"I started with the phone company 36 years ago as a janitor. Today my grandbaby is a management trainee. That says a lot about my family and the Bell System." John Sears

John Sears and granddaughter Charnette.

"When I started at Pacific Telephone, I didn't know I was starting a family tradition. That was back in 1944. I got out of the Army on a Tuesday and went to work for the telephone company that Thursday.

"I started as a janitor. I worked hard and by '56 I was promoted to heavy duty equipment mechanic. That same year my daughter, Bobbie, fresh out of high school, joined the company as an operator. Now she's a personnel manager. That Bobbie's always been a go-getter. So is her husband, Jerry. She met him at the company. He's a methods manager, but he began as a frame worker.

"Now my granddaughter, Charnette, is following in her parents' footsteps. Three years ago she started as a directory assistance operator and already she's in a management training program.

"My niece, Lorraine, also works for the company as a processing supervisor in computer programming.

"The Bell System has been good to us. When I retired in 1967, I had worked my way up to traffic dispatch supervisor. I wouldn't have wanted to work anywhere else. The rest of the family feels the same way."

John's daughter, Bobbie Redic, personnel manager at Pacific Telephone.

Bobbie's husband, Jerry Redic, methods manager for Pacific Telephone.

John's niece, Lorraine Williams, a Pacific Telephone data processing supervisor.

Bell System

A continuing commitment.