Dam in Newhall collapsed killing 450 people. Deputies rescued victims from the raging waters. During the chaos, deputies were not easily identified so a process began to adopt uniforms and marked patrol cars. (March 12)

Undersheriff Eugene Biscailuz leaves the Sheriff's Department to become the first commissioner of the newly created California Highway Patrol.

Fairfax station opens. (Became West Hollywood Station in 1957) (Hollywood Station)

## **1929**

Inmate shoots deputy on Hall of Justice elevator and attempts escape.

Great Depression begins