

# Vox-Cop

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## CONN. STATE POLICE DEPT.



EDWARD J. HICKEY,  
Commissioner

SEPTEMBER 1944

# BY THE YANKEE CLIPPER



VOX-COP

PAGE I

SEPTEMBER 1944

## ADMIRABLE POLICE WORK

(Hartford Times)

Even more than its tall buildings New York's police department commands the admiration of outsiders. Long before the coming of Mayor LaGuardia the New York police were famous for efficiency, courtesy and public service. There have been black sheep among the thousands of good men on the force, but they have been few indeed. During the La Guardia administration there has been consistent maintenance of the department's reputation for efficiency.

The recent demonstration of the department's preparedness for any emergency, when it spread a net nine stories above the ground in the central area of a tall apartment house and prevented a distraught woman from ending her life by jumping from a window, must increase the already high esteem in which the department is held. While the woman's employer and policemen delayed her from leaping, the net was spread, the emergency preparations made so that when the woman finally did jump she landed in the net, into which a policeman jumped with her and led her to safety.

Smaller cities do not produce the same opportunities for dramatic police work as occur in New York, but smaller cities, Hartford particularly, can profit by the example of the metropolitan department. The size of a city has no bearing (or should not

have any) on the imagination, ingenuity, enterprise and braininess of those in charge of the police, who are expected to be equipped and trained to meet any emergency. New York is rendering the rest of the country a great service in demonstrating its ability to deal effectively with the unexpected as well as with the routine.

## SPEEDING PINCH CURES PHYSICIAN OF HICCOUGHS

Willington - (AP) - State Policeman Arthur Whitmarsh, accustomed to hearing all sorts of excuses for speeding, listened patiently, he related Wednesday, to the driver of a car he overhauled here last Saturday doing 65 to 70 miles an hour.

The driver said he was a New York physician hurrying home from Boston where he had consulted a specialist in an unsuccessful effort to be cured of hiccoughs.

"Well," suggested Whitmarsh after the recital, "let's hear you hiccough."

"Gosh! I can't," said the driver after a pause. "I must be cured."

Lt. Harris Hulburt of the Stafford Springs barracks said he was inclined to credit the man's story - because when he was asked to post \$25 bond on a speeding charge he said he'd be glad to pay that and more.

That bond was forfeited when the case was called in court.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER REPORTS

We are told that "Dicta" the official organ of the Colorado Bar Association culled the following extracts from a file of social service reports. Regardless of whether they are veracious, the humor they include warrants the space taken.

"Woman and house neat but bare."

"Woman has no job to be mentioned."

"Couple breaking up home, friends helping."

"Milk needed for the baby and father is unable to supply it."

"Until a year ago this applicant delivered ice and was a man of affairs."

"Couple have been completely stripped. Now are barely able to get along."

"These people are extremely cultured. Something should be done about their condition."

"Couple's only source of income is four boarders all out of work. They owe \$600."

"Man is aggressive - has nine children."

"Applicant took job as janitor in home for the working girls - lasted 3 weeks."

"Applicant and wife are illegally separated."

"Roomer pays no board as he usually acts as godfather."

"These people have religious pictures all over the place, but seem clean, however."

"Sophie is married to a sailor and her whereabouts are unknown."

"Woman is ailing at present - eyesight poor - does housework when able to find it."

"Apartment crowded and untidy. Saw evidence of girl in clothing. Woman says they are a delicate family and must have steamed

apartment with eggs and oranges."

"Applicant has one child, Lillian, who is three months old and owes twelve months rent."

"Applicant is typical real American. He is the father of 8 children."

"Woman still owes \$45.00 for a funeral she had recently."

"Man hit by automobile - speaks broken English."

"This woman is ill. She is being treated. The gas has been turned off."

"Woman says husband has illness that sounds like arithmetic. I think she means Arthritis."

"Family's saving all used up - relatives have helped."

"Applicant's wife is a lady and hardly knows what it is all about."

"Woman taught bridge and suffered a broken leg."

"Applicant and family got \$14.00 from neighbors for moving from former address. Saw mother and child - evidence of father."

"Good type American family - appear refined, but intelligent."

"Woman is willing to struggle if given an opportunity."

"Woman badly bruised - furniture man took bed springs."

COP HAS LAST WORD

Boise, Idaho - (AP) - "Let's see your driver's license," ordered Patrolman Ted Dicus. "Let's see your draft registration card," retorted Lt. Col. Norman B. Adkison, Idaho's Selective Service executive officer. Both produced the proper credentials, but the patrolman had the last word. He gave Adkison a ticket for ignoring a stop sign.

NOT FORGOTTEN

(New Yorker)

Selective service is obviously losing interest in men who have passed the age of 30. These elderly gentlemen will find that the bureau of internal revenue still loves them just the same.

STATE POLICE AID  
5TH WAR LOAN FUND

(Bridgeport Herald)

Hartford, Conn. - Combined efforts of the officers of the State Police forces in the state were responsible for adding more than \$330,000 to the Fifth War Loan receipts, John M. Hurley, executive manager of the Connecticut War Finance Committee, said today.

War Bond sales made by members of the State Police during June and July were considerably more than eight times those made in the Fourth War Loan early this year, and at least 41 times those made in the Third War Loan, it was learned.

Mr. Hurley attributed the record-breaking results of the State Police in the recently completed loan largely to the fact that all 11 barracks in the state were converted into War Bond sub-issuing agencies for the past two months, and he congratulated State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey and his forces for their unusual support of the War Finance program.

High man in the organization was Lieutenant Michael D. Smith of Bethany Barracks through whom bond sales of \$238,325 were accumulated during the drive. Miss Catherine V. Collins, secretary to Commissioner Hickey, also

was mentioned for being responsible for sales of more than \$9000.

Third War Loan sales for the entire forces amounted to \$8850, Fourth War Loan, \$40,125 and Fifth War Loan, \$330,075.

MISCELLANEOUS AUTOMOBILE  
INFORMATION

(The Travelers Standard)

Quite frequently when a car has stood for some length of time difficulty is experienced in starting, although fuel and ignition systems test satisfactorily. This may be due to stale gasoline, the density of which has reached a point where it will not evaporate freely, because the lighter constituents have escaped leaving a residue with a Baume reading too low for use in the carburetor.

The two chief constituents of gasoline are carbon and hydrogen - about 85% of the former and 15% of the latter.

The term "octane rating," is used to indicate the anti-knock properties of gasoline. In addition to manufacturing processes, fuels having the highest octane rating are obtained by the addition of ethyl fluid.

The boiling point of gasoline is approximately 173 degrees Fahrenheit.

The deadly gas, carbon monoxide, is a product of incomplete combustion which is caused by an insufficient air supply. To reduce the carbon-monoxide content of exhaust gases to a minimum, 14 to 16 parts of air to one of gasoline are required for an automobile engine.

The maximum combustion pressure of an automobile engine is

approximately four times the compression pressure.

The reason for advancing the spark (this is done automatically on today's cars) is that combustion never takes place instantaneously. At the instant of the spark the charge begins to burn at the spark plugs, and the flame produced travels in all directions until the charge is fully ignited. The process is relatively gradual, and not an instantaneous explosion, as frequently assumed.

All automobile engines erroneously called water-cooled, are in reality air-cooled. Water is merely a medium for bringing the heat in contact with the air which does the actual dissipation. A marine engine where the water is not recirculated, is a true type of water-cooled engine.

The radiator core of the early French Renault car was ten inches deep, twenty-four inches high, and thirty inches wide. It weighed 200 pounds, had 700 one-quarter inch copper tubes, and cost \$350. All this to dissipate the heat of but a 65 horsepower engine. Today's tubular radiator core efficiently dissipates the heat of a 125 horsepower engine, with one-third of the cooling surface, less than one-fourth of the weight, and at one-sixth of the cost.

The object of the "fluid drive" is to overcome an inherent defect of all automobile engines; lack of flexibility. Fluid drive is an attempt to place the gasoline engine in the same class with the steam engine, with respect to flexibility.

For years we have taught new drivers the importance of synchronizing gear speeds before meshing, in order to shift quietly and smoothly. The mechanism known by the highly technical

sounding term "synchronesh transmission," means and does exactly that. It synchronizes the gears before meshing by applying a brake to the faster running gear.

The differential, one of the mechanisms least understood by the layman, is generally assumed to be a device attached to the rear axle, which comes into operation when the car goes around a curve. Actually, the differential is more or less in operation whenever the car is running, because of road irregularities as well as curves. Briefly, it consists of a system of small gears revolving around a larger one, thereby permitting one wheel to travel independently of the other, but at the same time to receive its share of engine power.

The terms, semi, three-quarter, and full-floating axles are also little understood, but quite simple. In the semi-floating axles, the differential has its own bearings, relieving the inner ends of axles of the weight of the differential, the outer end supporting the weight of the car. In the three-quarter floating axles, the inner ends of the axles are floated in the differential, but here the wheels are supported by a single bearing on the axle housing, instead of on the axle shaft. In the full-floating axle, the wheel is mounted on two bearings, carried by the housing, which bearings carry the weight of the car. The full-floating axle is safest, as a wheel cannot come off in case of axle breakage; however, it can be easily withdrawn without disturbing other parts. Most semi-floating axle shafts can also be removed without disturbing the assembly, but unlike the full-floating type, the wheel and bearing must first be removed.

STATE SECTION HOLDS ANNUAL  
MEETING IN CLEVELAND  
COMMISSIONER HICKEY RE-ELECTED  
CHAIRMAN

(Police Chiefs' News Letter)

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the State and Provincial Police Section of the International Association of Chiefs of Police was held Monday evening, August 14, during the 51st Annual and 3rd War Conference of the Association. State police executives attending the Conference were guests of the Section at a dinner immediately preceding the business session.

Colonel Beverly Ober, superintendent of the Maryland State Police, vice-chairman (East), presided in the absence of Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, general chairman, who was unable to attend the meeting because of an anticipated strike in one of the industrial areas of the state. Special guests were President Michael F. Morrissey, who paid tribute to the high enthusiasm and interest of State Section members in their organization, and Brigadier General D.C. Draper, chief constable of Toronto and first vice-president of IACP, who reviewed the organization and history of the various police forces of Canada.

Chief E. Raymond Cato, California Highway Patrol, vice chairman (West) of the Section, briefly addressed the meeting, followed by reports of the six regional chairmen - Commissioner C. M. Wilhelm, Pennsylvania State Police, whose report was delivered by Captain T. N. Boate, North Atlantic region; Major J. T. Armstrong, North Carolina Highway Patrol, reporting for Director Steve Alford, Southern region; Commissioner Oscar G. Olander, Michigan State Police, East North

Central region; Chief Elden Rowe, Minnesota Highway Patrol, West North Central region; Colonel M. Stanley Ginn, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Southwest Central region; and Chief James A. Pryde, Washington State Patrol, Mountain-Pacific region.

Annual report of General Chairman Hickey, covering activities of the Section since August, 1943, was then submitted. Membership of the Section, the report stated, is now 118 state police and highway patrol executives of the United States, three Canadian provincial police commissioners, and the commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Meetings in each of the six regions from January 29 to March 12, were reviewed. Commissioner Hickey pointed out that discussions of the regional conferences established the need for a uniform training program for state and provincial police personnel, with particular emphasis on in-service training.

He asked that the Section in its deliberations give particular consideration to policies affecting return of personnel now on military leave and the continuance of personnel standards recognized as essential to good public service. He urged that the head of each state department begin at once to review his organization and determine whether training, personnel standards, equipment, and enforcement policies are adequate to meet post-war demands.

Guest speaker of the evening was Colonel Will K. Zurbucken, Kansas State Highway Patrol, who spoke on the subject of juvenile delinquency. He urged law enforcement agencies, general civic groups, and the leaders of government to become a unit that will accept the responsibility of

making the nation a better place in which young people may live and retain the privileges enjoyed by the forefathers of the country.

Report of the nominations committee, comprised of Commissioner Olander, Chief Pryde, and Superintendent Don Stiver, Indiana State Police, was then received. By unanimous vote Commissioner Hickey was again elected general chairman of the Section; Colonel Ober and Chief Cato were retained as vice chairmen for the East and West, respectively; Superintendent John A. Gaffney, New York State Police, was elected secretary to succeed Homer Garrison, Jr., director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, whose nomination for sixth vice-president of the Association was given endorsement of the Section; and Bruce Smith, Institute of Public Relations, New York City, was renamed advisor.

On Tuesday, August 15, the State Section held an all-day conference for consideration of its specialized problems in state enforcement. Colonel Ober presided at the morning session and Chief Cato at the afternoon session.

Captain Ruxton M. Ridgely, Maryland State Police, presented a paper on the use of coordinates in state police work and the value of such maps in promptly and accurately locating any spot or area within the jurisdiction.

A panel discussion on police training for recruits and in-service personnel followed, with presentation of the subject by Gordon Shee, director of training at Northwestern University Traffic Institute, and Colonel Charles H. Schoeffel, superintendent of New Jersey State Police, leading the discussion.

A model state police act, originally proposed two years

ago, was presented by Dr. David G. Monroe, Northwestern University Traffic Institute, who advised that the revised draft is to be considered by the National Conference on Uniform State Law at its conference next month. After consideration of provisions of the model statute, it was unanimously voted to discuss it further, at the Section's regional meetings before lending it endorsement.

Current and future highway enforcement problems were discussed by representatives of Federal and state agencies. Major E. R. Carnes, representing Colonel Lacy Murrow, chief of Highway Division, U. S. Army Transportation Corps, expressed appreciation for the assistance given to the War Department by state enforcement agencies. Commissioner Thomas H. MacDonald, Public Roads Administration, chairman of the Highway Traffic Advisory Committee to the War Department, praised the three-way job being done by highway departments, licensing departments, and enforcement departments for wartime utilization of highway transport and expressed the hope that this working relationship would be carried over into peacetime operations.

Vice-President Hal G. Sours, American Association of State Highway Officials, discussed relationships between enforcement and engineering groups. Replying to two specific questions, Mr. Norman Damon vice-president of the Automotive Safety Foundation, stated that all factors would indicate the peak of the traffic problem would be reached in 1948, and that a large-scale activity that could quickly and effectively be adopted for cooperative projection by police and non-official agencies would be a spot road-check such as that recently conducted in Michigan by state,

county and local police officers over a six-week period. Mr. George E. Miller, National Safety Council, discussed problems involving returning service men. L.S. Harris, executive secretary of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, stressed that it is the "average drivers" - those who pass every road test but commit the largest number of traffic law infractions - who require attention and suggested close cooperation between motor vehicle administrators and the courts in invoking powers of revocation or suspension of drivers licenses.

Captain T. N. Boate, Pennsylvania State Police, illustrated the need for an approach of prevention rather than arrest and apprehension for traffic violations and discussed speed regulations as a safety factor. Captain McDermott, representing Superintendent J. R. Nunn, Virginia State Police, stated that military personnel on passes for a restricted number of hours, inadequate for motor trips to distant homes, were the cause of concern in his state and suggested that the military might cooperate through placing a mileage restriction on the passes, commensurate with the hours restriction.

Acting Director Raleigh of the IACP Safety Division asked for efficient enforcement programs, the first element of which he defined as recognition by the administrator that traffic is one of the most difficult problems facing him.

The session adjourned with a free question and answer period, directed by Chief James A. Pryde, Washington State Patrol, and participated in by the officials present.

COMMISSIONER HICKEY NAMES  
CHAIRMEN

Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, general chairman of the IACP State Section, has announced appointment of his six regional chairmen, as follows: North Atlantic Region - Commissioner C.M. Wilhelm, Pennsylvania State Police; Southern Region - Major J. T. Armstrong, North Carolina State Highway Patrol; East North Central Region - Commissioner Oscar G. Olander, Michigan State Police; West North Central Region - Chief Elden Rowe, Minnesota Highway Patrol; South West Central Region - Colonel Will K. Zurbucken, Kansas State Highway Patrol; Mountain-Pacific Region - Chief James A. Pryde, Washington State Patrol.

With two exceptions, the regional chairmen were continued in office from last year. Major J. T. Armstrong replaces Director Steve Alford, Louisiana Department of Public Safety, whose ill health prevented his carrying on Section activities in the Southern Region. Colonel Zurbucken succeeds Colonel M. Stanley Ginn, Missouri State Highway Patrol, who accepted commission in the U.S. Navy this month.

COLONEL GINN COMMISSIONED IN NAVY

(Police Chiefs' News Letter)  
Colonel M. Stanley Ginn, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, has accepted a commission as lieutenant (j.g.) in the United States Navy and reported for duty at Princeton University, August 25.

Colonel Ginn was appointed superintendent of the Patrol in November, 1941, after having served as prosecuting attorney of



Lawrence County for three successive terms. In addition to his duties as head of the Patrol, he served as Chairman of the Missouri Highway Traffic Advisory Committee to the War Department and State Mileage Administrator. He was also a member of several national committees dealing with police problems.

Efficient operation of the Missouri Patrol under wartime conditions when all police agencies have been faced with a shortage of personnel and equipment but an increase in duties has been due largely to the leadership of Colonel Ginn. He was instrumental in securing enactment of a bill by the last legislature which gave the Patrol full police powers, thereby removing all doubt as to the authority of the organization in criminal investigations. This bill also created the rank of lieutenant in the Patrol and provided for the revision of salary scales to differentiate between troopers, sergeants, and lieutenants. He inaugurated annual retraining schools at which all members receive one week of intensive training in police science each year, and under his administration two-way radio equipment was obtained for every patrol car in the state.

WELL DESERVED CRITICISM

(Hartford Times)

Criticism directed by members of the Police Commission at drivers of ambulances who pilot their vehicles through busy city streets at excessive speed and without regard to traffic signals, is justified and should be heeded. The recent accident in which an ambulance and a truck collided when the ambulance shot through a red light makes the criticism timely.

A natural and laudable desire of the operator of an ambulance to get the patient to the hospital as soon as possible should not be an excuse for ignoring all the rules of safe driving. It would be worse than ironical if the victim of an automobile crash should be further injured and perhaps killed because the driver of an ambulance taking him to a hospital took chances in violating danger signals.

The least that drivers of ambulances, or other emergency vehicles, should do on approaching a red light is to have their machines under control, so that they may halt if a vehicle which has the right of way cannot stop to let the other by. Observers have wondered many times at the good luck that has attended ambulance drivers going the whole length of Main St. as if it were a section of the Merritt Parkway with all traffic rules and laws suspended for the moment.

TAKE TIME

- Take time to live. That is what time is for. Killing time is suicide.
- Take time to work. It is the price of success.
- Take time to think. It is the source of power.
- Take time to play. It is the fountain of wisdom.
- Take time to be friendly. It is the road to happiness.
- Take time to dream. It is hitching your wagon to a star.
- Take time to look around. It is too short a day to be selfish.
- Take time to laugh. It is the music of the soul.
- Take time to play with children. It is the joy of joys.
- Take time to be courteous. It is the mark of a gentleman.

- Santa Fe Magazine.

# New Haven Sunday Register.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1944

## Connecticut Policewomen Prove Detecting Isn't Man's Job Only

PAUL V. COCHRANE

Hartford, Sept. 16—(AP)—The old notion that the successful police detective must be a hard-boiled citizen of doubtful manners and regrettable haberdashery is getting a nasty jolt in Connecticut these days. A 32-year-old woman who looks talks and acts like a garden party hostess has just helped to break her second murder case.

She is Mrs. Kathryn Haggerty, one-time nurse for the New Haven Health Department, whose infectious-disarming smile, sportive attire and well-modulated voice have proven the downfall of a small host of malefactors since she joined the State Police in 1942.

Take her latest case: the finding of the nude, ravished body of an extremely pretty girl behind a billboard along a main line railroad.

### Valuable Clue

The nearest town was a Long Island Sound resort, crowded with holiday makers from many states. The only clue was a small package of matches, found on the grass beneath the body, and bearing the inscription of the submarine base at Groton.

By dint of persistence, Mrs. Haggerty helped to locate the slain girl's sister with a group of other friends at a cottage. There someone recalled the girl had been with a sailor; someone else remembered the sailor's last name.

That and the matches pinned the hunt to the sub base and less than 12 hours after discovery of the body, a youthful sailor had confessed the killing.

Of course, Mrs. Haggerty couldn't have done it without the assistance of her male colleagues and she's the first to admit it. But Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, one of the country's cleverest detectives before he was chosen to head the force, singled her out for especial praise.

Eight months earlier Mrs. Haggerty had an important part in solving another crime—the Christmas Eve slaying of the caretaker of Old Lyme's noted Boxwood Manor.

It took a lot of plugging to break down, tight-lipped 51-year-old Delphine Bertram but Mrs. Haggerty stuck to it, with the aid of several male colleagues, result, Delphine is now doing 15 years at hard labor in States prison for killing her erstwhile friend, Caretaker James Streets.

### Commissioner Proud

Commissioner Hickey is proud of Mrs. Haggerty and of Mrs. Evelyn Briggs, 32, who were the State's first and for quite a while, only State policewomen. Mrs. Briggs, who also had a part in solving the Boxwood case, yields nothing to Mrs. Haggerty in suave good looks and persuasive manner and was a social worker before she joined the force. Like her colleague she has a husband in the service.

At the recent circus fire in Hartford, which took nearly 170 lives and sent hundreds to the hospital, Mrs. Briggs threw herself into the



Three of Connecticut's State policewomen who have been doing some surprisingly clever work. Left to right, Mrs. Kathryn Haggerty, of New Haven; Mrs. Evelyn Briggs and Mrs. Mary Dailey.

work of identifying bodies of women and children.

Mrs. Haggerty, Mrs. Briggs and the newest addition to the women's contingent—Mrs. Mary Dailey, a 30-year-old graduate nurse, have done just about everything in police work.

Mostly they specialize on the woman's angle but they also have been successful in other investigations where an attractive young woman would be less likely to arouse suspicion than a man.

They have gone on long extradi-

tion trips and brought back their girl. They have given first aid to injured automobilists and have helped restore missing youngsters to their parents.

They have even undergone expert medical treatment to nab quacks and they have eased obstreperous patients into mental hospitals with a minimum of unpleasantness.

Far from resenting female auxiliaries, the male members of the force are delighted about having the girls on hand to handle cases

which might embarrass a man. Hickey, whose long series of crime solution successes makes him an authority on such things, is enthusiastic about the experiment he personally prevailed upon the Legislature to make.

Observed a reporter to the commissioner, as he looked over a group of the girls:

"It would be almost a pleasure to be pinched."

"There are times," admitted the doughty commissioner, "when I almost think so myself."

# 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

PAGE I

SEPTEMBER 1944

Central Pacific  
Dear Commissioner:

Having just returned from a short trip, it sure was a pleasure to find your letter together with letters from home.

In spite of the pleasant atmospheric condition and natural beauty in the land where I am now, your remark on my trading it all for a few grains of stony New England soil, hit the point and as there are a few boys with me from the New England States, even tho we admire the beauty, etc., still to us there is nothing like home.

With respect to keeping my eyes open for the beauties of nature around me, I am afraid the continuance of this will only tend to rouse your Irish ire, especially since my mind is made up as to which possesses the loveliest Irish green, with no misconstrued attempt to belittle nature's gift to Auld Erin (including yourself). It really is a crime, no less, that I do not have your picture camera or one of my own for that matter, for you being a man of evidence this would be the only convincer. On the other hand it may be my good fortune not to have to produce such evidence knowing the Irish temperment as well as I do.

My dad's visit to you was known to me when I was last home on furlough and my only regret was that I was not there to see him. I had telephoned him at Florida and he told me at that

time that he was coming north, but it was impossible for him to get up there before I left.

I only hope Commissioner that my memory won't fail me when this is all over, as there will be plenty to tell about the various places I have already visited, but so far, where we are at present, I doubt if there will be any place to compare with it.

There is nothing new to report. My health is good and I hope yours is and permit me to impose your passing my regards to all.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Virelli, Jr.

Sept. 3, 1944

Dear Commissioner:

Writing to inform you that I've been receiving the copy of "Vox Cop" each month and enjoy reading it very much. Thanks to you and the Dept.

I've just completed my eleventh week of training here at radio school and as yet have six more weeks to go before completing my cycle, at which time I hope to be back home for a ten day period with my family before being shipped to a line outfit as a specialist and radio man.

Yesterday my platoon went through the assault course and I'm glad to report that everybody came out O.K., although it was

some experience and sensation having T.N.T. dropped nearby and 50 calibre machine gun bullets flying overhead.

In the August edition of "Vox Cop" I felt very proud upon reading that Sta. "D" Danielson rated the highest general average of 76.5 for the first period ending July 1, 1944. I certainly took advantage of this telling the boys in my platoon, that I at one time was attached to Sta. "D".

Met Off. James Coman of the N.C. State Highway Patrol, who has been with the Dept. for ten years. Each week end when off duty from camp, I pass my time patrolling with Jim, who is stationed at Sanford, N.C. I find this a very good pass time and also a good method of keeping on the right side of the law in N.C. It is interesting to exchange ideas about police work and methods of handling people. Jim informs me that he and the Dept. have read a lot about the Conn. State Police. My next week end off I've been asked to visit Troop "C".

The war news sounds good and encouraging to all the boys in service and we all hope for a speedy victory. I'm looking forward to be a civilian once more at which time I will visit you.

Sincerely yours,

Pvt. Vincent B. Brescia

AN APPRECIATION LETTER

Poquonock Bridge  
September 18, 1944

Mr. Edward J. Hickey  
Commissioner  
Department of State Police  
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hickey:

I want to take this opportunity to add my meed of praise to that already so widely expressed for the very splendid work performed by the Connecticut State Police Department during the hurricane of last week.

I saw the patrol in operation on Route #1 and know personally what a source of comfort it was to all to see the red light of a car bearing men of the Department within call at all times. I do not need to recall, sir, the element of danger ever present for the men in those cars from wind, rain, falling trees and poles and a multiplicity of other possibilities.

As a citizen and as a Member of the Legislature I say that the people of Connecticut have every reason to be proud of their State Police Department

Very truly yours,

Thomas L. Hagerty  
REPRESENTATIVE,  
CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE

OUR SERVICE BOYS' MAILING LIST

VOX-COP IS MAILED MONTHLY TO ALL OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE. PLEASE ADVISE US OF ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND LET US KNOW IF VOX-COP IS NOT RECEIVED.

U N C L E   S A M ' S   N E P H E W S

VOX-COP

PAGE 3

SEPTEMBER 1944

9 September 1944

Dear Commissioner:

Greetings from somewhere in New Guinea, the land of steaming jungles, hot sunny days and extremely cool nights, also not forgetting to mention the choking dust.

This is the second island in the South-West Pacific area I have been on and I presume there will be many more before we finally reach Tokio.

I have been stationed here for some time now and I must say that the boys in this theatre really have to take it. Malaria is more or less prevalent and many other forms of diseases. Believe me a mosquito bar is a real buddy and has practically become a part of me. Its a great experience though and I'm glad I'm not a desk soldier.

For a while I was stationed in another section of New Guinea and there it rained in torrents day and night and we practically lived in mud. Here it is entirely in the reverse as it is very dry and we do have a fine beach and what surf, which is only about 300' from camp. I'm now almost as brown as some of the natives and I feel fine.

Natives here are known as "Fuzzy's" which I suppose is due to the fact that they have very bushy hair and some of them manage to get peroxide which turns the color of the hair to a light reddish mixture. Although ferocious looking some of them are quite intelligent and I have seen some of them driving jeeps and power boats. They are a friendly lot only you have to be careful not to open a pack of cigarettes in their presence. If you do

goodby pack because they won't leave you alone until they get it.

Sorry I didn't get to write sooner but I have been very busy and I'll have to ask forgiveness. Vox Cop has finally caught up with me and I really enjoy it. As a matter of fact all of my officers go for it in a big way. too, as well as a Los Angeles police officer who is also stationed here.

Your message in the June 44 issue of Vox Cop was really swell and I'm sure it was appreciated by all members of the department serving in the armed forces. It is comforting to know the old job is awaiting our return and I know that this individual will be glad to be back at it again. I'd sure appreciate getting badge #4 back again. For the present though we have a job to do here and I hope to some day be fortunate enough to be in Tokio.

Was extremely sorry to hear of the death of Lieut. Kenneth Stevens. The department has lost a good officer and I'm sure his passing is mourned by many.

The trip over here was very eventful and someday I'll be able to tell you about it. I'm sure lucky to be here.

Crossing the equator was quite an event and now I'm a full-fledged shell back. The initiation was really something as the Navy put it on.

Well, Commissioner, guess I'll have to close now as I see the bottom of the page coming up. Hope this finds you in the best of health and happiness. Regards to each and every member of the department.

Sincerely,

Capt. Russell J. Olson

# JOE TROOPER

Do You Know This Man?



Joe Trooper lives on Roseale Road, somewhere in Connecticut. He is 30 years old and weighs about 190 lbs. He enjoys good health, is married and the father of two children.



Joe Trooper has been a member of the State Police for about 8 years. He attends his church regularly and is considered a barracks barrister by his fellow officers.



Joe Trooper is tolerant and humane. His occasional griping indicates good spirit and morale. When he feels that he is right he will fight to the last ditch.



Joe Trooper takes fond care of his equipment and is as proud as a peacock of the accomplishments of his department. Joe Trooper is a darn good egg. He is YOU.

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Dear Sir:

September 10, 1944

Friday night September 8th one of your men, State Police Officer Stanley C. Sobolewski, #220 helped me. I had fallen on the highway while going for aid. We had a blow-out and we were about a mile from the nearest gas station.

I won't bother you with all the details, but it was necessary for your State Trooper to take me to St. Vincent's Hospital in Bridgeport where they stitched up my knee and fixed me up so that I could continue the trip home to New Jersey.

My purpose in writing this is to tell you how kind and understanding your trooper was. He wouldn't accept any monetary tribute and a "thank you" seemed insufficient. Perhaps telling you will add to his good record. If he is representative of all your organization - you must have a bunch of fine men.

In all sincerity my father and I are very grateful for the help we received.

Sincerely yours,  
(Mrs) Catherine Nuesslein

Mr. Edward J. Hickey  
Commissioner of State Police  
Hartford, Conn.

August 31, 1944

Dear Commissioner:

I wish to express the appreciation of this Company for your cooperation in maintaining order during the recent strike. The behavior of your force on duty here was in every way commendable. The men were very efficient, alert and impartial and I feel that the excellent state of order maintained during the strike and the entire absence of any violence or unfortunate incidents was due in very great measure to the splendid performance of your command.

Very truly yours,

L. Y. Spear  
PRESIDENT

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Commissioner of Motor Vehicles  
Hartford, Connecticut

August 29, 1944

Dear Sir:

You will find attached warning notice which the writer received at New Milford, Conn. on route #7 a few evenings ago.

May I take this opportunity as an insurance man to congratulate the State Police on their campaign, which is no doubt directed in the interest of safety.

I also wish to go on record as complimenting the officers with whom I came in contact in connection with the attached warning, for their courtesy and efficiency. An out-of-town driver always appreciates courtesy from an officer when stopped.

May I humbly suggest that more attention be given to the drivers who insist upon driving with their lights on the up-beam, even though the driver coming in the opposite direction flashes his lights up and down as a signal that he is being blinded. This condition is very dangerous and has been very annoying the few times the writer has traveled over Route #7 and adjoining routes at night.

Very truly yours,

George Niemann

Commissioner Dept. State Police  
Mr. Edward J. Hickey

August 19, 1944

Dear Sir:

I want to thank you and also your men of the staff of the State Police at the Stafford Barracks for the protection that they have given me at my summer home at North Coventry lake and I surely appreciate their good work and ever since the State Police has delivered these cards to tack on to the building I will say that I never had anything disturbed so it proves that these cards and the visit that your State Police makes are to our advantage to all the cottage owners at my section.

I remain

Very truly yours,  
Clement Hurteau

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# WE MUST THINK TODAY OF OUR CHILDRENS' TOMORROW

VOX-COP

PAGE I

SEPTEMBER 1944

## WEAK PARENTS

(Catholic Transcript)

While talking about modern juvenile delinquency the members of an older generation would do well to remember that there is nothing new under the sun. Folly and sin were not invented by the young people of today. Youth now may be more blatant and more obvious in evil-doing than the youth of days gone by. But it is not at all original. On one of the cuneiform tablets of ancient Babylon a mother writes complaints about her wild young daughter's staying out until all hours and bemoans the degeneracy of the times as compared with the old days.

Boys and girls have always made mistakes and, we suppose, always will. Children broke their parents' hearts as readily in the staid Victorian era as they do today. Adults were as alarmed, confused and amazed by the tendencies of the younger generation in horse and buggy days as they are in the automobile age. Human nature, shadowed by original sin, does not change very much. It is always weak, always inclined to wander into dark paths.

One alarming difference between modern times and those of a generation or two past is in the attitude of parents toward the faults of their offspring. Some critics may call the Victorians narrow, severe and tyrannical. But at least they had positive notions about right and wrong and strove to put them into effect. Today a certain flabbiness exists in our general standards which makes for wobbly, uncertain and

ineffective action with regard to juvenile wrong-doing.

## DELINQUENT OLDSTERS!

(The Bridgeport Sunday Post)

The problem of juvenile delinquency is being handled in an unorthodox manner by Judge P. Sarsfield Cunniff of the district court of Waltham, Massachusetts.

Judge Cunniff isn't one to hand the blame to parents and let it go at that. He hauls the parents into court; fines them, and in some instances gives them a suspended jail sentence, with stiff probationary terms which keep them in weekly touch with the court. He has sent a few parents to jail for gross neglect.

It may well be that some such unorthodox approach as this will go far to awaken parents of young law-breakers to their obligation. After all, why punish the kids for something that everyone agrees is a fault not so much of the young fry as it is of the home, schools, churches, and even the courts!

Writing his report on one of the youthful accused slayers of a discharged Marine in Boston recently, a police captain had this to say of the lad:

"He was conceived in a depression and raised in the something-for-nothing period when a premium was paid for idleness. He did not get a good start in the race for life, and he was abandoned to shift for himself during the present gold rush."

As has been said many times, there are no delinquent children; only a delinquent society.

PARENTS ON CARPET  
FOR CHILD DELINQUENCY

San Francisco, Sept. 2 - (AP) San Francisco has placed responsibility for juvenile delinquency squarely on the shoulders of the parents - and has a double-barreled system to make the responsibility stick.

Factors in the offensive are the San Francisco Parental School, which draws its "pupils" from three classes of parents, and a juvenile court that rehabilitates parents by renewing their sense of decency and giving them a kick in the pocket-book.

The school, organized a year ago, is for delinquent parents, parents of delinquent children, and parents who attend voluntarily.

"Delinquent parents" are mothers and fathers who have been hauled into court on charges ranging from drunkenness to violent family fights and who are given suspended sentences, provided they attend the parents' school.

Weekly lectures by panels of experts cover responsibility of parents from the legal health and recreational standpoints, the parts the church and the school play in children's lives and the child's emotional problems and ideals. The final lecture features possibilities for employment through the U.S. Employment Service.

(No Repeaters)

"Brain-child" of an ex-San Francisco Examiner police reporter George Jarrett, now executive secretary of the San Francisco Coordinating Council, the San Francisco Parental School points with pride to its record of "no repeaters," on its enrollment lists.

## VANDALISM COSTS MILLIONS

(Waterbury Republican)

There are no statistics available but there is no doubt that petty vandalism, most of it done by boys, costs the American property owners millions of dollars each year. Almost every public building bears the marks of these juvenile offenders. Walls are scratched and gouged and often there are offensive writings. Not long ago someone stole the stars off the honor roll at the entrance to the city hall. Private buildings suffer as well. It is not at all unusual to find a pencil mark that has been drawn on the wall of a stairway from the ground floor to the fourth or fifth floor. Electric lamps are smashed and letter boxes damaged and, most unfortunate is the owner who has an elevator in his building to invite free riders to top floors where they may carry on their acts of petty destruction. It is not only that the appearance of the buildings is marred, but the total cost is tremendous. A paint job that set a property owner back \$500 to \$1000 may be permanently marred overnight.

There is only one answer to this problem. Children should be taught by their parents to respect property - anyone's property, not only their own. If the youngsters do not learn that at home, the teacher in school will have a difficult problem putting it over. But many grownups have never learned the lesson themselves. Witness what goes on in hotels where thousands upon thousands of towels, sheets and pieces of bed linen are stolen every year. The hotel man has solved the problem. He simply raised his rates to cover the

Vandalism (as cont.)

annual loss. Although the offenders may not know it, the damage to buildings is passed on to the general public in the form of increased rents. Wilful destruction of property is a sin against the community.

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PROBLEMS OF JUVENILE  
DELINQUENCY

(Waterbury American)

Officials and others interested in the problem of juvenile delinquency could, with considerable profit to themselves and to the community at large, give some thought to remarks of Alfred E. Stearns, headmaster emeritus of Phillips Andover academy. He has put a finger on what is probably the main treatment for the condition which troubles socially-minded people and officials.

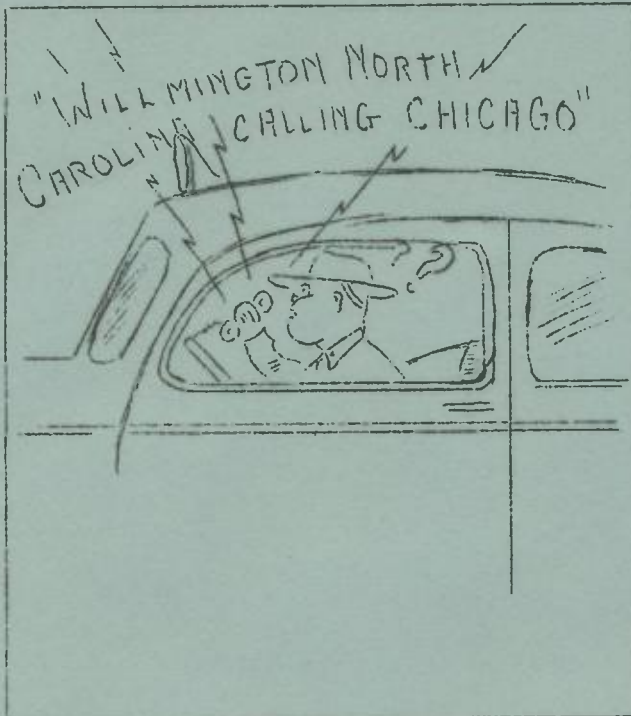
What is needed, he submits, is good old-fashioned discipline - spankings from parents, a stiffer attitude on the part of courts, school teachers and policemen. This is the sort of thing to strike at the heart of the problem. Recreation programs, probation officers and other such measures will help, but they cannot do the job alone. Until laxness of discipline in the home is halted and respect for authority outside the home is firmly implanted in the mind of young America, delinquency cannot be effectively curbed. An officially-reported increase of around 50 per cent in juvenile delinquency is warning enough of the size of the job involved.

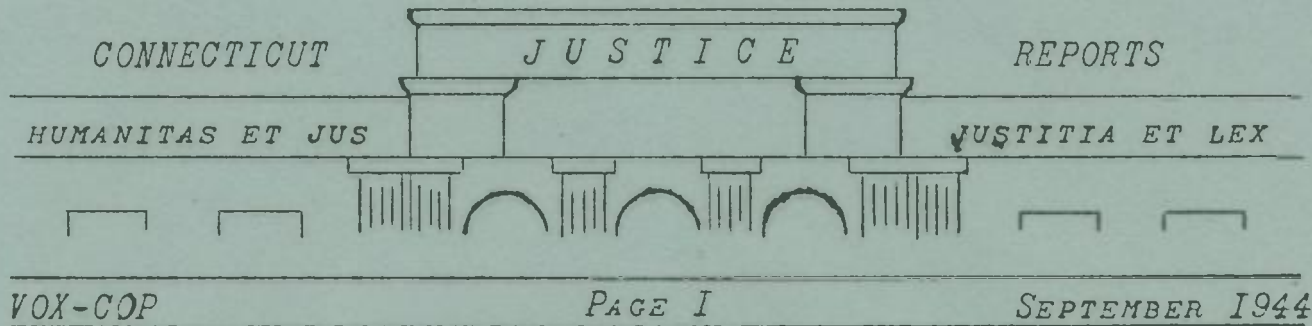
The fault too often lies, not with the children but with the parents and the courts should see to it that parents of children who get into trouble are forced to make their children live as good citizens. Outside of vague generalities in annual reports, the public knows little of the operations of our juvenile court. Under the law, only "interested persons" may see the court records, and then only by court order. Fundamentally, the provision is a wise one but it should go farther and provide for a more complete accounting of the stewardship of juvenile court judges and probation officers. They should tell the public, which surely is "interested", how big is the juvenile delinquency problem, citing tangible facts and figures and say specifically what is being done about it.

The courts and school boards should and must take a firmer stand, as Mr. Stearns suggests, for without their support, policemen and teachers become the butts of children's derision; they will laugh at any efforts to control them. Policemen today are honest, intelligent men who have no desire to "ruin" children's lives. But how can they control the corner gang if their influence is undermined by official indifference or political interference?

In days gone by, a sound whack on the seat of the pants with a nightstick - or just the threat of it - served to keep a waywardly-inclined boy in line. Today the same persuasive treatment might mean a lawsuit for assault, arrest or even facing charges for such "brutality".

JOE TROOPER IN  
ATMOSPHERIC TRIBULATION





MARTIN M. COLLINS V. CITY NATIONAL BANK AND  
TRUST COMPANY OF DANBURY

Maltbie, C. J., Brown, Jennings, Ells and Dickenson, Js.

A primary duty of a commercial bank to its depositors is to honor their checks when they are good. Before refusing to do so, it should use reasonable care to ascertain whether the depositor has an account with it.

The plaintiff was arrested and detained on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses, after a check which he had cashed was negligently and erroneously returned to the bank cashing it by the defendant bank, on which it was drawn, with the notation "no account." Upon the facts which the jury might reasonably have found, particularly the belief of the defendant's bookkeeper that, by so returning the check, he was exposing the plaintiff to a criminal prosecution, their conclusion that the defendant was negligent as to the plaintiff was a reasonable one.

Looking back from the injury to the act, the jury could reasonably have found that the negligent return of the check with the notation was a substantial factor in producing the plaintiff's arrest, and that the chain of causation was not broken by the acts of others.

In the absence of special damages, the verdict of \$2000, while liberal, was not so excessive as to require interference by this court.

Argued May 3 - decided July 13, 1944.

Action to recover damages for the plaintiff's arrest and detention resulting from the defendant's negligent dishonor of his check, brought to the Superior Court in Fairfield County, where a demurrer to the complaint was overruled, Comley, J., and the issues were tried to the jury before Murphy, J.; verdict and judgment for the plaintiff and appeal by the defendant. No error.

Leonard McMahon, for the appellant (defendant).

John J. Hunt, for the appellee (plaintiff).

Jennings, J. The basic issue on this appeal may be stated as follows: Is a bank liable to its depositor in damages for his arrest and imprisonment on a charge of obtaining money under false

pretenses, when it has erroneously and negligently returned his check to the bank which cashed it in the first instance with the notation "no account"? The defendant raised this issue by a motion to expunge, a demurrer, requests to charge, exceptions to the charge as delivered and a motion to set aside the verdict, but the fundamental question is the same in each instance and its determination will dispose of all of these assignments of error. Other objections to the denial of the motion to set aside the verdict can also be conveniently considered in this connection.

The jury might reasonably have found the following facts: On May 16, 1942, the plaintiff was employed at a state automobile inspection lane at Canaan. On that day he wrote to the defendant in Danbury stating that he would like to open a checking account and enclosing checks and cash amounting to \$203.62. The letter was signed in his own handwriting. In reply, the defendant wrote the plaintiff acknowledging the receipt of the money and saying that a checking account had been opened in his name in the amount stated. It enclosed a signature card and requested the plaintiff to return it. At the same time it mailed to the plaintiff a checkbook and blank deposit slips. The plaintiff learned that the lanes were to be closed down and he did not return the signature card because he wanted a permanent address before doing so and he did not intend to cash any checks until he returned to Danbury.

On May 26, the plaintiff wrote a check, payable to cash for \$3.62, which he cashed at the Canaan National Bank the next day. The check reached the defendant through the clearing house on May 29 and it erroneously and negligently returned it through the clearing house with a slip attached marked "no account." The head bookkeeper believed that it was a crime for a person to draw a check on a bank where he had no account and realized that by returning the check so marked he was exposing the plaintiff to prosecution for a crime. The check with the slip attached reached the Canaan bank on June 3. The teller who had cashed it registered a formal complaint at the state police barracks and turned over the check and slip after having been told that he would have to be the complaining witness in court. Thereupon the state police secured a warrant for the plaintiff's arrest, charging him with obtaining money by false pretenses, under General Statutes, Sec. 6368. The plaintiff was found at the Ridgefield police barracks where he had gone to be certified as an auxiliary state policeman. He was arrested, driven about sixty-five miles to Canaan in a police car and locked in a cell for about two hours, when he was released on posting a \$100 cash bond. Over night the police learned that the check was good and the plaintiff was found not guilty in the trial justice court and released. The check was paid eventually.

The defendant was sued in negligence. Negligence is a breach of duty. A primary duty of a commercial bank to its depositors is to honor the latter's checks when they are good; 9 C.J.S. 684, Sec. 342; before refusing to do so, it should use reasonable care to ascertain whether the depositor has an account with it. It was for the jury to say whether this duty had been breached. The test to be applied was, "would the ordinary man in the defendant's position, knowing

what he knew or should have known, anticipate that harm of the general nature of that suffered was likely to result?" *Orlo v. Connecticut Co.*, 128 Conn. 231, 237, 21 Atl. (2d) 402; *Przwgocki v. Wikris*, 130 Conn. 419, 422, 34 Atl. (2d) 879; *Scorpion v. American Republican, Inc.*, 131 Conn. 42, 46, 37 Atl. (2d) 802. From what has been said, particularly from the belief of the defendant that, by returning the plaintiff's check marked "no account," it was exposing him to criminal prosecution, it is apparent that the conclusion of the jury that the defendant was negligent as to this plaintiff was a reasonable one.

Most of the discussion in the trial court and this court turned on the question of proximate cause. Contributory negligence was not in issue, and the final necessary element in the plaintiff's case was to prove that the negligence of the defendant was a substantial factor in causing his injuries. *Mahoney v. Beatman*, 110 Conn. 184, 195, 147 Atl. 762. This is a question of fact unless reasonable men could find no causal connection. *Ibid.*; *DeMunda v. Loomis*, 127 Conn. 313, 315, 16 Atl. (2d) 578; *Colligan v. Reilly*, 129 Conn. 26, 30, 26 Atl. (2d) 231. It was a question of fact in this case. After the original erroneous and negligent act of the defendant, the arrest of the plaintiff followed as a natural and probable consequence. Relying on the information received from the defendant, the Canaan bank lodged a complaint with the police. The complaint with the supporting evidence was sufficient to justify the latter in securing a warrant and arresting the plaintiff. Looking back from the injury to the negligent act, the jury reasonably could have found the necessary causal connection. This is the correct method of determining the existence of proximate cause. *Mitnick v. Whelan Bros.*, 115 Conn. 650, 163 Atl. 414; *Corey v. Phillips*, 126 Conn. 246, 255, 10 Atl. (2d) 370; *Mourison v. Hansen*, 128 Conn. 62, 66, 20 Atl. (2d) 84; *Restatement, 2 Torts, Sec. 433b, comments e, f; Bohlen, Studies in the Law of Torts, p. 261; Seavey, 48 Yale L. J. 390, 403; and see Palsgraf v. Long Island R. Co.*, 248 N. Y. 339, 346, 162 N. E. 99. "Instances of torts involving improbable or unforeseen consequences are frequent and in practice our own courts do not deny recovery for them as a legal cause of the consequence of the tort." *Mahoney v. Beatman, supra*, 191. The acts of the Canaan bank and the police were not, as a matter of law, either superseding causes or intervening forces in the sense that they broke the connection between the negligent act and the injury. *Lombardi v. Wallad*, 98 Conn. 510, 517, 120 Atl. 291; *Mouse v. Central Savings & Trust Co.*, 120 Ohio St. 599, 609, 167 N. E. 868; *Restatement, 2 Torts, Secs. 443, 447; 38 Am. Jur. 722.*

The Connecticut cases on proximate cause were exhaustively reviewed in *Kinderavich v. Palmer*, 127 Conn. 85, 89, 15 Atl. (2d) 83. In the following cases, since decided, the intervening act or acts were held not to break the chain of causation: *DeMunda v. Loomis, supra*; *Edgecomb v. Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.*, 127 Conn. 488, 490, 18 Atl. (2d) 364; *McDowell v. Federal Tea Co., Inc.*, 128 Conn. 437, 440, 23 Atl. (2d) 512; *Basile v. DeBella*, 130 Conn. 234, 236, 33 Atl. (2d) 123. This long line of decisions indicates that cases

in which the chain of causation is found to have been broken are exceptional. The only recent example is *Fireman's Fund Indemnity Co. v. Longshore Beach & Country Club, Inc.* 127 Conn. 493, 18 Atl. (2d) 347. See 1 Beven, *Negligence* (4th Ed.), p. 86.

The defendant relied principally on *Hartford v. All Night & Day Bank*, 170 Cal. 538, 150 Pac. 356, and other decisions based thereon. See note, 126 A.L.R. 217. That case is distinguishable on its facts. The depositor had only a savings account in the bank and drew a check on the commercial department. A California statute was also involved. Be that as it may, in so far as it holds that a refusal to honor a check cannot, as a matter of law, be a substantial factor in causing the depositor's arrest on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses, we decline to follow it.

One more ground in the motion to set aside the verdict must be considered. The defendant claimed that it was excessive. The jury could have found the following additional facts, among others, on this point: The plaintiff was a bachelor, fifty-five years of age, and had lived in Danbury practically all of his life. He had been in business there for many years, had a wide acquaintance and an excellent reputation for honesty. His only previous arrest was for operating a muffler cutout on his car. He learned that the police made an extended search for him before his arrest. This search included the neighborhood in which he lived and, after his arrest, a customer in a nearby store inquired, referring to the plaintiff, "What is the matter? Is he putting out bum checks?" When the plaintiff protested against his arrest, the lieutenant in charge threatened to punch him in the jaw; on arriving in Canaan he was put in a cell, the police took away his suspenders, necktie and knife and fingerprinted him. He was very much upset, was obliged to appear in court the next day and was found not guilty. Assuming that the jury found negligence and proximate cause, these were proper factors to be considered. See *Squires v. Reynolds*, 125 Conn. 366, 371, 5 Atl. (2d) 877; 1 Beven, *Negligence* (4th Ed.), pp. 91 et seq.

The trial court directed the jury to find no special damages but, if they found liability, to award the plaintiff compensatory damages. The verdict was for \$2000. In the absence of special or punitive damages, the amount is liberal but cannot be said to be so excessive as to require interference by this court. As the trial court well said: "Was the award excessive? Who can measure with exactitude the humiliation and mortification of one who is unjustly arrested and locked up.... It is an intangible upon which the determination of the jury is entitled to great weight. The amount of the verdict may have been generous but is not of such an amount as to be unconscionable."

The remaining assignments of error include one attacking a statement made by the trial court in the presence of the jury. This was explained in the charge in such a way that any possible prejudice to the defendant was obviated. Of the three rulings on evidence assigned, two, relating to damages, were correct, and as to the third the evidence objected to was stricken out. Most of the



assignments of error directed to the charge have been disposed of in the discussion of the principal issue in the case. Several of the remainder do not require discussion. The defendant assigned failure of the court to charge adequately on the effect of General Statutes, Sec. 6368, under the provisions of which the plaintiff was arrested. In the absence of a request to charge on this point, no harmful error was committed in this respect. *Coy v. Milford*, 126 Conn. 484, 488, 12 Atl. (2d) 641. The issues removed from the consideration of the jury clarified the charge and did not harm the defendant. These assignments are not well taken.

There is no error.

In this opinion the other judges concurred.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT v. FRANK J. CARROLL

Maltbie, C. J., Brown, Jennings, Ells and Dickenson, Js.

The common-law rule that a police officer can arrest without a warrant one whom he has reasonable ground to believe has committed a felony cannot be read into the statute providing that he shall arrest without warrant any person when the offender shall be taken or apprehended in the act or on the speedy information of others. The statute means that he may make such arrest when the offender shall be taken in the act or when the officer has received promptly, after the commission of a crime, information, which he has reasonable ground to accept as true, that the person he is arresting was concerned in it.

One K died as a result of injuries received when he was tackled by the defendant, a police officer, in an attempt to arrest him as he was running away. This occurred on the night of July 6, 1943, after the defendant and another officer had observed K sitting in the dark on the steps of a doorway and started to question him. At the time, K was on the way from his house to the home of his grandmother. For the purpose of proving that he was acting on speedy information, the defendant offered evidence that the superintendent of police had received information of attacks on women on June 28 and July 1 in this area and that he detailed the defendant and the other officer to patrol there in plain clothes with instructions to see that the women were protected. Held that this evidence was not relevant and material as tending to prove that the defendant had received speedy information from others of the commission of an offense.

The speedy information from others which justifies an arrest is information that the person arrested was guilty of a crime or at least implicated in it. When the information comes to the officer he may act upon it if he has reasonable ground to accept it as accurate. He does not have to stop to inquire into the authenticity of the information or act at his peril.

Argued June 7 - decided July 20, 1944.

Information charging the defendant with the crime of manslaughter, brought to the Superior Court in Fairfield County and tried to the jury before Shea, J.; verdict and judgment of not guilty and appeal by the state. Error and new trial ordered.

Lorin W. Willis, state's attorney, with whom, on the brief, was Otto J. Saur, assistant state's attorney, for the appellant (state).

David Goldstein, for the appellee (defendant).

Ells, J. The information charged the defendant with manslaughter and alleged that he committed an assault and battery upon Charles Kelly by striking him and forcibly throwing him to the ground, thereby causing his death. The defense was that the deceased sustained his fatal injuries while the defendant, a police officer of the city of Bridgeport, was attempting to arrest him, without a warrant but upon the speedy information of others, within the terms of General Statutes, Sec. 239. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the state, with the permission of the trial court, has appealed.

Many of the basic facts are not in dispute. Kelly was a resident of Bridgeport, lived with his wife on Sherwood Avenue and was employed by a large manufacturing plant as assistant traffic manager. At about 10:30 o'clock on the night of July 6, 1943, he left his house, carrying a small suit case, intending to go to the home of his grandmother on Norman Street. After proceeding south on the west sidewalk of that highway, he stopped and sat down on the steps of a store doorway. Because of dimout regulations the street lights were shaded so that no light was cast upon the place where he was sitting. The defendant and Officer Murphy were patrolling the locality in plain clothes. They observed a man sitting on these steps in the dark and decided to ask him what he was doing there. As they approached, Kelly picked up his suit case and started diagonally across Norman Street, whereupon the defendant called out to him to stop, and said he wanted to speak to him. Kelly stopped in a dark place on the easterly sidewalk, and the officers produced police badges from their pockets, showed them to Kelly and told him they were policemen. There was evidence from which the jury reasonably could have found that the defendant then said, "I would like to have you step up to the street light. I would like to ask you some questions"; that Kelly said, "I haven't done anything"; that the defendant replied, "You are not being accused of doing anything, but I must ask you some questions"; and that Kelly started to run back across the street and the defendant pursued him, tackled him and went down on top of him, causing injuries which unfortunately resulted in death.

The defendant claims that under the circumstances, especially because of Kelly's suspicious conduct, he was justified in attempting to arrest Kelly because he had reasonable grounds to believe that he had speedy information to the effect that Kelly had committed a crime, and particularly that he had committed assaults on two women.

For the purpose of proving that he was acting upon speedy information, the defendant offered evidence that the superintendent of police had received information of two attacks upon women made by unknown assailants, one on July 1, 1943, at the place where Kelly was arrested, the other on June 28, 1943, at a point about three blocks away. As a result of these attacks, the superintendent caused officers to be detailed to patrol the area in plain clothes. On the evening of July 6 the defendant and Officer Murphy were assigned for this patrol, and the defendant was instructed to go "to do his best to see that the women were protected." The state objected to the evidence on the ground that it did not tend to prove justification, there being no evidence that he had speedy information from others of the offenses, or that Kelly was implicated in them or in any other crime or misdemeanor. The court admitted the testimony and charged at some length upon the claims of proof based upon that evidence. Error is assigned in the rulings and in the charge on this situation, but it is not particularly claimed that the charge misstated the law, if the evidence was properly before the jury.

Section 239 reads as follows: "Arrest without warrant .....police officers...shall arrest, without previous complaint and warrant, any person for any offense in their jurisdiction, when the offender shall be taken or apprehended in the act or on the speedy information of others; and all persons so arrested shall be immediately presented before proper authority." The common law on this subject and the history of the statute were reviewed in *Sims v. Smith*, 115 Conn. 279, 161 Atl. 239. We said (p.281): "It is generally held.... that at common law a peace officer could arrest without a warrant one whom he had reasonable ground to believe had committed a felony, though no felony had in fact been committed, and that there was no requirement that information of the crime must have been received speedily after its commission. The rule is otherwise in this State by statute." The burden of the defendant's brief is that the common-law rule must be read into the statute. The claim is unsound. We further said in the *Sims* case that our statute makes no distinction between misdemeanors and felonies, but defines and prescribes the limitation upon peace officers in making arrests without a warrant for any offense; that it was the intention of the legislature to limit the common-law right of arrest without a warrant; that an arrest, except as authorized by the statute, is illegal; and that the statute requires a warrant except when the offender is apprehended in the act or upon speedy information. The precise holding was (p.284) that under the circumstances of the case "the court charged the jury with sufficient accuracy" when it said that the defendant had no right to arrest *Sims* for adultery without a warrant unless he had reasonable ground to believe that he had received speedy information of the commission of that crime. In *McKenna v. Whipple*, 97 Conn. 695, 701, 118 Atl. 40, we said that the statute was passed primarily to guide officers in dealing with persons believed to be committing, or to have committed, misdemeanors, and that the officer had the right to arrest the plaintiff for the misdemeanor in question upon receipt of speedy information from certain named persons.

Applying these principles of law to the circumstances of the present case, we decide that the offered evidence did not tend to prove that the arrest was justified. It was not relevant and material as tending to prove that the defendant had received speedy information from others of the commission of an offense. The offense was admittedly the attacks on the women, one having occurred five days before the arrest and the other eight days before. Assuredly he had not received his information promptly after the commission of the offenses. Kelly's conduct was suspicious, but it did not constitute "the speedy information of others." The officer arrested Kelly on suspicion, without a warrant. The statute does not justify the arrest.

In its charge the court reviewed the evidence it had admitted over the state's objection, defined speedy as meaning "quickly, swiftly or promptly," and gave the following instruction: "I charge you that this accused would have had to receive, or would have had to have had reasonable ground to believe that he had received speedy information, as I have defined that phrase to you, not only of the commission of these attacks but also that Charles Kelly, the deceased, was involved in those crimes. If you believe from the evidence in this case that the accused had reasonable ground to believe that he had received speedy information of the commission of those crimes to which I have already referred, and that Charles Kelly committed those crimes or was involved in the commission of those crimes, then the accused had the right under the provisions of our law to arrest him." The charge, in and of itself, was sufficiently favorable to the state. The error is that the evidence was not relevant or material to prove that the arrest was justified within the terms of the statute and should not have been admitted for this purpose.

In summary we state that the statute controls; that it does not mean that a peace officer may arrest without a warrant for any offense committed at any time in the past; it does mean that he may make such an arrest when the offender shall be taken or apprehended in the act or when the officer has received promptly, after the commission of a crime, information, which he has reasonable ground to accept as true, that the person he is arresting was concerned in it.

There are two matters which came before the court in its rulings and charge, a settlement of which, though not essential to the disposition of the appeal, will materially assist on a retrial. The speedy information from others which justifies an arrest is information that the person arrested was guilty of a crime or at least implicated in it. As an addition to the history of the statute contained in *Sims v. Smith*, supra, 282, we add the Code of 1650 (1 Col. Rec., p. 522); there constables were authorized to arrest certain offenders without warrant, "provided they be taken in the manner, either by sight of the Constable or by present information from others." See also *Chandler v. Rutherford*, 101 Fed. 774, 778, 43 C.C.A. 218; *Holley v. Mix*, 3 Wend. (N.Y.) 350; *Farnam v. Feeley*, 56 N.Y. 451, 453.

The second matter is this: Apparently counsel for the defendant, throughout the trial, stressed, and in fact quite largely built his defense upon, the words in the Sims case to the effect that the officer must have "had reasonable ground to believe" that he had received speedy information. The trial court sedulously followed that particular form of expression in its charge. All we said in the Sims case was that the trial court charged the jury "with sufficient accuracy" when it used that form of expression. All that the statute says is "speedy information." What the trial court in the Sims case meant in its charge, and what we inferentially approved, was that, when the information comes to the officer, he may act upon it if he has reasonable ground to accept it as accurate; that is to say, he does not have to stop to inquire into the authenticity of the information or act at his peril. The question should be divided: first, did the officer have speedy information; second, was he justified in accepting it as a basis for acting on it.

Kelly had not been concerned or implicated in any offense. He had a right to be on the street where he was; he may have been afraid that the men who accosted him were robbers, and may have run to escape them. The attack upon him, from his point of view, was a gross violation of his fundamental rights. "No person shall be arrested, detained or punished, except in cases clearly warranted by law." Const. Conn. Art. I Sec. 10. On the other hand, we realize that from the officer's point of view there was considerable reason for his conduct. He was detailed to patrol a certain area and to stop attacks on women. He found Kelly acting suspiciously in the very place where an attack had occurred and tried to question him, and Kelly ran away. The case is not without difficulties, and the result may appear harsh from the defendant's viewpoint, but we can only apply the statute. It restricts the right of a police officer to arrest. The legislature has spoken and, particularly in the Sims case, supra, we have interpreted its words. Unless that case is overruled, the result here must follow. In that case and in Price v. Tehan, 84 Conn. 164, 169, 79 Atl. 68, it is pointed out that the purpose of the close restriction upon arrests without warrants is to protect the liberty of the innocent. We cannot say that the legislature adopted a wrong public policy when it weighed that liberty against the possibility that some guilty person might escape.

The court was in error in admitting the testimony complained of.

The state claims error in rulings other than those which we have considered, but, because of their relative unimportance and the nature of the appeal, it is not necessary to discuss them.

There is error, the judgment is set aside and a new trial is ordered.

In this opinion the other judges concurred.

# STOP LOOK LISTEN

VOX-COP

PAGE I

SEPTEMBER 1944

## CONNECTICUT'S 1944 TRAFFIC ACCIDENT EXPERIENCE

As of this date, Connecticut's traffic accident experience has not been discouraging. The term "satisfactory" never seems applicable to accident experience since, regardless how favorable the comparison with previous periods, loss of life, limb and property cannot be "satisfactory."

Here is the daily report for Thursday morning, September 21.

	<u>Last</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>This</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Case</u> <u>Comparison</u>
Fatal Accidents .....	140	129	- 11
Persons Killed .....	151	138	- 13
Adult Pedestrians Killed .....	72	58	- 14
Child Pedestrians Killed .....	9	11	+ 2
Adult Occupants Killed .....	66	59	- 7
Child Occupants Killed .....	1	5	+ 4
Adult Bicyclists Killed .....	0	2	+ 2
Child Bicyclists Killed .....	3	3	No Change
<hr/>			
Traffic Accidents .....	9089	8750	- 339
Personal Injuries .....	4804	4991	+ 187

S T O P   L O O K   L I S T E N

VOX-COP

PAGE 2

SEPTEMBER 1944

Highway Safety Commission  
State Office Building  
Hartford, Connecticut

September 21, 1944

Comparative Summary of Motor Vehicle Arrests and Patrols for  
AUGUST Calendar Years, 1944 and 1943

(REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE)

	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>Diff.</u>
Warnings	3842	1926	+1916
Motor Vehicle Arrests	623	852	- 229

CHARGES PROSECUTED IN COURT:

PENDING COURT:

	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>Diff.</u>		<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>Diff.</u>
Reckless Driving	31	43	- 12		42	43	- 1
Drunken Driving	15	29	- 14		14	17	- 3
Speeding	95	370	- 275		94	197	- 103
No License	59	89	- 30		34	39	- 5
Other motor vehicle violations including rules of road	<u>379</u>	<u>397</u>	<u>- 18</u>		<u>159</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>+ 82</u>
Total Charges Prosecuted	579	928	- 349		343	373	- 30

Number of days on which men of each station have done patrol work:

	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>Diff.</u>
Headquarters	91	16	+ 75
Ridgefield	72	225	- 153
Canaan	47	134	- 87
Stafford	142	165	- 23
Denielson	97	168	- 71
Groton	330	369	- 39
Westbrook	207	393	- 186
Westport	328	405	- 77
Hartford	388	439	- 51
Bethany	349	327	+ 22
Colchester	105	180	- 75
Litchfield	176	155	+ 21
Total	<u>2332</u>	<u>2976</u>	<u>- 644</u>
Daily Average	75	96	- 21



whats  
cockin'  
Fitzie

WILSON'  
Thats all  
Neil.

2 Brett Nash



# AROUND THE CIRCUIT

VOX-COP

PAGE I

SEPTEMBER 1944

## STATION "E" GROTON

Even tho it's only about five miles from Montville to Norwich on Route 32 and it's only eight minutes from 1:01 PM to 1:09 P.M. on anybody's clock - those two factors proved the indisputable right of the "E"fficiency Flag to wave proudly on August 30, 1944.

At 1:01 P.M. - Joe "Powerhouse" LaFramboise apprehended No. 1 - a "96" - HF-346 operator-thief at the wheel, in Montville.

At 1:09 P.M. - "Birdie" Skelly, "300 yard" Fitzgerald, and "In-the rough" Yurtin - all "off duty" (near the Norwich Golf Club) gathered up No.2 - LL-340, also a "96" - operator intact, at Norwich.

To thoroughly confuse matters it developed that both cars had been originally stolen by the operator of No. 1 who had then sold No. 1 to the operator of No.2, who, while making the purchase in good faith, "forgot" that the MVD had retracted his driver's rights some time ago.

The young exponent of Crime Inc., responsible for both thefts, proved to be a juvenile and events following their proper channels, he was released to the Juvenile Authorities.

The good Capt'n Carroll, C.C.E., after hearing the story, decreed that all four officers had due a well-earned day off.

P.S. - Little Caesar took French leave of the Juvenile Director the following day but was shortly back in the toils of "Powerhouse Joe" who fished him out of the river and sent him back to "Little" where he belonged.

NO - he wasn't drowned - he "just went fishin' wid anudder kid".

She was just one of those good old Chevvy Sedans - vintage 1930- and the crew of five sailors who chipped in five bucks apiece for her had painted her right purty with all those little legends designed to catch the roving female eye. But she had one fault; altho always able to leave port under her own steam, for one reason or another, she just never seemed to get back. And so she was towed from this road and that road to this garage and that garage; a sort of perpetual motion.

Halting at the STOP sign at Crystal Lake Road and Route #12 the other day, two of the "E" boys were accosted by three members of the crew who inquired anxiously as to the whereabouts of the ship. Upon being advised that she was safe in port in a Norwich garage - SP responsibility - they chorused incredulously "What again?"

Original cost	-	\$25.00
Towing	-	\$20.00
Fines	-	\$15.00
Total loss	-	\$60.00

## NEW COMMANDING OFFICER AT GROTON BARRACKS

Lieut. William E. Mackenzie, who has been stationed at Headquarters has now been appointed Commanding Officer at Station "E" Groton. Although Lieut. Mackenzie is the NEW Commanding Officer at Groton, he is no stranger at Station "E" as he served here as officer and later as a sergeant.

He is a veteran at State Police business and knows every inch of the vast territory at Station "E". He also knows the natives.

We at Groton, one of the busiest stations in the State, know that Lieut. Mackenzie will do his best to make it the Best in the State with the cooperation of all the personnel at Station "E".

Congratulations and wishes for success in his new position are being received daily from his many friends and acquaintances.

The Revolver Team at Station "E" coached by Officer A. Carazza, formerly of the U.S. Marines, challenges any team in the State, any time or any place.

Lost or stolen since the Electric Boat Company Emergency; One pair of State Police trousers belonging to Officer D. C. Browne.

Everyone at Station "E" is glad to see that Sergt. James L. Dygert's arm is out of that sling.

Word has been received from Trooper Mike Shegda, who is still at the U.S. Marine Boot Camp on the West coast, that Marine life agrees with him, but he misses the Conn. State Police.

Among the visitors at Station "E" within the past few days was Chief Petty Officer Robert Magee Herr (Sergt. Bob Herr of the State Police) who predicts the war will be over by the First of \_\_\_\_\_ as far as Germany is concerned. Bob has been predicting the finish of the war since he enlisted. We hope he is right on his most recent prediction.

"Skell"

Special Groton Reporter

#### STATION "K" COLCHESTER

On August 26, breakfast at our station was interrupted when Anton Van Cedarfield rushed into the barracks, breathless, announcing that a "blessed event" was taking place in his car in the barracks yard. He was driving his wife to the hospital when the stork overtook them.

All hands were pressed into service. With Captain Leo Francis Carroll officiating as the doctor and Officers Thomas O'Brien, Edward Faith and Kevin McDonald as internes and nurses, a fine seven pound baby boy was brought into the world.

The local physician arrived a short time later to congratulate the medical staff on their excellent technique. Mother and son were then taken to the Manchester Hospital by Interne Faith.

The latest reports are that both mother and son are doing fine. The baby's name, and a good start in life, ...you guessed it...LEO FRANCIS VAN CEDARFIELD.

On August 25, young Lochinvar Lechner, alias Ralph Lechner, A.W.O.L. from his base in Mississippi, swooped down on Eastern Connecticut, to woo and almost win several fair maidens and play on their sympathies as he told of his many narrow escapes on the far flung battlefields of the present war, borrowed their last nickels and passed on to entertain other fair unsuspecting maidens. His fake stories, alleged wounds, campaign ribbons, rich relatives and enormous bank accounts thrilled his gullible listeners. He was befriended by an East Lyme resident and to show his appreciation he stole \$96.00

and borrowed his car, later selling the car. With the newly made friends' bankbook he proceeded to cash checks in Norwich, Jewett City, East Hampton, Colchester and Stonington. He entertained lavishly on his illgotten money and offered himself as a prospective groom to many of his girlfriends, all the while having a wife and son living in Westerly. Two of his girlfriends came to the barracks after his arrest and were still gaga over the sweet nothings this faker had whispered in their ears. They had given him money and jewelry and were completely stunned when informed that they were just two of many of his victims. When the complete total was made it revealed that he had cashed over \$300.00 in phoney checks.

His arrest was brought about when information was received that he had boarded a bus in East Hampton en route to Camp Wopowog. The "K" officers were advised and Officer Frank LaForge, already on his trail, spotted him on the bus, but he made a getaway by jumping out the bus window and making a dash for the dense woods. Officer LaForge was joined by Officers Pritchard, William Conlon, Faith and McDonald. Officer LaForge and Officer Pritchard finally cornered the Clown Prince and brought him in. His fake sergeant stripes, ribbons, and other phoney credentials, were too numerous to mention. He readily admitted his identity and advised that he had never been out of the country. He will be conveyed thru the Courts by Resident Officer Goodale after which the Army Officials will deal with him. Lechner just dind't take into consideration that in operating in the Station "K" territory he was writing finis to his escapades.

#### WORTH REPEATING

Our greatest happiness does not depend on the condition of life in which chance has placed us, but is always the result of a good conscience, good health, occupation, and freedom in all just pursuits.

One way to overcome temptation is to keep practicing resistance.

"Punjab"

Special Colchester Reporter

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#### STATION "L" LITCHFIELD

On September 19, at 8:55 P.M. this station received a request from Dr. Norton Warner for the use of our resuscitator on Justice William Sepples of Litchfield who had been stricken with a severe heart ailment.

Dispatcher Joseph Clark and Auxiliary Officer, Dr. John F. Kilgus, who was working at the station as a dispatcher, responded immediately with the equipment and found the Justice in a critical condition. At 9:02 P.M. the resuscitator was placed in service and continued in service for nearly four hours, using all of the station's oxygen supply. Additional oxygen was relayed to Litchfield from West Hartford by Detective Zekas and Officer H. Leavitt.

At 12:55 A.M., just four hours later, Justice Sepples was again breathing freely and the use of the resuscitator was discontinued. Doctors Warner and Kilgus agreed that the prompt service of the resuscitator had saved the life of the Justice who otherwise would not have lived more than an hour.

We hope for the complete recovery of Justice Sepples and are proud to have been of such service to him.



officer Foleys room.

Captain: I wanna go to bed Barry.  
Barry - Grrr - Woof - Grrrrr —  
Captain: O.K - Wow - GoodNite  
Thats a worse bark than  
mine.

# OUR FLAG

OUR FLAG CARRIES AMERICAN IDEAS, AMERICAN HISTORY, AND AMERICAN FEELINGS. BEGINNING WITH THE COLONIES AND COMING DOWN TO OUR TIME, IN ITS SACRED HERALDRY, IN ITS GLORIOUS INSIGNIA IT HAS GATHERED AND STORED CHIEFLY THIS SUPREME IDEA — DIVINE RIGHT OF LIBERTY IN MAN. EVERY COLOR MEANS LIBERTY, EVERY THREAD MEANS LIBERTY, EVERY FORM OF STAR AND BEAM OR STRIPE OF LIGHT MEANS LIBERTY, NOT LAWLESSNESS, NOT LICENSE; BUT ORGANIZED INSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY — LIBERTY THROUGH LAW, AND LAW FOR LIBERTY.

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HENRY WARD BEECHER