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Vol. 6

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No. 5

CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT



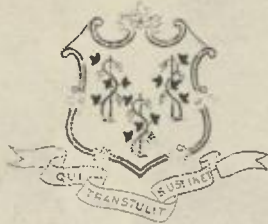
EDWARD J. HICKEY
Commissioner

JANUARY 1949

By The
Yankee  *Clipper*

VOX-COP

January, 1949



CHESTER BOWLES
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD

5 January 1949

Mr. Edward J. Hickey
Commissioner of State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford 1, Connecticut

Dear Ed:

I just want you and your people to know how much I personally appreciate the grand job you did during the inauguration ceremonies yesterday.

I know it was a big organization job and it certainly ran off very smoothly indeed in spite of the bad weather and large number of people you had to handle.

I hope you will pass my personal thanks along to each of the men who were involved in the program.

With best personal regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Chester Bowles

Inauguration on Capitol Hill

New Governor Cites Plight of 16,000 Workers

Legislative Message Urges Confirmation Of Temporary Raises

By MOSES BERKMAN

Governor Chester Bowles started his first day in office today with a special message to the recessed Legislature, recommending salary increases for the state's 16,000 employes.

It is the first of a series of messages the Governor will send to the Legislature to implement yesterday's inaugural message.

"I am devoting my first message to a serious salary problem which faces them at this moment," the 47-years-old Democrat, sworn in at 5:40 p. m. yesterday, said.

"During the last three years, our state employes have been granted temporary pay increases to help them meet the rising cost of living. The first increase was a raise of \$240, annually to employes earning \$1,980 or less, and \$180 yearly to employes receiving more than \$1,980 and less than \$6,000. The second of these increases was a raise of 10 per cent of the employe's basic salary."

The 10 per cent increase expired Dec. 31 and the other will run out in June.

"IT IS obvious to me that, in the interests of a more efficient state government, these temporary increases should be made permanent," the Governor said.

"Therefore, I wish to inform the Legislature that I intend to continue the lapsed 10 per cent pay increase and favor continuation after June of the 1947 special adjustment as a permanent part of the state salary."

The Governor has asked Personnel Director Glendon A. Scoboria to give him a salary schedule including these pay changes, and "urgently" requests the Legislature to cooperate by confirming the program.



OATH OF OFFICE is administered to Chester Bowles by Chief Justice William M. Maltbie in traditional ceremony. —*Hfd. Times*

"In doing so," he said, "the Legislature will have not only clarified the salary picture for state employes, but it will also have taken a step forward in improving the morale and efficiency of the entire state administration at no added cost to the taxpayer."

To correct "certain inequities" in pay, the Governor said basic schedules will be studied and further recommendations will follow.

State Troopers Attend Inaugural

A special detail of 36 officers and troopers of the Connecticut State Police, all six feet tall or more represented the department in the inaugural parade January 5.

For the first time, the State Police appeared in their special new dress uniforms which have Connecticut blue shoulder patches and sleeve stripes, and blue and gold fourageres on the right shoulder.

Capt. Ralph J. Buckley was in charge of the detail. His aides were Capt. Leo J. Mulcahy and Lts. Philip Schwartz and William A. Gruber. Sgt.

J. Francis O'Brien and 31 troopers completed the detail.

19-Gun Salute To Bowles Starts Explosion Rumor

Gov. Chester Bowles went into office with a "bang" today, and half of Greater Hartford reached for the phone.

The traditional 19-gun salute fired as the inaugural party reached the State Capitol this afternoon caused wide reports of an explosion.

Residents in West Hartford and in the outskirts of Hartford, particularly the northend, telephoned police complaining of an "explosion that shook the whole house."

At the adjutant general's office in the State Armory it was explained that atmospheric conditions probably caused the salute by the 105 millimeter guns to cause the loud report at a greater distance than usual.

PORT HOLE MURDERER PAYS FOR HIS CRIME

By Chief Superintendent
H. S. KEMBLE

Le Bulletin de la Police et des Pompiers

Southampton Borough Police "Guilty!" This single word marked the end, in the gathering gloom of evening, within the historic walls of Winchester Castle, of a trial lasting four days. It was spoken in answer to the Clerk of the Court: "Let the foreman of the jury stand up to reply. Are you all agreed upon your verdict? Do you find the prisoner guilty or not guilty of murder?"

James Camb, age 31, a deck steward on the M. V. Durban Castle, was charged at the Hampshire Assizes with causing the death of Eileen ('Gay') Isabella Ronnie Gibson, age 21, an actress, on October 18th last year, upon the high seas. The Judge, Mr. Justice Hilbery, passed sentence of death upon the accused.

There are a number of similar scenes annually in Courts of Assize, up and down the country, when murderers are sentenced for their crimes, but this case stands out as one of the few. It does not make history, but it is singular because the death of the victim had to be assumed from the evidence, and the manner of her death had to be determined by a jury not, as is customary, upon expert medical evidence, but through facts adduced from witnesses from a chain of circumstances. The locus of the murder and disposal of the body were probably unique, for the prosecution's case was that Camb strangled Gibson in her cabin and then pushed her body through a port-hole. Hence the case was known as "the murder without a body."

The M. V. Durban Castle sailed from Capetown for Southampton

with a crew of 266. Amongst the 263 passengers on the ship was Miss Gibson, who was allotted cabin No. 126, first class, on B deck. A few days out from port, Camb showed some interest in the victim; he remarked to a stewardess, "Miss Gibson is two or three months pregnant by a married man." Why he said this or what he really knew of that matter, or if he knew anything at all, was never discovered.

About five o'clock on the afternoon of October 17th Camb was perturbed because the deceased had not sent for her tea tray; in a statement taken from him later he said he saw her at 11 p.m. in her cabin. He asked her then if she would like some lemonade and rum, as was customary. About 12.30 a.m. Camb saw her on the promenade deck and was heard to say he had "a big bone to pick with her."

That evening the deceased had dined with two table companions; a dance followed the meal and she took part; afterwards she went to the smoking room and remained until about 12.40 a.m., leaving to go to her cabin. The last person to see her alive was the bo'sun's mate. Deceased was then on the promenade deck dressed in her dance frock. The night was very warm and that was her reason for being there. Regarding Camb, a fellow steward left him at 12.30 a.m. to go to bed; accused was washing glasses in the pantry then.

At about 3 a.m. the two bells from Miss Gibson's cabin rang, and a night watchman, whose duty it was to answer, went there. He saw the red and green indi-

cator lights on outside cabin 126; these operate with the bells. First knocking at the door, and then opening it, he saw a man, Camb, standing just inside the door, which was only slightly open. The door was pushed to and a voice said, "It's all right." The night watchman reported the incident forthwith to the officer of the watch, who in the circumstances looked upon it as a question of "passengers' morals" and did not intervene. Later, the watchman and a colleague returned to cabin 126, but they could hear nothing, and switching out the indicator lights they left the vicinity.

Next morning, about six o'clock, the night watchman spoke to the stewardess whose duties placed her in charge of the block including cabin 126 and told her about Camb being in the deceased's cabin. An hour and a half later she took the morning orange juice to Miss Gibson's cabin. Trying the door she found it unbolted; this was unusual; the stewardess entered but the cabin was unoccupied. The bed seemed to have been slept in and she presumed the occupant had gone to the bathroom. Returning after half an hour or so, as deceased had still not come back, she commenced enquiries for her.

About ten o'clock an official search of the ship was made and an inquiry of passengers and crew carried out, but no trace of Miss Gibson was forthcoming and twenty minutes later orders were given for the vessel's engines to be reversed, for a search of the sea. Simultaneously an urgent radio message was transmitted to all ships as follows:—

"From Durban Castle: Missing, believed lost overboard, one lady passenger, between 0400 G.M.T. position 09.55 N. 16.22 W. on a course 323, and 0900 hours position 11.19 N. 17.27 W. Will all ships in this vicinity please keep a good look out."

The master of the ship next carried out a preliminary investigation and interviewed certain members of the crew and passengers, from whom statements were taken. The ship meanwhile was steaming back over her course; but at 11.40 a.m. it was determined that no useful purpose could be served by so doing and the vessel continued her homeward journey. The Captain of the ship at this time locked the cabin door to prevent any interference.

Camb was one of the persons interviewed and he gave a statement to the effect that at 1 a.m. he went to the well deck. There he sat, smoked and dozed for a time, finally going to bed just before 2 a.m. He alleged he did not again leave his cabin until 5.45 a.m. In view of the night watchman's story, Camb was requested by the master to undergo physical examination by the ship's doctor. It was found by the doctor that he had recent scratches on the forearm just above the right wrist, and on the left shoulder. The accused explained he had intolerable itching and had scratched himself rather severely to get relief. About this time Camb approached the night watchman and asked if he had made a suggestion about seeing him (Camb) with Miss Gibson. The watchman said he had not and accused replied, "Thank goodness I haven't been with her this trip. It's put me in a nice jam."

The next step in the drama occurred at 4 p.m. on October 23rd, when a message was received at Southampton Police headquarters from the office of the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company in the town. A cablegram had been handed in from the master of one of their ships, the Durban Castle, then approaching this country, indicating a woman had been lost overboard under unusual circumstances, and

police assistance was requested. It was desired that to facilitate investigation the ship should be met in Cowes Roads, where it would be at 10 p.m. on Friday, October 24th.

Accordingly Detective-Sergeant John Quinlan and Detective-Constable Minden Plumley, of the Central C.I.D., were deputed for the work and they were conveyed by tender to the rendez-vous. The ship arrived punctually and the investigators went aboard. They first examined the ship's log in which appeared the official entry of the incident. All witnesses were again seen and statements supplemented, where necessary. It was found that Miss Gibson was a single woman whose parents were in Durban and that she was returning to this country to continue a theatrical profession commenced in South Africa. She was described as a vivacious person who seemed to be in normal health.

Early the following morning the detectives interviewed Camb on board. He said he knew Miss Gibson as a first-class passenger on the ship, but had never been in her cabin. Sergeant Quinlan told accused that he had been seen there by the watchman, but he replied, "I was not in her cabin. I was in bed at that time." When the ship had docked Camb went to the police station whilst inquiries were being continued.

The investigation then turned to a thorough survey of the deceased's cabin. The cabin is a square structure, approximately 8 feet each way and 8 feet 5 inches high. A porthole 1 ft. 4¾ in. in diameter is on the outer wall and its lower edge is 4 ft. 7⅝ in. from the floor level. The aperture is not flush with the wall but recessed, and the distance through it from the cabin to the ship's side 11 in.

Shortly after 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 25th, Camb was again

questioned by Sergeant Quinlan and Detective Plumley and he volunteered this information. "I want to tell you something. I didn't want to tell you in front of Mr. Turner (a ship's police officer) this morning, as I had no right to go to her cabin, but I did go about eleven o'clock that night to ask her if she wanted some lemonade with her rum. I saw her in her cabin. She was looking through her luggage for her swim suit and she told me she couldn't find it. She went back upstairs, telling me to leave the rum in the usual place." Asked what he meant by the expression "having a bone to pick with her," accused replied, "I just said it because she had not sent for her tea-tray that afternoon and I had it all ready." In answer to the question was he in the habit of visiting female passengers in their cabins, he said, "Well, yes, some of them like us better than passengers. I've been with them several times on other trips." He also explained that Miss Gibson had inferred to him that she was pregnant. Following further interrogation, Camb said, "Can you take this down in shorthand. I want to make a quick and short statement." Told that it could be typed as he gave it, he replied, "That will be all right." After being cautioned, he continued:--

"I have already stated to you that I went to Miss Gibson's cabin at about eleven o'clock on Friday, October 17th, 1947, and during the course of conversation with her I made an appointment to meet her that night. I knocked at the door after I had finished work about one o'clock but there was no answer. I opened the door of her cabin and found that it was empty. I then went forward to the well-deck where I sat for about half an hour smoking.

I then returned to Miss Gibson's cabin about two o'clock and found her there. After a short conversation I got into bed with her with her consent. Intimacy took place. Whilst in the act of sexual intercourse she suddenly clutched at me, foaming at the mouth. I immediately ceased the act but she was very still; I felt for her heart beats but could not find any, she was at this time very still, and I cannot offer any explanation as to how the bells came to be rung as I most definitely did not touch them myself. Thinking she had fainted I tried artificial respiration on her; whilst doing this the night watchman knocked at the door and attempted to open it. I shut the door again saying it was all right. Then I panicked as I thought he had gone to the bridge to report to the officer of the watch, as I did not want to be found in such a compromising position. I bolted the door and again tried respiration. After a few minutes I could not find any sign of life. After a struggle with the limp body, by the way she was still wearing her dressing gown, I managed to lift her to the porthole and pushed her through. I am fairly certain that at the time she was dead but I was terribly frightened. I then went forward and turned in. The time would be about 3.30 a.m."

At 1.30 p.m. on Sunday, October 26th, accused was charged with the murder. In answer to the formal caution he said, "My God, I didn't think it would be as serious as that." He was asked if he would object to having the scratch marks on his right forearm and left shoulder photographed, and a sample of his blood taken for test purposes, and he replied, "None whatever."

At about 8 p.m. this day, Detective Plumley saw Camb and obtained his written consent for the

photograph, blood specimen and a specimen of his hair. After signing the document accused said, "I did not think it was going to be as serious as that. All I am worried about is my wife; I haven't had any sleep since this thing. I can't understand why the officer on watch didn't hear something. It was a hell of a splash when she hit the water. She struggled, I had my hands round her neck and when I was trying to pull them away she scratched me. I panicked and threw her out of the porthole." The witness, Plumley, at the trial was severely attacked by defending counsel on this testimony and attempts were made to discredit his evidence, but he remained unshaken in the witness-box.

The case came before the examining magistrates at the Law Courts, Southampton, on November 17th, when Mr. E. G. Robey, barrister-at-law, appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions. On November 24th Camb was committed to take his trial at the Hampshire Assizes. An application for adjournment over one Assize was successfully made by the defence, for witnesses from South Africa to be called.

Exactly five months to the day after the commission of the murder alleged against James Camb, the trial opened at Winchester. Counsel in the case were: Mr. G. D. Roberts, K.C., Recorder of Bristol, who led for the Crown, with Mr. Henry Elam, Recorder of Exeter; Mr. J. D. Casswell, K.C., Recorder of Southampton, and Mr. J. T. Molony represented the accused. The case had aroused widespread interest and curiosity, and the limited accommodation of the Court made necessary the issue of tickets of admission. In the Court over thirty exhibits were ranged, chief of which were the white enamelled bedstead, a model of the porthole and the door upon which were the palmar and finger impressions, securely cover-

ed by a cellophane square, from the deceased's cabin.

When called upon accused answered "Not guilty." Mr. Roberts explained that any crime committed on a British ship was within the jurisdiction of the courts here. The circumstances he described as unusual, as there was no body, no corpus delicti. The case against the prisoner was that in the early morning of October 18th he murdered Miss Gibson and disposed of the body by casting it away into the ocean through a porthole of the liner, then ninety miles from land off the West coast of Africa, in a shark-infested sea.

Dealing with the career of the deceased, Mr. Roberts said she was born in India but came to England when a baby and was educated here. In 1944 she joined the A.T.S.; she was fond of the theatre, was transferred to the entertainment branch ("Stars in Battledress") of the service and acted with it in the British Army on the Rhine and at home. Miss Gibson was discharged from the Army in February, 1947, to travel with her mother to South Africa, where her father was employed. She voyaged to South Africa in the Carnarvon Castle and stayed there until October last. Deceased embarked at Capetown on the Durban Castle on October 10th, apparently healthy, cheerful, and looking forward to continuing her theatrical career in England.

Coming to what the prosecutor described as "a very sinister incident in the story," he described the light indicators and the bells operating at 3 a.m. on October 18th. Counsel produced a bell panel, similar to the one in cabin 126, and described how the press buttons were distinguished by colours, green for stewardess and red for steward; both had been pushed. The night watchman answered the call, but getting no

response to his knock opened the door and saw, standing in Miss Gibson's cabin, to the left of the doorway, the prisoner, who was wearing a white singlet and dark blue or black trousers. To the watchman Camb said, "It's all right," and pushed the door to in his face. The light was on in the cabin at the time.

At six o'clock next morning the prisoner's cabin mate noticed that when he got out of bed Camb did not put on the white singlet he usually wore in the tropics for cleaning up, but wore a white steward's coat. This coat is normally not used for cleaning, but is put on later in the morning when passengers are about the ship. During the inquiry and examination carried out by the master of the ship on the morning following the discovery about the missing passenger, Camb said to him, "Why all this suspicion? Let's get down to rock bottom." There were altogether, said counsel, five statements by him denying any knowledge of the girl's disappearance. "I don't want to use hard expressions, but his instinct was to lie, and lie five times. Why, it his conscience was clear?"

On October 19th prisoner was examined by the ship's doctor, Dr. J. M. Griffiths. On the inner side of his left breast were nine or twelve scratches from a quarter to half an inch in length, which the doctor thought had been caused by human finger nails. They did not at all resemble the sort of scratches a man would inflict upon himself when suffering from some irritation, and the doctor found no signs of skin irritation.

Counsel explained a blood stain on the bottom sheet belonged to group O; prisoner's blood was group A. It was a reasonable presumption that the stain came from the deceased.

"You may think," said Mr. Roberts, "that you can draw from these facts one or two conclusions:

that the girl objected to whatever advances the prisoner was making, that she rang the bells for outside help, that she scratched the prisoner and that he, for self-preservation throttled her. You will hear from medical evidence that, in strangulation, there will be haemorrhage from the mouth. You may think that the body being then most vital and deadly evidence against him, the prisoner took the only course he could for the preservation of himself and put the body through the porthole. . . . If she died a natural death in his arms, what would be easier for him than to slip unobserved from the cabin, as eventually he did? The next morning deceased would be found in her last sleep, clearly having died a natural death, as any medical man could ascertain in two minutes."

Captain Patey, in evidence, said there was approximately 25 feet freeboard between the porthole and the water. At the time the ship was cruising at 17½ knots and he felt it would be quite impossible from the bridge to hear a body tipped into the water.

Evidence was given that the prints on the cabin door were identical with the prints made by Camb's left hand.

A passenger gave testimony to noting that the deceased's finger nails on one occasion were an unusual colour. Deceased herself, in fact, drew attention to this, but the witness did not remember if she explained the reason.

Evidence was given by the bo'sun's mate, William Allan Conway, that he saw Miss Gibson about 1 a.m. when she was on the promenade deck. He asked her to move as they were washing down the deck. "She told me she found it rather warm below, so I directed her to some deck chairs amidships," witness said. About two o'clock that afternoon he re-

marked to Camb that it was sad about the lady passenger who was missing and asked what time he saw her. Camb said it was about midnight and she was talking to two male passengers on the starboard side of the promenade deck.

Camb, under a relentless cross-examination, showed no discomposure; altogether he was in the witness-box for just over three hours. Throughout he maintained that deceased had consented to intimacy in her cabin. In panic he said he had put her dead body through the porthole.

The defence was built round accused's admission: they also tried to establish that Miss Gibson suffered from a weak heart by calling witnesses who gave testimony of having seen her in fits of hysteria and faintness, sometimes her lips went blue and her finger nails likewise. Witnesses were brought over from South Africa to prove this and to show that she had become infatuated with a number of men. Much was made of the fact that a contraceptive was found in one of her cases on the ship. Defending counsel had elicited from the prisoner that deceased was on extremely friendly terms with him, which culminated in a visit to her cabin about 1 a.m. on the night of October 18th. Miss Gibson, he said, let him in. She was wearing a yellow quilted dressing gown, but nothing underneath it. They reclined on the bed at first and then intimacy followed. Suddenly she gasped and relaxed completely limp, her mouth was a little open and there was a faint line of bubbles or froth on the edges of her lips, this was slightly blood-flecked. He tried to revive her by massage near the heart, but she did not respond. "I concluded she was dead, I had no doubt in my mind, I have no doubt now," he said. He proceed-

ed, "I hoped to give the impression she had fallen overboard... I lifted her up and pushed her through. The body was so slack and rather awkward."

Medical evidence was called by both sides on the symptoms of strangulation and the possible evidence that may be left of it. A deal of attention was directed to the terminal act of dying persons, the evacuation of the bladder or the bowels and sometimes both, but its value was neutralised because such acts were shown to be consistent both with natural and also violent deaths, and sometimes they did not occur in either.

Professor James Webster was called for the defence and his evidence was summarised by himself in witness-box. "I want to make it quite clear, in view of the scratches on the accused's arms, that I cannot exclude the possibility of death having been caused during strangulation, but in my experience it has certain peculiarities. One is that the scratches extend far up the arm without there being anything on the hands. I have never seen scratches so far up the arm alone. In manual strangulation, where scratching does take place, I have found it on the back of the hand, and on the skin of the girl's neck herself, where she has clawed to relieve pressure."... In witness's opinion, death could have occurred from natural causes in two main ways, both of which would give rise to blood at the mouth, the voiding of urine (urine was found on the top bed sheet) and scratching of the arms, by (1) the bursting of a small congenital aneurism in the brain, known to occur in young people, particularly if there was associated with it an effort such as the act of intimacy; and (2) heart failure direct or indirect. A history of asthma and bluish lips, finger

nails changing colour and fainting were consistent with some heart troubles.

The judge addressed the jury for approximately two and a half hours in summing up. He first directed attention to the ringing of the cabin bells. "The accused said he did not, and there was only one other person present," remarked his lordship. He pointed out that Camb had himself admitted disposing of the body. "The accused's explanation was panic. You have seen him and heard him... you may have formed the opinion that he is not a man easily to be rattled."

Dealing with the contraceptive in deceased's luggage, "If she was pregnant there would have been no purpose in her using it... If, on the other hand, she was not pregnant, the presence of the contraceptive in her luggage might strongly indicate that she had not anticipated a visit for the purpose of intimacy from a deck steward." The judge asked these questions, "Did the evidence indicate that this woman was so utterly loose that she would lightly invite intimacy with a chance acquaintance—a deck steward on a liner? If Camb went to the cabin against her will, would she not call on him to leave, and if he persisted in his advances to her, would she not instinctively have rung the bells?"

The judge, before the jury retired, called special attention to the deep scratches on Camb's right forearm, which he covered the next day with his white jacket, but which were still visible on his arrest a week later, and to the unexplained absence from the cabin of Miss Gibson's black pyjamas, which she normally wore at night.

The jury, after a retirement of forty-five minutes, found Camb 'guilty' and he was sentenced to death. Yet, once more, fate and

circumstances intervened in this strange case, for a clause in the Criminal Justice Bill, suspending the death penalty for five years, was passed about two weeks afterwards. He appealed against conviction, but the appeal was dismissed and he will now serve a life sentence of penal servitude.

So ended the baffling case of the murder without a body. Camb was the last man to be sentenced to death murder before the abolition of the death penalty; he is also the first man to appeal against the sentence of death which could not be carried out because of a suspension of law.

But it is not quite the end of the story in so far as this man's behaviour is concerned. Although the facts were never placed before the Court, on two occasions during the previous trip of the same ship, when it was outward bound from England, Camb attempted to be familiar with two other women. He plied one with drink and then attacked her with such severity that she almost succumbed to strangulation. The marks on her throat were visible for some days afterwards, but in order to preserve her good name she made no complaint.

The other female was assaulted by this man whilst she was lying on the bunk in her cabin. He made love to her and kissed and touched her. She resisted and he went away, but again the complainant did not want action taken.

A tribute must be paid to the zeal, initiative and persistent enquiry work carried out by Detective-Sergeants Quinlan and Gibbons and Detective-Constable Plumley. In a case of this type, in which originally there was little evidence available, their efforts resulted in placing before the Court the material upon which this man was convicted.

Old Saybrook's Inflation Problem



Firemen Answer Call, Ready to Aid Santa To Their Last Gasp

By HANK MOOBERRY

Special to The Hartford Times
December 15, 1948

Old Saybrook—In Old Saybrook, as everywhere, there is rivalry between police and fire departments. The two organizations compete in sports, and neither can wrest full honors from the other.

The annual Christmas party in the town is being supervised by the local State Police Barracks, under the supervision of Lt. Carroll E. Shaw. It will be held Sunday. There is an abundance of work to be done.

A Santa Claus statue 20 feet tall, has been set up in the field adjoining the old Saybrook Theater. A life-size Santa will appear on the theater's chimney. A third Santa Claus, this one alive, will give each child a gift.

Having his hands filled, and in need of someone to blow up 2,000 balloons, Lieutenant Shaw called on the Old Saybrook Fire Department to volunteer to inflate these balloons.

Rivalry forgotten, the firemen took up the task and right now are vigorously huffing and puffing to get those 2,000 colored balloons blown up by Sunday. To ease the chore, the firemen have been given a carbon dioxide cylinder with which to inflate the remainder of the balloons.

HUFFING AND PUFFING

Blowing up 2,000 balloons (lower) is job of the Old Saybrook Fire Department. Assistant Fire Chief Clifford L. Patterson, blowing up balloons and State Policeman Henry L. Cludinski, tying them. Above, Richard W. Powers gazes longingly at State Police Santa announcing Old Saybrook party

--Hartford Times Photo

3,500 Enjoy State Police Yule Party

By LAURA POWERS

Old Saybrook — The joyful and happy expressions on the faces of over 3,500 children and parents proclaimed the fourth annual State Police Christmas party a huge success. The party in Old Saybrook was under the direction and supervision of Lt. Carroll E. Shaw and the troopers of the Westbrook Barracks.

As time for the performance approached officials realized that the Saybrook Theatre could not begin to accommodate all and emergency measures were put into operation. Members of the Old Saybrook Fire Company were contacted by telephone and with the help of State Troopers quickly converted the auditorium of the local school into a second theatre.

THE FESTIVITIES were scheduled to start at 1 p. m., but despite the driving snowstorm the main theatre was filled to capacity by 12:30 and from then on it was necessary to direct other arriving guests to the school. Although it was believed that past attendance records were broken, no child missed his or her full share of entertainment or gifts.

Almost all of the program presented at the Saybrook Theatre was repeated at the school. This was made possible by shuttling each act to "stage number two," as soon as it finished at the theatre.

The program was opened by the boys choir of St. John's School, Deep River, singing selections from the Christmas Carol books supplied by the Hartford Times. These are the same as will be used at the annual Carol Sing in front of the Times Portico.

From this point on surprise after surprise greeted the laughing and cheering youngsters. Some of these surprises consisted of Lank Leonard, famous cartoonist, drawing comic characters, Joe Morrissey, mystifying with his magic and Dot Day of Westbrook as Cobina Muddlefuddle, who had the entire audience roaring with laughter.

HERALDED by the shrieking of many sirens Santa Claus arrived, accompanied by his trusty steed "Hayburner" (in two parts). His

presence was greeted by lusty cheers from the older children, but many of the younger ones obviously awed were heard to murmur "Hi, Santa Claus." Scrooge, who appeared on the stage to ridicule all present for "wasting their time," was roundly booed and hissed.

Santa Claus after trying vainly to explain the virtues of Christmas parties finally lost his patience and hit Scrooge in the face with a real custard pie. This of course brought a tremendous cheer which fairly shook the walls of the theater. The role of Santa Claus was played for the fourth consecutive year by James Damato of the Hartford Police Department and Scrooge by Bill Anderson of Middletown.

Other acts which more than pleased the children were Babs and Phil Whitman of Hartford billed as the Police Gazetteers, Joe Morrissey as a ventriloquist and skits by Al "Mr. Sweet" Monty of Meriden. Music in the theater was furnished by the Krakowska Orchestra of Middletown and at the school by the Griswold Inn Band.

A HIGHLIGHT in the program was the two clowns, Rollo and Bollo who roamed through the isles, tossing balloons, boxes of popcorn and trinkets into outstretched hands. As the youngsters filed out of the theatre and school each was presented with a gift, and from the rear of a large Army truck 2,000 inflated balloons were distributed. Besides the gifts, children and grownups were served 4,500 hot dogs, 150 cases of soda, candied apples and untold gallons of hot chocolate.

Among prominent guests who attended the party were the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Leo M. Finn, State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey and James Lawrence McGovern. After the party, Commissioner Hickey stated "Parties of this type are very beneficial to the welfare of the entire community and Lieutenant Shaw, his associates and many friends who made the party a success, deserve much credit."

Commissioner Hickey, who is state fire marshall expressed his satisfaction and gratitude to the firemen "who did such an excellent job."

The Old Saybrook Fire Department helped by members of the Westbrook Company afforded

complete safety protection for both places of assembly. Fire apparatus were placed at strategic points and firemen were assigned to patrol aisles and exits.

This year is the first time that any portion of the Westbrook Barracks Christmas party was broadcast. Parts of the festivities were carried by WCNX of Middletown and AVZ of New Haven.

JINGLE ALARM BELLS

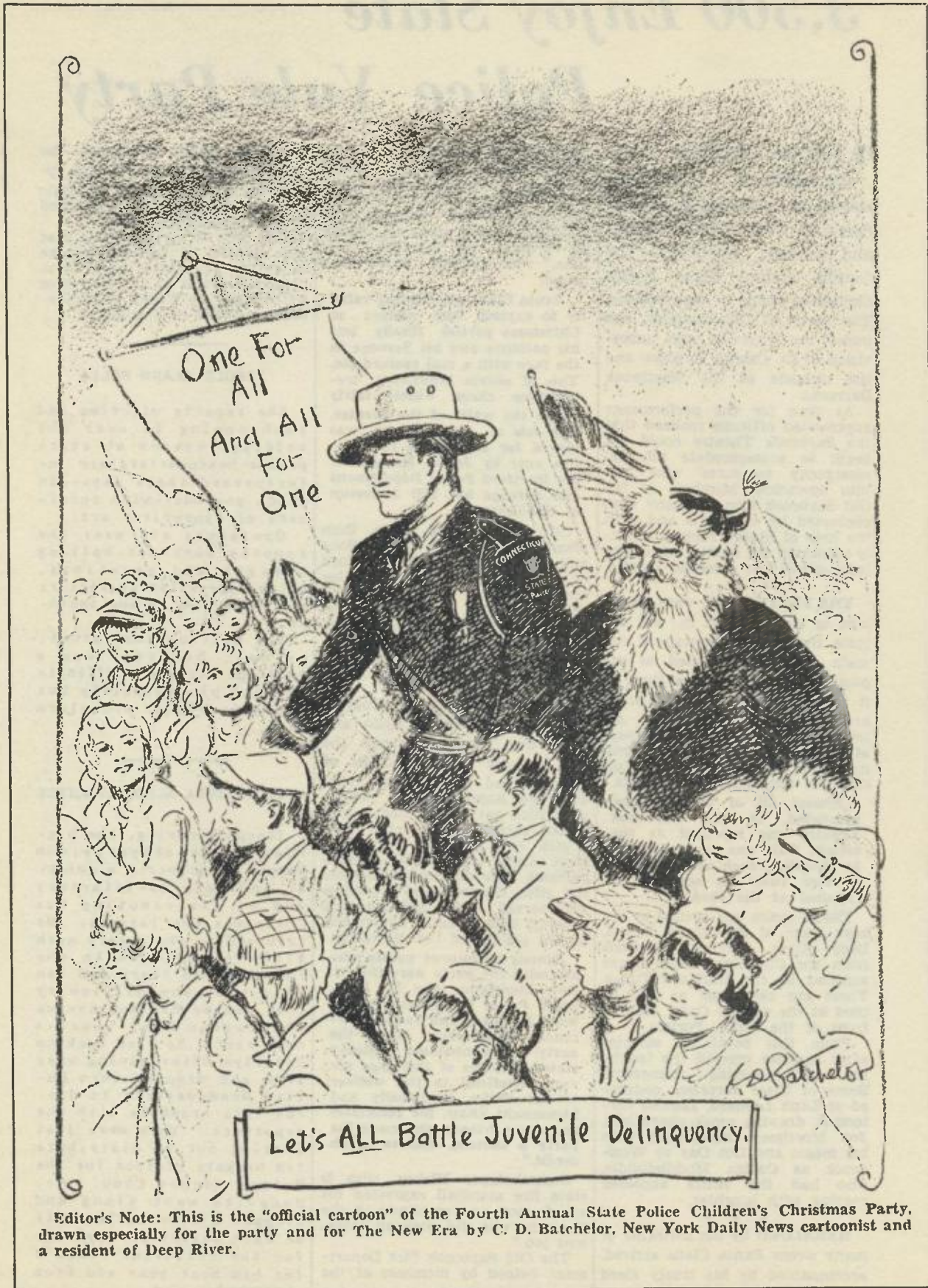
The reports of crime and such coming in over the teletype system at state police headquarters are interspersed these days--in slack periods--with specimens of typewriter art.

Operators all over the country work out holiday designs and greetings, using typewriter characters and send them to one another.

The most unusual stunt, so far, however, was a teletype version of "Jingle Bells," played solely but recognizably on the alarm bell.

BOWERY SANTA ALTERS TACTICS

Joseph Bonavita, the big-hearted Brooklyn saloon keeper, discovered a quieter and more satisfactory way of distributing his Christmas Eve largess. He returned to the Bowery with \$750 to pass out to the forsaken men there and ran into the same difficulty that caused him to give up the custom last year--a near riot. He fled back to Brooklyn after giving away \$700 and dropped into Police Headquarters to discuss his troubles with the reporters. They were just setting out to distribute ten baskets of food for the Police Anchor Club. Mr. Bonavita went along and dropped a five-dollar bill on each basket to buy toys for the children. That's for him next year and from now on, he said.



Editor's Note: This is the "official cartoon" of the Fourth Annual State Police Children's Christmas Party, drawn especially for the party and for The New Era by C. D. Batchelor, New York Daily News cartoonist and a resident of Deep River.

December 20, 1948

State Police Barracks
Westbrook
Connecticut

Att: Lt. Shaw

Dear Sirs:

Yesterday my six year old son attended the Christmas party you gave in Saybrook and had one of the nicest times of his young life.

This is just a note to say thank you and to let you know that if all the children got as much fun out of the party as my boy, I'm sure you must feel that all the work and time you fellows put in was worth it.

Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Mr. G. R. Dehart
Saybrook
Connecticut

December 20, 1948

Dear Lt. Shaw,

Thank you for the Christmas party which five of us attended yesterday.

We were impressed, not only by your generosity, but by your courtesy and friendliness.

We appreciate being able to attend such a well arranged and hospitable gathering.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. Julius) Virginia Viger

December 20, 1948

Lieutenant Shaw and Officers
Westbrook Barracks
Westbrook, Connecticut

Dear Friends,

The boys had a wonderful time yesterday and with the Sisters join in a big "three cheers for you all." Thank you very much and may God bless you for all you have done for the children.

You are to be congratulated for the efficient planning which characterized the whole affair. If all the children were made as happy as our lads, you must feel well repaid for your efforts.

Thank you for the gifts which the boys will enjoy during the winter months. Kindly extend our thanks to anyone who aided in making the party a splendid one.

Trusting that the Christ Child will bless you and those dear to you and make the day the happier for having brought joy to His little ones, especially the boys at St. John's, I am

Sincerely yours,

Sister Mary Celestine
St. John School for Boys
Deep River, Conn.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
DEEP RIVER, CONN.

December 1948

Dear Sirs:

I am writing on behalf of our school, to thank you for the swell time you gave us. We want you to know that we all liked our presents very much and enjoyed ourselves at the party. We shall not forget you in our prayers.

May the Little Christ Child bless the State Police of Westbrook.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gratefully yours,

Boys of St. John's
Robert Carrano

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT: Overtime parkers in East Orange, N.J., were surprised to find greeting cards on their windshields instead of tickets. To pay for the overtime, police were supplied by the local Chamber of Commerce with quantities of nickels for the hardboiled parking meters.

Police Say 'Merry Christmas' to 3,500 Kiddies 3,500 Youngsters Say 'The Same to You, Sirs'



ADMIRERS surround Police Chief Michael J. Godfrey and Santa Claus at chief's party for youngsters. Left-right: Lawrence Pericolosi, Frederick G. Berckman, Margaret Antenello, John J. Bradley, William P. Kelly, Beverly C. Davis, John J. Brennan.—Hartford Times Photo

CHRISTMAS STARTED IN HARTFORD FOR 3,500 YOUNGSTERS WHO CROWDED INTO THE BUSHNELL MEMORIAL FOR THE ANNUAL POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 24.

MAYOR CYRIL COLEMAN AND POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL J. GODFREY EXTENDED CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE CHILDREN AND THE YOUNGSTERS CAME RIGHT BACK WITH "THE SAME TO YOU."

THE ONLY THINGS MISSING WERE REINDEERS, BUT THE DEPARTMENT USED TWO PONIES TO PULL THE SLEIGH. A BROWN AND WHITE PONY LENT BY THE RUSSO BROS. OF HARTFORD PROVIDED ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE YOUNGSTERS BY ACTING LIKE A MULE. HE JUST REFUSED TO PULL THE SLEIGH.

A BLACK PONY LENT BY MRS. HAZEL B. GOODWILL OF FARMINGTON RODE TO THE PARTY IN THE BACK SEAT OF A BUICK.

THERE WERE 46 VAUDEVILLE ACTS ON THE PROGRAM AND WITH THE EXCEPTION

OF FIVE OF THEM IT WAS CHILDREN THAT PROVIDED THE ENTERTAINMENT.

THE SLEIGH FULL OF SKIS, ROLLER SKATES, DOLLS AND OTHER GIFTS DONATED BY LOCAL MERCHANTS WERE DISTRIBUTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO LUCKY CHILDREN.

THE YOUNG ENTERTAINERS BACK STAGE JOINED THE PARTY TOO. LITTLE MIKKI D. DEMBAR, 5, FOUND SANTA CLAUS ALONE IN A CORNER AND HAD QUITE A CHAT, BUT FINALLY DECIDED SHE HADN'T MADE UP HER MIND ABOUT WHAT SHE WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS. "BESIDES," SHE SAID, "I HAVE TO RE-CITE NOW."

EACH TIME PRETTY GIRLS CAME OUT ON THE STAGE THE YOUNGSTERS WHISTLED AND ONE OFFICER REMARKED, "THESE KIDS ARE ONLY EIGHT YEARS OLD BUT LISTEN TO THEM." MANY MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME AND ENJOYED THE PARTY AS MUCH AS THE CHILDREN.

POLICE CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The Christmas parties which were given in Hartford by the local Police Department, and throughout the State by the State Police, are constructive steps in the direction of promoting good citizenship. They are intended to encourage the feeling on the part of children that the police are their friends, ready to do anything for their good. Instead of expecting only a rough "Get along, you!" from a policeman, the boys, especially, will learn that the policeman is a good fellow to turn to in time of trouble. Doubtless the cop has children of his own--or wishes he had--and is fond of them.

All this is to the good, Chief Godfrey of the Hartford police says that citizens generally have been generous in cooperating with the force, and that about 3,000 local youngsters gathered in the Bushnell to enjoy the hospitality of the police.

Fortunately Christmas never has been a time of boisterousness in Connecticut. It is the most joyful of the Christian festal days, and is regarded by most families as a holy day. There is no shooting-off of firecrackers, as one comes upon in some States. If there is any noise it does not come from children, but from adults who have been unwise in their observance.

The police, local and State, had only glad welcomes for their young guests in cities and towns, and one may be sure the youngsters responded in the same spirit. Who can tell how far this may go in keeping boys on the paths of righteousness and good citizenship?

---The Hartford Times

ALLY FOR THE POLICE

As usual this year the Connecticut State Police gave Christmas parties for children. Offhand this seems like a nice idea. But it goes even deeper than a holiday gesture to make the kiddies happy. It is only one phase of a multiple-faceted program to make the State Police a part of the community and

not apart from it. It is the same underlying philosophy that moves your state trooper to help hapless motorists, or to pitch in whenever somebody is in trouble. The result is that those of us in Connecticut who live within the law regard the State Police as a friendly force to be looked to in time of trouble.

This is not a sticky, sentimental search for popularity that Commissioner Hickey has so competently executed. It is a down-to-earth acknowledgement that one of the greatest factors in crime detection is a cooperative public. That is a lesson that some other police officials could learn with profit. When a major crime has been committed, Commissioner Hickey wastes no time in passing that information on to the press. Time and time again criminals have been apprehended as a result of quick, detailed reports to the public concerning crimes and descriptions of the suspected criminals.

Those police officials who regard the press as a nuisance when a major crime has been committed, who hoard evidence unnecessarily, or who are tardy in releasing details are living in the past. They are defeating their own ends because wide-spread publicity is one of their strongest weapons. Furthermore, when the public is convinced that the police are their allies, they are more likely voluntarily to contribute information. Within the past month two thieves who had stolen copper wire worth thousands of dollars were apprehended as the result of such a tip by an alert citizen. That is only one of many cases where the public has played an alert Doctor Watson to official Sherlocks.

---The Hartford Courant

CONNECTICUT STATE POLICEMAN ADDS
UNSCHEDULED STOP TO CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

An elderly woman got a Christmas gift unexpectedly and declared that "it was the best present I could have received."

The gift wasn't wrapped in bright red paper and silver tinsel but it had more holiday atmosphere than most gifts do.

It consisted of three simple Christmas carols, sung for the direct benefit of Mrs. Henry C. Jones of 484 Ann Street, Hartford.

The caroler, a friend of Mrs. Jones, was singing State Policeman Fred Feegel of the Hartford Barracks. He became acquainted with the local woman after he had helped reunite her with a brother she hadn't seen in almost 40 years.

That was in late 1946. The brother, George W. Gregg, Jr., has since died. Policeman Feegel didn't forget the Ann Street woman, however, and this is the second year he has serenaded her at Christmas. Last year it was by telephone, but this year he dropped by in person.

"Officer Feegel is the most marvelous person I know," sighed Mrs. Jones after the policeman had left her home. "And he's a good singer too."

Fills Other Engagements

The singing policeman sandwiched his visit to Mrs. Jones between two other engagements. Earlier, he entertained patients at McCook Memorial Hospital and later he sang for children who attended a Christmas party given by the East Hartford Democratic Town Committee at Odd Fellows Hall.

Dressed in his natty uniform, Policeman Feegel strolled through wards at McCook Hospital singing carols in his own familiar way. He was accompanied by an accordionist, 17-years-old Peter Noiva of 43 Hungerford Street, a Hartford Public High School student.

The hospital visit was arranged by Peter J. Doran of Hartford, night superintendent, who is also a composer. Policeman Feegel sang Doran's latest composition, "Christmas and Candle-Light," to the hospital patients.

Doran and Noiva accompanied Feegel on the later visits to Mrs. Jones and to East Hartford. At the Jones home, the policeman sang "Little Town of Bethlehem," "Silent Night," and "Noel." He made his exit still singing the latter carol, bringing tears to Mrs. Jones's eyes.

Mrs. Jones said that she "cheated just a little bit" because she wanted a very dear friend to hear the singing.

She telephoned Mrs. James Goodwin of 143 Woodland Street, who also heard the carols over the wire.

"She thought it was beautiful, too," said Mrs. Jones.

To round out the night's activity, Policeman Feegel dropped in on a State Policeman's Christmas Party at Hotel Bond about 9:30 p.m. He did a little singing there too.

"It was all a lot of fun and gave me great pleasure," Feegel said, "but believe me, I'm all out of voice now."

STATE POLICE OFFICER IS HOST AT A XMAS PARTY

Lieutenant Harris J. Hulburt, Commanding Officer at Station C, State Police was host to members of the State Police Department, the personnel and the wives of the officers stationed at the local barracks and their families at a Turkey dinner and Christmas Party Dec. 19, held at the Station Barracks.

Santa Claus, scheduled to arrive by helicopter, was grounded enroute, because of the heavy snowstorm. However, he arrived with his pack of gifts, conveyed by a police cruiser.

Among the guests attending the dinner and party were: State Police Commissioner, Edward J. Hickey; State's Attorney Donald C. Fisk; County Detective Arthur Koss of Rockville and their families.

LT. C.E. SHAW SAYS ARENA SEATING 3,000 PERSONS IS BADLY NEEDED IN THIS AREA

"What this country needs may still be a 'good five cent cigar,' but what the Lower Connecticut Valley needs is a good 3,000-seat arena." The statement came from Lt. Carroll E. Shaw, commander of the Westbrook barracks.

The party was originally scheduled at the Saybrook Theater, but because of the tremendous throng that came out for the affair--in spite of the raging snowstorm--arrangements were quickly made to use

the gymnasium of the high school for the overflow crowd. Thus, in effect, two complete shows were given, with the entertainers shuttling their acts back and forth between the theater and school.

Lieutenant Shaw, estimating that over 3,000 youngsters and many parents attended, commented later: "To us, the storm was, in a way, a godsend, because if it had been a clear day, we likely would have had over 5,000 people at the party. There isn't a hall in this entire area that can accommodate even 2,000 people comfortably, and that is a shame, since it means the youngsters--and the grown-ups, too--miss out on so many things that the folks in Hartford, New Haven, and Fairfield counties have and that might be theirs, if there were an arena in these parts.

"I'm referring particularly," the lieutenant continued, "to such things as circuses, rodeos, concerts, ice shows, conventions and intertown tournaments of all sorts. If there were an arena in this area--and I think the area including the towns of, say Westbrook, Old Saybrook, Old Lyme, Essex, Deep River, Chester, Clinton, Killingworth and, possibly, Madison, is large enough to support one--we could also have hockey and first class professional basketball right here at home in the Connecticut Valley-Shore Line area; we wouldn't have to travel all the way to New Haven or Hartford or Middletown for such entertainment. You know, some of the best athletes in the entire country are probably born right here, but they are never able to show what they've got.

"And, if we could include an indoor swimming pool," Shaw added enthusiastically, "think of what it would mean to the youngsters. Some people may say, 'We can't afford to build such an arena, but I say that we can't afford NOT to build such an arena. I don't know just how much a 3,000-seat arena would cost--perhaps between \$75,000 and \$100,000--but every cent so spent would be well invested for the future health and happiness of our youngsters and for the education and entertainment of area adults. I dislike bringing up the subject of crime, but I can't help thinking what an aid a local arena would be in

helping the home, the school, the church and the State Police to stamp out this menace.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Galveston Texas Police left special Christmas tickets on more than 100 cars overparked in Galveston.

They read:

"Season greetings. The patrolman on this beat notes that you violated the parking meter ordinance. Do not worry about it. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

HER HOME'S A CASTLE --WITH AN ICY MOAT

An embarrassed suburban policeman admitted he had to arrest a 69-year-old woman recently. But it was a pretty fair match between the dignity of the law and the dignity of old age.

A few days after a snowfall, residents complained a neighbor had failed to shovel the walk. The policeman was sent to the home with a summons.

When an elderly lady came to the door he said, "Madam, you'll have to get your walk shoveled."

"I can't find a boy to do it and I'll be durned if I'll do it myself at my age!" she snapped.

"Well, I'm afraid I'll have to give you a ticket then," replied the policeman.

"You're wasting your time; I won't go to court."

He took her name and address, then asked her age for the arrest slip.

"My age!" she cried. "None of your business!"

"I'm afraid you'll have to appear in Town Court."

"Young man, you're very foolish," said the lady, and slammed the door.

True to her word she failed to appear in court. The judge postponed the case for one week while the law puzzled over what to do.

---Hartford Times

REFER TO FILE No.



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

BOSTON, MASS.

OFFICE OF SUPERVISING AGENT
DISTRICT No. 1

STATES OF MAINE, VERMONT,
NEW HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS,
CONNECTICUT, AND RHODE ISLAND

December 17, 1948

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

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

With the coming of the Holidays, we of the United States Secret Service wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation and assistance rendered to us by you and your associates and trust that our friendly relations will continue.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Very truly yours,

M. R. Allen
Supervising Agent

MRA:h



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

510 Trust Company Building
New Haven 10, Connecticut
December 20th, 1948

Mr. Edward J. Hickey
Commissioner of State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

The employees of the Connecticut F.B.I. office join me in wishing you and the personnel of your Department a most joyous Christmas and good health, happiness and every success in 1949.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

John J. Gleason
John J. Gleason
Special Agent in Charge



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
HARTFORD 1, CONN.

PLEASE REFER TO THIS FILE NUMBER

December 23, 1948

0205-26

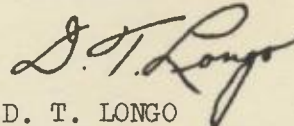
Mr. Edward J. Hickey
Commissioner of Connecticut State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

In keeping with the custom of this Service, I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance rendered by your department during the past year. The members of your organization have been most cooperative and helpful in connection with the investigative efforts of our personnel, and the enforcement of the immigration and naturalization laws has been accomplished with a greater degree of effectiveness as a result of the friendly relationship existing between our departments. We treasure this spirit of harmony which is a vital factor in the administration of the functions of this Service.

I sincerely wish you and your staff a Christmas of great joy and a New Year of happiness and prosperity.

Cordially,



D. T. LONGO
Officer in Charge

THE WOODSTOCK MYSTERY:
HOW THE FBI BROKE THE HISS CASE

On two occasions the evidence against Alger Hiss had seemed conclusive, the first time when he finally admitted knowing Whittaker Chambers, the second when Chambers produced incriminating memos in handwriting identified as Hiss's. But the former State Department official met the charges with denials so point-blank that many doubters were convinced of his innocence.

Meeting in New York, only three days before its term expired, a Federal grand jury probing subversive activities had found no conclusive answers to the Chambers assertions and the Hiss denials. It was evident that the jury planned no indictments on the basis of evidence before it.

The big problem had been to find the typewriter on which the original State Department documents had been copied (by Mrs. Priscilla Hiss, according to Chambers). Failing that, the government hoped to unearth other letters typed on the same machine at the time of the alleged espionage activities.

TYPEWRITER CLUE: An early examination of the papers which Chambers had produced revealed that they had been typed on a 1928 Woodstock. Such a machine had been inherited by Priscilla Hiss from her father and had, according to Federal investigators, been in the possession of the Hisses in 1938. Before attempting to track down the machine, the FBI first determined, by checking Treasury procurement records and the State Department, that no Woodstocks had ever been used in Hiss's office. This cleared up one point: The documents had been lifted out for reproduction elsewhere.

The turning point came with dramatic suddenness. Last Monday the FBI turned up two papers typed on the original Woodstock in 1938. The first was Hiss's application for a Naval Reserve commission. The second was a letter he had written to his stepson's private school. Matched against the typing on the pumpkin papers, the type faces and peculiarities of the two sets were found to be identical.

With this as ammunition, the grand jury dropped its original plans and moved quickly toward a showdown. Hiss was called in, sworn, and questioned again on his association with Chambers:

Q.: Mr. Hiss, at any time did you, or Mrs. Hiss in your presence, turn any documents of the State Department . . . or copies of any other government organization, over to Whittaker Chambers?

Hiss: Never. Excepting, I assume, the title certificate to the Ford. . . .

Q.: Now, Mr. Hiss, Mr. Chambers says that he obtained typewritten copies of official State documents from you.

Hiss: I know he has.

Q.: Did you ever see Mr. Chambers after you entered into the State Department?

Hiss: I do not believe I did . . .

Q.: Can you say definitely that you did not see him after Jan. 1, 1937?

Hiss: Yes, I think I can definitely say that.

To Trial: Next the typewriter evidence was presented to him. How could he account for it? Hiss was startled. He was amazed, he said. Then, with the same ease that he had previously shown in brushing away embarrassing testimony, he tried to explain the evidence by suggesting that Chambers had somehow gotten into his home and typed the copies himself. That the numerous documents had been typed in one sitting by a clandestine visitor seemed hardly credible.

The reaction of the entire jury: It indicted Hiss for perjury on two counts, charging that he had (1) lied under oath by denying that he had transmitted copies of secret documents to Whittaker Chambers and (2) lied again by claiming that he had not seen and conversed with Chambers in February and March 1938.

If, as the Justice Department indicated, witnesses were available to corroborate other phases of the case, the issue of who had been lying--Hiss or Chambers--was rapidly approaching a conclusion.---Newsweek

STATE POLICE VALUABLE

It seemed queer the other day to read

in The Milwaukee Journal an editorial comment urging the Wisconsin state legislature at its next session to take affirmative action on a proposed measure providing for the establishment of a state police system. Still more oddly, it appeared by the commentator's remarks some aggressive would-be leaders of the state public have been opposing the idea.

Their attitude, as The Journal's man characterized it, is "superficial." In a series of rhetorical questions, he submitted that thousands of Wisconsin people would "get benefit out of really effective highway patrol, adequate rural police protection, a competent force to help in cases of accidents or trouble," and decidedly would be the gainers "if criminals operating in the state were more speedily caught." By his interpretation of "what state police advocates want," it is "a force that can be of service wherever and whenever local authorities need and ask for assistance." He ventured to assert that "this need for assistance has been shown in hundreds of instances, and . . . is statewide."

From the generally prevailing viewpoint of a state community which, in numerous years of admiring and appreciative observation of its services, has come to hold its own State Police in high respect, Connecticut can have no doubt The Milwaukee Journal's judgment is absolutely correct. When and if a state police force is established in Wisconsin, all but a small minority of the people out there may well be prompted to wonder, ruefully, how their community ever got along for so many years without it. Considering their state's high reputation as one of the most progressive commonwealths in the Union, many observers in others may naturally be disposed to share their wonder.

---Waterbury American

MASS. STATE PRISON CHAPLAIN FORMS
GUILD TO HELP PRISONERS GO STRAIGHT

Boston --- Father Joseph A. Robinson
chaplain at Charlestown State Prison,

has launched a program which aims to have convicts "go straight" when they're discharged.

To accomplish this objective, Father Robinson has formed the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, comprising public-spirited persons and groups who try to halt crime by "reaching" the criminal himself.

"Many men in prison have not seen the face of a man or woman outside prison walls in ten or 20 years. How can such men possibly become normal citizens when they are discharged?" Father Robinson asked.

"Half the men in state prisons are first offenders," he explained. "Scores of them are proving that with a job and wholesome associations, they can go straight when they're discharged. Everything depends on environment for these men when they're released.

Father Robinson, a broad-shouldered man with graying hair, was the hero of a 1946 riot at the Charlestown prison. Convicts laid down their clubs and other weapons voluntarily at his request. Recently, the priest received from the prisoners a solid gold watch inscribed with their "gratitude and affection."

The priest who learned the blacksmith trade to pay for his early education, believes there are two chief reasons for crime: parental delinquency and excessive drinking.

He would urge church and civic groups in all parts of the country to work in their respective communities for the reconstruction of the life of the offender.

"Aid to the prisoner," he said, "may be given in many ways. The new arrivals need toilet articles. Public-spirited citizens may also help those inmates without funds who desire to learn a trade. They may help inmates who are troubled over domestic emergencies. They may provide books and reading matter for inmates who spend so long a time in their cells--the average routine state prisoner spends 17 hours of the day in his cell."

"Expect a Car at Every Corner"

TRAPPED BY A TINY MISTAKE

By
William E. Brennan

Herbert J. Gleason, 22, of Roxbury, walked the "last long mile" to the electric chair in the State Prison at Charlestown and thus paid for his part in the murder of a Medford market proprietor.

While the Gleason boy paid with his life for his crime his two companions in the holdup, in which their victim's life was snuffed out leaving four fatherless children, have never been captured.

James Monagle was still working in his grocery at 557A Main St., Medford, on a Nov. night. It was Saturday night at 11 o'clock. All the other stores around had long since closed their doors, darkened their windows and gone home.

There were six mouths to feed in the Monagle home, however, and another was soon expected, so there was a great need for hard work to provide the necessary funds. A little grocery was by no means a gold mine. In the store with Monagle, helping him out and planning to accompany him home, was his daughter, Mary, 14.

They were busily at work, hurrying to get home, when the door opened and two youths entered. They appeared nothing more than boys. Suddenly, the leader, a rosy-cheeked, pleasant-faced boy announced to the astonished grocer that it was a robbery, meanwhile whipping out a .38 calibre Colt automatic pistol from his coat pocket.

The money that reposed in the till in the store had been the result of hard work through the long hours of that busy Saturday. It was needed by Monagle's wife and children, and he didn't propose to give it up. Perhaps he thought at first that it was all a bluff, or that he could frighten the youths away.

Instead of submitting to the robbers' orders, he picked up a meat cleaver and started forward toward the two intruders. Without further word of warning, the gun in the hand of the bandit leader barked. Monagle staggered, but doggedly went forward swinging his meat cleaver at the head of the youth who fired again

as he backed off.

With a tired sigh, the grocer halted when the last bullet lodged in his chest, and collapsed in a heap on the floor, the heavy cleaver clanging dully as it fell from his hand.

Two more shots in rapid succession blasted out, and a bullet whistled by the ears of the horror stricken girl, and crashed into the corner of a wooden ice chest in a corner.

Then the pair turned on their heels and fled, the screams of the girl ringing in their ears. Monagle picked himself up, and despite the fact that he was dying, he picked up the cleaver and staggered determinedly out into the darkened street in pursuit of the pair. He had gone only a few feet before his strength failed and he collapsed on the sidewalk dying. One bullet had entered his left side, passed through his left chest and into his intestines. The second one had ploughed into his left arm.

One bandit gun had been dropped on the floor of the store as the robbers fled at the threat of the cleaver. The other was found later in a yard of a house on Edward St., Medford, through which the slayers had fled to a car awaiting them with an accomplice at the wheel.

Patrolman Thomas Dexter of the Medford police, hearing the cries of the girl and her dying father, raced to the scene in time to see the robbers separate and flee in opposite directions in the darkness. He fired at one of the men and in the uncertain light, he thought the man seemed to stagger. But the bandit kept on and was swallowed up by the night. The killers had made their getaway, but one of them was marked both by Monagle and fate for the electric chair in Charlestown.

The late Chief of Police John F. Welch then head of the Medford police department, ordered one of the greatest searches ever in the city that night, but the slayers had managed to slip away before the strings of the dragnet could be drawn.

Medford police asked police of surrounding towns and cities to check all hospitals and doctors' offices for a youth who had been shot, as Officer Dexter felt he had hit one of them. No one, not even the daughter of the murder vic-

tim realized that her father had hit anyone with the meat cleaver as he rushed to attack the man who had shot him.

The information came to Boston as a routine checkup, and in that manner, reached Roxbury Crossing station. It was there that alert officers began to see the answer to a problem that had been puzzling them since early that morning, when they had been called to the home of Gleason's aunt on Sheridan St.

The boy had returned home a short time after midnight on that Sunday morning, and slipped into the house. His parents were separated and he was living with his aunt. Soon after he came in his aunt heard groans, and going to the boy's room found him covered with blood and bleeding from a number of head wounds.

She insisted that he must be taken to the hospital at once and she telephoned Roxbury Crossing police. An ambulance was rushed to her house and the youth was taken to City Hospital where his many cuts were treated. To police, who sought a story for their official reports, he merely insisted that he had received the cuts in an automobile accident, and refused to discuss where or when the accident took place. In fact, he refused to remain at the hospital after treatment and hurried back to his aunt's house.

It was not until 15 hours later that police at Roxbury Crossing received that message from police headquarters, that had been relayed from Medford. At once they grasped the significance of the bloody victim, who was so reticent about how he received his wounds.

Captain Jeremiah Gallivan, then commander of Roxbury Crossing station, and a squad of men, sped to the house to pick up "Baby Face," as Gleason was known to youths of his age because of his rosy cheeks. He was gone. During the early morning hours he had slipped away from the house, and had not returned.

Detectives at once began a checkup on all his known acquaintances. They learned that his mother was living in Rangeley, Me., and they communicated with police there. Then came a flash

from police at Rangeley. The boy, just like so many others, had flown to the side of his mother when he was in terrible difficulties.

Officers from Rangeley drove to Medford with the rosy cheeked killer, who looked like an innocent young high school undergraduate as he was led in before Chief Welch. It was his 21st birthday, but one hardly to be celebrated in honor of his advent to manhood.

To the police the boy named his companions in the robbery. He admitted that it was he who had fired the fatal shots, but insisted that he had done so only after the provision dealer struck him with the cleaver. A great hue and cry was started for the two he named, but they were never found.

Later the youth recanted on naming the two who had been with him in the robbery, and went to fight for his own life before a jury in Middlesex Superior Court. There, he still insisted on the self defense plea, and steadfastly refused to name the others. The jury found him guilty of first degree murder at the close of his trial but he was not to die until nine months later, after every effort to gain him executive clemency had failed.---Boston Post

HOLIDAY THIEVES

The ways of Manhattan thieves are mysterious, indeed, to Vernon Hall, forty-year-old Minnesota farmer, and in his case police are puzzled, too. Mr. Hall reached the city Christmas night with a trailer truck loaded with 604 cases of eggs. He parked the trailer, with the eggs on West Street at Beach Street, and used the truck to visit friends on Long Island. When he returned Sunday the trailer was gone. Brooklyn police found it at 9:30 a.m. in front of 549 Monroe Street, Brooklyn. The cargo was intact, except for one case, and missing from it was only a small clutch of eggs. Somebody went to an awful lot of trouble for one omelet, Mr. Hall concluded.

Floods Rage Across State

Police Rescue Farmington Area Residents;

Ice Storm Sweeps Into Flood Ridden Areas State Police Warn Against Use Of Highways



RESCUE--STATE POLICE, IN ARMY "DUCK," REMOVED TWO FAMILIES FROM THEIR FLOOD-SURROUNDED HOMES ON SPERRY RD., SOUTH WINDSOR. AMONG THOSE RESCUED, MRS. HELEN SILVER, SEATED LEFT. LT. ADOLPH PASTORE, STATE POLICE, IS STANDING IN FRONT WITH "BOB" PLIMPTON, PILOT, FROM STAFFORD.—HFD. TIMES

Flood Workers in Farmington Deserve Much Credit

To the Editor of The Courant:

The recent flood disaster in Farmington should make the residents realize the competence of their Fire Department.

Answering an early morning call on Friday at the local firehouse, the firemen went immediately to work evacuating victims at the Tri-State Camp settlement. Throughout the entire day and night the entire group worked unceasingly. One immense task was moving 1000 bags of flour to a dry spot at the Winchell Smith M... Next came the evacuation of the residents of Round Hill Section. All this was carried on methodically, under difficult, wet and cold conditions. Several workers had unwelcome baths, but after a change of

clothes returned to the task.

Credit should go to Chief Frank Cadwell, Assistant Chief Laurence Collins, Charles Cadwell, Earl Deming, Armento Ponnone, Marino Ponnone, Silvio Onidi, Martin McCann, William Day, Fred Barber, Patsy Vona, Frank DeParolis, John Battista, Albert Leone, Fred Pasler, Winthrop Wadsworth, William Wadsworth, Joseph Tribuzio, Jr., and Henry Harris.

In addition to these department members, Richard and Walter Balazy were volunteers who were on the job for forty-eight hours, with both their Dodge truck and motorboat doing sportsmanlike service.

The entire community should appreciate and give due credit to this civic group.

Edward T. Durant
Farmington

FLOOD DRIVES MANY PERSONS FROM HOMES

NEW HARTFORD

State Police Aid

State Police set up a temporary headquarters at the Town Hall. From there Captain William L. Schatzman, and nine officers helped in moving people from flooded areas and in rerouting traffic.

Resident Officer James L. Parrott worked unceasingly for 36 hours removing stranded persons.

FARMINGTON

Lieut. Mayo, CSP Hartford Barracks joined local police and five men in removing families from flooded area.

Commissioner Hickey got first hand information in the use of an Army amphibious "duck" for rescue work in floods. He did so by riding in one.

The "duck" loaned to the State Police was driven to Farmington late in the day and was used for evacuating families in River Glen and along Tillotson Road. Swift currents made it difficult to maneuver the strange craft and at times it was swirled against houses and trees but it made steady progress.

A few families which had planned to remain in their River Glen homes, State Police said, changed their minds near nightfall and were taken out by the "duck." At 11 p.m. four or five families were removed from homes on inundated Tillotson Road and taken to the Town Hall.

CANAAN

State Police from the Canaan Barracks supplied deluxe, private ferry accommodations here Friday to 25 cattle stranded in a barn on the Arthur Burns farm. Waters of an overflowing brook had separated the barn from the other farm buildings.

State Policeman Charles Sedar and Game Warden Charles Wells went to the barn by rowboat. The boat was pulled about 150 feet to dry land by a rope on each of its 25 trips. One at a time, the cattle were roped into the ferry and carried to safety.

POLICE URGE FARMINGTON RESIDENTS TO LEAVE HOMES

Farmington, Dec. 31 -- State Police and local authorities were using boats to evacuate residents in sections of this town and nearby Unionville, as the waters of the Farmington River, swollen by more than 24 hours of rain spread over a wide area of North Central Connecticut.

Lt. Henry Mayo in charge of rescue operations at 8:13 a.m., asked radio stations to broadcast the following warning to people living along the banks of the Farmington River:

"People in the Unionville-Farmington area: "Move out of your homes until flood conditions subside."

Conditions in this region appeared to be worse than elsewhere in the state, although streams in all sections were reported rising rapidly.

A preliminary flood warning for the Connecticut River Valley was issued at Hartford at 6 a.m.

Further down the Farmington at Collinsville, an ice jam caused the river to overflow its banks, forcing many persons to flee from their homes.

2 GRANBY BROTHERS RESCUED FROM RAGING SALMON BROOK

State Police rescued two brothers from the raging, flood-swollen Salmon Brook at Floydville. (Dec. 31)

Joseph Raskauskas, 18, and his brother, John 16, of 227 Hatchet Hill Rd., Granby, were thrown into the swollen stream when their rowboat capsized.

State Troopers Walter Swan and John Bonolo, both of the Hartford barracks, pulled the two brothers from the brook.

Joseph said that he and his brother were going in their rowboat to look for their brother-in-law, Frank Golan and his family who live in the Granbrook Park Development in Granby.

They put their boat in the water about a quarter of a mile from Granbrook and then shoved out into the current. Joseph said the current was so swift that it carried the boat downstream and

under the bridge at Floydville. It became stuck under the bridge, he said, and soon was swamped.

"I hung onto a girder of the bridge, and I don't know what happened to my brother," Joseph said.

State police who were nearby saw the two boys in trouble and went to their aid. They pulled John ashore below the bridge and threw a line to Joseph, then pulled him onto the bridge. The boys were in the icy water about 10 minutes, Joseph reported.

TORRINGTON HARDEST HIT IN VALLEY;
STATE POLICE CLOSE MANY HIGHWAYS
NOW UNDER WATER

The heavily industrialized Naugatuck Valley, drained by the dirty shallow river bearing its name, was under water in many places between Winsted and Derby as heavy rains sent the normally lazy and polluted stream on its worst rampage since Sept. 21, 1938.

RIVERTON MAN, 90,
SAVED BY STATE POLICE

Riverton, -- State Police in a motor boat rescued Clarence E. Ward, 90, from his home on Ward's Island in the Farmington River New Year's Eve.

Frank Nelson, West Hartland, had a narrow escape at 2:30 when the road near the river caved in and water nearly covered his car. He had to wade 50 feet through water which reached to his shoulders.

Mr. Ward, who celebrated his 90th birthday recently has lived alone on Ward's Island for many years. The rising flood waters menaced his home and State Police were notified. They put a boat with an outboard motor into the river and reached his island. He did not want to leave and it took three-quarters of an hour to persuade him. He was taken to the home of his niece, Mrs. Jessie Moore, Riverton.

Mr. Nelson was returning from his work in Hartford along the road on the

east side of the river. Just below the Roberts farm he saw water in the road and stopped. The road suddenly caved in and he narrowly escaped drowning in his car. His car was prevented from floating down the river only by fallen trees.

ROAD, BRIDGE REPAIRS
MAY COST \$200,000

State Estimate Includes Emergency
Services During Flood Period

WATERBURY DAMAGE SET AT \$1,000,000

Brass City Factory Closed Temporarily;
Crest Reaches Hartford

Repairs to highways and bridges made necessary by the flood and emergency services of the past three days will cost about \$200,000, it was estimated Sunday by A. L. Donnelly, director of roadway maintenance for the State Highway Department.

The figure, he said, includes the time of the men who will make the repairs and those called out to man barriers closing roads on which there were washouts.

An estimate that Waterbury's flood damage may reach \$1,000,000 was made Sunday by Fire Marshal Eugene Legge of that city, according to the Associated Press.

Legge said it would be impossible to finally determine the extent of damage done by the rampaging Naugatuck River until the cellars of private homes, business establishments and factories have been pumped out and inventories can be made.

AMPHIBIAN PRAISED FOR FLOOD WORK

Any future floods of serious size in Connecticut will probably find State Police making more use of the amphibious truck developed by the Army for river and beach work in World War II, Commissioner Edward J. Hickey indicated Satur-

day. (Jan. 1)

The Commissioner spent part of Friday and Saturday in actual rescue work in the "duck" and said he was impressed by its possibilities. He found it a safe craft for rescuing families from flooded homes, he said and added that it can transport whole families of several persons at a time.

The "duck" worked Friday in Farmington and New Hartford and on Saturday evacuated 11 persons in South Windsor.

The craft is owned by Robert Plimpton of Storrs, who bought it from the War Assets Administration. He has used it for water transport work in this state and on Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire.

"And he certainly knows how to handle it," said Commissioner Hickey, who made several trips with Plimpton in the "duck".

Offers Craft to Police

Plimpton called the Stafford Springs Barracks of the State Police to offer use of the craft Friday. Word was sent to Commissioner Hickey who grasped the opportunity to use and study the craft.

Plimpton's offer, said the commissioner, was typical of hundreds of such offers of assistance which came from people of the state while the battle against floods was at its height.

These offers, he said, came from the American Legion and other veteran groups, the Civil Air Patrol, Red Cross chapters and branches, Connecticut National Guard, and other organizations.

"At times Friday," he said "headquarters was receiving calls at the rate of 200 an hour. We had to put on four extra operators. The calls were both for aid and offers of aid. We can certainly be proud of our civilian population in this state."

When it came to getting work done at the places of flooding, he said, wartime training given men now home after military service as well as that given to civilians in defense activities showed its effect. In many villages and towns, he said, the old civilian defense units, dormant for many months, came to life and functioned smoothly.

More than 130 State Policemen were

assigned to the flood emergency including those in barracks in the affected areas and others brought in from barracks where there was no flood problem.

State Police, local police and firemen in the affected towns and scores of volunteer workers, the commissioner said, worked round the clock for 24 and sometimes 36 hours before the work eased with receding of waters and they could go home to rest.

Commissioner Hickey was still at work late Saturday in the New Hartford, Simsbury and Farmington areas as mopping-up operations went on.

State Police relieved from flood duty were, after a rest, assigned to highway patrolling which had to be stepped up because of icy conditions on the roads.

TOWN OF FARMINGTON
CONNECTICUT

January 6, 1949

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

Dear Mr. Hickey:

I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the work done by the State Police in evacuating residents of Farmington during the recent flood. The efforts of your department were very effective in the saving of life, and property in this emergency.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Heitsch

RDH:MMM

Despite the havoc caused by floods, we can be thankful that rain and not snow was falling for the three day period. The Weather Bureau estimates the seven inch rainfall would have been equivalent to almost six feet of snow.

ROBERT S. PLIMPTON

JAMES D. FLOOK

DUCKPORTATION

AMPHIBIOUS
TRANSPORTATION

BOX 272, THE WEIRS, N. H.

BOX 81, LACONIA, N. H.

TELEPHONE
ROBERT S. PLIMPTON
THE WEIRS, N. H.

3 January 1949
Mansfield Centre

Edward J. Hickey
Commissioner of State Police
Station "H"
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Sir:

I wish to thank you very much for the kind hospitality and most wonderful treatment I received while I was working with your department during the emergency of 31 December 1948 and 1 January 1949.

It is my hope that we gave you a demonstration successful enough to warrant the use of the "DUCK" again in the future.

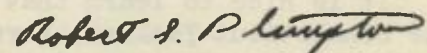
I am very proud to have been able to serve under your most excellent direction sir and, now that you know there is a "DUCK" available to you at ANY time, perhaps we can get together for the service of the public more often in the future.

Thank you again for your kind cooperation and guidance, without which my efforts would surely have been useless.

Very truly yours

Winter Address:

Wormwood Hill
Mansfield Centre
Connecticut



Robert S. Plimpton
for
DUCKPORTATION

Hartford Connecticut being the home of Samuel Colt and the Colt Firearms, Vox-Cop readers may be interested in the following:

Texas' hospitality when the I.A.C.P. meets in Dallas next year."

THIS DAY IN TEXAS

POLICE SUPT. ROACH
TO ATTEND INAUGURAL

By
Curtis Bishop

Austin-American October 9.

Police Supt. William J. Roach, Waterbury, is one of three police officials of the state selected in the special detail for President Truman's inauguration Jan. 20, Mayor Raymond E. Snyder informed the Waterbury Police Board. Supt. Roach was granted a leave of absence from Jan. 18 through Jan. 22. Others from the state on the detail are State Police Comsr. Edward J. Hickey and Chief John Gleason, Greenwich.

Death came on this day in 1847 to Samuel H. Walker, noted Texas Ranger Captain for whom the inventor of the six-shooter, Samuel Colt, named a model of his repeating revolver.

Walker was killed in a skirmish with Mexican troops under Santa Anna near the Castle of Perote where he had been a prisoner after the defeat of the Mier Expedition. A legend is that, while confined at Perote, Walker placed a dime under the Mexican flagpole and promised his captors that he would return someday, haul down the Mexican banner and reclaim his coin.

MOTHER, 2 SONS SAVED FROM GAS
BY PHONE GIRL

The Texans had been assigned to keep the road open between Perote and Jalapa as guerrillas had been dogging the wake of General Winfield Scott's army. There is evidence that Walker and his Rangers dealt effectively with the guerillas. "The renowned Captain Walker," wrote one early historian, "takes no prisoners."

Milford, -- Supt. of Police Arthur Harris commended the alert action of a telephone operator and members of the Police and Fire departments in the rescue of a mother and her two small sons from death by illuminating gas.

Send to New York in 1839 to purchase a supply of six-shooters for the Rangers Walker had suggested some changes in the weapon to Inventor Colt. The "Walker Model" was the result.

Partially overcome by gas, Mrs. Dorothy Haskedakes, 29, placed a call for help at 8:30 p.m. Mrs. Charlotte Cleever, Myrtle Beach an operator at the Milford telephone exchange, whose attention was attracted by Mrs. Haske-dakes' weak voice, reported the call to her supervisor, Miss Ruth Platt, of Platt street, who summoned police.

---DPS Chaparral

Desk Sgt. George O'Hara dispatched Sgt. Charles Polizzi and Patrolman Alex Norris in a radio car to the home, where they found Mrs. Haskedakes and her two sons, Douglass, 13 months, and George six years, semi-conscious and lying on the living room floor.

MORE FROM OUR TEXAS CONTEMPORARIES

"It is nice to learn that our friends the Connecticut Yankees, forsee an active and progressive administration of the I.A.C.P. under Colonel Garrison's leadership. We are no less proud of Chief Glen H. McLaughlin's election as First Vice President of the I.A.I.

The policemen telephoned for an inhalator and Battalion Chief Leonard Botsford and Fireman James Driscoll responded and revived the three gas victims. They were taken in a Police car to Milford hospital, where they were treated and later discharged. The policemen returned them to their home.

We know Texas will look forward to showing our New England friends some of

APPRECIATION LETTERS

VOX-COP

January, 1949

State of Connecticut



E. LEA MARSH, JR.,
CHAIRMAN
WESTON C. PULLEN,
VICE CHAIRMAN
THOMAS D. COULTER,
SECRETARY
NORTHAM L. WRIGHT,
TREASURER
IRWIN GRANNISS

OLD LYME - OLD SAYBROOK BRIDGE COMMISSION
OLD SAYBROOK, CONNECTICUT

JAY H. TYRRELL
MANAGER

December 20, 1948

Edward J. Hickey, Commissioner
Department of State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

The Bridge Commission wishes to express their appreciation to you and to the members of your Department for the splendid cooperation effected, which served to make the Dedication Ceremonies on December 4th a marked success.

Captains Schatzman and Mulcahy, together with Lieutenant Shaw are to be especially commended for the manner in which they offered their services to the Dedication Committee, and in the efficient way in which they handled parking and traffic control.

We are especially grateful to you for providing a detail for the parade, including the colors and honor guard for Governor Shannon.

The part that the State Police played in this Bridge Dedication, as in all of the work and public services you render, is in keeping with the best traditions of the State of Connecticut, and will long be remembered by members of this Commission and all concerned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. Lea Marsh, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

E. Lea Marsh, Jr.
Chairman

Old Lyme-Old Saybrook
Bridge Commission



State of Connecticut

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

STATE OFFICE BUILDING, HARTFORD 4, CONN.



December 22, 1948

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

Dear Commissioner:

Drawing near as we are to the close of another year, I would like to express my appreciation and that of the Highway Safety Commission for the interest and cooperation which you and your department have shown in spreading the good word concerning safety.

While it would appear at this time our record for 1948 will not be as favorable as it was for the year 1947, we must take into consideration an 8% increase in the registration of automobiles in Connecticut and an increase of approximately 5% in miles driven, both of which factors have a bearing on accident exposure.

Your unfailing and enthusiastic support of the work which the Highway Safety Commission is endeavoring to do has been a distinct personal pleasure to me and I can't tell you how much it has served to encourage us on in our work. Certainly you and your men have left no stones unturned in your efforts to instill in the minds of the people of Connecticut the importance of driving and living safely.

Facing as we are a new year, I sincerely trust we may count upon the continued assistance of your department in bringing a greater degree of safety not only on our streets and highways, but also in homes, in schools, on the farms as well as in industry. As I see it, we cannot for one moment let up in our efforts to reduce accidents to a minimum and thereby save human lives and suffering.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. A. Allen".

Chairman, Connecticut Highway
Safety Commission

APPRECIATION LETTERS

WILLIAM J. ROACH
SUPERINTENDENT
FREDERICK S. HICKEY
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
CITY OF WATERBURY
CONNECTICUT

December 31, 1948

Commissioner Edward J. Hickey
Connecticut State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

Before the New Year comes into being, I want to thank you and the members of your Department for the splendid cooperation given to the Waterbury Police Department during 1948.

It is indeed a great feeling to know that we can call on your most competent organization at anytime and receive such all-out cooperation be our request great or small.

It is our fond desire that this fine relationship shall always exist.

With all good wishes for the New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William J. Roach
Superintendent

WJR:LMD

SAVE YOUR LIFE!

DRIVE CAREFULLY - WALK CAREFULLY

A P P R E C I A T I O N L E T T E R S

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
FORT BANKS, MASSACHUSETTS

December 28, 1948

Dear Sir:

I would like to commend Trooper Johnson #237 for the courtesy and cooperation extended to Corporal Joseph J. Ricciardone a member of the Military Police stationed at Fort Banks, Mass.

Trooper Johnson through his courtesy and kindness, helped Corporal Ricciardone in the performance of duty considered of a serious nature and by this assistance enabled Corporal Ricciardone to successfully fulfill his mission.

It certainly was a fine expression of cooperation between civil authorities and the Military Police.

Very truly yours,

Frank S. Zalegowski
1st Lt., CMP
Commanding Officer
1240th ASU PM MP Unit Det #1

Cambridge, Mass.
December 21, 1948

Gentlemen:

This past Sunday it was necessary that I go to Boston, Mass. Due to lack of proper train connections it was also necessary that I drive.

While enroute in the storm one of my tire chains broke and became entangled around the axle locking the wheel. That this happened on an incline plus the fact that one of my index fingers has recently been badly lacerated requiring treatment at the St. Francis Hospital left me in an awkward position.

As I was standing looking at my trouble one of your Troopers drove up and asked my problem. He looked it over and did not offer advice but immediately began to solve it for me. In short he took off the wheel unwound the chain and put the wheel back on the car

for me. In doing this he was even going to lay his overcoat on the messy highway so he could get under the car to do a better job. Fortunately I had an oilcloth mat which eliminated the necessity.

I can not let such a considerate, generous and gentlemanly act pass without reporting it to you. To him it may have been only another incident in a difficult day, but to me it was a thoughtful deed and I wanted to let you know how I felt about it.

Who he was I do not know, but the incident happened about two in the afternoon in the neighborhood of Willington on the new highway. He was driving a car with license GC-993.

Very truly yours,

Howard J. Nelson

(The officer referred to is Off. Luke F. Clancy of Danielson.---Ed.)

TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

December 16, 1948

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

I work with Harry Barsantee in the Publicity Department here, often on safety promotion for the company, so I'm more than ordinarily familiar with your name and your splendid achievements.

That's why it occurred to me to send you a note in praise of Trooper Charles Pritchard. Pritchard was a stranger to me until last Tuesday night when I ran out of gas on the Berlin Turnpike. It was late, and I had just decided to strike out in search of an open filling station when Trooper Pritchard arrived to investigate. He appreciated my reluctance to leave the car unattended and volunteered to find a can of gas and bring it back. He did so -- with a good deal more courtesy and pleasantness than was necessary.

Mother and I proceeded to Hartford

A P P R E C I A T I O N L E T T E R S

with a warm feeling about your force and you most heartily.
for that matter, about the whole state
of Connecticut.

Very sincerely yours,

Sincerely,

G. W. Cheney

Walter M. Harrison, Jr.
Publicity Department

Outstanding service by the following
personnel has brought commendation let-
ters to the Department from the public.

PHOENIX MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Off. Arthur Andreoli
Off. William Conlon
Off. Frank DeFilippo
Off. Neil Hurley
Off. Donald Hurst
Off. Victor Keilty
Off. Frederick Staples
Off. Emil Struzik
Off. Ralph Waterman
Off. Frank Whelan
Det. Sgt. Robert Murphy
Lieut. Henry Mayo
Lieut. Carroll Shaw

December 16, 1948

My dear Commissioner:

I should like to commend in the
highest terms State Police Officer Hart
of the Colchester Barracks. I have
been very favorably impressed by his
ability and courtesy incident to his
investigation of an automobile accident
in which I was involved.

Late in the afternoon of Sunday,
November 21, Mrs. Cheney and I were out
driving with Dr. Robert P. Knapp of
Manchester. At a crossroad, a mile or
so south of Moodus, we were run into
by an automobile which went through a
Stop sign. Mrs. Knapp and I were
thrown out of the car, and Mrs. Cheney
was badly shaken up. It was a serious
accident. Someone telephoned the
Colchester Barracks, and Officer Hart
arrived on the scene very promptly. He
took charge of the situation in a most
efficient manner.

The next day, he visited me at the
Middlesex Hospital to obtain a state-
ment, and Monday of this week came to
my home in Manchester to discuss the
case further. He was most courteous on
both occasions.

Also I wish to praise Officer Dono-
hue, who drove us in the ambulance to
the hospital. He was very kind and
helpful.

On various other occasions, I have
been impressed with the efficiency and
courtesy of your State Police Officers.
This can only be due to the excellent
training your men have received under
your leadership. Let me congratulate

Many letters were received commending
the Department as a whole, while several
singled out the following barracks and
divisions.

Station C, Stafford Springs
Station H, Hartford
Station I, Bethany
Station K, Colchester
Traffic Division

CITIES TO TAB KNOWN CRIMINALS

A new system of keeping track of
criminals and police characters on a
nation-wide basis is being organized by
United States metropolitan cities, it
is reported.

It is understood the plan calls for a
clearing house in Los Angeles to dis-
tribute finger prints, pictures and
other information regarding criminals
who are moving from place to place.

Under the new system, if it is known
where a person with a police record is
moving, that city will be notified, as
will the Los Angeles clearing house.

Pertinent & Otherwise

VOX-COP

January, 1949

COP'S WRITING TOO POOR FOR JUDGE

Birmingham, Eng. -- This arm of the law should be equipped with a better hand. Herbert Cyril Harris, 41, a mechanic, was found innocent of inducing three other men to rob a restaurant when the judge told the jury there was no evidence for it to consider. He explained:

"The statement of the defendant is written by a police officer and his handwriting is indecipherable."

(It could happen here!---Ed.)

"HOT TIPS" DIVISION

Adopting the motto of many leading newspapers and radio news services, Vox-Cop asks your help in getting "News while it is news". If you know of any outstanding activities of police personnel, local or state, won't you please channel them to your division or station reporter so that all of our personnel may have the benefit of your information? How about suggestions for news articles. Vox-Cop is only as good as you make it. Be a contributor. Better yet, be a constant reader. Many of the applicants who participated successfully in the recent departmental promotional examinations today have no regrets for the extra hours given to studying Vox-Cop subjects. It is true, of course, that all the questions asked in the written or oral exams were not specifically outlined in our unique publication. Ye Editors, however, have made every effort to provide appropriate articles to improve the departmental I.Q.

There are bound to be disappointments. We are pleased to observe, however, the good will and sincere congratulations extended to all of the promotionals. An outstanding number gained the passing marks. The eligible list has two years to go - so don't get

disheartened. Your Yankee Clipper - Styles in Crime - In-Service Programs - Entre Nous - and Around The Circuit - will continue to keep you posted on practices and procedures - every page merits your full attention - and careful review. The ammunition is furnished the year around - it is up to you, however, to use it wisely and effectively when the tests are conducted for higher ratings.

"YOU'LL BE SORRY, BILL"

Did you read Bailey A. Barnum's Bridgeport Sunday Post Column's recent paragraph on THE FIRE MARSHAL Division's Fairfield County EXPERT?

NO! --- Well read it:

"State Police Detective Sergeant Bill Sullivan parks himself close to home these winter nights and gets the biggest kick out of watching boxing bouts via television. Last Tuesday he saw a card in which five straight contests ended in knockouts, which pleased him no little."

HOLLYWOOD HEROES

Actor Scotty Beckett, of Los Angeles, who played the Mammy-Shouting Al Jolson as a boy in "The Jolson Story," quickly cried "uncle" after a rough-and-tumble argument with police who picked him up on a drunken-driving charge.

Errol Flynn-The Terror-from the land of "Make Believe" recently went haywire along Broadway while in New York. He got into an argument with one of New York's finest. Then he kicked the cop in the shins while being booked and next forfeited his bail. Re-arrested, the next day Great Errol learned the Judge believed the cop. His Honor fined Flynn and made it clear that New York was no place to toss cops around and make them the butt of jokes and slapstick comedy.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(With Apologies to "Bob" Mack,
Our Last Oral Board and Haskin)

Q. Is there an organization known as New York Sky Police?

A. This is the popular name for the New York City Police Aviation Bureau which maintains an air patrol of the city. Based originally at North Beach in 1929 and later at LaGuardia Field, the headquarters was transferred to Idlewild.

Q. Are there any colored members of the F.B.I.?

A. The Federal Bureau of Investigation says that there are Negro special agents employed by that Bureau.

Q. What is a pea soup fog?

A. A pea soup fog is the name applied to the very dense fogs which formerly occurred quite often in London. The term is used in reference to their usual dull yellow color and thick consistency.

Q. What President of the United States expressed this splendid sentiment? "Public Office is a public trust."

A. Grover Cleveland.

Q. Why do whales, which are air-breathing mammals, die when driven ashore?

A. When the bulky bodies of whales are not buoyed up in the water, their weight crushes them so that they are unable to breathe, and die of suffocation.

Q. Who are T-men?

A. T-men are members of the Intelligence Unit of the U. S. Treasury who seek to apprehend those who evade the payment of income taxes.

Q. How long has cockfighting been known?

A. Almost as far as the history of fowls can be traced there has been cockfighting. It was a favorite pastime of the most ancient Greeks

and Romans. It was known in Asia at least 300 years ago.

Q. When was fingerprinting first used and by whom?

A. Thumb Prints were first used by the Chinese more than 400 years ago upon public documents instead of signatures.

Q. When was the National Bureau of Identification established in Washington?

A. July 1, 1924.

The Colorado State Patrol Magazine for November-December, 1948, carried an item from Deputy Chief James H. Cole addressed to all officers of the Colorado Department. It was a timely and appropriate message to Colorado State Patrol personnel. We reprint it here in the hope that it will appeal to and receive full consideration by the personnel of the Connecticut State Police Department.

"TO ALL OFFICERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT"

Some patrolmen do not fully realize the importance of taking the proper care of the equipment furnished them by the State of Colorado. The most important -- and the most expensive item is the patrol car. When you sit behind the wheel of a new radio-equipped patrol car you have in your care a unit valued at three thousand dollars. Why not care for this equipment as if it were your own car? You spend an average of nine hours a day in your patrol car. Keep it clean; keep it greased; have the oil changed when it should be changed; have the tires checked regularly, etc. Take pride in caring for this equipment -- it will pay dividends."

It ain't the number of hours a man puts in, it's what a man puts in the hours that really counts.

---"Roger"

Joe De Bona, in his Sunday Herald Column, recently wrote:

"RIGHT ON THE RAIL"

"Lt. W. E. Mackenzie is a careful man, who doesn't believe in taking chances...During the first snowstorm, he declared an emergency at State Police Barracks in Groton, and had all his men on patrol"...BUT-RIGHT ON THE BALL, -T. Jay pulled a faster one--New Year's Eve with floods threatening Western Connecticut, each barracks was called upon to contribute five men to the Emergency Squad. Some of the boys had to cancel New Year's Parties--including E. Jay--who stayed on the job until 5:00 A.M. with the DUCK. His friends are asking about being marooned on the Farmington River - "all wet" - with the Old Year Out and the New Year In. LUKE CLANCY substituted for Adolph---Poor Luke!

SNOW TIRES VS. CHAINS

To the Editor of The Times:

State Police Commissioner Hickey is reported as saying that only chains are of use on hardpacked ice or snow.

If that is true, why is it that the State Police do not issue a detailed warning to motorists? It is my opinion that more than half of the people who buy snow tires do so under the assumption that they are buying a substitute for chains.

I know several rather elderly drivers who would not relish being stopped on the Merritt Parkway, and then being forced to crawl under their cars to put chains over their snow tires.

The car I have driven through many winters has been equipped with only snow tires, and I have yet to get stuck, or skid into anyone. On occasions I have driven cars which had on chains, but could see no difference between the chain-equipped car and the one with snow tires.

The motoring public would appreciate it if Commissioner Hickey would publicize scientific proof of the supposed

superiority of the chain over the snow tire. This would save many dollars for the motorists who buy snow tires so as to save themselves from crawling through the snow to reach the rear wheels.

---E.G.T.T.

"The proof is in the pudding". Ask the boys on the "M.P." or the National Safety Council!---Ed.

25-MILE LIMIT IS SET
BY POLICE ON PARKWAY

Westport, -- State Police clamped down a 25-mile-an-hour speed limit on the Merritt Parkway and barred cars without chains from the westbound lanes New Year's Eve as dropping temperatures turned rain to sleet in western Connecticut.---(The Voice of Experience!)

MAN WANTED!!

WANTED--A man for hard work and rapid promotion; a man who can find things to be done without the help of a manager and three assistants.

A man who gets to work on time in the morning and does not imperil the lives of others in an attempt to be first out of the office at night.

A man who listens carefully when he is spoken to and asks only enough questions to insure the accurate carrying out of instructions.

A man who moves quickly and makes as little noise as possible about it.

A man who looks you straight in the eye and tells the truth every time.

A man who does not pity himself for having to work.

A man who is neat in appearance.

A man who does not sulk for an hour's overtime in emergencies.

A man who is cheerful, courteous to everyone, and determined to make good.

This man is wanted everywhere. Age or lack of experience does not count. There isn't any limit, except his own ambition, to the number or size of the jobs he can get. He is wanted in every business.

STEALING NAMES

Those Who Take the Names of
Others Are Imposters

To the Editor of The Courant:

Congratulations to the Mrs. Spencer who exposed Zawadski for the act he committed--stealing a name!

And many, many thanks to the police who acted so promptly and so fully for justice in this matter.

It has always been an astounding fact to me that under any circumstances whatsoever--excepting, of course, the bonds of matrimony--one individual is permitted to take the name of another individual and carry it as his own through life, when it does not belong to him any more than another persons' car or house.

In the particular case of Zawadski-Spencer, it had not been sanctioned legally; but in many cases it is. How can any court rule that it is fair and just for one person to take something belonging to another person and call it his own! How is he anything short of an imposter! I wish there would be other letters on this subject, both pro and con.

---Another Mrs. Spencer
Broad Brook

Louis Spencer, 45, who started what police call a career of crime at the age of 11 in Hartford, was questioned recently by police of four states about armed robberies and three murders.

He was arrested by state and city police. Presented in the Hartford Police Court, he was held on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. His use of names of prominent families for aliases prompted numerous letters of protest to local papers.

STORM-IRKED DRIVER PRAISES BAY STATE

East Hartland, -- Rerouting of west-bound traffic from Route 44 to Route 179 which sent hundreds of automobiles and trucks through this town last Friday

brought one irate and plainly dissatisfied motorist with it.

He was among dozens to stop at Hayes General Store to find out road conditions. He was told he couldn't get into Winsted on any road. That was the last straw.

"A thing like this wouldn't happen in Massachusetts," he declared.

(Page Rudy King---Ed.)

DID YOU KNOW?

The National Bureau of Standards says that automotive antifreezes should not be used the year around but should be drained in the spring. Following this the cooling system should be flushed and a suitable rust inhibitor should be used in the cooling water during the summer months. It is not considered advisable to use an antifreeze for more than one season since contamination of the material and depletion of the corrosion inhibitors may make the antifreeze unsafe from the standpoint of corrosion.

It is amazing to New York police how many visitors, and natives, too, don't know where the Jumel Mansion or the Hispanic Museum is. They have to be told precisely how to get there. For this purpose there had to be set up in Times Square 15 years ago a small booth no larger than a man's inquiry, which soon became so popular that it outgrew itself.

Today, an enlarged booth, with the impact of a streamline store front, has been set up in the little island at Forty-third Street, and more than 2,000 daily questions and problems are smoothed out by officers skilled in their knowledge of Manhattan and its environs.

What city in the U. S. has reduced its juvenile-delinquency rate 90 per cent in less than a year?

Baker, Ore., where parents or guardians serve jail sentences for the juveniles.

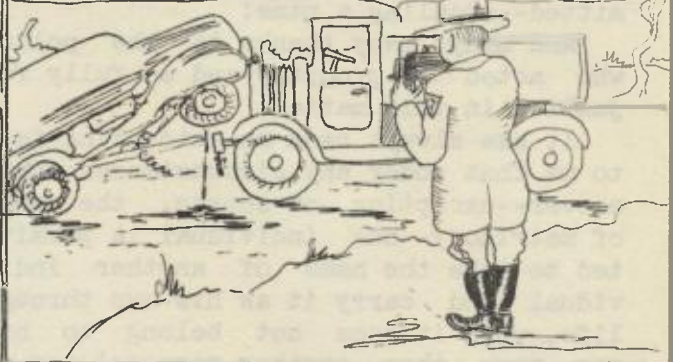
OFFICER QUILP By Effess

QUILP, GET THE CAMERA AND HURRY UP TO ROUTE ONE AND NINE, BAD ACCIDENT.



OK SARGE!

WHAT BEAUTIFUL LEGAL SHOTS I'M GETTING - WONDERFUL COMPOSITION TOO. FROM NOW ON THIS CASE WILL BE KNOWN AS "JONES VERSUS JONES - PICTURES BY QUILP!"



IS IT ALL RIGHT TO MOVE THE CARS NOW OFFICER QUILP?



YES SIR CAPTAIN, I'VE GOT SOME BEAUTIES.

IN THE DARK ROOM



BOY OH BOY! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE THESE NEGATIVES WHAT BEAUTIFUL STUFF I'VE GOT HERE!

OH! - NO! - ALL BLANKS! I FORGOT TO PULL OUT THE DARK SLIDES!



IT'S OFFICER QUILP CAPTAIN. HE'S BEEN IN THERE FOR FOUR HOURS, AND HE WON'T COME OUT!



STYLES IN CRIME

VOX-COP

January, 1949

Pickpocketing Art Is Told By One Who Knows

By Richard K. Winslow

A well dressed, affable pickpocket, who looks like a successful business man of forty and who claims an income of \$45,000 a year, tax free, leisurely discussed his ancient art recently in New York City.

Since he finds prison life tedious, let him be called Martin. In the trade Martin is known as a "class cannon," that is, a thief who works the country's more promising pockets and one who never stoops to rolling drunks or making his "scores" by violence.

Normally reticent about his work, Martin talked freely to Dr. David W. Maurer, professor of language and literature of the University of Louisville and an expert on underworld slang. In his research in philology, Dr. Maurer has worked with Martin before, finding him not only adept as a thief but highly literate and sympathetic to the difficulties of linguistic field work.

The business of picking pockets is divided into two types of labor, Martin said. There is the "stall," the person or persons in large mobs who crowd against the victim while the "wire" (or "tool" or "hook") actually empties the pocket.

The hardest part of the work is being the stall," he said. "Once the stall becomes a good stall he seldom becomes a wire. Stalls are so much in demand." Martin himself is a wire, but when working alone he has to perform both jobs and, he said, "I've broken in many a stall."

Martin spoke with contempt about fourth-rate pickpockets who are labeled "summertime tools." "They just aren't skillful enough to work under an overcoat," he said.

Asked about the methods of splitting the take in mob operations, Martin said the usual procedure was for only those thieves who had put up emergency funds to divide the money or, as he put it,

"in with the grief, in with the gravy." Describing mob morality in general, Martin lapsed momentarily into academic jargon:

"It depends not only on the ethics of the mob but the ethnic qualities of the mob; it depends on personality, too, and whether a guy has got kids in school and so on." And in a "class" mob, he pointed out, vulgarity in speech "is as taboo as it is in your home with your wife."

Martin discussed in considerable detail the rates the thief paid for "police protection" in the many cities his work has taken him. New York he finds a poor field at present for his business but, he said, "You can put Chicago on fire in three days if you want to work. I mean work, even eight hours a day."

Martin's respect for "hungry mobs," those working day in and day out, is low. "They never have time to enjoy their money. They never night-club it, drink it or take it out to the track."

There are no pockets which are safe from his touch, Martin said. "The only difficult pocket to pick is the pocket you left home in pants in a trunk. There ain't no difficult pocket if there's money in it, as long as it ain't change and tied down."

Later, Dr. Maurer said Martin picked his first pocket when he was thirteen, standing in a movie line. "For some months he thought he had a line on a brand new racket, not realizing he had only rediscovered the second oldest profession in the world."

Dr. Maurer has been interviewing criminals for twenty years and has published many papers on the argot of marijuana addicts, dice gamblers, forgers and confidence men, and of the racetrack and the circus. "My work is no more romantic than any other job," he said, "and has never caused fear in me."

At the start he had difficulty gaining the confidence of criminals, but now

he has more informants on underworld jargon than he can handle. "Many of the higher type criminals are deeply interested in this study of language, and particularly the increasing number of sociological and psychological implications that the study is revealing," Dr. Maurer said.

Dr. Maurer's findings, many of which have been used by H.L. Mencken in his "American Language" volumes, will be among those of 400 members of the American Dialect Society's projected dictionary of the country's slang.

MEAT CLEAVER--SURE SILENT
GANGLAND'S NEWEST KILLER

(Chicago Herald-American, Oct. 10, 1948)

A meat cleaver is gangland's newest death weapon.

The new technique in sudden and sure death has marked the murders of William John Granata, powerful Republican politician and two other recent victims in Chicago.

Gone are the "last ride" weapons of the old Capone days--the blue-steel automatic, the sawed-off shotgun and the machine gun.

Gangland has turned to the cleaver because: Anybody can buy a cleaver at any hardware store; the new weapon, held in gloved hands, carries no fingerprints it foils ballistics tests that have solved many crimes; its razor-sharp blade, swiftly and silently penetrates flesh and bone with such deadly precision there is slight chance of failure; and there is no noise of gunfire to attract attention.

Gangland's first cleaver victim was a handsome young handbook employee, Raymond Pawloski. He was found hacked to death at the brink of a clayhole in Werth Township on August 3. He "knew too much and talked too much," police said.

Less than a month later Phillip R. Spagnola, an ex-convict, reputed dice game runner and a mysterious figure in politics and gangland was the second figure. He was found with his head almost chopped off in the rear of 1533

Flournoy St. Capt. Kyran Phelan of the Maxwell Street Police station said he was certain Spagnola was a gang victim.

Then a few minutes after midnight Friday Granata was struck down in front of his apartment near Randolph and Wells Streets.

The methods and the results of the three murders were identical. The wounds in the backs of the necks of the victims were the same--deeply cut, showing the employment of great force in blows from behind.

Granata was a powerful man a superb athlete. He played handball every day and was extremely careful of his diet and living. He might because of his excellent physical condition, have survived a volley of bullets or knife stabs but against gangland's new weapon he did not have a chance.

---Police Chiefs News

LIBRARY YULE TREE ROBBED

Washington -- The christmas crook is the meanest crook, branch librarian Althea Howard contends. She opened up her library this morning and found thieves had stolen all the decorations from the Christmas tree, even the creche with the Virgin, the Child and animals.

THE WILD AND LOONEY WEST

California's rival cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles competed for honors recently in the cock-eyed crime department. In San Francisco, according to the United Press, an impatient car thief walked into a showroom on Van Ness Avenue, climbed behind the wheel of a new convertible turned on the ignition, and drove the car smack through the plate glass show window and off down the avenue. Police are still looking for him. In Los Angeles, according to The Associated Press, a more honest intruder broke into Dr. Nelson A. Young's office, removed a plaster cast from his own arm, did the arm up in bandages fresh from the doctor's cabinet, then fled into the

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night leaving behind a \$20 bill in payment. Dr. Young would like to find the gentleman, as he owes him some change. The doctor's fee for bandaging a broken arm is only \$15--even for housebreakers.

SANTA ROBS THE TILL IN ST. JO, TEXAS

Mrs. Wing Lee's faith in Santa Claus was shaken to the extent of \$13. At 4 a.m. one morning before Christmas, a man wearing a Santa mask and white whiskers appeared at Mrs. Lee's cafe. She asked, "Isn't it a little early for Santa Claus to be out?" Then, she said, he pulled a gun and took \$10 from the cash register and \$3 from a waitress.

BANDIT SOOTHES GIRL, 4,
AS AIDS TIE UP MOTHER

A frustrated robber ransacked a Brooklyn, N.Y. home for half an hour one recent afternoon looking for a non-existent safe, while one companion guarded the housewife, Mrs. Evelyn Gruskoff, thirty-five, and another tried to pacify her frightened four-year-old daughter, Linda. The trio finally fled with loot valued at \$5,000.

Mrs. Gruskoff was preparing dinner in the kitchen of her home at 1:30 p.m. when the doorbell rang. She went to the door, with Linda tagging along, and saw through the glass a man in a messenger's uniform, who told her that he was collecting clothing for the American Legion.

She told him to come back the next day, and he went away. Ten minutes later he returned and when she went to the door a second time he told her that he had an urgent message from the American Legion. This time she opened the door, whereupon the bogus messenger drew a gun and forced his way into the house. He was followed a moment later by two other men who were unarmed.

The unarmed men ripped cords from venetian blinds and bound Mrs. Gruskoff to a chair, while the armed robber began to question her as to the whereabouts of

the safe.

"We have no safe," Mrs. Gruskoff protested.

"Stop kidding us," he said. "We got to eat. You have insurance."

"There is no safe in the house and no money."

"Where is the jewelry?"

"There is none in the house."

Linda, who all the while had been clinging to her mother's skirt, began to cry. Then she became sick. The man in messenger's uniform petted her and took her to the bathroom.

"What are you doing to Mommy?" the child sobbed. "You're not going to hurt my Mommy."

The robber reassured her, but when she continued to cry he took her to an upstairs bedroom, where he soothed her and promised her lots of toys for Christmas.

While one man stood guard over Mrs. Gruskoff, the other began looking for a safe. After a casual search, he began to move furniture, and finally, becoming enraged, ripped curtains, tore pictures from the walls, and bellowed, "Where is the safe?"

"There is no safe," Mrs. Gruskoff repeated.

The angry man ripped the telephone from its connections, but finally calmed down. "We expected a lot of money here" he grumbled, "but I guess there is no safe."

They took a mink coat, a wedding ring an engagement ring from Mrs. Gruskoff's hand, \$200 in cash from her purse, and a few trinkets.

Mother Frees Herself

As they left, Linda came downstairs and at her mother's bidding ran to the window to watch the direction taken by the trio, but they had vanished. Mrs. Gruskoff chewed at the knots binding her hands and finally freed herself. She called police from a neighbor's house.

Traffic Cop: "Don't you know what I mean when I hold up my hand?"

Nice Old Lady: "I ought to. For 35 years I was a school teacher."

IMPERSONATOR TRIES HIS ACT
ON REAL POLICEMAN

A day or two prior to Christmas, in New York City, Thomas Maloney, thirty-six, a partially successful interpreter of the mannerisms of policemen, turned in a shoddy performance before a difficult audience.

On six occasions in the last four and a half years Maloney has impersonated plainclothes agents to his momentary profit, but eventual detriment. He began his career on March 15, '44, at the Aquarium Restaurant on Seventh Avenue near Times Square, when he walked in, ordered the manager to "clean up the joint," and withdrew his edict when the manager agreed to cash two checks for \$75 for him. The checks bounced, and Maloney got his first jail sentence--suspended.

Five times thereafter Maloney tried variations of the same theme. Each impersonation saw him enriched for the moment, but inevitably jailed on charges of impersonating an officer plus such other charges as larceny, forgery and extortion.

His latest conflict with the law discloses Maloney walked up to a shabby man on a bench at Sixty-fifth Street and Broadway.

"I want to make a bet," he said.

"But I'm no bookie," the illclothed stranger replied.

"Don't give me that." He led the stranger to a quiet spot and said:

"Now, look, I'm from the Police Commissioner's Squad. Give me the price of a new hat for Christmas, and I won't run you in. Here's my identification, see?" He flicked open a police-type card case for an instant, and snapped it shut as the stranger peered.

The shabby man gave Maloney a \$20 bill and followed it with another \$10 at Maloney's insistence.

With the \$10 came a clutching hand and a voice accustomed to command.

"You're no cop. I am. And I don't need a new hat."

Maloney tried to flee, but the shabby stranger held him tight. He was Detective Stephen J. Wall of the Safe and Loft Squad, out on the prowl for

holiday pilferers.

Booked at Elizabeth Street station for impersonating an officer, extortion and petit larceny, Maloney said he was unemployed and lived at the Belleclaire Hotel, Seventy-seventh Street and Broadway.

He told Detective Wall he was trying to garner cash to pay his lawyer for defending him in a trial Jan. 10 in Queens County Court. The charge, he related, was the same old one--impersonating an officer, grand larceny and extortion.

Detective Wall added a little more fuel to the flames when he brought Maloney before Magistrate Ambrose J. Haddock in the Felony Court to fix bail at \$35,000. Judge Haddock prior to his admission to the Bar was a policeman. To complete the cycle all Maloney needs now is a contact with ex-cop Mayor O'Dwyer.

ANOTHER GREAT IMPERSONATION ENDS IN JAIL

When Carmine Rosa, 21, of Waterbury became involved in a minor automobile accident in Southington last September, he got a bit excited.

The reason authorities learned later, was that he had been held on 13 motor vehicle charges since 1944, involved in six accidents--including one in which there was a fatality--and that his license was under suspension.

After trying to prevent the driver of the other car from calling the police, Rosa went to Waterbury, took a jacket belonging to Joseph M. Cassillo, a friend and returned to the scene of the accident.

Using Cassillo's driver's license, which was in a pocket of the jacket, Rosa managed to pass himself off as Cassillo in Southington Town Court, where Judge J. Lambert Degnan fined him \$100.

Then Rosa posed as Cassillo when he appealed the case to Superior Court. Here Judge John H. King reduced the fine to \$50 but gave him a suspended sentence of one month in jail and placed him on probation for a year.

Then the real Cassillo was notified that his license had been suspended because of the Southington accident, pro-

tested that he had not been in such an accident, and the impersonation came to light.

Last month just prior to Christmas, Judge King sent Rosa to jail for three months under his real name, and ordered Cassillo's name cleared on the records.

BUTTER STEALING MUST BE PROFITABLE

St. Joseph, Mo. -- Chief of Detectives John Lard mused about the strange ways of shoplifters.

Two officers on an anti-shoplifting detail reported to him they followed a woman who was seen stealing a pound of butter from a store.

But she escaped them--roaring away in her new car which carried a list price of \$3,000.

BURGLARS TAKE NOTICE

Milwaukee -- Mrs. Jean Carey went shopping and just to make things easier for the insurance man, whom she expected that day, she pinned a note on the front door.

"There will be no one at home until 3 p.m." the note said.

After Mrs. Carey left, a thief came, looked at the note and proceeded to ransack the house.

He left another note, "Sorry you were out", and went away with a load of booty.

WOMAN'S \$7,100 STOLEN,
FAITH HEALER SUSPECTED

Hackensack, N.Y. -- Mrs. Florence Owens told police a few days before Christmas that she suspected a woman faith healer of having stolen \$7,100 from a strongbox in her home.

The last visit of the faith healer was five weeks ago, but Mrs. Owens said she did not check the contents of her strongbox until near Christmas. Instead of money in a brown manila envelope she

found strips of newspaper.

Mrs. Owens said she met the woman in Philadelphia and knew her only as Mrs. Stone. As a part of the faith-healing program Mrs. Owens was persuaded to withdraw her money from the bank and keep it in her home for at least five weeks. Mrs. Owens recalled that the woman, on her last visit, was left alone in the bedroom with the strongbox for several minutes.

BOY SELLS TOY TO BUY GIFTS, MONEY STOLEN

New Haven -- A 14-years-old boy who sold a train set to get money for Christmas presents for relatives was robbed of \$6 by a pickpocket police here reported recently.

Mervin Ensign, the boy, said he had received \$10 for the train and had spent \$4 on gifts when he discovered his wallet containing the remainder was missing from a pocket.

STOLEN AUTO IDENTIFIED
BY POLICEWOMAN CONROY

Policewoman Vera C. Conroy departed recently from her usual domestic difficulties work to locate a stolen automobile.

Miss Conroy identified the vehicle by its license plate as she walked near 153 Warrenton Avenue, where it had been abandoned. The car was stolen New Year's Eve, according to its owner Francis Zazzaro, of 53 Alden Street.

DOG SHOWS POLICEMAN JUST HOW IT WAS DONE

John D. Carver, police officer, called to investigate a vicious dog here recently took the evidence back to headquarters with him.

He warned the owner of the dog, which had bitten a neighboring resident to keep the animal tied up for observation.

As Carver was talking to the owner, the dog sneaked up and bit his leg.

Entre



Nous

VOX COP

January, 1949

As Music Maestro Achieved Ambition of Becoming Cop



Mayor Daniel E. Brunton is shown pinning an honorary policeman's badge on nationally-famed orchestra leader, Frankie Carle, as Police Chief Raymond P. Gallagher, center, looks on, at ceremonies held December 20 in the mayor's office at City hall. ---Springfield Daily News

Frankie Carle, nationally known band leader and former Springfield resident was presented an honorary badge as a member of the Springfield Police Department by Chief Raymond P. Gallagher at ceremonies in Mayor Daniel B. Brunton's office December 20.

To Carle there could be no greater honor accorded him. His life ambition has been to be a policeman and he would have forsaken the road to musical fame, had he earlier in life carried the required weight to meet police entrance requirements.

As it was, Carle was well known to every member of the police force back in the days when they danced to his rhythms with Edward J. McEnelley's orchestra at the Butterfly Ballroom, and swapped yarns later in the police garage.

Carle has long been an admirer of the Springfield police force and has always shown a keen interest in the mechanics of criminal investigation. He has

always referred to police investigators as "trappers," a quaint expression of his, and was always impressed with police technique in unraveling crimes and trapping the criminal.

Carle played a one-day stand at the Valley Arena in Holyoke and while there made it a point to renew his friendship with Chief Gallagher, long a close friend. Chief Gallagher felt it was an opportune moment to honor a man who has become one of the most popular and famous band leaders in the country, and realized that no greater honor might be accorded Carle than one that would in a measure be a fulfillment of his life-long ambition to be a policeman.

Chief Gallagher contacted Mayor Brunton and the mayor thought the idea a splendid one. Carle has done much for Springfield as one of its long residents and he has not gone unrecognized.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS

By Supt. Lou Smyth, Chief's Office,
Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department

"In the September issue of Police Chiefs News you have some very interesting stories, and I notice you have had some particularly bad breaks with officers being killed reporting on emergency calls. It seems to me that the suggestion you have made, that a compilation of the number of officers killed in this kind of arrest work would be extremely important to every department.

"After twenty-five years in business we still have been unable to convince many departments that too many officers lose their lives which might be spared if a little more thought was given to how to approach these situations and not just walk into every place when a call comes in. I realize how complicated this might make things and also realize that officers make these calls hundreds and maybe thousands of times a year and whoever is wanted and is to be arrested is picked up and that is the end of it.

"There was a case down in Chester, Pennsylvania, the other day where a Negro went berserk, killing eight people and wounding three others right out on the street, one of them a detective just starting to work. He shot three times at the location where the Negro was and one shot from the Negro hit him in the heart.

"The Chester department, of course, responded immediately, taking along gas munitions. They shot a projectile shell in every window of the place, the first one in the room where the man was, and then they blocked him off. The firing ceased. They waited an hour to be sure no treachery was involved, then carefully entered, broke down the door to the room where the man had been located, and found him dead. He had shot himself through the mouth. He still had fifteen unused cartridges on the bed and a box that hadn't been opened, so it looks like the gas did a marvelous job in this instance.

"We also had a similar situation not quite so tragic down in North Carolina and again in that case did do the job

beautifully with plenty of praise from the chief. The interesting thing about the Chester experience is that after the officers arrived they used the gas gun, kept well out of range, but still were able to put fifteen projectiles in that building without missing a single window they shot at and not one of the men who responded was killed.

"There is something to be said on this subject. I am glad to see you start it, but it is going to mean that someone takes it up who has some interest in police officers' lives and, of course, we believe if more of our material was used on arrests that appear to have difficult possibilities a lot of men might be walking around today who are deeply buried."

This letter came to us from Bailey H. Barker, vice president of Federal Laboratories, Inc., of Pittsburgh, Pa., exhibitors at IACP annual conferences for many years.

Our friend Barker is right in several points he makes in his letter. Officers have been killed by persons barricaded in buildings because of foolhardy courage. Gas equipment would in many cases have dislodged the slayer and saved lives. In both of the local cases referred to recently in this column, gas would not have helped. In one the officers shot down as they arrived at the point of call, and then the killer immediately shot himself. In the other, the killer fired from an outside corner of the building after killing two officers in a hallway.

So we believe the use of gas equipment is just one phase of solving the problem of protecting law enforcement officers from violent death. It would be interesting if a breakdown could be made that would place definitely the responsibility for such killings. How many resulted from lack of proper equipment? How many were caused by a mistake in judgement by the officers? How many might be charged to a timid policy laid down by a city or state? To what extent do we have a false fear of public opinion.

Throughout the history of law enforcement officers have lost their lives in preserving law and order. How

many of these lives should not have been lost? What improvements in procedure can be worked out to make police service less hazardous? The answer to the last question probably should wait on a national survey. Meanwhile more officers may be killed, so such a survey should be made without delay.

A message that may help develop better public relations activity among policemen was issued recently by a chief of police. It reads:

"Good will, like a good name, is won by many acts--and lost by one.

"Police service succeeds only in the degree we earn the right to the confidence and respect of the public.

"The actions and attitude of each employee of your department reflects the quality of your city's enforcement.

"Discipline is the vehicle through which we inspire loyalty to our profession, pride in our work, and comradeship in our ranks.

"Self-discipline helps us win over disappointments, discouragements, and temptations that lead to failure, and often to disgrace.

--Police Chiefs News

THIS IS MY GOAL

As a police officer, I regard myself as a member of an important and honorable profession.

As a police officer, I will keep myself in good physical condition so that I may perform at all times any police duty with utmost efficiency and, if necessary defend my uniform with honor. I regard it as my duty to know and to be master of the art of self defense and to be proficient in the use of my revolver.

As a police officer, it is my duty to know my work thoroughly and to know and understand all other phases of police work. It is my further duty to avail myself of every opportunity to learn more about my professional work.

As a police officer, I will be exemplary

in my conduct, edifying in my conversation, honest in all my activities, and obedient to all the laws of the City, State, and Nation and I shall regard my oath as I regard my sacred honor.

As a police officer, I will not, in the performance of duty, work for personal advantage or profit. I shall recognize at all times that I am a public servant obliged to give the most efficient and impartial service of which I am capable. I will forever be courteous in all my contacts and activities.

As a police officer, I will regard my brother officer with the same standards as I hold for myself. It is my duty to guard his honor and his life as I guard my own.

As a police officer, I will be loyal to my superiors who determine my policies and accept responsibility for my actions. I shall do only those things which will reflect honor upon them, upon myself and upon my profession.

DPS Chaparral
Texas Dept. of Public Safety

MORAN, NEW BRIDGEPORT POLICE
NIGHT CAPTAIN

By Pete Mastronardi

After waiting nearly five weeks to be certified by the Civil Service Commission, Captain John F. Moran, officially assumed his duties last week as night captain of the Bridgeport Police department, a position that Mayor McLevy said rates second to that of the superintendent.

When Capt. Moran donned his uniform with shiny brass buttons, it marked the first time in nearly 30 years that he has worn a complete law-enforcer's outfit. Previously, serving as secretary to Supt. John A. Lyddy he has worn civilian clothes.

Prior to assuming the task as night captain, Capt. Moran met with his successor, Capt. Charles H. Clampett, who

is being transferred to command the Traffic division, to receive instructions and various details concerning the new position.

His office will be located on the first floor of headquarters precinct, and he will have a private patrol car to use nightly on the job--as has been the custom with two previous night captains.

The promotion of Capt. Moran to that rank also marks the 19th time a member of the department has been elevated during the past 16 months. He is the third to hold the position of night captain during that period of time.

During the 30 minute ceremony, Captain Moran stood at attention before Mayor McLevy, Supt. Lyddy., and members of the board, as James Tait, president of the board, administered the oath and pinned the new badge on his coat.

This ceremony was followed by an address by Mayor McLevy, who said, "You have earned the promotion through your own merits and not through political pull, police officials or politicians."

A police reporter for the Bridgeport Farmer before he decided to be a cop back in 1918. Capt. Moran is now 56 years old. At the age of 23, when he first donned the police uniform, he was assigned to patrol a beat for two years in the downtown section of the city, from Meigs corner to the Bulls Head area.

A short time later he was shifted to the detective bureau as clerk. He has also served as clerk of the vice squad, assistant police clerk and secretary to three police chiefs, including Supts. Patrick J. Flanagan, Charles A. Wheeler and Supt. Lyddy. He has served in the latter capacity more than 20 years.

---Bridgeport Post

HUMAN WOES JUST ROUTINE

Family Problems Are Carefully Sifted by Detective of Hartford Police

Investigating crimes wasn't the only thing which kept Detective Lieutenant Thomas C. Barber busy during 1948.

In addition to his routine police duties Lieutenant Barber helped reunite a brother and sister who had not seen each other in 22 years, helped five Pennsylvania girls who started home penniless from a Massachusetts tobacco camp, and provided lodging and transportation home for two New Haven girls.

Recently he received a card from a former Army sergeant who had spent Christmas with his sister in Philadelphia, Pa. The two had not seen each other in 22 years and their meeting this year came about because of the efforts of Lieutenant Barber. While the sergeant was confined to an Army hospital in Canada he wrote Lieutenant Barber asking his aid in locating an adopted sister. After making many inquiries during his off duty hours Lieutenant Barber learned the sister's address and informed the sergeant.

Last July five homesick girls ran away from a tobacco camp in Massachusetts where they were hired to work for the summer. The girls were stopped in Hartford as they attempted to board a bus for their homes. After listening to the girls' stories Lieutenant Barber telephoned their parents to inform them of the situation. He arranged transportation to their homes for the girls. The parents later wrote him to say how grateful they were for his kindness.

This week two frightened New Haven girls walked into the Detective Bureau about 3 a.m. one morning and told Lieutenant Barber that they had been walking up and down Main Street looking for their pocketbooks which they had lost. The two pocketbooks they said, contained their fares to New Haven. He talked with Mrs. Edith Coburn, police department matron, and arranged sleeping quarters for the girls. Then he called the parents and told them of the girls' plight. In the morning he and Mrs. Coburn gave the girls breakfast and train fare home.

Explaining his actions, Lieutenant Barber said, "The average citizen thinks only of the policeman as a man they can call when a crime has been committed. They don't seem to realize that our job is to help people when they are in trouble."---Hartford Courant

JAMES J. MOLONEY IS PROMOTED
TO IREY'S OLD PLACE

James J. Moloney, Chief of the United States Secret Service for two years since the retirement of Frank Wilson, has now been promoted to the position of Chief Co-ordinator of all law enforcement agencies of the United States Treasury Department. Chief Moloney had been in the Secret Service for 17 years and is a native of Binghamton, New York.

Chief Moloney, one of whose major assignments was guarding the safety of President Truman and his family, is succeeded as Secret Service Chief by U. E. Baughman, Jr., from the New York district.

In his new position, Chief Moloney will co-ordinate the activities of the Secret Service, Customs Inspection and the Internal Revenue Bureau's Alcohol Tax and Narcotics Bureaus. This position was formerly held by the late Elmer L. Irely, who retired in 1946 and died a few months later.

GOOD COOPERATION

The murder case of the Christmas week-end shocked residents of the Bristol area greatly, particularly since the incident occurred at what is ordinarily one of the happiest periods of the year. The case did develop a situation that has already won the admiration of many. We're referring to the splendid cooperation of local, Plainville and state police.

No sooner was it learned what had happened than the combined resources of the three police organizations were in operation. Cooperation was the keynote and despite the attempt to cover up the identity of the slain woman police succeeded in learning who she was in a reasonably short time. Although the two main culprits managed to make a getaway because of the head start they had, their identities were established. Moreover, three alleged accessories were arrested. All of this demonstrates that splendid police work was done and that harmony marked the cooperation of

the three law enforcement bodies assigned to the case.---The Bristol Press

JUNIOR POLICEMAN RECEIVES REWARD
FOR HIS HONESTY

Actual proof that honesty pays off was given to more than 400 members of Torrington's Junior Police who gathered at City Hall auditorium December 17 to receive badges, identifying them as members of the organization, which is sponsored by Torrington aerie, F.O.E., as part of its youth guidance program.

Several weeks ago one of the youngsters, on his way to a Junior Police meeting at the Eagles' home found a sum of money.

He turned it over to a member of the Eagles, and the incident was publicized.

December 17, the finder - Raymond Gibbons, a St. Francis school pupil - was called to the stage at City Hall, congratulated for his honesty, and was presented with the money he found.

F.O.E. officials believed the person who lost the money had ample opportunity to claim it, and agreed the money should be given to Raymond as a reward for his honesty and as an example to other members of the Junior Police.

Lt. Frederick W. Brandt of the Hartford headquarters of the state police department and former commander of the Canaan barracks was the principal speaker.

THE LAST CALL

Harry C. Davis who joined the Philadelphia Police Department in 1894 and was named Director of Public Safety, January 1928 died suddenly Christmas Week (1948) after he collapsed on a street car. Many veteran police chiefs and detectives remember Director Davis' pride in his family history, especially in police annals. His grandfather was one of the Quaker City's first night watchmen, a police post in the early 1800's. His father served for many years as a police captain.

Circumspecto

VOX-COP

January, 1949

CHICAGO, ILL.

'I Hope I Get Killed'

Andrew E. Evans, a swarthy painter-decorator with wavy black hair and long lean face, had plenty of time to think in Cell 18, Block F-1, in the modernistic Cook County Jail in Chicago. And he had plenty to think about. For his criminal record--jumping bail on a forgery charge, serving time for grand larceny and interstate movement of stolen cars, and arrest for bigamy and auto theft--already filled two pages in the FBI's File No. 1,829,512. Last Oct. 25 he penciled his thoughts in a pinched, childish scrawl on a small sheet of cheap ruled paper:

"Every word the truth--believe me God. Oct. 25. By Andrew E. Evans. In two more day's, I will be 29 years old. I have thrown my Best years away, by playing Around with Crime. I all way's heard, that crime doesn't pay. But I all way's took it for a joke. Well, it's no joke, Crime Doesn't pay. I am really starting off on the wrong foot now, and I know I won't win. I just hope and pray that I get killed, Because I don't want to evry go to a pen, or any other place again.

"I am in my right mind, and I feel pretty Bad, Because I keep thinking, how I have waisted my life. I all way's wanted a little home and wife and kid's, and give them everything they wanted. But you see what Road I took, and look where it's got me. Well I can forget all about that home and wife and kids. Yes I will be 29 Wednesday. I wish I could live my life over again. But it to late now. So--I will go all the way. Andrew Evans."

On the other side of the piece of paper, Evans wrote: "My Mother. There is a sweet little old lady, way down in New Orleans La that my mother. I love her, more than any son could love his mother. But I have really hurt her.

She all way's stood by me good ore bad. I wish it was some way, that I could help her dear God. She getting old now but she is still the most beautiful woman in the world to me. I love her. Andrew Evans."

Evans folded the paper eight times, wrote "To Who It May Concern" on the outside, and stuffed it in his pocket. He kept it there as he pleaded guilty to auto theft on Nov. 5 and was sentenced to three to ten years on Nov. 16. But he had no intention of staying in a pen. On Thanksgiving night, Nov. 25, in company with eight other prisoners, he sawed his way out of Cell 18 and escaped into a dimly lighted prison yard. Only a 22-foot wall stood between the nine jailbirds and freedom. Then they were discovered.

At the warning blast of a guard's shotgun and the shouted orders of "Hands up!" the other eight surrendered meekly. But Evans, although trapped without hope of escape, went "all the way." He lunged toward prison guard William Riley. A blast from Riley's sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun caught him in the chest and stomach and killed him instantly. Only then were the notes discovered by Frank G. Sain, the husky prison warden, who pulled them out of Evan's pants pocket.

Last week, when the dead man's words were read at the inquest, the coroner's jury promptly returned a finding of "justifiable homicide." For Evans obviously had made his hope and prayer "that I get killed" come true.

---Newsweek

BOSTON, MASS.

Massachusetts Limits
Veterans' Preference

The Massachusetts Civil Service Commission rejected veterans' demands for complete preference in civil-service job

promotions. The commission told Governor Robert F. Bradford it was standing pat on a recommendation to give veterans now holding state jobs only a 2 per cent preference rating in examinations for promotion.

Veterans in Massachusetts already get complete preference in seeking original appointments to civil-service positions. They go to the top of the list by passing an examination.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

Average Arrested Man's Pockets
Outdo Woman's Purse, Cop Says

By

Pete Mastronardi

The pockets of the average male arrested these days in the Park City contain enough items to overflow a woman's purse according to a recent check made at Police headquarters, of all persons booked and lodged in cells.

Patrolman James J. Lyons, of Nutmeg street, Bridgeport, veteran doorman at the first precinct on Fairfield Avenue, says that some prisoners taken into custody have carried in their pockets everything from a rusty hairpin and toothless comb to an extra pair of sox --with holes.

"Some of these men are regular walking warehouses!" said Patrolman Lyons.

The policeman, whose job consists of collecting all articles, including belt, neck-tie, suspenders and matches, from everyone arrested and placed in cells at headquarters station, has come to the conclusion that men carry "no money, but plenty of odds and ends that only a female should have in her purse."

One man arrested not too long ago on a drunkenness charge was observed taking two hands full of mothballs out of his jacket pockets!

"What are you carrying all them for?" asked the law-enforcer.

Stuttering under his breath the prisoner replied: "I don't want the wifie to know I've been drinking--the smell of mothballs takes away the smell of liquor when I step in the front door."

The mothballs were placed in a large manila envelope with many other items the man owned. They will be returned to him after his release from the county jail or city court. Day in and day out, hundreds of articles are taken away from prisoners. All items are put in envelopes and the prisoner's name written thereon.

Mainly, the cops are very interested in seeing that prisoners don't try to commit suicide in their cells, by means of razor blades, knives or any other sharp objects.

The possibility of fire in a cell is also kept in mind. For this reason, books of matches or cigarette lighters are speedily confiscated.

We were amazed recently as we watched one prisoner unload the following from his clothing: a wallet, three pencils, a social security card, toothpicks, two keys, a harmonica, shoe laces, a bar of soap, a fish hook, a bottle of aspirins, a small type wrist watch with no strap, a wad of restaurant napkins, a toothless comb, a bottle of witch hazel, hair oil, and a pair of sun glasses with one rim missing.

Among other articles which people arrested have had removed from their pockets are: beer can openers, lucky charm pieces, photos of shapely lasses in bathing suits, scrap paper with phone numbers, aspirins, bolts and screws, false teeth, pocket-size dictionary, decks of cards, crooked dice, newspaper clippings, string, clothespins, horsepin, pieces of broken chewing gum, an extra pair of suspenders, nail clippers, erasers, paper clippings, jars of vaseline, pocket size calendars, neck-ties, vitamin pills, a bottle of glue, rusty nails, foreign coins and stamps, a rusty shaving machine, lip-stick (almost empty), fountain pen that didn't write, a raffle on a ticket for a new car given away in 1946, a box of hairpins, small bottle of whiskey with the label that stated it was medicine, empty book-match covers, pocket screw-driver, social security card, driver's license, house key, an Indian penny dated 1864, and a false mustache.

---Bridgeport Post

WATERBURY, CONN.

Waterbury Authorities Take Dim
View of Curfew for Children

By Talcott B. Clapp

Bridgeport's proposed 9:30 p.m. curfew for all children under 16 has raised some speculation in Waterbury as to whether such a scheme might be put into operation here, too. But from all indications, there is no danger, or hope if you happen to like the idea, of a curfew being inflicted upon the juvenile population of the city.

Police Supt. William J. Roach says "I haven't given the idea of a curfew any thought because there has been no reason to give it any thought." Police-woman Mary Norgren is against such a proposal because "the good have to be punished along with the bad." And Rudolph Schirmer, probation officer of the Juvenile Court, says that "a curfew is not an answer to the problems of juvenile delinquency."

In Bridgeport the curfew is supported "in principle" by police, Juvenile Court officials and Community Council leaders according to City Atty. Harry Schwartz who introduced the curfew bill to the City Council two weeks ago. The proposed bill calls for a fine up to \$100 or a jail sentence not to exceed 30 days for parents in cases where violations result from the "neglect or delinquency of parents." Under the bill, children under 16 would be prohibited from loitering on the streets after 9:30 p.m. unless accompanied by a responsible adult. Youngsters violating the curfew would be detained in the Juvenile Detention Home until parents called for them.

The reaction of Waterbury children against such a proposal for them is a natural one, but it is unusual to find them in agreement with the local authorities on the subject. Police Chief Roach feels that there are so many good reasons why a child under 16 should be on the streets after 9:30 p.m. (emergency errands, going for medicine, etc.) that it would be a difficult law to enforce. While it might work and have beneficial effects in certain cases,

Chief Roach believes that it is more a question of educating parents than it is punishing the children.

A year and a half ago Mrs. Norgren spoke to a joint meeting of all the Waterbury Parent-Teacher Associations on the subject of curfew for children and declared herself as being against such action. "I was against it then and I am against it now," Mrs. Norgren says. "It is for the parents to make a curfew for their children--not the city. There are some children badly in need of a curfew, but it is not for us to set it for them. It is up to the family."

Mr. Schirmer is against a curfew on the grounds that it is a negative step and not a positive corrective measure. It might serve to focus the attention of the community on the problem of loitering youngsters, which would have some beneficial effects, but the situation in Waterbury is not serious enough to warrant such drastic action as a curfew, according to Mr. Schirmer. It is his opinion that more playgrounds and facilities for recreation in certain sections of the city would be a more positive step towards curbing tendencies of juvenile delinquency.

Waterbury had a curfew some 30 or 40 years ago when the whistle on the old Holmes, Booth & Hayden Co. on Bank St. used to blow at 9 p.m. and all the children in the city used to run for home. It was not an official ordinance --it was just an understanding among all members of the community but it carried as much weight as law and was more satisfactory than law because the parental discipline was sterner at that time and when no child was out after 9, they were all resigned to being inside. There was however, one event that took place at 9 p.m. that they all stopped on their way home to witness and that was the practice run of the fire horses which always took place at that hour. But after that they were all indoors.

A return to such an understanding between children and their parents, local authorities agree, would be a more satisfactory way of solving any juvenile problems than imposing upon the youngsters, good and bad alike, a law-enforced curfew.---Waterbury Republican

HARTFORD, CONN.

FM Police Radio Urged By Godfrey

New FM radio system for the Hartford Police Department was recommended by Police Chief Michael J. Godfrey and may be provided in this year's city budget.

City Manager Sharpe made public the police chief's report on the system which is estimated to cost about \$38,000.

The outfit would provide "three-way communication," the chief reported, permitting cruising policemen to talk to each other as well as to the headquarters dispatcher. Such a system, he said, "allows more efficient cooperation especially in the pursuit of fugitives escaping by car."

Repairs Needed

The city's old police radio system is in need of about \$10,000 worth of maintenance work, the chief reported. Thus the net cost of the new system would be only \$28,000 to start, and maintenance economies in the future would result ultimately in a net saving to the city.

Chief Godfrey said the city must shift to new frequencies by July 1, 1950 and the cost of modifying the present equipment would be saved if it is replaced now.

In the proposed system there would be four "remote receivers" stationed around the city. When a car called the dispatcher, the message would be picked up at one of the remote stations and then to be relayed automatically by wire to headquarters. The result would be improved reception.

Lone Policeman Nabs 3 Youths At Gunpoint

Three 19-year-old youths, one of them armed, whom authorities have linked with a number of crimes in the Hartford area, were captured recently on a deserted downtown street by an alert policeman. They were taken into custody at gunpoint about 3:45 a.m. on Lewis St., by Policeman John J. Kerrigan.

The capture was the second of the kind in the city in the past 24 hours.

Early Thursday an 18-year-old parolee from Cheshire and his 14-year-old accomplice were arrested on the roof of the Nutmeg Auto Supply Company on Park St. They were surprised by a policeman while attempting to break open the safe.

Deputy Police Chief Thomas J. Hickey said that the trio had admitted several burglaries, including a safe job in the Palace Theater, a break in the Howard Johnson Restaurant in Wethersfield and a gas station robbery in Simsbury.

Policeman Kerrigan reported that he was patrolling north on Wells St. in his cruiser when he glanced up Lewis St. There he saw the three young men standing on the east side of the street, near the University Club. He drove directly up the street and as he did so, the trio crossed over and entered a 1939 Ford convertible, parked on the west side of the street.

Blocking their car with his cruiser, Policeman Kerrigan drew his revolver and ordered them out of the vehicle. He forced them into the back seat of his cruiser while he radioed for assistance. He said they offered no resistance.

The trio admitted to police that about 3:15 a.m. they forced their way into the Palace Theater on Main St. Police said they attempted to break open a safe but were unsuccessful.

They also admitted that earlier in the night they had entered the Howard Johnson Restaurant in Wethersfield taking liquor. This loot, two jimmy bars and two sledge hammers were found in their car.

---Hartford Times

Two Police Given Traffic Study Awards

Two Hartford Police Department Patrolmen Monday, January 17, were given certificates to attend a traffic police administration course at Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill., this spring.

Patrolman John J. Kerrigan a \$650 fellowship and Patrolman David F. Deming was given a \$250 scholarship. They were selected for the awards after competing against applicants from police departments throughout the nation.

COUNCIL
MANAGER
GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
550 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD 4, CONN.

CITY of HARTFORD

December 20, 1948

Officer John Kerrigan
Police Headquarters
Market Street
Hartford, Connecticut

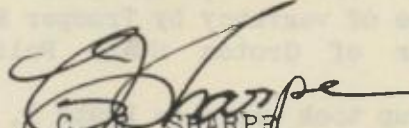
Dear Officer Kerrigan:

May I commend you for the excellent piece of police work which you performed for the city last week. I cannot tell you how pleased it makes a person feel to find out that the men in the ranks are fulfilling their responsibilities to the citizenship generally.

I am sure that each instance of this type demonstrates to the citizens of our city, the fine service which they are obtaining from the public employees, who are employed by the city and paid from taxes which they contribute.

My best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Very sincerely yours,


C. P. SHARPE
CITY MANAGER

CHICAGO, ILL.

New Britain Bride's Whim To See
Gambling House Leads To Holdup

A 28-year-old bride from New Britain, Conn., reported to police she was robbed of her \$1,000 Persian Lamb coat by two young men who offered to show her a gambling spot.

Mrs. Beverly Morrow, honeymooning with her husband, Joseph C., at the Stevens hotel, told officers she met the men in a North side restaurant. She expressed a wish to see a Chicago gambling house, Mrs. Morrow said, and the men said they would drive her to one.

They drove into a west side alley, however, she related, where one of the men drew a gun and both attempted to attack her. She got out of the car on a pretext, leaving her coat and a purse containing \$9 and called police. When officers returned to the alley with her the car and its occupants had fled.

NEW LONDON, CONN.

Honesty Pays As Lad Admits Crime Career

A 24-year-old youth who believes in being honest with police received a holiday present.

George Willard Peterson, who served 10 days in the New London County bastille, won't be going back to jail in California--because authorities in that state won't bother coming after him.

Peterson, who says he has been arrested "about" 100 times, was picked up on a charge of vagrancy by Trooper Edward O'Connor of Groton State Police barracks.

The pick-up took place on Route 1, in New London, near the bridge, shortly before midnight.

O'Connor spotted the youth walking along, and decided to question him.

The officer was startled by Peterson's frankness.

"Sure, I'm on the road," Peterson said. "I've been arrested about 100 times all over, and I'm wanted in Los Angeles."

The youth, who had no money and who was heading for New York, said he had received a suspended sentence for burglary in L. A. last Fall, and had been placed on probation--with orders to report regularly to the probation officer.

"But what I'd like now is something to eat," he informed O'Connor.

He got something to eat--and also 10 days in jail when arraigned in Police Court on a charge of vagrancy.

Lt. William E. Mackenzie, meanwhile, communicated with L. A. authorities, who advised him a bench warrant had been issued for Peterson, for violation of the terms of his probation.

"But we will not extradite," continued the L. A. authorities.

That's a lucky break for the vagrant, because a bench warrant is not good unless he decides to return to the West Coast under his own steam--and nobody will blame him much if he doesn't.

NEW YORK CITY

Probers and Probed

The tall, thin, sober-faced man stood before Judge John W. Clancy in a third-floor courtroom of the Federal Building in New York.

"How do you plead?" the clerk asked.

"I plead not guilty to both counts," said Alger Hiss firmly in a voice so resonant that it carried to every part of the courtroom. With bail fixed at \$5,000 and Hiss's trial for perjury set tentatively for Jan. 24, special Assistant Attorney General Raymond P. Whearty said to the judge:

"Now I ask that the defendant be photographed and fingerprinted as a condition of bail."

Accompanied by two FBI agents, the bright, young careerist who had been close to Roosevelt at Yalta, who had been executive secretary at Dumbarton Oaks, and who had served as secretary general of the San Francisco conference which organized the United Nations, left the court for the sixth-floor room where he was "mugged" and fingerprinted.

LEXINGTON, VA.

Youths Free Jailed Girl

Two armed youths, one of them masked, freed a teen-age girl prisoner from Rockbridge County Jail recently leaving her jailer locked in a cell.

Jailer Bob Crissman said the pair entered the jail, forced him to open the women's cell and then locked him in and they fled.

Crissman identified the girl as a 15-year-old of Lexington. He said she had been jailed at the request of the Welfare Department. He also identified one of the youths as Charles Bingler, 17, of Lexington, and said Bingler's masked companion appeared to be about 17 or 18.

The girl was the only occupant of the women's cell and no attempt was made to free other prisoners. Crissman was released after his yells attracted employees of a nearby hotel.

Virginia State Police joined Sheriff W. B. Chittum in a search for the trio.

FRANCE

Poor As Church Thieves

"Robbers of Cathedrals....are advised to get in touch with the administration, which will indicate to them the real value of precious articles. Otherwise, they should be accompanied by an expert on their clandestine visits to the vestries."

That advice came last month not from some ecclesiastical Fagin but from the French National Fine Arts Administration in a public appeal to cathedral thieves. The burglars, it appeared, had been despoiling churches of priceless relics, in the belief they were made of gold--and then throwing them away on discovering them to be merely gilded copper. If the thieves want to go after the really valuable loot, continued the fine arts administration, they should equip themselves with "a deck of cards and long-lived flashlights." For the solid gold is kept in special rooms--behind armored doors which close automatically, by

electric eye, on nocturnal visitors.

HARTFORD, CONN.

Police Nab Juliet On Romeo's Balcony

Martha Jones of 111 Albany Ave., Hartford decided to visit her boy friend Hanley Calhoun of 325 Bellevue St., on a recent Sunday morning, but instead of using the usual method of climbing the stairs she climbed a trellis and porch fixtures to reach the second floor window.

Miss Jones was greeted by three policemen who were sent to investigate a report of breaking and entering. After listening to her story they released her with a warning. Calhoun was not home at the time.

About an hour later Policemen John Corbett and Donald Harris were dispatched to 2062 Main St. to break up an argument. They found Miss Jones arguing with Calhoun. As the police muttered something about "true love never running smooth" Miss Jones was booked on a charge of breach of the peace.

PEARL RIVER, N.Y.

Girl, 8, Gets Number of Car
Driving Spruce Out of
Chief's Own Front Yard

A stately Norway spruce, which stood in the yard of Chief of Police Fred L. Kennedy at Nauraushaun, near here, and which was festooned with Christmas lights each Yuletide, was cut down and carried away the day before Christmas by a Columbia University medical student.

The alertness of an eight-year-old girl devoted to radio crime stories enabled Chief Kennedy to track down the culprit in short order and hale him to the bar of justice. It was a sad blow to Chief Kennedy, for the tree was the pride of his small estate.

The chief was musing on the joys of Christmas at 9:30 a.m. when there came a

rap at his door. Eight-year-old Gracie Costin, her eyes sparkling with excitement was standing there.

"Your Christmas tree was stolen," she cried.

"Oh, no!" exclaimed Chief Kennedy.

"Oh, yes!" Gracie said. "A man just took it away in his car. Here's the license number."

Chief Kennedy reached out his hand for the paper. "Where'd you get this?"

"Well," said Gracie, "I listen to all the crime stories on the radio. You always must take down the license number. So I did."

In the official book the license number Gracie had given him was listed in the name of Henry A. Johnson Jr., and when the chief went to his home, he found the tree.

NAUGATUCK, CONN.

Chief J. J. Gormley Marks 32d Year
On Police Force

Police Chief John J. Gormley marked his 32d anniversary as a member of the Naugatuck Police Department Sunday, January 2.

The chief was appointed a supernumerary January 2, 1917, when Howard Tuttle was warden. Five minutes later Gormley was appointed a regular. He served under the late Chief John B. Schmidt, on night duty on the west side of the borough. At that time the police force was small, there were no police cars, and no signal system. There was no one on duty at police headquarters at night.

Chief Gormley has served continuously except for 16 months from December, 1917 to April, 1919, when he was in the U.S. Navy on leave of absence in World War I.

Chief Gormley was born April 28, 1893 in Bridgeport, the son of Mrs. Catherine Connors Gormley of Carroll Street, and the late Thomas F. Gormley. The family moved to Naugatuck in 1895. Young Gormley attended local schools and the Naugatuck High School, after which he went to work as a cutter in the Beacon Falls plant of the U. S. Rubber Co., from 1914

until 1916.

NEW YORK CITY

Mother Who Seared Son's Hand Paroled

Mrs. Geraldine Vetter, thirty-eight, accused of burning the hands of her eight-year-old son, Philip, was paroled over the Christmas holidays by Magistrate Simon Silver in Felony Court after she waived examination on a charge of felonious assault and was held for grand jury action.

The boy told reporters outside the courtroom that he had forgiven his mother, "because I love mommy, and she didn't mean it."

He is a patient at St. Luke's Hospital, where the little finger of his right hand was amputated. Mrs. Vetter passed Christmas with her two other children at her home.

In asking that Mrs. Vetter be paroled, Benjamin Schmier, her Legal Aid Society counsel, said that the mother's action was stupid, but that she was trying to be a good mother.

"This woman," he said, "was determined, to the point of cruelty, that her child would not embark on a life of crime as did the child's father."

The father was arrested recently on a charge of possessing burglar's tools.

Mrs. Vetter was arrested Thanksgiving night and accused of holding the boy's hands over a gas stove. She told police that she suspected him of pilfering from her pocketbook and wanted to teach him a lesson.

SUTTON, ENGLAND

Keith Ransom and his girl, Frances Snape--both sixteen--went Christmas caroling and stopped to sing "Silent Night" for a neighbor.

Instead of the neighbor answering their song with pennies, as is usual, four burglars scrambled out a window. The neighbor said they were scared off too soon to steal anything.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

\$7,000 To Capitol Policeman

The Senate last month voted two years' pay to a capitol policeman who was disabled permanently when shot by a prisoner he was taking to the guard-house. The policeman, Fred J. Crenshaw of Walhalla, S. C., is still hospitalized from two pistol wounds. Senator Burnet R. Maybank, of South Carolina, introduced the resolution to give Mr. Crenshaw two years' salary, \$7,000.

HARTFORD, CONN.

Police Rise To Problem

Lieutenant Samuel Weinstein listened as a woman telephoned to him one recent night at Police Headquarters.

"Yes, ma'am, we would be pleased to take them from you. Are you sure, though, that you don't want them?"

"Want them? I'm even afraid to look at them. My brother brought them home from the war, and now he's moved away from here," the woman said.

"About how many do you have?" Lieutenant Weinstein asked.

"I've never counted them, but there's a whole bagful of them here," the woman replied.

"I'll send a cruiser patrolman out to your house to pick them up," the police official told the woman.

Then he called Radio Dispatcher Michael L. Schweighoffers and said, "Sergeant, please send a man to this address to pick up a bagful of heavy-caliber, fully loaded machine gun bullets."

VERONA, N.J.

Snores Bring Police

Verona police rushed to 640 Bloomfield Avenue at 1 a.m. recently when a telephone operator said the phone in the house was off the hook and "horri-

ble, strangling noises" were coming over the wire. Surprised and sleepy, Warren R. Yates took police upstairs to his bedroom, and sure enough, the phone was off the hook. "I must have knocked it off in my sleep," said Mr. Yates. And the noises? "Well, everyone tells me I snore too loud."

***** |

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Takes Troubles To Santa

A number of children were gathered around a department store Santa Claus here when Woodrow Wilson Long, thirty-five, elbowed through and climbed into Santa's lap.

"It took three of us to get him off," Detective Charles Hobbs told Recorder's Judge Paul E. Krause today. "What were you asking Santa for?" asked Judge Krause.

"I don't know," Long replied, hanging his head. "I guess I just had one too many." The court dismissed an intoxication charge.

MEN LIKE YOU

Perhaps he sometimes slipped a bit--

Well, so have you.

Perhaps some things he ought to quit--

Well, so should you.

Perhaps he may have faltered--why,

Why, all men do, and so have I,

You must admit, unless you lie,

That so have you.

I'm just a man who's fairly good,

I'm just like you:

I've done some things I never should,

Perhaps like you.

But, thank the Lord, I've sense to see

The rest of men with charity;

They're good enough if good as me--

Say, men like you.

---Anon

Tomorrow belongs to Him who builds today.

IN-SERVICE STUDIES

VOX-COP

January, 1949

Burglary Investigation

*Reprinted from Bulletin
Bureau of Criminal Investigation,
New York State Police*

Records indicate that burglary is one of the felonies most frequently committed.

The empty building is tempting to the criminal, whether it be a store, factory or unoccupied dwelling. One of the principle objectives of the burglar is to avoid detection and apprehension. It is important in the investigation of a burglary that the officers make a complete search of the entire building, inside and outside areas, for the purpose of gathering all evidence possible which may identify the person or persons who committed the crime.

In this day of the automobile, the criminal may come from some distant point to commit one or more burglaries. In some instances the perpetrator has no previous criminal history and it is his first adventure into crime of a serious nature. In many cases, unless the perpetrator is captured in the actual commission of the crime, the investigation develops into a long and tedious task before sufficient evidence can be secured to make an arrest. Not every case investigated produces enough material evidence to clearly indicate the identity of the criminal. Our law books contain thousands of "circumstantial evidence" cases. Competent investigators are familiar with the pitfalls and difficulties with such cases.

It is not uncommon for the investigator to find all sorts of difficulties in the investigation of a particular burglary and then through hard work and a systematic investigation he finally gets, what is known in police circles as a "break"; then has that break multiply ten fold, each time bringing forth new evidence which identifies the criminal and makes possible a successful conclusion to the case.

The following is typical of the problems confronting the investigator in

many cases. A series of burglaries extending over a two year period was recently closed by the arrest of the perpetrators. The first of these burglaries occurred in the Spring of 1945 in western New York State. In the first instance, several small cottages were burglarized and household goods were stolen. Many suspects were questioned, but the investigators had very little evidence to work with. In July of 1945, at the scene of one of these cottage burglaries, latent fingerprints were found on a wine bottle that had been disturbed by the burglars. The prints appeared to be those of the middle and ring fingers of the right hand, although the prints were not identified, they were photographed and preserved for future identification purposes.

The burglaries continued at various intervals, until in November, 1945 a cottage was burglarized and an ornamental lamp was among the stolen articles. The chimney had been removed and left at the scene of the burglary. Two latent fingerprints were found on this chimney. They appeared to be the middle and index fingers of the right hand. The middle finger latent print compared with the fingerprint found on the wine bottle in July. This fact indicated to the troopers that the commission of these burglaries was the work of the same person or persons. Also found at the scene of this burglary was a small piece of cloth caught between the door and door frame. The complainant in this case identified it as part of a bedspread that had been stolen. This evidence was marked and preserved at Troop Headquarters.

As the investigators now had prints of three fingers on the right hand of the burglar, it was possible to eliminate certain classifications in fingerprint files of the State Police, many

police agencies, sheriff's offices, county jails and penitentiaries in the central and western part of New York State, but the search was not successful.

During the Fall of 1946, there were several more burglaries committed which were attributed to these criminals, although there was nothing other than the manner in which they were committed to definitely connect them. In September of 1947, a Town Highway Department's tool shed was burglarized and it appeared from the manner in which the crime was committed that the same persons had effected this break. The imprint of a large overshoe with a very unusual sole design was found near the building. A plaster cast was made of this imprint and an investigation was conducted to ascertain the maker, distributor, etc. The result was negative.

In August 1947, a feed mill in a neighboring county was burglarized and a footprint of an uncommon sneaker or basketball shoe was found in dry cement at the scene of the burglary. This was photographed and retained as evidence. A few days later, a store was burglarized in still another county and the same sneaker or basketball shoe print was found in the mud near the scene of the burglary. At about the same time, a sheriff's department investigated a burglary of a store where they found a latent fingerprint on the window of the store and the same sneaker print was found at this scene. Through the cooperation of the two departments, the latent print was identified as being the same as one of the latent prints which had been secured the previous year. This connected the burglaries committed by the wearer of the unusual sneakers and the persons who had started the series of burglaries in the year 1945 of the unoccupied cottages. As these crimes were all committed in the western part of the state, this information was given to all patrols in that area and also to the Pennsylvania State Police which borders on the state in that locality. Investigations were made to secure information as to the manufacturer or dealer of footwear with the design of this uncommon sneaker

print. This investigation was also unsuccessful.

During November, 1947 the Chief of Police of Seneca Falls, New York requested the assistance of the troopers in the investigation of a burglary of a gas station on the outskirts of the village. Information was obtained from a local resident that he had observed a car on the night of the burglary, parked in the immediate vicinity and he had taken down the license number. A check of this license number identified the owner who resided in Troop "C" territory. A member of Troop "C" accompanied the investigating officers to the home of the suspect who was subsequently arrested and charged with the commission of the crime. On questioning this defendant, he implicated an uncle. Members of Troop "A", Batavia were notified and the uncle was apprehended at his home. When the two prisoners were fingerprinted, a check of the uncle's fingerprints positively identified him as the subject who had left the latent fingerprints at the scene of several burglaries in Troop "A" district.

A search of the property of the first defendant disclosed a quantity of stolen merchandise, including a bedspread that was torn. The bedspread was ultimately identified as that which had been stolen in November of 1945, as the small torn portion found at that time fitted into the torn portion of the recovered bedspread.

A large quantity of stolen merchandise was recovered from the uncle's home, including a pair of overshoes which were identified as those that left the imprint at the scene of one of the burglaries in September, 1947. At the time of his arrest, the uncle was wearing a pair of sneakers which were identified as those which had left the sneaker print at the burglaries committed throughout the Western part of the state.

These two persons implicated a brother of the uncle and he also was arrested. The men were arraigned on the charge of burglary. Many thousands of dollars of the recovered property was identified as having been stolen in the State of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania

State Police were advised of this information. The uncle who was committed to jail was later released on bail, pending trial.

In the early part of January, 1945 the uncle and his brother, together with another member of the family were stopped by the Pennsylvania State Police, just south of the New York State line in the State of Pennsylvania. They denied their identity and resisted the officers. They, also, attempted to reach their rifles which were in the back seat of the car. One of the officers shot the uncle and then fired a second shot which struck one of the brothers in the thigh and continued on to strike the other brother in the foot. The three men were indicted in Potter County, Pennsylvania and were found guilty of the crime of burglary. They received long prison sentences in that state. The other two defendants were convicted in the State of New York.

The successful conclusion of this series of burglary investigations may be attributed to the thorough investigations by the men assigned to each of the crimes; the securing, safeguarding and preservation of the evidence which was found in each case, (1) the fingerprints (2) the sneaker prints (3) the overshoe prints (4) the small portion of the bedspread; together with the close cooperation between the local, county and State law enforcement agencies which were involved.

(Officers of this department will note that burglary as defined under the New York law is a much broader concept than in this state and does not confine itself to dwellings alone. Burglary in that state includes many crimes which in Connecticut would be classed as Breaking and Entering. The investigative techniques, however, apply in all states.---Ed.)

WHAT MAKES A GUN "KICK"?

"That which goes up is bound to come down" is an old statement of a recognized fact. But this doesn't mean that

"all that goes out has to come back."

However, when a firearm is fired, a certain amount of "come back" is bound to occur. This, in shooting parlance, is known as recoil, more commonly called "kick". To understand it, all that is necessary is a little knowledge of elementary physics. To every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. This is one of the so-called laws of motion and is the basic cause of recoil.

The gases generated by the burning of the powder in a shotshell exert a force which pushes the shot charge and wads out of the barrel. In so doing an equal force is exerted in the opposite direction against the breechblock. If the gun is free to move then the above law of motion tells us that the weight of "charge" (shot, wads, and $\frac{1}{2}$ the powder) times its velocity equals the weight of the gun times its velocity. Thus the speed with which the gun recoils is inversely proportional to the ratio of the gun and charge weights, i.e., the heavier the gun, the slower it recoils, the heavier the charge, the faster the gun recoils.

There is a slight further increase in the gun recoil due to the "rocket effect" of the gases during their escape from the barrel after the shot and wads have been driven out. It is this effect which is utilized in the recoil reducing devices such as the "compensator." Neglecting the mass of the powder and wads in comparison with the ounce and a quarter of shot in a 12 gauge load with a muzzle velocity of about 1400 feet per second, we see that a gun with a weight of $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds will have a recoil velocity on the basis of the above of about $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet per second, plus a small increment (2 to 3 feet per second) due to the "rocket effect."

Since the gun is held in the two hands against the shoulder, the recoil is absorbed by the hands and shoulder. This amounts to approximately 35 foot pounds of energy.

The three factors most affecting recoil are the weight of the gun, weight of the shot, and velocity of the shot. Thus a heavy gun has a lower recoil velocity and, hence, less recoil than a

light gun if used with the same load. Similarly, the recoil is less with a light load than with a heavy load.

Proper gun holding will do much to minimize the effect of recoil on the individual shooter. Many experienced shooters shoot through large tournaments without getting bruised shoulders, and the inexperienced gunner who does not make his gun become a part of himself gets punched every time he pulls the trigger. The distinction between reduction in recoil and reduction in punishment due to recoil must not be forgotten, however.

Good advice to the beginner is to stop trying to make yourself become a part of the gun. Rather try to make the gun become a part of you. Then the recoil will become much less objectionable.---Remington-Peters Law Enforcement Officers Bulletin

HOW TO HANDLE A SHOTGUN

There are available to the law enforcement officer four broad classifications of shotgun mechanisms; namely the single barrel single shot, the double barrel--either side by side or over and under, the pump gun and the autoloader. For practical purposes the pump gun and autoloader have proved most popular and effective.

For correct mounting, pointing and shooting a shotgun, identical principles apply to all types. Naturally, the methods of loading and unloading will vary according to the type of action. For the right handed shooter, the right arm and hand serve to raise and hold the gun against the shoulder with the right hand used for pulling the trigger. The left arm controls the direction of the muzzle of the gun. Control of the vertical and horizontal movement of the front of the gun barrel should be made the sole function of the left arm as any effort made to supplement the work that the right arm is doing in holding the gun against the shoulder will only serve to slow up shooting and interfere with maximum efficiency.

Another important feature to remem-

ber is that the stock of the gun should be in constant contact with the cheek when shooting. This position is best achieved by bringing the stock up to the cheek, rather than cocking one's head over to meet the stock.

The shotgun, when held in normal carrying position, is readily available for shooting in all directions by raising the gun to the shoulder and simultaneously pointing the barrel in the direction you wish to fire. The line of sight should, of course, be from the breech to the front sight. However, remember that shotgun shooting is usually fast shooting and these arms are therefore pointed rather than aimed.

Extreme caution must be exercised in all of the loading and unloading stages to have the muzzle of the gun pointed in the air and not at any object or person in your vicinity. Any other position of direction of the muzzle of the gun will only serve to expose yourself and others to possible injury in the event of an accidental discharge. For this reason it is imperative that guns be loaded and unloaded in the open and not inside of the police station, armory, barracks room or other place of issuance of the arm.

Where it is necessary to carry the shotgun loaded in an automobile when it must be available for instant use, two safeguards are available to us. One, the mechanical safety which is a part of the gun, and the other, keeping the muzzle of the gun pointing at the floor of the car. The practice of carrying a shotgun with the muzzle pointing to the floor of the car can be well applied in all cases of its transportation to obviate any danger from discharge of the so-called unloaded gun.

Since a law enforcement officer's duties require only occasional use of the shotgun, frequent loading, unloading and firing practice is essential to familiarity with this weapon.

---Remington-Peters Law Enforcement Officers Bulletin

When an engine starts knocking it begins to stop pulling.

SPRINGFIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

Commissioner Hickey addressed the Springfield, Mass. Police Department's In-Service Training Class on "Police and Public Relations", December 21 at Springfield Police Headquarters. A large class of recruits, with members of the Springfield force and police officers from many Western Mass. Departments participated in Chief Gallagher's outstanding training program.

INBAU ON CONFESSIONS

Many court cases regarding the admissibility of criminal confessions are decided without adequate consideration of the practical difficulties which the police encounter in their efforts to solve criminal offenses.

This opinion is expressed by Prof. Fred E. Inbau of the Northwestern University Law School in an article in the Illinois Law Review. A lecturer in the Institute's traffic police administration course, Professor Inbau in discussing "The Confession Dilemma in the United States Supreme Court" states that the present critical attitude of the Court exists because it has overlooked "several fundamental and important practical considerations."

Professor Inbau expresses the view that the art of criminal investigation has not developed to a point where the search for and the examination of physical evidence alone will always reveal a clue to the identity of the perpetrator, and recommends that police be afforded a reasonable period of time in which to conduct an interrogation preferably under conditions of privacy, for psychological reasons. He also criticizes the judicial attitude that criminals must be questioned on the same ethical plane expected of ordinary, law-abiding citizens in their every day dealings with each other.---Traffic Review-Fall 1948

Today's trying times are tomorrow's "good old days."

FACTS AND FIGURES

Here's a figure we'd like to offer -- three million three hundred and fifty-seven thousand, five hundred seventy-six. That's quite an imposing figure, isn't it? It represents the number of actual patrol miles recorded by our troopers in 1947.

Yes, 3,357,576 patrol miles - daytime - nighttime - sunny weather - rain - snow - ice - all in the day's work.

We might have traveled 134 times around the earth to amass that mileage total, but we didn't, our activity was recorded within Connecticut's 5,004 square miles and primarily on its 4,000 miles of state highways.

During the year we made more than eight thousand arrests for violations of the motor vehicle laws, and issued more than 34 thousand warnings for violations nearly 28 thousand warnings for defective equipment such as headlights, tail-lights and windshield wipers were also recorded during this period.

Well, that was a lot of traveling for us in 1947, but the crystal ball tells us we'll do more in 1949.

STEALING CARS IS BIG BUSINESS

Do you know how many cars were stolen in Connecticut last year? Take a guess.

Here's the answer. There were 1,732 automobiles stolen in the "Land of Steady Habits" during the year 1947. Was your guess close?

If we were to figure \$1,000 as the average value of each car, that means \$1,732,000 worth of property was taken quite easily from Connecticut streets and parking lots. Are you surprised?

Law enforcement agencies throughout the state and even some outside of the state, recovered 1.617 of the stolen cars, 93% of them, while 115 are still missing.

It is an interesting fact that 85% of the automobile thieves were under 30 years of age.

Most of the cars stolen during the year were taken during periods when the ignition keys were in the switch.

Safety mindedness

VOX-COP

January, 1949

Auto Laws Hodge Podge Need New Ones Deserving Drivers' Respect--Williams

By BILL CUNNINGHAM

Ben Ames Williams' ideas of how to help control highway accidents—those included in his letter here, at least—boil to resurveying present regulations and junking those that don't check pretty accurately with a good driver's common sense. His argument is that a law has to make sense to be respected, that Prohibition proved respect cannot be enforced, that speed laws and such are broken because, especially in the North and East, many of them don't conform with even a careful driver's idea of what they should be. The result is that almost everybody ignores them and fools smash them, themselves and other motorists to smithereens. But let the eminent author and experienced automobilist say it his own way:

"Since mid-May, 1947, Mrs. Williams and I have driven 35 or 40,000 miles, touching every state in the Union. . . . My impression is that much bad driving, and presumably many accidents, result from ignoring highway warning signs; but, more to the point, our experience has been that sensible signs are not ignored.

PEDESTRIANS IN WEST WAIT FOR LIGHTS

"In general terms, we found that west of the Mississippi, and in the South, warning signs were designed to give the motorist sound and helpful advice; that, from the Mississippi east, and north of a line drawn roughly from Washington to St. Louis, warning signs were generally ignored even by capable motorists—because the signs themselves were unreasonable.

"For example, driving in the West and approaching a town, you begin to see signs: 'Speed Zone Ahead'; '45-Mile Speed'; '30-Mile Speed'; '20-Mile Speed.' As you leave the town the signs are in reverse order. We tried always to drive with all reasonable care, and we noticed again and again that our natural speed corresponded with the signs.

"By contrast, in four-lane, divided highways along Route 20 in northern New York, and on the fine, four-way roads through Connecticut, there were speed limit signs of 35 and 40 M.P.H. when a speed of 50, or even 60 was 'reasonable and proper.' When we drove at the legal speed, cars overtook and passed us in a steady stream, while, in the West, where signs are generally reasonable, it was rare to see a car driving at a speed higher than those suggested by the signs.

"Respect for the law cannot be enforced. Prohibition proved that. Laws must deserve respect before they receive it—and so must highway warning signs, which, for most motorists, are their only contact with the laws. In the West, pedestrians wait for traffic lights. I once timed five men, a woman and a boy while they waited a minute and 20 seconds at a four-corners in Sioux Falls, Iowa, on a Sunday morning. They waited for the light to change despite the fact that there was not a car, nor a policeman, in sight in any of the four directions.

"At intersections where there is no light, a sign in mid-street at the crossings says, 'Stop for Pedestrians,' and cars do stop. In Cheyenne, there are no traffic lights—at least I saw none—but traffic at 20 M.P.H., obeying the signs, moves easily and freely.

"In Massachusetts and New England there are thousands

of speed-limit signs which are ignored by substantially every driver because they are unreasonable. They deserve neither respect nor obedience, so they are ignored. Thirty years ago, my oldest son, after his first ride in an automobile driven by one of our friends, remarked, 'Dad, when you see a cop you have to slow down, don't you?'

"Our state laws are a hodge podge, our highway warning signs are usually absurd; we have been drilled for 30 odd years to accept the fact that even a careful driver constantly violates our laws; and until our laws and our highway signs are amended to conform with the habits of the normally careful driver, our habit of law-breaking will continue.

SUMMONSING JAY-WALKERS WOULD SAVE LIVES

"Not much can be done by the police. You can't enforce unreasonable laws. But if police would begin to summons jay-walkers whenever they see one, a good many people in Massachusetts would live through the next year instead of having their ribs crushed, their spines broken or their skulls shattered by the front end of an automobile. And, if our statutes and our warning signs were brought in line with the habits of careful drivers, they would begin to deserve, and to receive, respect.

"The invention of the automobile, followed by the enactment of laws designed to keep cars down to the speed of horse-drawn traffic, made us a nation of law-breakers. It will take a generation or two to remedy that condition, but the remedy lies not in enforcing unreasonable laws. It lies in enacting laws which decent people will respect and obey."

That's the gentleman's observations upon one way to help. He includes a sort of post-script in defense of bus and truck drivers. "Incidentally re your remarks about truck drivers," he says, "in all our driving, we never encountered anything but road courtesy and friendly consideration from the drivers of trucks and buses."

And that, Ladies and Gentlemen, as they say in radio, was Mr. Ben Ames Williams, the noted author who has recently completed a long and leisurely automobile tour of the nation, and who was speaking from fresh and personal experience upon the subject of Death On The Highway.

A mounting pile of correspondence is 'being received. The public is really concerned. Most of it has suggestions, but most of the suggestions would cost a great deal of money. How to make things better within the present frame is really the ticket.

One gentleman of status and distinction suggests the use of ridicule but the ridicule would consist of stopping hasty drivers at dangerous places, make them go back and return at reasonable speeds. That would run into heavy cost if done officially because it would mean extra cops, or their equivalents. His alternative is "a few reliable citizens" who would volunteer to handle traffic in their localities. That could lead to a lot of trouble, and even so, maybe nobody would laugh—except at the volunteer Keystone Cop.

SNOW TIRES NOT ALL THE ANSWER

There might, however, be something in that idea of ridicule. Substitute label for ridicule and you might be getting somewhere. If every frustrated Ben Hur convicted of dangerous driving were forced to have a sign saying so painted on his car; if every car that killed, or maimed somebody, with its operator officially adjudged at fault, would ever after have to wear a red band around it, a scarlet letter, or some other grim device, you might see some slowing down.

In the meanwhile, an immediate and practical suggestion: If you're changing to snow tires, as so many people are, and as I just have, don't get the idea that now you can't skid. They're better than regular shoes. They're not as good as chains, but they may get you by, as I'm hoping with my hill, provided you realize they're nothing but heavier tires. A couple of 100-pound bags of sand in the trunk to weight the rear end will help. They run on ice better than the regular shoe, but they don't start on ice as well, because they try to bite into it. You still can slither around sideways. They need understanding and handling. Be careful. They aren't all the answer.

'NO FIX' IN NEW JERSEY
NEW YEAR RESOLUTION?

Trenton, N.J. -- Although many New Jersey police chiefs don't like it, they started tagging vehicles January 1, with the new "fix-proof" traffic tickets. Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderbilt, of Supreme Court, after rejecting criticism of the ticket system voiced his opinion in a meeting with municipal police chiefs a few days ago to the effect that the Police Chiefs were required to enforce the law.

The meeting had been called after a group of police chiefs and public officers throughout the state complained to Governor Alfred E. Driscoll that the new system would be cumbersome and ineffective. Sitting in the main courtroom of Supreme Court before the New Jersey policemen, Chief Justice Vanderbilt lectured them for sixty minutes on the necessity of having tickets "hard to kill" so motorists will respect the law of New Jersey.

Then, after listening to criticism of the system from various spokesmen for the policemen, the Chief Justice declared that he had heard "no sound legal objection" but he admitted that perhaps they had made a point on the practicability of the tickets.

The meeting was adjourned without any indication that the Supreme Court would postpone the inauguration of the new tickets until April 1, as requested by Alfred T. Smalley, president of the New Jersey Association of Police Chiefs, and Howard J. Devaney, president of the New Jersey Patrolmen's Benevolent Association.

Both Mr. Devaney and Mr. Smalley have agreed that they naturally want to support any system that will prevent "fixing", but they claim that this new system had been "rushed" upon them without ample time to obtain the new tickets from printers or explain to patrolmen how to use them.

Chief Justice Vanderbilt said that he didn't think the new system was too complicated for policemen to grasp quickly and said that municipalities which have not ordered tickets from printers, will use old ones until the new forms are ob-

tained. But records of information asked on the new tickets must be noted by the arresting officer and forwarded to the police complaint bureau of each municipality.

The crux of the no-fix feature of the new tickets lies in the new state-wide court rule which requires all traffic courts to forward their court records of traffic tickets to the Supreme Court. Previously the records were held in the lower courts and never examined except by clerks or traffic judges. With the Supreme Court acting as a checker on the disposition of each traffic ticket, it is believed that "fixing" will be reduced.

I.A.C.P. TO MAKE AWARDS
FOR OUTSTANDING TRAFFIC LAW
ENFORCEMENT WORK

Awards for outstanding work in traffic law enforcement will be made to city and state police departments by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Col. Homer Garrison, Jr., president of the IACP and director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, has announced.

A plan has been worked out with the National Safety Council whereby enforcement sections of the National Traffic Safety Contest reports will be used as a basis for making the awards, Col. Garrison said.

Awards will be made in each of the six city population groups and in each of the four state regions. First awards will be given at the conclusion of the 1948 National Traffic Safety Contest. Presentations probably will be made in May, 1949.

Plans for the awards, which will be made yearly, were formulated by a Special IACP Enforcement Award Committee consisting of Commissioner John C. Prendergast, Chicago; L. J. Benson, treasurer of the IACP; T. P. Sullivan, director of the Illinois Department of Public Safety and past president of the IACP, and Franklin M. Kreml, director of the IACP Traffic Division.

The Committee recommended that the

actual presentation of awards to the winning departments be made by IACP state chairmen in cases of city awards, and by regional chairmen or sectional vice chairmen in cases of state awards-- unless an officer of the association is in the vicinity when such an award is to be made.

The awards will be made by an IACP board of five to be appointed by the president and to include two city police officers and two state police officers.

"Officers of the association are confident that these new awards to city and state police departments will have a salutary effect in stimulating increased effort and interest in the important task of improving traffic law enforcement," Col. Garrison said.

---Police Chief's News
December, 1948

WATCH OUT FOR PEDESTRIANS!

By George Ross Wells

As a pedestrian myself I highly approve of the above slogan. It is time that we got some attention. This slogan pasted on the backs of police cars is about the first intimation the public has received that pedestrians officially exist in the eyes of the City's governing and police authorities.

All too long have we pedestrians been dodging cars driven at reckless speed. We have been crossing streets with our hearts thumping with concern lest there come along one of those drivers who having blown his horn believes that he has done everything that can reasonably be expected. Here I come! his horn announces. Let the pedestrian beware!

But now all that is over. We pedestrians are going to have protection. Presumably it has for a long time been against the law to run over pedestrians. Now, I take, it, we mustn't even be frightened, at least not too much. We are officially recognized!

About half my time I am a driver. As such I regard the slogan "Watch Out for Pedestrians!" as unnecessary and a lit-

tle unfair. Why can't pedestrians watch out for themselves, just a little anyway? Why does the driver have to do it all? Why should pedestrians be encouraged to act sometimes like unusually stupid sheep, sometimes like arrogant lords of all they survey?

Try making a right turn onto Main St. with the traffic officer peremptorily urging you on and pedestrians crossing in front of you just daring you to even brush their coats! Consider the stately old lady who majestically marches across the street as far from an official crossing as possible. You mustn't frighten or hustle her. Your business can wait. She won't.

I have been driving a car for a long time. I have been walking for still longer. I do both pretty well. But this switching from one to the other leaves me dizzy. Either way I go at it there's trouble ahead.

---Hartford Times

GOOD IDEA FROM CONNECTICUT

When Connecticut's motor vehicle registry instituted a point system in order to keep track of its unsafe motorists a year ago it created basis for some good natured joking and comparisons with the report cards children bring home from school. Today its automobile operators will be heard boasting they have no "black marks" on their records.

Under the system, motorists found responsible for fatal accidents or driving under the influence have 10 points checked against them; leaving the scene of an accident costs eight points, reckless driving, six points and minor offences carry one-point deficits. Three points brings a friendly warning letter from the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and five necessitates the offender's visit to the registry driving clinic for a conference.

In Connecticut, the motorist proud of his skill, judgment and caution strives to keep his record unsullied. The system really works out.

---Boston Post

NO TRAFFIC DEATHS
IN DECATUR IN 1948

Decatur, Ill., Jan. 1 -- The city of Decatur achieved a record of no traffic fatalities in 1948.

W. Glenn Kerwin, chief of police, said he believes it was the first year since automobiles began using Decatur's streets that no one was killed in traffic. Decatur has a population of 59,000.

The 1947 toll was seven. Eight were killed in 1946, and 1945 was the highest of record with 10 deaths.

Kerwin said the record resulted from a special traffic law enforcement effort. He also gave credit to the school safety program.

TRAFFIC JAMS TO CONTINUE

Washington, Jan. 1 --The Public Roads Administration said that crowded highways are likely to be with us "for some time."

It added a cheering note: "State highway departments made substantial progress in 1948 in the improvement of primary and secondary roads in all sections of the country."

The agency said there were more cars on the highways in 1948 than ever before with the result that many of the roads--particularly in and near cities--were carrying heavier traffic than they were designed to serve.

It said that federal aid and non-federal aid projects costing \$1,056,-442,000 were placed under contract between Jan. 1, 1948, and Dec. 1, involving work on 37,422 miles of road. This was more money and fewer miles than in the same period of 1947, due in part to higher costs and in part to greater concentration on city streets.

WINTER TRAFFIC CONTROLS

The action of the State Traffic Commission in approving State-wide police control of motor vehicle travel during

Winter storms is another step toward the safe and efficient handling of driving problems under snowy or icy conditions.

Under the new plan State and local police will be authorized to take whatever steps are necessary whenever highway conditions become hazardous. At police discretion traffic on certain stretches of road may be stopped entirely pending plowing or sanding, or the flow of traffic in certain lanes may be restricted.

These are simple precautions, but they have not been State policy during the past. And in the absence of such precautions costly traffic snarls, accidents, and even fatalities have been regularly associated with our Winter storms. Under the new plan the State Police may stop traffic entirely on parkways and highways when storms or other dangerous conditions prevail. Such action will permit plows or other equipment to clear the roadways without hindrance and will thus speed the flow of traffic behind such emergency equipment. The equipment should no longer be delayed by traffic tie-ups or long lines of stranded automobiles.

Like the blanket no-parking edicts so effectively used by the City of Hartford in periods of heavy snow and like our own New Haven snowstorm regulations, these are emergency procedures that pay-off well when a storm strikes. In these days of unprecedentedly heavy traffic the police must have freedom to act if the highways are to be kept safe and open.---New Haven Register

TRAFFIC SAFETY
DURING SNOW AND ICE STORMS

"There is some confusion in the public mind concerning police authority upon the highways during storm periods" State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey declared recently, citing the department's policy for emergency traffic control during ice and snowstorms.

"During winter storms," he said "when dangerous highway conditions make travel extremely hazardous, any police officer on the highway may direct motor

vehicle operators with relation to the operation of motor vehicles. Motorists failing to comply with the police officer's direction as to operation considered safe or expedient at the time may be subject to court action. Authority for such action is vested in local and State Police officers by Section 1583 of the General Statutes--'Whenever the operator of any motor vehicle shall not promptly bring his motor vehicle to a full stop upon the signal of any officer in uniform or prominently displaying the badge of his office, or shall disobey the directive of such officer with relation to the operation of his motor vehicle, he shall be fined.....

"The State Police Department recognizes that special snow tires may be an adequate safety device in soft snow or slush, however, only chains provide reasonably safe operation with regard to traction and stopping distance on hard-packed snow or ice, especially during storms. Storm conditions will be taken into consideration by State Policemen in determining the safety of operation without anti-skid devices. Non-skid devices on motor vehicles are necessary during storms to permit snow removal equipment to operate properly and efficiently. Lack of such devices causes traffic tieups. The policy concerning what action State Policemen will take under emergency storm conditions is outlined by this office, but action is taken by field stations when such conditions contribute to the cause of unnecessary traffic delays in certain areas or on specific highways or parkways.

"Field station action is taken only when reports by patrol officers personally on the scene indicate such action is proper for the protection of lives and property.

"Public cooperation is again urged."

HIT AND RUN

It takes all kinds to make a world, they say,
But there's one driver we can do without
For when it comes to decent and fair play,

He doesn't know just what it's all about.

The one that I refer to has no double--
The poorest sport I know of, barring none;
Instead of stopping when involved in trouble,
He lets himself become a "hit-and-run".

---Francis Ellsworth Asher
Colorado State Patrol

TWO LESSONS WELL LEARNED ABOUT DRIVING

By George Ross Wells

After 25 years and several hundred thousand miles of driving, I have learned two things. Perhaps there are a few other matters of less importance which have been impressed upon me, but two principles stand out above all others as practically vital in safe, pleasant driving.

The first conviction which long ago became a basic principle is that a driver does not get to his destination much sooner by very fast driving. Moderate speed, consistently maintained, gets him further along than very fast driving.

And he who drives at moderate speeds enjoys his trip more than the speedster and is in better condition to appreciate his dinner and his night's sleep than if he has been burning the roads all day. For as he burned the roads he also burned his own reserves of energy.

The second conviction is in an entirely different field. It is that careful attention to the mechanical condition of your machine pays very large dividends in comfort and safety as well as in more tangible ways.

These are two very simple rules. Don't get in a hurry! Be certain that brakes, tires and engine, in that order, are in good condition!

There may be other rules of importance. But drivers who keep these two very seldom get into trouble and practically never into trouble of their own causing.

---Hartford Times

AROUND THE CIRCUIT

VOX-COP

January, 1949

RIDGEFIELD ESTATES

On Christmas Eve when the personnel of Station "A" (police and civilian) reached home all found a personal greeting in the mail from the Commissioner. As our patrols met officers from adjoining stations we learned all stations were included. Then the Emergency Detail over New Years brought similar news from the Eastern Division and Headquarters. Again we observed that the Chief managed to reach every station's Christmas Party. His Christmas message merits a reprint:

"I could not let the Year 1948 pass without telling you how much I appreciate your faithful performance of duty and your loyalty to the Department.

We have made great progress this year. This progress is not due to chance -- it is the result of sincere and continuous efforts of every person connected with the Department.

And I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your cooperation. I know that you will continue to work for the best interests of the department as a whole."

To quote TINY TIM:

"God bless us every one!"

A Merry Christmas

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

To All

During our lives we have often heard the old adage that Honesty is the best policy. This columnist would like to add as a sub-topic Cooperation is the best policy in Police Business. This was readily proven when we were requested, by Chief George J. Schoen, of the Danbury Police Department, to assist their Captain Eugene Melvin in the investigation of numerous Gas Station Breaks. For a month these breaks were a problem.

Officer George Noxon, of this Station was assigned to Captain Melvin, and within twenty-four hours they broke the case: taking into custody Charles Whitney Delzell, age 23, of Danbury, who admitted 23 jobs.

In this instance notes of the two departments were compared and all pertinent information was pooled, which, as you can see, bore fruitful results.

Congratulations! Captain Melvin and Officer Noxon on your great team work.

We are not going to conclude this story relating to Cooperation, because it appears that we here at Station "A" thrive upon it, inasmuch as last week we received a request from Chief Andrew J. Nearing, of the New Milford Constabulary, for assistance in the supervision of the flooded area at the intersection of routes 7 and 25 in the Town of New Milford due to adverse weather conditions (heavy rain) which caused the Housatonic River to overflow its banks causing a dangerous condition.

Men were dispatched to the scene, under the direction of Lieutenant Carlton L. Klocker, and worked untiring throughout the day and night assisting Chief Nearing and his men. Incidentally this was New Year's Eve, but not a gripe or grumble was expressed. Although the road at some places was well covered with five feet of water, not even one mishap occurred.

Our Faithful Old Friend, the State Highway Department, also on the job, proved, again, that they were indispensable, therefore, we, along with Chief Nearing, express our heartfelt thanks.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1948, the Annual Christmas Party, for the entire personnel of the Ridgefield Barracks, was held. After much discussion, and for numerous reasons, it was held at one of the "Show Places of the East--The Stonehenge Inn."

In addition to the entire personnel, the party was graced by the presence of Commissioner Hickey, Major Kelly, Cap-

tains Carroll and Schatzman and wives; and Lieutenant Pastore also joined in for the evening. Captain Mulcahy was unable to attend owing to an emergency call. This party was an innovation inasmuch as it was held away from the barracks for the first time in its history. The move proved to be a wise one, indeed, because the Barracks Area was efficiently policed by officers from Stations "G" and "I", and we could all afford to relax by not jumping whenever the phone rang.

The party was a great success -- there was a minimum of speeches and these were very brief and to the point. From what this writer could observe, no one appeared to be bored.

The idea of a dinner or party, at least once a year appears to be a good one, inasmuch as the wives of the personnel have an opportunity to get together, compare notes, the ungodly hours their "better halves" put in and general discourse on the shortcomings of their husbands, and so forth and so on. Everyone has an opportunity to let down their hair. You're away from the barracks, and in general it appears to be a splendid thing for the moral of the department. Let's have more of these social affairs.

Captain Carroll has often expressed the thought that the Ridgefield Barracks is the finest in the State, and, also, that the finest come from this Barracks. Although this may appear to be far-fetched, in some respects, put on your thinking caps, and you will find that most of our "Brass" at one time or another was stationed at Ridgefield.

I suppose you are wondering what we are driving at. It isn't too hard to figure out, just like putting two & two together: a good policeman, a lot of personality, a neat appearance, and last but not the least, a beautiful set of "Choppers", put them all together, and what have you got, why sure, "MARCHESE" better known as "Wambo Mar--cheese."

We at Station "A" are certainly proud that Lou Marchese made the grade, by becoming a Sergeant in the Connecticut State Police Department. Congratulations! Sergeant Marchese, and who knows, maybe someday you will join us

again in a supervisory capacity.

The man who said one half of the world does not know how the other half lives never was on a rural phone line.

Another year has slipped away, and as we pause to take stock of ourselves, we ponder on life's great tragedy. We can't go back. Would that the days of the year were like an open book we read, page by page, we can always turn back as many pages as we wish, but in the book of life, NEVER.

New faces appear: some of those near and dear to us have departed; but as they say---THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

WE HOPE THE COMING NEW YEAR WILL BRING TO THE FOLLOWING THEIR HEARTS DESIRE:

Lt. Klocker -- A diet with which anything can be eaten, and no need to let out his belt.

Sgt. Palau -- A larger paper route.

Sgt. Murphy -- A "Bigger Whip."

Off. Bonuomo -- No more night work.

Off. Bunnell -- Week-ends off duty.

Off. Davis -- A New Alarm-clock.

Off. Dunn -- An everlasting supply of free cigarettes.

Off. Giardina -- His Kitchen finished.

Off. Gorman -- Bigger and better NEEDLES.

Off. Jones -- More money

Off. Lineweber -- A New Cadillac Convertible Coupe.

Off. McMahon -- Anti-Burping Pills.

Off. McNamara -- COREY

Off. Meagher -- The North Patrol.

Off. Merritt -- 20 YEARS

Off. Noxon -- 1 three-way-girdle.

Off. Small -- A New Chrowsky.

Off. Stefanek -- The East Patrol.

Off. Wilson -- His House finished.

SPW Petrini -- A faster track

Clerk Corbett -- A new pair of shoes for his wife, to replace the ones he borrowed for the Xmas Party.

Disp. Pettit -- More laying chickens.

Disp. Travaglini -- "BOBBY".

Chef Scanlon -- A new frigidaire.

Custodian Clarke -- A never ending supply of quarters.

"Best wishes to you and yours for a happy and prosperous New Year".

CANAAN SNOW FLURRIES

Now that lonely blasts of wintry winds turn flecks of snow in glistening spirals and curls of smoke peek up through chimney tops we come into another year whose days will unfold with the same problems, wisps of happiness, and moments of apprehension that we have all experienced in the hours now secured in the vault of life. Perhaps, were we to plan our future with an eye to the past, it might be a future dotted with more hours of happiness and accomplishment and less fear and anxiety. Happy New Year.

Those of us who have had the pleasure of associating with Larry Beizer over a period of years are happy to know that his sincerity, diligence, and genuine ability have brought him to fields of greater endeavor.

Sergeant Beizer possesses the many requisites for understanding leadership together with the type personality which will make him an efficient and friendly individual.

His understanding approach to the many intimate problems confronting those at variance with the law has brought success to his many investigations as is evidenced in the file of completed complaints. We who have worked with him have invariably found his unassuming manner a tonic to the monotony of routine and a source of example in modesty.

We wish him well as he steps forward to join the ranks of those who, through the years, have maintained the heritage of honor bestowed upon them as members of an organization steeped in a tradition of progressive law enforcement.

Friday, December 31st, 1948, will long remain a day of vivid memories. In addition to the constant requests for highway travel information, there were numerous desperate calls for assistance from those who suddenly found themselves and their possessions stranded in the midst of mountainous banks of swirling water.

Early Friday morning Offs. Francis, Staples, and Sedar were dispatched to the village of Riverton where 90 year old Charles Ward had become marooned in

his home. With one officer remaining in the patrol car as radio contact, two others braved an angry current which at this time was carrying numerous pieces of debris, making the use of a light boat doubly hazardous. Through persistent effort despite almost insurmountable obstacles, Mr. Ward was, "Put aboard," and brought to safety.

Officers Staples and Sedar, assisted by Louis Aakjar, succeeded in rescuing an elderly gentleman from the E.P. Sanger Farm in Canaan through the use of a stretcher, sled, and boat. Upon arrival at the farm it was discovered that water had risen to the first floor. In view of the fact that the occupant was ill, it was necessary to remove him by stretcher to a waiting boat, thence to the warmth of a neighboring home by sled.

In addition to the many routine rescues, there were those such as the following, which required considerable ingenuity: cattle belonging to a Mr. Burns in East Canaan were isolated by a considerable depth of water. In order to remove them, Officer Sedar placed ropes securely around their horns and then, with the assistance of Game Warden Charles Wells, dragged, pulled, and bribed them to dry land. This latter experience, strange to those whose duties bring them in contact with many novel situations, brought only a muffled "Moo" from those who will now live to supply milk another day.

Yes, Friday, December 31st, will long remain a day of memories, of pathos, anxiety, and appreciation.

A delightful dinner and evening's entertainment, packaged too late for Christmas, was delivered for the personnel on December 30th, at the Battell House in Norfolk.

In completing arrangements for the location, Lieutenant Nolan established a happy precedent in that members of the barracks found themselves not as a group having labored together throughout the year but more as friends gathering at the close of a day in an environment complete with holiday trimmings and a spirit of gaiety surpassed in intensity only by the excellent music of neighboring artists who graciously offered their services.

TOLLAND HILLS

December, with its several snow storms, brought about several interesting cases in which this department assisted the wardens of the department of Fisheries and Game in the apprehension of several who were indulging in the hunting of deer illegally. Ask Officers Yaskulka and Smiegel how they like hiking through the snow covered woods and swamps of Somers and Willington.

While parked off the main road, in Tolland, one of the cars used by the game wardens was broken into, and from it were taken a box of .38 cal. shells and a pair of department issue binoculars. Later the culprits, ages 13 and 14 years, were apprehended by Officer Dick. Some of the shells were recovered with the binoculars, which had been hidden in a boot in a stonewall near the home of one of the boys. Before the day was over flashlights, 2, 3, and 5 cell ones, gloves, football, toy steam engine and a few other articles were also taken from the possession of these two juveniles, who had been on a shop-lifting spree. The steam engine really worked. Ask the boys at the station!

We are sorry to report that Mrs. Thomas O'Brien, wife of our Officer O'Brien is confined to the Windham Community Memorial Hospital, Willimantic.

On the day of the inauguration of Governor Bowles, while on special detail Officer John J. Yaskulka had the misfortune to slip on the icy pavement and to break four bones in his left wrist.

The Tolland County Bar Association held its December meeting at Station C, State Police--in order that the various members could acquaint themselves (for the defense -- for the prosecution) with the various personalities of the State Police attached to the Station.

It was a dinner meeting with the attorneys served with the traditionally excellent Barracks food.

Nicholas F. Armentano, Prosecuting Attorney of the Borough Court of Stafford Springs, and Attorney for the Town of Stafford, was Chairman of arrange-

ments for the meeting. On the arrangement committee were Thomas Birmingham of Andover, Assistant United States District Attorney and Ben Ackerman of Rockville, Coroner for Tolland County.

Edward J. Hickey, Commissioner of State Police was present, and directed the showing of a motion picture of a famous ball game between teams of Hartford attorneys, in which Thomas Spellacy and Judge Creedon of Creedon, Danaher & Buckley were concerned.

Another guest at the party was Judge John Hamilton King of the Connecticut Superior Court.

After dinner some of the 20 attorneys present adjourned to the shooting gallery in the Station Garage. Those who fancied themselves as marksmen wished they had stayed at table--after facing the pin point firing of State Policewoman Margaret Jacobson.

Miss Jacobson won the shooting match, bullets down. Our Margaret, "took" 1 HQ like Grant "took Richmond". (The Pilot's glasses need cleaning -- Lt. Pastore.)

Donald C. Fisk, States Attorney for Tolland County is President of the Tolland County Bar Association.

PARKWAY DRIVE

The other day we took a ride--a ride over the Wilbur Cross Parkway from the intersection with Route 32 in Willington, clear to the Charter Oak Bridge, and across the Bridge into Hartford--and all the way back again.

It was, we may add, a speedy and smooth trip. It was made in--without violating any of the speed-limit markers--a very few minutes. We weren't making the trip to see how fast we could get from point A to point B. Thus, we didn't clock the time of the trip.

However, we suspect that the trip could be made in between 35 and 40 minutes. We didn't trust our judgement of elapsed time so we checked with Lieutenant Harris J. Hulburt, Commanding Officer of Station C, State Police, and he allowed as how that might be about right. (Being a Yankee, he'd say only "about.")

But without time-checking and other

extraneous matters, the trip over the new Parkway was extremely pleasant. You rode along smoothly from the minute you got on to the smooth Highway from the Route 32 Cloverleaf--as the entrances are technically known as--with practically no interference for miles and miles. (There was, to be sure an interference at the entrance to the Charter Oak Bridge, digging down for toll dough into your pocket).

We looked, as we went, for the grade crossings Rockville folk have been complaining of. Candidly, we didn't notice them, so uninterfered with was the going. We sympathize, though with their complaints--and realize that there must be something to base them on. Especially, as the Highway Safety Commission held a meeting a week ago at Vernon Inn to hear complaints from citizens of communities which impinge on the Wilbur Cross Parkway.

(William Greene, Director of the Highway Safety Commission commented about the Stafford Press's story of the meeting: "I have read Mrs. Taylor's comment regarding our Route 5/15 meeting held a week ago in Vernon, and wish to express appreciation for the very fair and considerate manner in which she reported the proceedings. It was a difficult meeting to cover as everybody spoke frankly, with the understanding that the press would be cooperative and not quote anyone too literally...")

But no matter. We're glad that the Stafford Press reported the meeting adequately. And we are certain that sooner or later the Route 15 hitches will be straightened out to the satisfaction of everyone, including the impinging towns like Rockville and Tolland.

As Mr. Greene says:

"Be assured this subject will have the continued interest of our Commission Commissioner Hill has been seriously concerned about it since early in the year. I know from repeated talks with the Commissioner that insofar as he can proceed he will cause everything practicable to be done to ease any potential accident situation on the route. In time, and with required authority and appropriations, the highway will have a physical layout which will conform to

all practicable safety specifications."

Meanwhile, leave us hear from Mr. William Cunningham, of the Boston Herald. Mr. Cunningham is an expert on roads, on account he has bumped over so many of them. And he pronounces the Wilbur Cross Parkway, in all of its manifestations, just about the smoothest ribbon that has ever unwound from under his wheels. Mr. C drove from his home in Newton to a downtown hotel in New York, without laying the accelerator paddle to the law-violating floor, in less than five hours.

In fact, he was in the downtown hotel room, unpacked, and with the setups on the table in five hours flat!

---Stafford Press

WINDHAM CORN

County Detective Rowe Wheeler is convalescing at his home in Willimantic after a serious eye operation. His many friends throughout the County and State might remember him at this time with a card or cheery note.

Mrs. Helen Rivers has also been on the sick list and we are glad to write at this time she is doing nicely at her home.

Recently at the Station "H" Christmas party, Off. Stecko's little daughter, age 3, had her picture taken sitting on Commissioner Hickey's lap and after Walt had seen this he exclaimed, "Wish it was me"!

Christmas has come and gone but it will always be delightful to hear Off. Marikle telling of the looks and screams of joy coming from his young daughters on Christmas morning as they opened their packages.

Off. Charles Heckler has left our domain for the Governor's mansion where he will act as body-guard and chauffeur for Governor Chester Bowles. Good luck, Charles, may your new position find you much happiness!

Officers Stecko, Winslow and Hart, the glamour boys of Station "D", participated at the Governor's inauguration

and looked very handsome in their new uniforms with all the trimmings, according to all reports.

Lieut. River's dog follows him to the station day after day. The Lieutenant takes him back home and despite all the reprimanding one can administer to a dog the dog comes back. We have come to the conclusion that he would like to become a police dog.

DOWN BY THE THAMES

Capt. Schatzman and Lieut. Mackenzie were luncheon guests of Admiral James Fife recently at the Sub-base.

Martin Branner, creator of Winnie Winkle, and Gus Edson who directs the destiny of the Gumps, discussed the pros and cons of good and bad comic strips over WNLC with our Lieut. Mackenzie and Francis Rago of the State Health Dept.

Off. Fitzgerald stopped a car with no tail lights and complications set in. A sailor from the Sub-base had stolen this car from its parking space, a 1936 two door sedan with no door handles inside or out. The sailor was intoxicated and Off. Fitz. had to figure out some way to retrieve him from the car. With the assistance of Off. T. Smith they bailed him out through the window. And now I suppose you want to know how the owner gets in and out of his handleless car? So did Off. Fitzgerald. The owner always leaves a window open so he can reach into his glove compartment where he keeps a door handle. The drunk we assume climbed in the car through the open window. Oh well, this is Groton and not too far from Brewster's Neck.

Mr. Leslie Williams, Sr., Aide de Chef, to Chef Girotti, has returned to work after a lengthy illness. Welcome home, Pop.

And now for a little dig at the weather man who always keeps us in a dither at this time of the year as to road conditions.

Judge Reynolds -- "I'll let you off this time with a fine but another day

I'll send you to jail."

Weatherman -- "I see, your honor, Fine today, Cooler tomorrow."

Lieut. Mackenzie had some of the boys scratching their heads the other day by his remark -- "If the snow and rain had only kept up we wouldn't have had these flood conditions." You figure it out.

New London Police have a new station. For future historians the first arrest was a female for shoplifting by Det. Murphy. A well known character who has been arrested 109 times since 1911 for intoxication visited the station and placed his stamp of approval on same announcing, "its okay."

With the exception of New London and Norwich all towns in New London county were free of traffic deaths in November.

The Rev. Clarence R. Wagner, chaplain of the Connecticut State Police observed his 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood this month. Beside the many parishes that he serves he is also chaplain for the Avery Point Coast Guard station and the State Farm for women at Niantic.

Norwich police had three calls in 3½ hours recently re possible deaths. Investigation revealed that two of these complaints were "dead" but dead drunk describes the situation more clearly. The third complaint disclosed a man, while waiting for his wife to finish her shopping and return to the car, which was parked in a parking space, had dozed off causing him to "slump" on the steering wheel, resembling a corpse.

The weather forecasters have a new terminology, "graupel". (snow like barley kernels.) Just snow is bad enuff, thank you.

Officers Gail Smith, J.J. Jasonis and State Policewoman Lucy Boland have been assigned new cars this month at this station. Receiving these at Christmas time -- could Santa be responsible?

There were happy children in Norwich and New London on Xmas day, thanks to the solicitude and foresight of the fire depts in both cities. Requests had been made for old toys which were repaired and distributed to the needy. Thanks to the generous public and the handicraft of the firemen, Santa did not

forget them.

A chain of evidence forged by Off. O'Connor plus Sgt. Dygert's memory and efforts of Det. Murphy of the New London PD led to the arrest and conviction of an operator who mowed down four Coast Guard Academy cadets, during a blinding snowstorm. Because of the deep snow on the unshoveled sidewalks the four cadets had elected to walk single file in the roadway. They were struck from behind and were bowled over like ten pins. The operator did not stop.

Town patrolman Falvey contributes the following arrest. A car was stopped by the officer for travelling without lights. Was he surprised upon discovering that the car was minus a steering wheel; that is, where it should be. It was on the seat next to the driver. The young sailor had a towel wrapped around the top of the steering post and was using his hands, pipe wrench fashion, to guide the car. In case you are still interested, he didn't have an operator's license either.

Did you know Sampson Occum, a Mohegan Indian, who lived near Fort Shantok in Montville became the first Christian Indian and minister? The preaching of Sampson Occum in England and Scotland was the means of raising money to found Dartmouth College.

Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid, a recent visitor at the local Sub-base was given an escort by Off. P. Hickey and a nineteen gun salute by the Base.

Important Notice To All Employees:

To be considered a good employee work hard eight hours every day and don't worry. If you do this for twenty years you will become the Boss, at which time you will be working eighteen hours a day and have all the worries.

State police of the Groton barracks made 1,073 motor vehicle arrests and 353 criminal arrests in 1948, but the figures fail by far to sum up the vast amount of work and activity of the officers and men of the station.

Lieut. William E. Mackenzie, commanding officer also disclosed that 437 motor vehicle accidents were investigated and that 4,337 warnings were issued for motor vehicle violations. Personnel of

the barracks traveled 535,246 miles and in addition to their other work performed 1,084 acts of general service.

While the figures provide an indication of the busy day-after-day schedule the story is not completely told. For instance no figures are available on the amount of time spent investigating cases that do not culminate in arrests. Some cases are under constant probe for weeks and even months.

Then there is the item of investigations for the prosecutor of the court of common pleas for New London county. The state police officers also work steadily with the county detective to assemble information needed by the state's attorney for cases in superior court.

Another important phase of the work is fire investigation. Officers are dispatched to any fires of a suspicious nature and remain until all evidence has been sifted and weighed for possible arrest. This is rather unproductive labor because of state laws which provide that a person practically has to see another start a fire if arson is to be proved.

Officers attached to the station spend many hours taking and developing photographs for use in court and devote countless hours to making out reports of the cases to which they are assigned. It is also their responsibility to care for their own automotive equipment and their uniforms. Inspections are made regularly and they are rigid ones.

Still another activity is the public relations phase of police work, such as talks before church groups and service clubs, and liaison between the state police and the public.

Our friends, "Jim" Reardon, "Harry" Shalett, "Tom" Griffin and their hard working Elks Committee did a great job in arranging that testimonial dinner on December 11 for Commissioner Hickey.

The Commissioner was honored by New London Elks with an honorary life membership and a turn-out of about 800 Elks from far and near, including Grand Exalted Ruler George Hall of Lynnbrook, L.I., Past Grand Exalted Rulers Raymond Benjamin, formerly of California, now residing in Westport, Connecticut and

James R. Nicholson of New York City, General Manager, Elks Magazine with James L. McGovern, Associate Editor of the Bridgeport Post, well known prominent Elk and loyal supporter of the cause of law enforcement.

"Smiling Jim" O'Leary of New London, a life long friend of Ed's had a grand evening too. Police Chiefs from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, F.B.I. Agents, Railroad Police and law enforcement officers from all ranks joined in tribute to the former Central Vermont Railroad "Cop" of 31 years ago. Congratulatory telegrams were received from Director J. Edgar Hoover, F.B.I., and President Homer Garrison of the I.A.C.P. and Director of Texas Public Safety.

Your Station E's correspondent is not certain at the moment whether this contribution to Vox-Cop will pass censorship at Headquarters--if it does--then note what Joe DeBona of the Sunday Herald wrote about the Chief -- "Incidentally would you be interested in learning what E.J.H. drank on that festive evening?.....You'll never guess..... milk and he had a quart of it in front of him at the table.....We've even got a picture to prove it!"

Station "E" congratulates our chief on the honors bestowed by our local citizenry--it was a grand tribute and one in which every police officer in Connecticut joined. Thirty-one years from now we hope to be so remembered.

STATION "F", WESTBROOK

New Year's Resolutions

LIEUT. CARROLL E. SHAW - That he will make no resolutions except to see his personnel keep theirs.....SGT. EDWARD P. TIERNEY - that things will be HIS way for a change.....SGT. DORENCE MIELKE that he will have rubber heels as part of his equipment.....OFF. LLOYD D. BABCOCK - that he will use his new glasses to his best advantage.....OFF. RUSSELL T. BURTON - that he will give someone else a chance for conversation.....OFF.

GEORGE BALDWIN - that he will smoke his own cigars.....OFF. WILLIAM CONNOLLY - that he will beat the ten cent toll on the bridge by placing Old Lyme out of bounds for haircuts.....OFF. JOSEPH SUCHANEK - that he will set a new style for men's hats in 1949.....OFF. WILLIAM CONLON III - that he will let his hair grow in 1949.....OFF. JOHN WOLLSCHLAGER - that he will take things easy this year.....OFF. HENRY CLUDINSKI - that he will have a vacation in August.....OFF. EDWARD P. GAYER - that he will not go on a diet for at least another year..... OFF. ARTHUR MAYER - that the haying season will be good for 1949. Farmers Almanac please note!

OFF. HOWARD STERNBERG - that he will WINTERIZE the station camera before spring.....OFF. LEONARD MENARD - that he will have a well attended New Year's Eve Party at home in 1950.....OFF. JAMES FERGUSON - that he will let his BOY play with the electric train..... OFF. FRED MORAN - that he will immediately arrest any and all New Mexico cars... ..SPW SIMMONS - that she will not move in 1949.....CLERK WILLIAM BRINK - that for the entire year of 1949 there will be an available free space of five square inches on his desk.....DISPATCHER PETER PUZONE - that he will devote more interest to his extra-curricular activities at Neidlinger's Drug Store... ..DISPATCHER JOHN OVERSTREET - that he will not wear coveralls until the coming Xmas Party.....CUSTODIAN SPYROS SOLIAS - that people will call him "SAM" during the next year.....CHEF WILLIAM YOUNG - that he will abide by the Cook Book for the ensuing year.....ASS'T CHEF, EVERETT HUNT - that he will take just a little time off.

Well boys we were all sorry for the rain Inauguration Day, January 5. The Detail was all dressed up in the new regalia. With glorious sunshine Tuesday, January 4, the dress parade boys were put through the paces at the West Hartford Armory. Shoes and puttees polished like mirrors and new hats for the lads who like to wear them at any angle, it looked as if the Foot Guards were to be outdone. Old Man Weather, however, had a different idea - the skies opened up with a continual downpour and the rain-

coats sheltered the colors and possibly delayed the shrinkage. The white plastic hat covers saved the "Lees". They tell us the "Watchdog" of the Budget sent out for rubbers for the barefooted lads. Then came the Ball and wow! How it did rain! Yet some of the ambitious lads made the grade. Yep! Zeke was there with his tails. Special Service we are told were detailed in the white vests and bow ties. Everyone on the job that night, we would believe from the broadcasts heard down this way. Then came Jan. 6 and sunshine - lucky for the detail it was not snow January 5th.

Captain Schatzman before leaving the Eastern District had the pleasure of representing C.S.P. in effecting the contract for resident state police services in the towns of Old Lyme and East Lyme. First Selectmen Howard Tooker of Old Lyme and Clinton Mackinnon of East Lyme represented their respective towns. Detective Sergeant Roy Goodale joined in the meeting and continues to serve as resident officer from Niantic.

The Deep River New Era's question of the week: Has anyone in the area given more public talks in the last few years than State Policewoman Harriet Simmons of the Westbrook barracks? I doubt that there is a Rotary Club, woman's club, PTA group, or what-have-you society in the entire Lower Connecticut Valley which has not heard Mrs. S. speak on juvenile delinquency and-or what a state policewoman does when she's not giving talks to Rotary clubs', women's clubs, PTA groups and what-have-you societies. Mrs. Simmons gave another talk before another organization a few nights ago; it must have been her 64th such talk in the last three years, or was it the 76th or 89th? Most of us stopped counting long ago. And every one of the talks was on her own time, put in after eight (and very often more) hours of work that day. Some people, I guess, just never tire....

Another item from the Lower Valley's leading paper:

Did you notice the item in the Era a few weeks ago about Dominic and Joseph Fazzano, summertime residents of

Westbrook, being the first to contribute gifts for this year's State Police Children's Christmas Party? The Fazzanos, father and son, are the owners of the Imperial Pocket Knife Company in Providence, R.I. Year after year since the S.P.C.C. Party was first started four Decembers ago, they have been among the first and largest contributors to this joyspreading event. Never having met either of the two gentlemen, I don't know whether they're short or tall or stout or thin, but it would seem appropriate if they appeared each Christmas with long white beards and in red suits (not undergarments). They're real Santa Clauses!.....And it might not be out of order if Lt. Carroll E. Shaw, commander of the Westbrook State Police barracks, appeared that way, too. Shaw has been the guiding force behind the annual Christmas affair since its inception.

"H" AS IN HYPO

On December 22, 1948, Station "H" held its annual Christmas Party for the officers and their families and invited guests. Consensus of all concerned was that it was a howling success, as it brought home to all of us the real meaning of the spirit of Christmas. It was noted by all in attendance what a party like this means, not only to the officers and their wives, but in particular, the children. To the close observer it was noted how the children came in with their mothers or fathers, whom they kept quite close to until the arrival of Santa Claus in his jeep, who made an entry in such a manner that it practically electrified the children. Not only was the entry of Santa Claus noted by the children, but the look of anxiety on some of the elders was just as startling.

After the presents were given out by Santa, including a corsage of roses to all the ladies present, bedlam broke loose. Cap guns were popping, bells ringing, balloons breaking, and the children intermingled with each other,



Off. Pritchard's twin sons receiving gifts from Santa at the Xmas Party

all trying the toys Santa brought, and two were observed "squaring off". This argument proved to be the outcome of "Cops and Robbers" where somebody was shot and refused to fall down (Palin please note).

The party was well planned and timed, and great credit should go to those officers and policewomen who made such an event possible. Experience taught the committee that the proper time for children was between the hours of 5 and 7 PM which is indisputable. The decorations, including the Christmas trees, were in accord and not overdone; the balloon barrage was something new and quite novel. Manuel, Leo and Walter in the kitchen did an outstanding job and upheld their end, and so did Omney Kennedy Glover Griffin and George White. In fact, all contributed in some way or other in making it a success.

The more appreciative ones were the officers who had children, and all are looking forward to having the same type of a party next year. We of Station "H" feel our party portrays the true spirit of Christmas and we are looking forward

now to next year, hoping that all will be with us and enjoy the same type of party again.

Our first party of a year ago was so impressed on the children's minds that they looked forward to the one this year. When things like that impress a child's mind, there must be more to it than we realize. We all realize that there is a psychological effect, even in our own minds, and if anyone noted the Commissioner, we feel that this type of party had the same effect on him as it did on all of us. Let's hope, with God's help, we will all be here again to celebrate Christmas 1949 in the same manner.

Our Station reporter, Mickey Caruso, had a dirty trick pulled on him by Santa. Instead of bringing him "two front teeth", Santa came and extracted 14 of Mickey's back ones. Mickey is "on the mend" at home, and hopes to be letting out with WJTH 432 in the near future.

For our 1949 Christmas Party another will be present, as Santa Claus was very good to Disp. Mario Palumbo, presenting his wife with a $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. baby boy.

Station "H" lost one of its best officers when "Bill" Gruber was promoted to Lieutenant and transferred to Headquarters. His loss is already felt at Station "H" and we feel that our loss is the Communications Division's gain. The entire personnel at Station "H" wish Lieut. Gruber success in his new ven-

ture.

Sergt. Lawrence Beizer, recently of Station "B" Canaan, has been transferred from that Station to Station "H" as a Sergeant and we of Station "H" welcome him in his new undertaking. We will all cooperate with him to the fullest and make him an outstanding Sergeant.

BETHANY HILLS

"AT LONG LAST" - SERGEANT GETS BACKING Station "I" Breaks Precedent



IT SOUNDED LIKE A RIOT, but Woodbury young men said it was only a callithump, a noisy serenade for a couple recently returned from their honeymoon. Sgt. Louis Marchese and Trooper Dimitro Pawchyk of the State Police negotiate a cessation of activities with the callithumpers through their spokesman, Harry "Stretch" Adams. The promise of cigars, the traditional tribute, ended the din. (---Photo by George J. Flynn - Waterbury American)

Welcome to our new Sergeant-Marchese and to Officer John Sweeney, who is now settled in his new home in Naugatuck. Must be "Red" Dooling has been working overtime impressing somebody else that this is THE town to live in.

"Barney" Bozentka has been promoted to desk duty for the next six months and his first project is to teach our new dispatcher, Dayhoff #416, the do's and don'ts of police radio.

The Seymour Police Department will hold its first annual ball since the war on the 21st of this month and Station "I" will "Take Over" the town for the night.

Investigation of a recent explosion and fire in Wallingford proved a sad experience for two Connecticut Light and Power employees but should be a "word of warning" to all that "Safety Comes First."

A road-side stand on Route #5 was being renovated so that it could open for business. Nathan Allen, age 20, a young man from Maine who had come to Connecticut recently to look for work had been employed to paint the buildings and was painting a small building near the main building when two men from the Gas Company arrived to turn on the gas. Soon after these two men arrived, Allen heard a loud explosion and saw flames in the main building. Realizing that the two men were inside, he ran into the burning building, pulled out one of the men who was crawling around on his hands and knees and returned to attempt to rescue the second worker. This man had been pinned down by a falling beam and after tugging at his belt until it broke, Allen had to get out of the building because of the intensity of the fire. Allen was taken to the Meriden Hospital with the man he alone had rescued while others looked on. He was treated for his burns, paid his hospital bill and disappeared. The gas company is now trying to learn his whereabouts as they want to give him a job.

A small oil heater had been placed in the main building and was in operation at the time the gas company men came to turn on the gas. It was learned that the two men had gone into the building and detected a gas leak at the shut-off

valve, which they tested with a match. They prepared another valve and intended to remove the faulty one and replace it before too much gas had escaped, although this gas main was on a direct line and there was 35 lbs. of pressure. They had not taken the precaution of turning the gas off on the outside of the building before starting their repairs. Experts of the gas company estimate that it took about three seconds for the room to fill with gas, which was apparently ignited by the oil stove.

Both of these men were considered experienced gas men, one having been in the business for 20 years, the other for 6 years. Both had been well schooled in safety measures and precautions and two of the basic laws of any gas company are: (1) Always turn off the gas supply before making repairs and (2) Never test for a leak with a match.

Although ours is police business, we too are apt to become careless of our "basic rules and regulations" for safety. Let us heed this sad experience and remember "SAFETY FIRST" lest we too, through some act of carelessness, experience a similar catastrophe.

New Year's Eve, four-hour schedules, everything was rosy, then came the flood. Quick change - schedules cancelled - everybody back on duty. Route #8, south of the intersection of Route #63 was flooded over the state highway fence posts; the lower dual highway was flooded at various points; at Pine's Bridge, the water was up to the road surface of the steel bridge and the small bridge just west of the steel bridge was washed down the river, carrying the water mains to Seymour with it. The Seymour Sand and Gravel Company was inundated and the underpass in the center of Seymour had to be closed to traffic. Roads all along the Naugatuck River were flooded in many places to a depth of four or five feet and residents of Beacon Falls have told us this was the highest they had seen the water in 30 years. It was necessary for many homes to be vacated. There were no casualties but it was necessary to rescue one truck driver and a passenger car operator, whose vehicles were stuck in the water.

COLCHESTER BEAVERS

Station K is happy to welcome Captain Mulcahy back to the Great Eastern District.

On Dec. 20th, we had our annual Christmas party. Highlights of the evening were Mr. Martin "Winnie Winkle" Branner whose cartoons were enjoyed by both young and old, and Ben Cohen, magician of Colchester who pulled many a fast one from his hat. Officers Fersch and Sikorski gave a boxing exhibition which was referred to by Officer Donchue, who had to enforce his decisions, a slight shock which proved to be an atomic surprise to both contestants. Lieutenant Lavin made an excellent Santa Claus and the whole audience held its breath while Biffy Sikorski (age 4) stroked his whiskers. "The Brass Hats" were all present. No speeches, however!

Our party was held in our usual banquet hall, the walls of which were decorated by our cartoonists, Mary and Norman. Incidentally, Clerk Mary Webster is doing some fine work as an amateur artist under the tutorship of Dispatcher Tasker. Speaking of artists -- have you seen the work of the quartermaster?

The Rockville boys, Frank and Hank, are still solving the Hit and Run cases. Joe Sikorski is trying for a place on the team and solved a case in a short time for this place.

A request to Quartermaster Lavin is being made for "New Car" Hart. After shopping around for the past two weeks, C. Taylor has finally become convinced that he cannot purchase an umbrella large enough to cover the Pride and Joy.

Numerous cases have been solved by the apprehension of Junk thefts in our territory. The confusion of thefts, times and places made by the separate accused made difficult the solving of these crimes. In one instance, a vacant house was entered twice by two separate groups. The first stealing the stove and the second taking household articles.

Officer LaForge and "Doc" Adams made a flying trip to East Hampton to the rescue of a man pinned under a tree.

The old gentleman (80) had been a woodsman for years and this was his first accident. Said the victim when rescued, "Boys the world fell on me. Ain't it a helluva place to be found at my age."

Officer Joe Sikorski will not change places with Mr. Blanding now. He has his own "Dream House" in North Haven.

Did you hear about one of the "K" lads running out of gas while on the "Inaugural Detail". Yes Sir! Right on Washington Street at Park Street. He stopped for the red light and began peeking in his mirror at the car behind. A pretty lass was there as the operator of car #2. While watching the green light appeared and not an inch could he move. The fair maiden honked and honked. Finally the little man from "K" had to go back and ask the angry Miss for a push. Was she provoked? Nevertheless she obliged and bumper to bumper they made their way to the "100 gangway. Do we need to add how red K's face grew as Headquarters looked on and the kindly "gal" remarked as she waved goodbye, "Call me anytime you're stranded".

Our boys on the "Inaugural" did a long stretch but all report it was worth it. Rain upset the show somewhat and added to their burdens at the State Armory. It was a beautiful sight within colored lights, gay bunting, decorations galore and the band played merrily on while it rained and rained. Yes, some of the "E" boys had to stop over enroute home. Pretty tough going but all were in good spirit. Some of us wonder now and then just how to get on this detail. "Battling" Joe says "That's no cinch - grow up, make the grade - six foot all's you need. Counts me out!!

LITCHFIELD ECHOES

With conviviality the personnel of Station "L" partook of a sumptuous Christmas Dinner in the station dining room. Decorations consisted mainly of a large sign reading Merry Christmas - Happy New Year which had been erected secretly by Lieut. Schwartz so that all

of us were indeed surprised when we entered the room for our usual evening meal and found the festive board groaning from the weight of the grandest turkey dinner we have ever had, Chef Grabner reached the height of culinary art in preparing this meal. The turkey was done just right for the taste of all and everything from soup to nuts was presented in such appetizing manner that we all just ate and ate and ate until we could hardly rise from the table.

Again it was demonstrated to the residents of the Litchfield Barracks area that the Department of State Police is ever ready to be of service. During the recent flood conditions which were brought about by unseasonal heavy rains everybody put in long, hard hours of toil to insure the public against danger and hardship. Headquarters dispatched extra officers to the area and Capt. William Schatzman personally inspected the area and saw that everything was done for our residents. Clara Toce and Mary Sherlock worked long into the night after their usual tour of duty, assisting in handling the many calls received requesting road information, detours, etc.

Our Master Mechanic -- Det. Sgt. William T. Casey was red of face for a couple of days. That masterpiece of snow removal machinery, his Doodle Bug, was giving trouble. After plowing the highway clear of snow he went to work on his driveway and found that the motor just had no power and could not be kept running. After several hours of toil checking the points, spark plugs, manifolds, etc. he gave up in disgust and confided his troubles to Officers Waltz, Johnson and Schrader who often serve as consultants in these mechanical matters. There was a long and involved discussion about burned out valves, sticky valves, etc. That evening Sarge had a bright idea and looked in the gas tank. Lo and behold it was dry. After being filled with gas the Doodle Bug is again doing its share keeping Warren in touch with the outside world. What with the intricacies of handling Doodle Bug's fifteen forward and five reverse speeds, the air compressor and lift and other involved special features it is suggest-

ed that Sarge find someone to take care of minor details like seeing that there is gasoline in the tank.

Everybody's envious of that projected two month tour of the south which Clerk Clara Toce will embark on in the near future. We all wish Clara the best of roads, delightful weather and a well earned rest.

Recently, at a testimonial dinner given in Kent for Charles P. Harrington, United States Marshal Bernard Fitch paid high tribute to the State Police Department. In his opening remarks Marshal Fitch stated that he and Postmaster Goode of New Haven had driven to Kent from New Haven but that due to ice conditions throughout the state they had conferred as to the advisability of calling off the trip. Postmaster Goode had suggested that they first call the state police and had then called a station in the eastern district of the state because he knew a dispatcher there. On inquiring if Rte. 7 in Litchfield County was slippery and icy he was asked to hold the wire and in a few seconds was advised that Rte. 7 in the Kent area had been plowed and sanded and was safe for travel. Marshal Fitch said that it has been his experience that when the Conn. State Police tell you something it will be so. He then said that he and Postmaster Goode started the drive to Kent without any further worry about the roads.

Some of our tall timbers made the "Inaugural Detail". Our Lieutenant has been seated since his return. The "Old Dogs" we hear took a terrific beating on the capitol floor. Who said: "Let it rain -- Let it rain". Week previous we were up to our knees in water but on the "Ball Detail" up to our necks. One break however this year. The Horse Guard did not lead the parade, they, thanks to some far-sighted one, came up in the rear. Had it been otherwise, imagine the mess, water and "what have you."

We see by the papers that the "old winter argument is on again. Chains vs. snow treads. Up here in these hills we're for snow treads, maybe the M.P.s (Merritt Parkway) do better with chains. Give us the Snow Treads.

HEADQUARTERS MIRROR

No occasion unites mankind as completely as Christmas. Christmas Day is the grand pause in our busy lives for the observing of the festival of the Child Jesus. It is the Holy Season of unselfishness. There are of course, variations such as the killing which happened in Bristol and in one or two other Nutmeg localities - selfish persons - all of whom for one weakness or another lacked true Christmas Spirit. Yielding to human temptations is hardly a good excuse in the Christmas Season. There is nothing new in all this, but who wants anything new about Christmas? Most of us rejoice in the familiarity of Christmas when Our Faithful Old Friends and Cherished New Friends remember us with the Season's Greeting Cards. This Yuletide (1949) brought us many such remembrances. To enumerate all would be a tremendous task and that we state without any egoism.

Impressive and cherished however are those from various personages. Yes, Christmas for some, is the time of renewing old acquaintances. Twenty-one years ago last March, a frightened Chinese laundryman watched two Tong gunmen kill a co-worker in a Manchester, Connecticut laundry. For many years after the conclusion of the case at Christmas time "we" received a card from the witness, Ong Jing. Ong, better known in town as "Sam", couldn't read English and "we" of course were not fluent in any of the 400 Chinese dialects so our old friend "Sam" sent us a birthday card instead of the traditional one of the season. Ong Jing undoubtedly went to China. Often we thought he had joined his ancestors. This year "Sam" didn't forget, however, from his new home in the U.S.A., reportedly in New York, came a large sized Christmas card written in English and Chinese. What makes us really proud -- "Sam" didn't forget. A great character but it took a murder for us to fully appreciate the many fine qualities this laundryman possessed. "Fighting Crime", states Bill Clew, the Hartford Courant Reporter, "makes more friends than

enemies it would seem from the flood of cards coming into C.S.P. Headquarters. They come from all over the continent from people in all walks of life, high and low."

Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York sent one emblazoned with his coat of arms and containing the following prayer he had written:

"O God, our Father in Heaven and on earth,
Hear Thou our prayer for our salvation
Grant Guidance to our leaders,
Protection to our sons
And teach all men thy ways
Of life, that they may live with
One another in good will and peace!

Then on Christmas Eve (1948) came another message, from another whom we met in distress many years ago. To be suspected of disloyalty in any land must be a terrible ordeal.

"If the troubled earth would turn and kneel as one
In sincere reverence before God's son,
Borders would fade and dark suspicions
cease--
There would be harmony, there would be
peace."

--Grace Noll Crowell

We were not of mind that a certain man and wife were disloyal to their adopted country and said so openly. Here we have no desire to reopen any old wounds but we are anxious to point out to our younger officers not to be hasty in reaching conclusions in cases of this character. It is no easy task to make one's way in a new country. War hysteria too often influences better judgments. Again Displaced Persons are among us. Some other were fortunate, they thought, in coming to our shores, through legitimate channels prior to World Wars I and II. A day came, however, when it appeared to them that the "Foreign Legion" had followed them to America and all was over. Taken into custody under the War Emergency Act, Hans and Frieda were subject to inquiry and possible detention. Frieda, however, ably presented their case.

What appeared to be only the fair

and courteous thing to do proved to be the most vital in the lives of Hans and Frieda. They were liberated without bond - without restriction and without surveillance. Hans, however, lost his wartime job. Difficult as it was to obtain lucrative employment he managed to obtain the necessities of life commensurate with their way of life. Then a week before Christmas (1948) Hans was stricken on the houseboat. Frieda helped him ashore despite the high tide and narrow gangplank. The housing shortage on land had forced them again to the waterfront. In the local hospital Hans passed away before Frieda fully realized what had happened. Then came the silence, the loneliness and the need of a friend. One was not immediately at hand but tucked away in a "hidden drawer" aboard the "mystery houseboat" was the name and address of a state policeman who had befriended this couple in their plight some years ago. A telephone call from Frieda brought two of our police officers, one a policewoman. Hans, they found silent but with Frieda. Then her message came December 24. It read: "This is Christmas Eve, I am alone, yet I don't feel lonely. I would not want to be anywhere else. The skipper is gone, but the watchman is still on the job. Fate is kind to have you, Mr. Policeman, still on earth. I therefore knew what I wanted to do on Christmas Eve."

"O'er the hills of Judea
One night long ago,
A light streamed from Heaven
With radiant glow;
And sheperds, while watching
Their flocks on that night,
Were thrilled and amazed
At so sacred a sight!

The voice of an angel
Said, "Lo, do not fear!
I bring you glad tidings
To fill you with cheer;
In a Bethlehem manger,
'Mid sweet-scented hay,
You'll find there so peaceful
The Christ Child today!"

Came New Year's Day (1949) and the echoes of New Year's Eve and "Auld Lang

Syne". The morning mail from a distant city brought a brief note. "W. passed away last month, heart failure, thanks for your Christmas Greeting. Wife and Baby." Another surprise. Another 1924 story -- the final chapter 1948. Walter E. Shean's name and address removed from our Christmas listing.

"My peace I give unto you...."

John - 14:27

Bob Sweet of Publications started the New Year right by becoming a proud father on January 6. Mother and daughter are doing fine. Congratulations!

SPECIAL SERVICE TRUMPET

Wasn't that a wonderful Christmas Party at the Bond Hotel? We can only say that everyone had a grand time and each contributed one way or another in making the party the huge success it was. A little birdie told us that since the party Captain Carroll, Evelyn Briggs and Kathryn Haggerty are planning to spend their respective vacations at a dude ranch where they will be taught professionally - that the place to stay while riding a horse is definitely on HIS back!

Our men are really versatile and there just isn't anything anyone of them can't do. Johnnie Pomfret can tell you about that. He certainly did his bit to spread Christmas cheer when he agreed to play the part of Santa Claus at a children's party in Middletown. Johnnie tells us that it was one of the toughest assignments he has ever had. Imagine handing out gifts to about 600 youngsters and still keep the spirit of joviality. Personally, we think John would make a good Santa.

Apparently John Zekas likes people and enjoys being with them - even when shoveling snow. Soon after the last snow storm, Zeke decided to go out and shovel his walk. His neighbors had the same idea. The men got together and because it was so cold they naturally had to stop for a few minutes to get

warm. At the end of an hour, Zeke had about two feet of snow shoveled. Unfortunately, we can't print what Mrs. Zekas said.

'Tis a strange thing about these Special Service men of ours. In the office, they are quick-moving, energetic and always on the ball, but get these men home on vacation and there is a complete metamorphosis. A simple little paint job like the one Mike Santy had to do at home took him three or four days to accomplish. Mrs. Santy still doesn't know why it took Mike so long to finish. Perhaps, Mike, you can enlighten us and, of course, Mrs. Santy, too.

Believe it or not with all of Captain Carroll's advertising, both personally and professionally, there happens to be an officer on the department who did not know the Great Leo. The day before the Governor's Inauguration the boys were at the Armory rehearsing their drill. Next to Detective Doyle stood an officer who was taking everything all in. At the other end of the hall stood the Commissioner and Captain Carroll. The officer leaned over to John Doyle and asked, "Say, who is that man in the brown coat (pointing to Captain Carroll) giving orders to the Commissioner?" In amazement John Doyle said, "You mean you don't know who he is, well, brace yourself for a shock, that man is none other than the Great Leo Francis Carroll, Captain of Special Service!" Was that officer's face RED to discover that he did not know the man who has become famous throughout Connecticut with practically every state police item in the papers starting with "Captain Carroll says...!" After a thorough investigation by the Great Leo, he still hasn't discovered the identity of the Officer.

Overheard at a social gathering recently, Mrs. Zekas speaking: "Why is it that John isn't ever mentioned in Vox-Cop? I don't care what appears just as long as I see the name of John Zekas." (Was John's face red when everyone present very willingly helped the hostess dig out a copy of the November issue of Vox-Cop). You just can't win, John, so you might just as well show the Mrs. our column.

A sense of humor is one of the grand-

est things in life. Needless to say, after examinations and promotions, many were disappointed, but even disappointments have their lighter moments. A couple of days after the promotions were announced, Officers Mike Santy and Sam Rome were in one of the special service offices when the phone rang. Officer Rome answered it with "Ex-Corporal Rome speaking." When Mike received a call soon after, he picked up the phone and not to be outdone said, "Yes, Student-Officer Santy speaking!"

To Captain Carroll, his charming wife, good-sport father-in-law and the three Carroll girls goes the heartfelt thanks of the Special Service Division for a lovely and entertaining party held at the Carroll Estate, at Ridgefield. Zeke, the one-man band, sang his version of McNamara's Band in several foreign languages, and if you haven't heard it, you really should. John Hanusovsky added his share to entertainment when he got together with Zeke and sang (they called it) a Polish duet. Personally, we think they made up their own words as they went along, because no one, not even they, could understand what they were singing, but their gestures and accent were priceless. The rest of us just sat back and laughed. As to the food, it was excellent. Let's see how many persons can guess what a true "Irishman" would serve for dinner. Corn beef and cabbage? NO! Mulligatawny stew? Oh, no! Oh, what's the use, no one could ever guess so we'll make it easy and tell you. Get this -- the Captain served real home-made Italian Spaghetti which was the real stuff. Shades of Ireland and ye ancestors will never be forgivin' ye!

Future events cast their shadows as to what the well-dressed man will be wearing -- Jazz bow ties! And we're not kidding about that. Santy, Zekas, Doyle and Conlon all appeared at the Captain's home wearing bow ties. Two were identical. So if you want to hop on the band wagon, 'tis easy. 61 cents each at Cheney's. And that's a bargain in any man's language. We have also been informed according to an article which appeared in one of the papers, that Leo Francis is expected to make his debut soon wearing a bow tie!

Code of Honor
of the
Connecticut State Police

* * *

The traditions and splendid reputation of the Connecticut State Police are incorporated in the following code of honor, to which all members of the Department subscribe by word and deed:

"I am a Connecticut State Policeman—a soldier of the law. To me is entrusted the honor of the Department.

"I will serve the State of Connecticut honestly and faithfully and, if need be, lay down my life as others have done rather than swerve from the path of duty.

"I will be loyal to my superiors, obey the law and enforce the law without discrimination as to class, color, creed or condition, and without fear or favor.

"I will help those in danger or distress, and at all times conduct myself so as to uphold the honor of the Department."