

NATER DEATH THEORY TOLD

Position of Body Indicates Banker Reaching Back in Car to Put Out Fire

Herman A. Nater, 52-year-old vice-president of the Bank of America, came to his death accidentally last Monday when his car plunged into an embankment at Chevy Chase Road and Linda Vista Drive, Glendale, according to a verdict yesterday of a Coroner's jury. —

A theoretical cause for the accident was advanced by John Carl Nater, a son, who said his father apparently had lighted a cigarette and tossed the match into the back seat of the car.

REACHING BACK

From the position of Nater's body when found, he was reaching toward the back seat, the son believes, to extinguish flames started by the match. While in this position, the car apparently swerved into the embankment, after which it burst into flames. Nater's death was caused by burns about the head and body.

John Carl and another son, David G. Nater, testified their father had called them early Monday morning and told them he was going to take a short drive before breakfast.

MRS. NATER AWAY

Mrs. Nater was in San Diego at the time.

Neighbors and business associates testified Nater was in good health and that his business affairs were in excellent condition.