

Vox-Cop

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No. 2

CONN. STATE POLICE DEPT.



EDWARD J. HICKEY,
Commissioner

JULY 1944

THE CIRCUS FIRE

A RADIO REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

By

HIS EXCELLENCY, GOVERNOR RAYMOND E. BALDWIN

VOX-COP

PAGE I

JULY 1944

(ANNOUNCER)

Station WTIC presents the Governor of Connecticut in a report on the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey circus fire in Hartford on July 6th and the measures taken to meet this disaster. His Excellency, Governor Raymond E. Baldwin.

(THE GOVERNOR)

Good Afternoon. Nine days have passed now since the terrible disaster of the circus fire here in Hartford. On that hot July afternoon, at least 6000 persons had gone to the circus to attend its matinee performance. It was a merry crowd, with many children. The circus performance had begun...the animal act had been completed and a troupe of aerial performers had mounted to a platform high under the big top when the cry of "fire" went up. The canvas tent was burning.

In a very few minutes, the fire swept across the entire area of the tent. The burning canvas, with ropes, poles and other gear, fell upon those who were unfortunately trapped in the arena. Thousands made their way to safety...but the casualty list is long.

As of today, 162 persons have lost their lives, as the result of the circus fire. There are 113 persons still receiving treatment in the four hospitals in Hartford, and the condition of 7 of these patients is considered critical. There were lesser injuries to many persons who were treated for their burns at hospitals or by their own physicians. The total casualty list may be in the neighborhood of 500 persons.

Our state health commissioner and the city health officer of Hartford are making a thorough check of this final figure.

In lives lost and in personal injury, this was the worst disaster in the history of Connecticut. Many homes and many communities have suffered grievously. We have a tremendous depth of sympathy for all these persons who have been injured and for the families of those who lost their lives.

A thorough investigation is being made to determine how and why this tragedy occurred. If any criminal negligence or neglect is involved, everything in the power of the state will be done to bring to justice those who may be responsible. These investigations are in the hands of competent authorities. The results, in due course, will be made known.

It is my chief purpose here today to report to you on the emergency measures that were taken when this disaster struck and to express the thanks and appreciation of the state to the many, many individuals and agencies that gave prompt and generous aid.

The response of the people of the state to this emergency was magnificent. The spirit of helpfulness and sympathy that was shown throughout was splendid. There was no panic...there was no confusion. The emergency services of the state were organized...and they functioned well and swiftly.

This was the Connecticut civilian defense machinery that went into action on Thursday afternoon

The Circus Fire (as Con.)

the 6th...the State War Council, the State Police, the American Red Cross, the State Guard... the Hartford War Council and its Citizens Defense Corps... local police and firemen, doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, air raid wardens, telephone operators, messengers..... we had all the volunteer help that we could use. And these volunteers were trained.. They knew their jobs.

All the time and work and thought that has gone into the organization and training of civilian volunteers for the handling of a disaster have been justified by the events of the past few days. We have been given ample evidence of the wisdom of these preparations.

If any members of the protective organizations have been inclined to doubt the continued value of their work, they have seen a telling demonstration not only of its value but its necessity.

These volunteer forces were organized for protection against enemy attack... a bombing raid... which has never come. But a bomb attack could not have struck more swiftly...with less warning...or with more cruel force than this circus fire. The injuries, indeed, were much the same as could have been expected in any enemy raid with incendiary bombs...many severe burns and a smaller number of fracture cases.

We regret the tragic event that called the emergency organization into action. We shall always be grateful that it was ready for the job.

In wartime, the normal protective forces of the community are necessarily weakened by loss of manpower. Hospitals are understaffed and there are fewer doctors. Police and fire fighting forces are below their peace-

time strength. Volunteers must help, as they have done in Hartford...and to be ready for disaster, the organization of volunteer forces in Civilian Defense must be maintained.

Now, let me take you back to Thursday afternoon, nine days ago. Our commissioner of state police, Colonel Edward J. Hickey, as it happened, was in the audience at the circus. Colonel Hickey is a former administrator of the Connecticut War Council and the active head of its fire and police protection services.

Outside the tent was a radio car of the Hartford Police Department. When Colonel Hickey had made his way from the burning tent, with the children who were in his charge, the alarm had been sent by radio to the Hartford Police Headquarters. Firemen and additional police had been called and ambulances were on their way to the circus grounds. The State Police were notified.

Chief Hallissey of the Hartford Police Department and Colonel Hickey, in a hasty conference at the radio car, determined that all civilian defense forces would be needed. The magnitude of the disaster already was apparent. Through the Hartford police, the Hartford War Council was called into action. Emergency ambulances from department stores, factories and trucking companies were called. The emergency medical services of the city were summoned. Colonel Hickey called me at my office, told me that the State Armory would be needed to receive the bodies of the dead and that all civilian defense forces within reach of Hartford were required.

General Reginald B. DeLacour called units of the State Guard and directed preparation of the Armory as a morgue. State War Administrator Henry B. Mosle and Edward N. Allen of the American

The Circus Fire (as cont.)

Red Cross reached the scene and conferred with Colonel Hickey.

In the meantime, the injured were being taken to hospitals as fast as the ambulances could go back and forth. The Municipal Hospital, near the scene, received the heaviest load. The first patients were admitted at 2:45. Extra doctors and nurses, equipment and supplies of plasma were rushed to the hospital. Army trucks began the removal of the bodies to the Armory.

Here, General DeLacour's staff and the staff of the State War Council had already made preparations for the melancholy task that lay ahead. When persons seeking lost members of their families reached the State Armory, there was little waiting...and there was no confusion. They registered, giving their names and the name of the person they were seeking. Mimeographed forms had been run off for this purpose in the short time before the doors were opened. Girls were ready at tables and at typewriters to record this information. Persons were admitted in small groups. A nurse's aide and a policeman walked with each grieved relative and assisted in the search. When a person was identified, the medical examiner completed arrangements for a release. A record of all this information was kept by the State War Council.

Outside a police sound truck assisted greatly in maintaining calm. Persons waiting in line were informed in many instances, that their children or other relatives had been found safe and there was no need for them to stay. The rolling kitchen of the Hartford War Council served coffee and sandwiches. The Red-Cross canteen unit fed the work-

ers inside the building. Nurses helped those persons who were overcome, and there were rest rooms and cots for them.

Clergymen of all denominations came to the Armory to give what aid and comfort was possible to the grief-stricken. The Salvation Army set up water coolers.

Uninjured children, separated from their parents, were taken by the Hartford police to police headquarters and to the Brown School. The State War Council sent a stenographer to the aid of a lone teacher trying to record the names and addresses of the children at the school and notify their parents. All of these children were recovered by their families within a few hours after the disaster.

Throughout the afternoon and evening hours, we received continuous assistance from the radio stations of Hartford in broadcasting information to the people telling them where to report the missing and identify the dead, reading lists of persons who were known casualties. The first public call for ambulances went out by radio eight minutes after the first box alarm for fire apparatus had been sounded. A special radio appeal for donors of type O blood on Saturday brought 100 offers in a few hours.

Newspapers, with special editions and columns of space devoted to information of the disaster aided greatly in bringing essential information speedily to the anxious people of the state.

The work of identification has not been yet finished. Possibly it may never be complete. Of the 127 victims who were taken to the Armory, seven are still unidentified. There are six persons listed by the State War Council as missing in the disaster.

The list of missing persons, at first, was extremely long.

The Circus Fire (as cont.)

War Administrator Mosle estimates that 10,000 calls were received at the State Armory during the 24 hours after the disaster, and approximately 2700 persons were reported missing. As they were found, their names were taken from the list. This was the most pleasant task of these grim days. Persons were located in many ways, through telephone calls, through the aid of local War Councils in their home towns, by special visits of police.

It is perhaps impossible to mention every agency that has given aid. From the Governor's office word was sent to the state institutions throughout central and eastern Connecticut. Doctors and nurses from these hospital staffs came immediately to Hartford and many of them worked through the night. Girls from the Governor's office and others recruited from their desks in the Capitol by the State Personnel Department joined the emergency force at the State Armory. Units of the State Guard were called.

Police departments of nearby towns sent men. The Army...both its anti-aircraft units in Hartford area and the air base at Bradley Field... gave extremely welcome help. The First Service Command provided plasma. The Navy furnished personnel and medical supplies from its training unit at New Haven and in Hartford. Extra equipment for the administration of plasma was sent by airplane from the Department of Hospitals in New York City.

Offers of aid came to me from Governor Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Governor Wills of Vermont...offers which were gratefully acknowledged, but which there was no need for us to accept. Four Boston doctors, all with experience in the Coconut

Grove fire, spent a day in Hartford in consultation on the treatment of the injured and identification of the dead.

Commissioner Hickey of the State Police, Administrator Mosle of the State War Council and Mr. Allen of the Red Cross were key men in the mobilization of the state's disaster relief forces and their direction. The staff of the War Council and the volunteer personnel of the Hartford War Council are...I understand... to receive recognition for their services from the National Office of Civilian Defense. More than 840 of the civilian defense volunteer personnel, including ambulance drivers, nurses' aides, auxiliary State Police, air raid wardens, the rolling kitchen crew, the hospital corps, clerks, stenographers and telephone operators were on duty, giving long hours of hard work. The Red Cross reports that 150 additional nurses' aides reported but were not needed. Thus, a total of nearly one thousand civilian defense volunteers responded to the call. The Red Cross, always ready, threw all its forces into action. The hospitals, the doctors, the nurses, and their volunteer assistants have done and still are doing magnificent work to relieve suffering and to heal the injured.

The circus disaster has saddened the state. We shall not soon recover from this blow. But we can be intensely proud of the spirit with which the people of Connecticut met the emergency. There are heroes, nameless and innumerable, in this tragedy. (ANNOUNCER)

Ladies and gentlemen, you have been listening to Governor Raymond E. Baldwin, in a report to the people of Connecticut on the circus fire disaster of July 6th in Hartford.

UNCLE SAM'S NEPHEWS

WE ARE ALWAYS PLEASED TO HEAR FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE AND ARE CONTINUALLY WISHING FOR THEIR GOOD HEALTH AND A SPEEDY RETURN TO US FROM A VICTORIOUS MISSION.

VOX-COP

JULY 1944

June 12th

Dear Commissioner:

I can't express my appreciation enough, or begin to tell you how pleased I was to receive my copy of Vox-Cop in this evening's mail. To be true, it was April's copy and a few months old at this time but it is all new news to me. It has followed me from Newport, R.I. clear across the States, and finally reached me here out in the Pacific. Now that I have finally received a permanent address, I sincerely hope that later copies will reach me shortly.

As I served in the capacity as a radio dispatcher in the C.S.P., I too have followed that line since entering the Navy. After graduating from Radio School in Newport, I went on attached service with the () as a radio operator for two months, and am now back on duty with the Navy, and at the present time, am taking a refresher course. I am pleased to say at this time, that I am to receive my third class rate very shortly.

I am enclosing an article that I clipped from a paper in Seattle while I was there, pertaining to the conference you attended. It is well worn and dog-eared now, as I have been carrying it around with me for some time, waiting for an opportunity to forward it to you. I thought it might interest you, as it shows the widespread interest of Vox-Cop. The article may or may not go through with my letter, according to cen-

sorship regulations. I am hoping it will.

I wish you and Mrs Hickey the best of luck, as I do all the friends I left behind. I remain always

Very truly yours,
Norman S. Tasker

Camp Blanding, Florida

Dear Sir:

Here I am in the Infantry in Florida training in a machine gun company. The training here is severe and from four-forty in the morning until 5:00 P.M. It has been between 100 and 110 degrees and the men take 6 salt tablets a day.

My best regards to you and the Department.

Charlie McCarthy

Fort Bragg

Dear Comm. Hickey:

Hope you are feeling well. I'm at radio school here and find it very interesting. I miss the State Police Department very much and hope I can visit you someday when this war is over. I've met an ex-trooper from Penn. down here and he certainly was surprised at the amount of equipment given to the men in C.S.P.

Lots of luck to you and Department.

Vincent B. Brescia

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HEADQUARTERS
3510TH AAF BASE UNIT (TECHNICAL SCHOOL)

Dear Mr. Hickey:

18 July 1944

Once again I am writing to express my sincere thanks to you and your State Police organization for the excellent cooperation we received during our tour of Connecticut with the "YIP, YANK, YALE!" war bond show.

Throughout the entire tour all the officers who provided us with escort to and from the various towns in which we played were extremely courteous and efficient. I assure you that I myself received the impression that no request which we could have made would have been considered by them as too much to handle. Incidentally, you might be interested in knowing also that I naturally had the opportunity to talk with all of them at some length and in each instance I found a definite devotion to duty and satisfaction with your organization, which indicated a very high state of morale and esprit de corps. This, in my estimation, is something which you and your men must be proud of to an extreme degree.

You may be interested in knowing that on the tour we sold approximately \$5,000,000 in war bonds.

In closing I make one last request, and that is that you again accept my thanks and express my appreciation for a job well done to every officer who took part in giving us the safe and efficient service which we received during our bond tour.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES J. NELSON
Captain, A.C.
Public Relations Officer

Lieut. Gene Lenzi,
State Police Barracks,
Hartford, Connecticut

Bridgeport, Connecticut
July 8, 1944

My dear Lieut:

Please accept my sincere thanks for the courtesy you extended me on Friday in allowing Officer Howell to take me to the State Armory.

Your kindness is just another incident which makes the Connecticut State Police Department the grand organization it is.

Respectfully,

Fire Station #9,
Maplewood Avenue,
Bridgeport 5, Conn.

Captain Thomas F. Magner,
Connecticut Correspondent
FIRE ENGINEERING

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Dear Commissioner:

July 18, 1944
Guilford, Conn.

No one is behind this plug - it is spontaneous and offered in great appreciation and gratitude, to wit:

The most efficient police work of your Westbrook barracks boys in two recent Guilford vexatious and delicate situations, i.e., the criminal explosions by the four Mabery sisters, and the night prowling of Earle Jacobs, which resulted in all concerned being bound over to the Superior Court.

These cases were broken and cleaned up under the direction of Lieut. Shaw in a manner which thrilled me with pride, really it did.

In the handling of those negro girls every man acted with patience, forbearance and great toleration while performing their duties in cold, careful self-defence. It was the most amazing exhibition of trained police duty ever to come to my knowledge during some fifty years of contacts with criminals and peace officers. Your men had provocation continually to bat the hell out of those women, but they never raised their voices to them, let alone raising their hands, and this calm holding back I personally saw from a ringside seat.

I'd specially speak of Officer George Dunn whose intelligence and police sense was outstanding in both cases. And also Carl Ippolito, I think his name is, whose hunch in the Jacob's case was a natural. In my opinion, both of these boys are police wows, and they should go right up the line in time. So, sincere congratulations to you, Commissioner, and again thanks to your very efficient department.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Durant
Town ProsecutorTREASURY DEPARTMENT
War Savings Staff

Commissioner Edward J. Hickey

July 20, 1944

Dear Commissioner Hickey;

On behalf of the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, may I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to you, Major Nichols and Captain Schatzman, for the whole-hearted cooperation extended us during the Fifth War Loan Drive.

As you know, Connecticut went over the top in this Drive and that could only be accomplished by the united efforts of all concerned. The State Police were of invaluable assistance to us in this Drive and you may be very proud of each and every man who assisted us.

Once again, many thanks.

Sincerely,

HARRY F. SHAW
Connecticut State ChairmanL
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Mr. Edward Hickey, Commissioner
Public Safety Division,
State Capitol,
Hartford, Conn.

July 17 1944

Dear Sir:

On behalf of my family, I would like to express my sincere thanks to you and to the four patrolmen who so ably serviced our emergency trip from Stamford to the Massachusetts State line last Saturday.

Not only were the patrolmen extremely efficient in driving and clearing through traffic, but when we had to stop because of the condition of the patient, they also were of the utmost help and aid in cooperating with our efforts.

It was extremely imperative that we arrive in Boston without delay, and I am prepared to state that without your aid, we might have found ourselves in very serious difficulties.

We who are from out of state are very much impressed with the definite efficiency and ability of your organization and will never forget your unselfish cooperation.

Very truly yours,

DANIEL E. CONNELL, JR.

Commissioner Edward J. Hickey
Connecticut State Police
P.O. Drawer 780
Hartford 1, Connecticut

July 7, 1944

My dear Commissioner Hickey:

At a recent meeting of the Teletype Supervisors' Conference held at the Hotel Lexington in the City of New York, your letter concerning the Raymond Lewis case was read to the conference and Lieutenant Boas of your Department explained some of the details of the case.

It was the vote of the conference that the appreciation of the members be tendered to you for your prompt action and fine support of the teletypewriter system. The interest taken by you is an incentive to all the members of the conference to do a better job because it is a great feeling to know "that the boss is behind you".

I write this letter in accordance with the instructions of the conference.

Very truly yours,

George M. Searle
Chairman of the Conference

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BY THE YANKEE CLIPPER



VOX-COP

PAGE I

JULY 1944

JUVENILES ADMIT BREAKING INTO BUGBEE MAUSOLEUM

(Norwich Bulletin)

PUTNAM, July 5 - Through the combined efforts of State Officer Robert Donahue of the Danielson barracks and Sergeant Norbert Desrosier of the local police, Lieut. J. Victor Clarke of the Danielson state police announced this afternoon that two juveniles have been apprehended and admitted breaking into the costly mausoleum at the Grove Street cemetery, owned by Byron D. Bugbee, prominent merchant of this city.

Clarke said that one of the youngsters has been associated with juvenile delinquency problems in the past and the pair admitted upon questioning that no special motive was attributed their actions aside from a curious viewpoint to get a glimpse of the inside of the crypt.

The two officers have conducted an extensive investigation for the past several days and were able to "crack" the case without any help from neighbors or friends who have become interested in the case because of a reward offered by the owner.

When questioned this afternoon regarding a statement the owner, who sponsored paid advertisements regarding his \$125 rewards for the "arrest and conviction" of a person or persons responsible for the damage, said he had nothing to say.

Lieut. Clarke, speaking for the state police, said that his officers are not interested in

any reward as such a case was purely in line with their duty and it is always a pleasure and privilege to assist persons in time of need and help of all descriptions, especially safeguarding the rights and property of individuals.

Although the names of the two youngsters, ranging between 14 and 15 years of age were not divulged, as is customary in juvenile cases, officials said that the boys were brothers and lived in the city.

A special session of juvenile court will be held and disposition or "conviction" is now purely in the hands of court authorities.

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE CASE WAS HANDLED, DEMONSTRATING HARMONY BETWEEN STATE AND LOCAL OFFICERS, IS A CREDIT TO BOTH DEPARTMENTS.

TAKE SAFETY SERIOUSLY

(Hartford Courant)

Perhaps, now that another Fourth has taken its quota of victims, we shall look with tolerance on the drive of the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association and the Connecticut highway safety commission to promote safety along four of the state's main highways. For the contribution of the automobile to the American habit of celebrating the Fourth with death and maiming constitutes a warning that each of us ought to take with us whenever we venture out on the roads.

NO CHANGE IN SPEED LAW

(Hartford Times)

It did not take long for the special session of the Legislature to dispose of the principal business for which it was called -enactment of the Soldier Vote Bill.

Refusal of the Legislature to "clarify" the statutes providing penalties for speeding was unexpected. It had been assumed that because Superior Court judges had refused to find certain accused drivers guilty of speeding on such evidence as had been presented against them, the Legislature would do something to make convictions easier. The motor vehicles committee, however, took the stand that highway safety would not be promoted by adoption of the bill which had been proposed. The principal interest of the committee is safety, "not the number of convictions for speeding recorded by the courts," said the House and Senate chairmen of the committee.

On the whole, the public will be well satisfied that the special session made no change in the law. As it stands, complaining officers must be able to prove that the accused actually was violating the law, which is flexible to the extent that, other than in plainly posted areas, speed must be "reasonable" under the conditions that exists. Surely that is not too much to require of complaining officers. If they are not certain they can prove violations of the law they should not make arrests. And by the same token, if they are confident that the law has been violated they certainly should make arrests.

Possibly the attitude of the Legislature in this matter, reflects a growing opposition by the people to being kicked around. There have been so many instances of near-persecution by governmental bodies created primarily to promote the war effort, but some of which have become penalizing agencies from whose acts there is no appeal, that members of both houses may not have wished to make it easier for the State to subject motorists to inconvenience or worse.

A charge of speeding, if sustained, may result in suspension of the driver's license. It is important, therefore, that such a charge should not be brought except where there is ample evidence to support it. Violations of rules of the road are less serious. The special session acted conservatively, and wisely, in letting the law remain unchanged.

POLICEMAN CRUSOE

CHICAGO (AP) - This policeman found a footprint and his man on Friday to solve a mystery.

A leather store had been robbed five times and clue-hunting turned up only an imprint made by a bare foot - a big footprint that required no microscope. Policeman Joseph O'Connell reasoned that the thief had taken off his shoes to crawl along the ledge that led from the office's open window to a vacant office.

Police seized a suspect employed in the building. His foot matched the print and his confession matched O'Connell's theory.

FIRE RUINS REVEAL A MURDER

by

Thomas A. Dwyer, Inspector
Detroit Police Department

An interesting murder case developed in Detroit recently following an explosion in a hat cleaning shop at 9105 Woodward Avenue.

Fire Marshal John Quincy Adams of the Detroit Police Arson Squad became suspicious when he discovered the position of the charred body of John Hovaginian, co-owner of the shop, when it was found in the debris. The dead man was face upward with the legs crouched close to the body.

When Adams reported his findings to Inspector George Smith, head of the Arson Squad, Smith immediately swung into action and sent other members of his squad out to question every available witness.

"Finding a victim in such a position as the way Hovaginian's body was, seemed very unusual," Smith said.

He called Inspector John O. Whitman of the Homicide Squad and advised him of his findings and suggested to him that the post-mortem examination to be watched carefully as he suspected foul play. Whitman immediately assigned Detective Sergt. Maurice Gullerton and Joseph Wolff to the case.

That night after talking to witnesses it was learned by Arson Squad Detectives Otto Taylor and Robert Ryan, that Yase Mashoin, co-partner of Hovaginian, was seen leaving the establishment just as the explosion took place. On talking to the suspect the detectives reported what they had learned to their superior. They told Smith that Mashoin was evasive, so Smith ordered him locked up for investigation.

The scheduled autopsy had to be postponed for two days when

relatives were unable to identify the body for the reason that it had been burned beyond recognition. While at the Morgue Detective Adams suggested to Sergt. Fullerton that attendants probe around the neck of the victim as there seemed to be a fullness there. This probing revealed eight strands of rope tied around the victim's neck.

Meanwhile, Inspector Thomas A. Dwyer of the Identification Bureau had been busy endeavoring to get a positive and legal identification of the dead man. He ordered three fingers of the left hand of the victim to be amputated and then went to work after all other attempts at identification by teeth and X-Ray methods had failed.

Of the three fingers the middle finger was the only one that offered any hope of success. The others were too badly burned.

The finger required numerous applications of glycerin to make it pliable. Then glycerine and alcohol were injected into the finger to bring the finger back to its normal size for it had shriveled up from the intense heat of the fire.

After this treatment white powder was rubbed into the finger to make the fingerprint pattern more distinct. The print was then photographed and then enlarged.

The print was identical with a print of Hovaginian's finger taken in 1940 when he was arrested for investigation of running a blind pig.

With the identity established beyond any doubt the delayed post-mortem was performed which revealed a multiple skull fracture.

Two other Arson Squad investigators Sergt. Richard Miller and Detective Edward Wismer found other circumstantial evidence against Mashoin. They learned

Murder..... (as cont.)
 that he had purchased a can of naphtha on the day of the fire. They also found in the fire ruins a two pound hammer with blood stains on it. A ball of rope which was the same as that discovered around the victim's neck was also found at the scene.

Besides that the investigation, revealed "bad blood" had existed between the two partners. Other evidence against Mashoin was that a quantity of naphtha was removed from part's of the dead man's clothing by Fire Department Chemist Loren Farrell in the Arson Squad laboratory.

Wolff and Fullerton brought Mashoin before William R. Bolio, assistant Wayne County Prosecutor, for a statement. The suspect steadfastly denied killing his partner even when confronted with all of the evidence. Mashoin was charged with murder and he is awaiting trial in Recorders Court.

THE TEST OF MAN

There's little satisfaction to be gained from doing things That hold no difficulties; its the tough old task that brings Keen sense of worth and power to the man who wins the fight; His failures test his courage and his problems prove his might. Until a man has conquered loss and overcome defeat, He cannot fully understand just why success is sweet.

I'm thankful for my disappointments for the battle lost And for mistakes that seemed to charge an overwhelming cost; I'm thankful for the days of doubt, when it was hard to see That all things work together for the good that is to be;

I'm glad for all that life has brought, because today I know That men must brave adversities if they would greater grow.

By O. Lawrence Hawthorne

RAUCOUS AUTO HORNS

(Waterbury Republican)

In the design of automobile horns there appears to have been overlooked the fact that many accidents are unnecessarily caused by fright or confusion from the alarming intensity of the automobile horn. In recent years some horns have been redesigned to play a tune, which unduly prolongs the sound.

It is possible so to train a dog that on hearing a specific sound he will immediately wag his tail or lift a foot or perform some other reflex indication of awareness. It should not be more difficult to educate the public to respond to simple, non-irritating sounds as a warning of vehicular danger. It is obvious that a human being educated to the dangerous significance of a specific sound will react to protect himself more intelligently and more expeditely than in the midst of fright from near-by shrieking noises.

Designers of modern railroad locomotives have demonstrated the advantages of the mellow horn now used on Diesel locomotives over the shrill steam whistle. It is actually easier to locate the direction of approach from this low pitched tone, and the country-side and city side are spared the affront that formerly echoed from all directions. - Carey P. McCord and John D. Goodell, M.D., in the Journal of American Medical Association.

"THE TOUGHEST COP"

(N. Y. Herald Tribune)

William J. Quaine, the retired New York detective, is dead in Ireland. He was known for a good many years as the toughest member of the New York police force - a description which may have been accurate enough but which, at the same time, was misleading. Quaine was a thorough gentleman. He was well educated; in fact, he was something of a scholar. The workings of fate placed him in a spot where he had to deal with some of the most murderous thugs this city ever saw. His methods often were direct and probably hard to defend in the light of modern police theory, but they were superbly effective. He combined two qualities which must go into the makeup of a good detective, today or yesterday: intelligence and courage. It is probable that some of our modern gangs would be the quieter for his soothing touch. Taking him all in all, he was a credit to the department.

OUT OF COURT'S JURISDICTION

Seattle, July 25 - (APO - Lt. Tor Manzer received a police warning that he would be brought to headquarters unless he posted \$9.50 within five days for two overdue traffic violation tickets.

In his reply, Lt. Manzer suggested that the police refer to the atlas. He was exactly 8,647 miles away, he said, in New Guinea, when the alleged offenses were committed.

Charges dismissed, said the police. Nobody even bothered to check an atlas.

POLICY SALAD

(N.Y. Herald Tribune)

Detective Howard Birsch, of the Newark police, set an example of police perseverance recently in obtaining evidence against Morris Gottlieb, of 123 Avon Avenue, Newark, on a charge of possession of policy slips. Acting on a tip, Detective Birsch waited three hours in the hot sun until Gottlieb came out of his house, then stopped and searched him. He found no evidence and continued his search in the house. Bureau drawers were unproductive, and Detective Birsch extended his raid on the icebox. He found the policy slips there, nestling in the folds of a head of lettuce.

POLICEMAN LEADING COW WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM

Brooklyn Bartender Fined for Making Officer's Task Harder

(N.Y. Herald Tribune)

John Gately, thirty-two years old, a bartender, was fined \$3 in Brooklyn-Queens Night Court recently on a disorderly conduct charge for interfering with a policeman on duty - the duty happening to be leading a black and white Holstein cow through Brooklyn.

Evidently the spectacle of a policeman leading a cow was too much for the credulity of the defendant, Gately, who told Magistrate Charles Solomon he remembered little of the incident, except that the policeman looked sort of funny leading a peculiar black and white animal.

(cont.)

Policeman Leads Cow (as cont.)

The policeman, Peter Maggio of the Miller Avenue Station, said he was taking the cow to the stationhouse because it had eaten up a victory garden at 706 Blake Avenue, at 6 p.m. and that he had received numerous complaints of stray cows in his district, one of which poked its head in the window and leered at a household-er in the Brownsville section.

The policeman said Gately ridiculed him, shadow-boxed with the cow and otherwise made the task of impounding the Holstein more disagreeable. The cow is the property of Mrs. Olga Savosh of 862 Jerome Street, who was given a ticket for permitting the animal to roam at large.

COPS, COWS AND BARTENDERS

(N.Y. Herald Tribune)

Apparently there are cows loose in Brooklyn, and Patrolman Peter Maggio, of the Miller Street Station, has considered it a part of his police duty to round them up. At least, he was leading one of the Holstein breed to his station house after it had eaten up a Victory garden when he ran afoul of a facetious bartender. We don't know why a Brooklyn bartender should consider it funny that a policeman should be leading a cow. Bartenders should be inured to the bizarre. But this one proceeded to ridicule the officer of the law and to shadow box with his charge, and to earn for himself subsequently a fine of \$3 in Night Court for disorderly conduct.

He got off lightly, in our opinion. It is not only the dignity of the police that requires support in such circumstances but

that of the cow as well. A cow under arrest should be considered not a ribald but a pathetic spectacle. Suppose she did eat up a Victory garden, yet presumably she was devoid of any sense of guilt or mischief, no more to blame for her dereliction than a barroom customer consuming a free lunch. Of all people, bartenders should be chary of heaping ignominy on such.

"Ah, a policeman's lot is not a happy one" - Vox Cop

SAFETY FIRST

J. Edward Murray, United Press correspondent, writes he was riding in a bus down a London street when a 2000-pound "doodle-bomb" came up the street straight for the bus. The driver stopped the bus, convulsively started it again. When the explosion was over and the passengers were recovering from minor hurts, the bomb having missed by a hair, Murray asked the driver:

"Why did you stop the bus?"

"Oh, I couldn't help it. The traffic light went red.

OFFICER HIGNEY MAKES CAPTURE

Officer "Ed" Higney was certainly right on the ball June 25. The Ansonia P.D. gave out a call at 1:30 A.M. that five negroes who got away from officers between Seymour and Ansonia, were wanted for a hit and run accident in Ansonia. At 2:00 A.M. Officer Higney found them riding in a banged-up and dented car on Route #8 in Naugatuck and although they might have had other ideas, our "Ed" showed them the State Police do not allow people to get away with crime.

STOP LOOK LISTEN

VOX-COP

PAGE I

JULY 1944

"ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN"

When the May issue of this vehicle rolled off the press we were in the throes of what finally proved to be one of the most satisfactory Accident Prevention and Selective Enforcement Programs ever attempted by the Safety and Enforcement officials of the State of Connecticut.

Sponsored by the Highway Safety Commission and the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, this effort toward the saving of human life was literally "born with a golden spoon in its mouth," so assured was its ultimate success.

With "Commish" Eddie Jay calling the signals, Chiefs "Black Jack" Brennan, "Baby Face" Gleason, and "Hank" Clarke adding weight to the backfield, "Sure-shot" Lyddy over the ball, "Jimmie" Kranyik and "Jon" Dolan for the around end runs, and a line of heavies including SP LOOTS Shaw, Remer, and Smith, plus a bench full of werry wextra subs, the contest result was a foregone conclusion. Supplement this illustrious collection with "Statistics" Greene, adding up the touchdowns for public consumption, and you have something that's just about "99.44% pure" - to borrow one from Ivory.

When the final whistle blew at 11:59 PM May 31, 1944, the score-board displayed the following figures: Accidents 110 - Arrests 1251-Warnings 6149

Startling, isn't it, when you realize that 6400 otherwise good citizens couldn't resist the temptation to misbehave with their automobiles to a lesser (warnings) or greater (summons) degree.

But 110 accidents!-- you say? Looks like quite a figure doesn't it? Let's break it down and see what happens. Two, and only two, were fatals- a figure which, while not good, is low. Thirty-five involved personal injury - none too serious, and seventy-three were reported as strictly property damage only. Now don't forget that the minimum for a reportable accident was appreciably lowered for the purposes of this program: every accident resulting in five or more dollars damage was counted in this total.

So, all in all, we think the game well worth the candle.

Encouraged by the above successes, the Chiefs and Safety Commission met again, and on July 1, 1944 a new team went into the field, this time on Routes 5, 5-A, 6 and 9.

Overburdened with an already top-heavy curriculum, Quarterback E Jay contented himself with coaching the new team delegating the details to his task force, Captains Wm. "Legree" Schatzman and Leo "The Beaver" Carroll, both real heavies. Other new material which went into this All American Outfit included such al-

ready well known celebrities as Chas. "Wilson" Hallissey, "Big Ed" Crowley, Charlie "The Orator" Anderson and "Mike" Carroll. The pivot position in the center of the line was firmly held down by "Whale" Simpson, while a happy choice for a fleet back was made in "Tiny Tim" Kelleher.

On July 1, 1944, Coach Hickey put his men into the contest and the figures show for themselves what happened.

Up to and including July 22nd, the tally sheet reveals 544 Arrests and 8692 Warnings. On the Accident side of the Ledger we find the number 73 - BUT - the majority of them were of minor importance, involving little personal injury, AND, the most impressive feature of this victory is the fact that for TWENTY-TWO days - on FOUR MAIN HIGHWAYS - covering the length and breadth of the State, there has NOT been ONE SINGLE FATAL!

We hope - and pray - that we have not been too premature in our little boastful indulgence, but feel secure in the belief that our Championship Team will not let us down at this late date. Anyway, the only real opposition encountered thus far has been from the water boy - "Little War Shortages" and from where we sit it looks as if his days were numbered.

"HIGHWAYS ARE ROADWAYS NOT SPEEDWAYS".



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
TELEPHONE 7-6341

July 28, 1944

Memorandum to Police Chiefs of Connecticut:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a formal Resolution passed by the Highway Safety Commission on June 26, 1944. It is the only tangible manner in which the Commission can express its appreciation for the splendid traffic enforcement program sponsored by the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association this year.

The projects on Route U. S. I in May and on Routes 5, 5A, 6 and 9 in July have been most productive.

In the face of increasing motor vehicle use, the accident rate has been reduced and the numerical comparison itself is quite satisfactory, as much so as any accident experience ever can be measured.

The Commission unequivocally credits this satisfactory development to the efficient supervision by police authorities of street and highway traffic flow. Even in communities with increased accident experiences, we know the situation as regards enforcement activity was never so satisfactory as now.

We trust this formal Resolution will indicate to you the gratitude of our Commission members for your efficacious support of our state-wide safety program. With full knowledge of the difficulty of maintaining a high level of enforcement over an extended period, we trust you will devote all possible effort to ensure minimum relaxation of current standards.

By Direction of the Chairman
Arthur F. Ells

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. M. Greene".

William M. Greene
Director

WMG/led

"THE SAFE DRIVERS ARE THE SURVIVORS".

A Resolution

State of Connecticut
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION





WHEREAS,

the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association has established an enviable record of achievement in promoting orderly traffic movement by sponsoring intensified patrols of high accident-frequency arteries, and

WHEREAS,

such activity has been conducted despite reduced personnel, and multiplied responsibilities resulting from the war effort, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Connecticut Highway Safety Commission express by formal resolution a keen and lively appreciation for this substantial contribution to Public Safety, resulting from the interest, beyond ordinary call of duty, consistently shown individually, and collectively, by the Police Chiefs of Connecticut, and be it further

RESOLVED

that this expression of appreciation be spread upon the minutes of this Commission meeting as a permanent testimonial of our high regard for the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association and that a copy, duly signed by the Chairman and Secretary, be transmitted to the President of the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association, Colonel Edward J. Hickey, as an official communication.

Attest

Lelia E. Thompson
Secretary

Arthur F. Ellis

Chairman

June 26, 1944.

AROUND THE CIRCUIT

VOX-COP

PAGE I

JULY 1944

STATION "A" RIDGEFIELD

WINS CONDUCT MEDAL

(The Danbury News-Times)

For excellence in the performance of his duties as a military policeman in the Ninth Air Force Service Command, Sergt. Edward F. McMahon, of 441 Main Street, this city, has been awarded the Good Conduct Medal, it was announced at Airforce headquarters abroad. Stationed in England, Sergeant McMahon also has had two commendations from his commanding officer for his work in the unit. He is a former member of the state police department and prior to entering service was stationed at Ridgefield barracks. His address is: SN 31330908, 1299 M.P. Co., Hq. Sq., 2nd A.A.D.A., 9th A.F.S. C., APO 149, care of postmaster, New York City.

STATION "C" STAFFORD

Officer Alden Thompson, who lives in Waterbury, is such an enthusiastic fisherman that he has his sport at 4:00 A.M.

One morning he reported to work with quite a string of trout which he claimed to have caught although there are other theories concerning his source of supply. He was busily engaged at cleaning his catch in the commissary when Governor Baldwin walked in, rolled up his sleeves and showed our fisherman how it should be done. Believe us, the Governor knows how.

Thompson went on a spree with those fish when he returned to Waterbury, displaying them as fish caught in Tolland County, cleaned by His Excellency and

cooked in the City and State of Waterbury.

Dispatcher Richard Schwartz is now in the Army and stationed in South Carolina. Good luck, Dick.

"Jackie Horner"
Special Stafford Reporter

STATION "E" GROTON

Stolen Cars Recovered

Four stolen cars were recovered and the thieves apprehended in four individual cases by four different officers within four days.

Sergt. W. E. Farrow made the first catch 20 minutes after the theft had been broadcast by radio.

Officer J. S. Skelly made the second arrest while checking a car with defective lights.

Officer J. R. Fitzgerald took the third case when he recognized and apprehended a car which appeared on his daily bulletin.

Officer Thomas Nichol caught the fourth when he checked a car which had appeared suspicious.

Officer Nichol also apprehended two men riding away on a stolen bicycle, therefore, the problem at the moment is how many hours off duty does a bicycle equal if a car is valued at 24 hours.

Officer John H. Smith did some nice work at the Cris Gallup Pond in North Stonington recently when he was informed that a little girl was drowning. He quickly dove into the deep waters and repeated his diving until he locat-

ed the five year old girl in 16 feet of water and brought her to shore. Artificial respiration was applied but without success as the child had died.

Auxiliary State Policemen have been of great assistance during the past month in various ways, among which were the hunt for State Hospital escapees and the dedication of the Niantic Honor Roll. Three more Auxiliaries have received their radio licenses and will be of help as dispatchers.

"Number 134"
Special Groton Reporter

STATION "G" WESTPORT

WELL, plenty of water has gone over the dam since our readers have heard anything from Westport and many things have happened since the last article appeared. As you all know we have a new commanding officer, Lieut. George N. Remer, formerly of the north country. We have with us also from up north, Sgt. Al "Chick" Rivers, who says he never knew the salt air could do so much for one's appetite, and he is really beginning to like it here. I don't dare send this in without mentioning our own Sgt. "Charlie" Hartley, who is still trying to keep us on the ball.

In June our own Officer Charles (call me Charlie) McCarthy was inducted into the army. Charlie spent 8 years in the army before he joined the department and we expect great things from him. Good Luck, Mac, and may you return soon.

ANNIE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE

On May 26th, Officers Fogarty and Searles picked up "Post Road Annie" on complaint of the Bridgeport Health Officer. Now Annie lives in Niantic with all the other naughty girls. Annie claims the rest will do her good, as she was working too hard.

The other morning our two charming dispatchers Julie Wade and Bea MacDonald arrived with new hair does. They were immediately nicknamed, Fuzzy and Wuzzy, by the "boss man".

Harry "Pop" Helm states that he would like to take the next exam for durational trooper, that is, if the Commissioner would take him without making him drive. "Pop" doesn't mind washing cars but he won't drive them. Harry's been here so long he looks like a fixture and he claims to be the oldest man at Westport in more ways than one.

Sgt. George H. Ferris of our Navy was profuse in his thanks for membership card in the S.P.A. for the coming year, and was particularly impressed with the thought that he and others who have gone to war were remembered. He is anxious for the time to come when he can again wear a C.S.P. uniform.

During the past two weeks we have had two calls asking us to locate missing children who have been out on the sound in boats and have been caught in those famous sound storms. On both occasions they were given the well known Westport service. A detail of officers and our emergency equipment were put into immediate action, the first time by Sgt. Rivers who got several of us out of bed as this complaint

was received after midnite. The next complaint was received by Sgt. Hartley at 6:00 P.M., and altho he didn't have to wake anyone he put the day and evening men on the detail. Both details were personally supervised by the Sgts. who went to the scenes themselves. On both occasions Lieut. Remer was kept informed of the action taken and developments which took place. Such action on the part of our men could only mean one thing, the children were located in short order and returned to their homes.

Sad news has been received that Officer George Fogarty's brother, Edward T. Fogarty, was reported killed in action in Italy. All of us at Westport extend our sympathy to George and his family at this time.

Former Clerk Frank Virelli, Jr., was a visitor at the station the other day. Frank is on a hospital ship out of San Francisco and has been to New Guinea, Australia, and several other places in the South Pacific. Junior looked very good and had lost several pounds.

The name of Officer "Steve" Howell was mentioned on the WICC news the other nite. It seems that he was trying to capture a lost horse on the shore road and the reporter stated that "Buck" Howell rides again.

We have had numerous complaints about tires being stolen from cars parked near the Merritt Parkway bridges. On June 21st, Trooper Al Kostok, was patrolling the parkway when he came upon a fellow removing a tire from a car at Route 57. The fellow acted suspicious and upon questioning by Al did not seem to give the right answers. He was brought to

the barracks and with the assistance of our crack investigator, Officer Fred Virelli, this person admitted stealing the tire and several others which had been reported. Quick thinking on the part of Officer Kostok and Officer Virelli's help in the matter had this complaint solved in fast order.

Our ex-Sergt. George Ferris is still in Iceland with the U.S. Navy and would like to hear from some of the boys. His address is George H. Ferris, S.P.2/c, N.O.B. Navy, 101, c/o Fleet P.O., New York City.

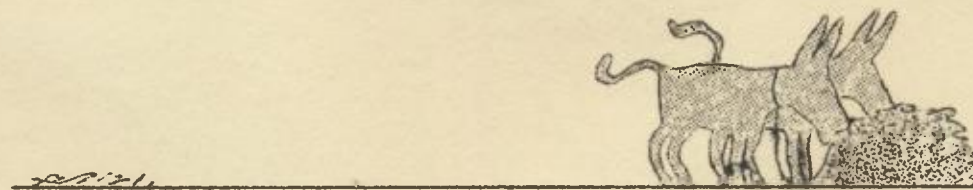
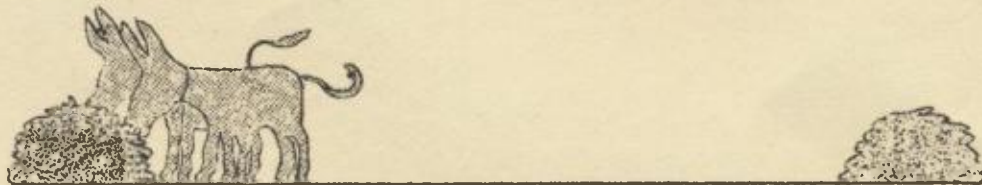
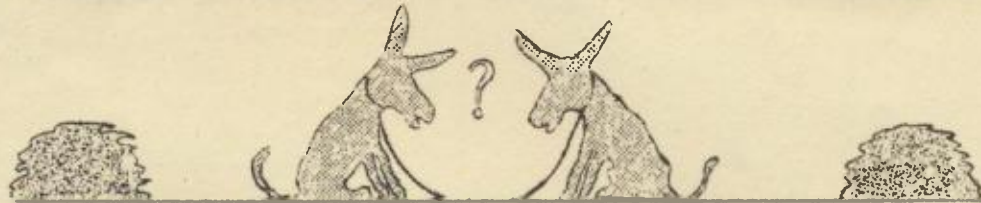
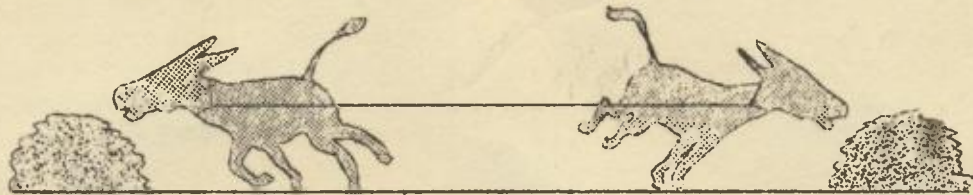
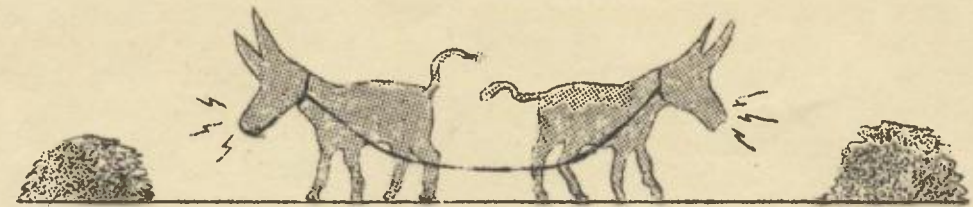
"G. Mack"
Special Westport Reporter

STATION "I" BETHANY

Everyone has seen the signs telling about the Fifth War Bond Drive, and if you have not bought yours, it only means that Lieutenant Smith or one of his super-salesmen has not caught up with you as yet. On July 14, they were so far ahead that the other stations would have to go fast and furiously to pass them. Total sales on that date amounted to \$222,025.00 but the boys were still going strong.

As this issue goes in to print we are sorry to say that Jovial Jack Dunphy is ill in Saint Mary's Hospital, but we are hoping he returns to the barracks soon. Don't let those cute nurses change our minds for you, Jack.

"The Dailey Reporter"
Special for Bethany



TEAMWORK

An Editorial without Words