

Kozma

Vox Cop

Vol. 7

ISSUED BY THE

No. 11

CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT



EDWARD J. HICKEY
Commissioner

JULY 1950

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 con-
duct myself so as to uphold the honor of the Department."

Yankee ^{By The} Clipper

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

"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."



Off. John G. Swicklas



Off. George H. Bunnell



Off. Alden A. Thompson



Off. Leo H. Dymkoski



Off. William J. Wallace



CONGRATULATIONS EXTENDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKEY



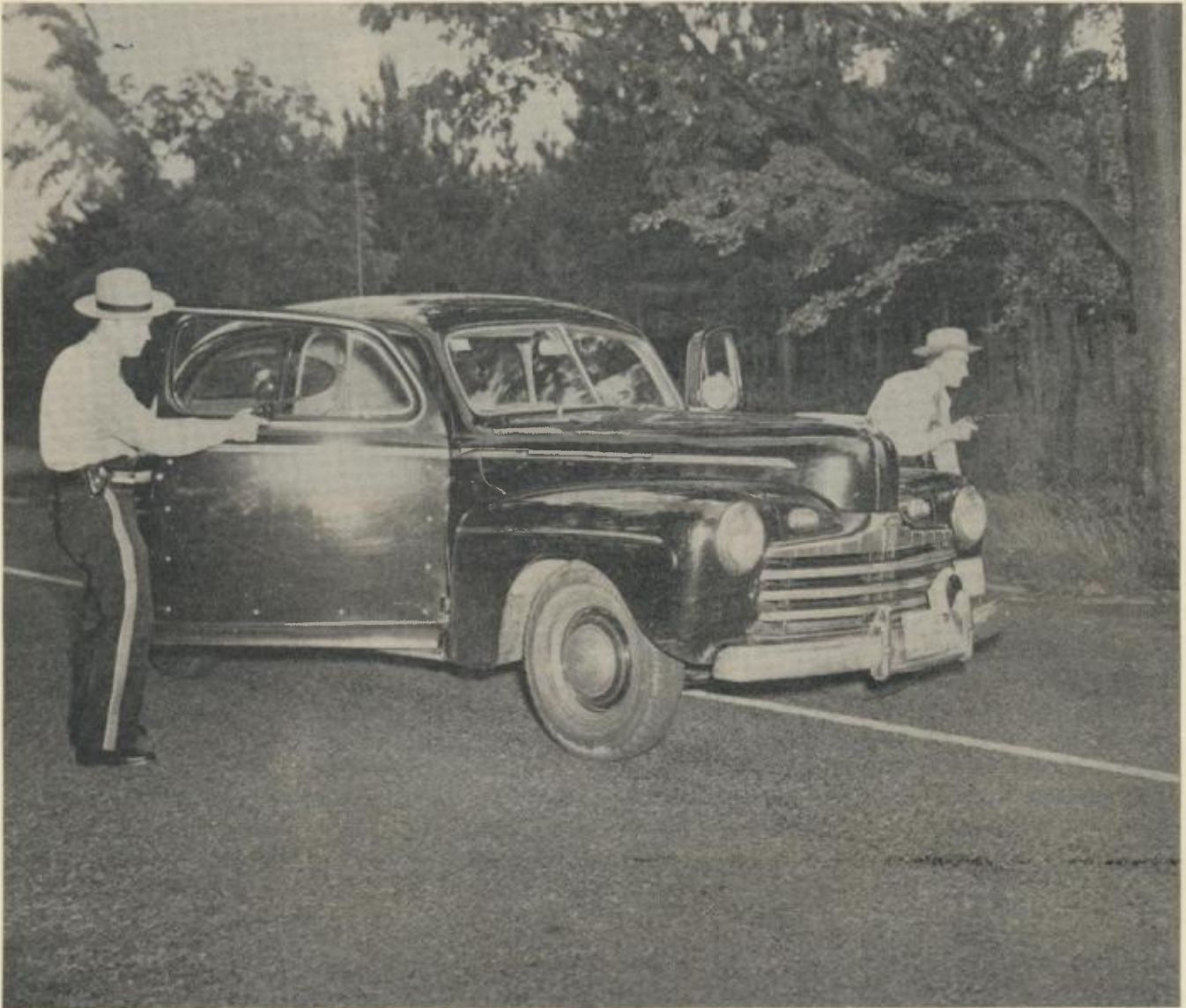
Left to right: Off. William Wallace, Off. Leo Dymkoski and Comm. Edward J. Hickey.---Danbury News-Times Photo (McAllister)

SPECTACULAR CHASE ENDS IN CAPTURE OF WOODBURY BANK ROBBERS



"You were lucky to get out of that alive," said State Police Major Leo F. Carroll of Ridgefield (center) to Officers Leo Dymkoski (left) and William Wallace (right) as they inspected the bullet-shattered windshield of the police car Dymkoski was driving when he and Wallace overtook and captured the Woodbury bank bandits.---Danbury News-Times Photo (McAllister)

STATION "L" OFFICERS AID IN CAPTURE OF BANDITS



Two Officers from Station "L", Litchfield, John G. Swicklas (left) and Alden Thompson (right) deserve special commendation not only for the part each played in assisting Officers Dymkoski and Wallace in capturing the Woodbury Bank Bandits but for being exceptionally modest and reluctant to disclose their activities until both rendered official case reports.

The "L" patrolmen were taking their turn on the blockade in South Britain when they overheard the radio broadcast about the theft of the Wargo car at gunpoint. Patrolling Route 172 near the scene they joined in the chase and relayed over 3 way radio the Wargo car numbers and other data.

As they went after the fleeing car, Officers Dymkoski and Wallace came up in the rear of Thompson's car, and Leo inquired as to the Wargo registration plates, passed ahead of Swicklas and Thompson and put after the bandits. When the shooting took place, Swicklas and Thompson were in on it and engaged in the exchanged shots also.

JUDGE MOLLOY GIVES EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT OF BANDITS' FLIGHT



Superior Court Judge Thomas J. Molloy tells State Policeman Frank Angeski how he and State Policeman George Bunnell were first to spot the fleeing Woodbury bank bandits. The interested listener is Colby Driessens of the News-Times staff. The Sandy Hook bridge is in the background. ---A News-Times Photo (McAllister)

"Boy--they whizzed smack in front of us and for a minute I couldn't tell what happened!"

This was the excited exclamation offered by Superior Court Judge Thomas J. Molloy as he explained the mad scramble for escape made by two bandits after they had held up a savings bank at Woodbury.

Far from the dignified mien which the jurist displayed a few minutes before when he issued a writ of mandamus in Superior Court in Danbury in connection with the incinerator proposal, Judge Molloy appeared as anxious to play his part in the apprehension of the men as the swarm of state policemen which descended on the scene within minutes after the bank holdup alarm had been sounded.

With his shirt collar pulled open and necktie let down Judge Molloy stood in the rays of a beating sun and told how the car driven by State Policeman George Bunnell had narrowly missed the bandit vehicle.

Only for the fact that the vehicle bearing the judge came across the bridge at the same moment as the bandit car approached the span, the holdup men might have made good a quick escape through Sandy Hook.

"But to avoid hitting us, they switched off and went smack up that river road, there," the judge exclaimed pointing to the narrow road which borders the river at this point.

Three-quarters of a mile up this road the bandits abandoned their vehicle and took to the wooded terrain in an effort to head off state policemen, who by this time were descending on the scene.

"Come along with us, Judge," a News-Times reporter urged as he went in search of the getaway car.

"No," he shot back quickly, "I'll stay here and see whether or not they find them."

The assignment was not an easy one--especially for so hot a day.

Fully cognizant of the fact that the pair was armed, state policemen warned all to exercise caution "and see that you don't get shot."

For several hours Judge Molloy was as deeply engrossed in the operations of the state police as he has ever been in his official duties on the bench.

The delay of his return to Hartford meant nothing to him and it was well beyond his usual supper time when he resumed his interrupted trip to the capital city. ---The Danbury News-Times

CHESTER BOWLES
GOVERNOR



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD

June 23, 1950.

Edward J. Hickey, Commissioner
Police Department
100 Washington Street
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Ed:

I was tremendously impressed with the excellent work of the Department in apprehending the two bandits who robbed the Woodbury Bank on July 9. I followed the events which led up to the capture with a great deal of interest and not a little anxiety.

I know that the entire department was in one way or another very much involved with the various phases of the investigation.

I want to thank you for the job you did and I wish you would convey my personal congratulations and thanks to every member of the department.

I am equally grateful to Captain Yulch of the Nassau County Police and Captain Phillips of the Detective Division in New York City. This sort of cooperation always pays dividends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chester Bowles".
Governor.

BY THE YANKEE CLIPPER

JOHN M. BECKMANN
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF NASSAU
MINEOLA, NEW YORK

June 30, 1950

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

Dear Commissioner:

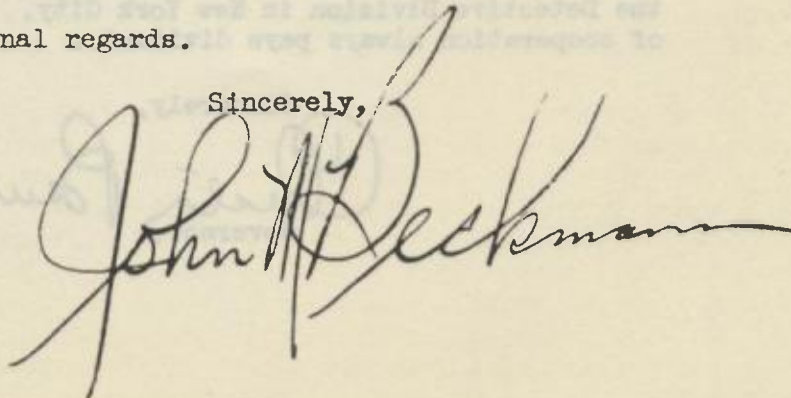
The letter addressed to you by the Honorable Governor Bowles and photostatic copy of same to Acting Captain Yulch has been brought to my attention, and once again I am glad to learn that my policy of efficient, courteous and honest police service and cooperation to all has been practiced by members of the Force.

Be advised of our continued cooperation and please accept my thanks for taking the time to apprise me of the Governor's feelings, and please extend my thanks to him also.

Incidentally, Acting Captain Yulch is at present, and possibly for six months more will be confined at Meadowbrook Hospital, East Meadow, New York with a fractured pelvis.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

A large, cursive handwritten signature of John M. Beckmann, written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and covers a significant portion of the lower right area of the page.

JMB:F

**ADAM YULCH DIES: SOLVED CRIMES
BY TRACING LAUNDRY MARKINGS**

As we read Commissioner Beckman's letter (see preceding page) Monday morning, July 3, the radio news announced the passing of Captain Yulch. We were shocked beyond words.

Three week ago, June 11, we talked with Adam on the telephone about the clues in the Woodbury Bank case--he was enthused and elated with the leads he furnished as to the laundry mark identifications and asked to be kept informed as to developments. Next we learned of his injuries but not until Commissioner Beckman's letter were we aware of the extent of his injuries.

Born somewhere in Germany, Adam never knew where--he grew up in New York City's "Hell's Kitchen", and at the age of 65 he died as the world's foremost laundry mark detective.

Captain Yulch's laundry mark bureau in the Nassau County Police Department in Mineola is unique in police history. It contains more than 300,000 individual marks of laundries and cleaners throughout the country, chiefly in the Northeast. Through it, Captain Yulch, in fifteen years, has solved hundreds of crimes and established the identities of many more victims of violence, amnesia and refusal to talk.

In his peak year, 1944, Captain Yulch handled seventy-four cases and solved them all. In recent years, though still affiliated officially with the Nassau County Police, he devoted most of his time to aiding the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the New York City Police Department, and various police agencies throughout the Northeast.

Ironically, Captain Yulch began his police career riding a Motorcycle in Roosevelt Township on Long Island, and a motorcycle ended his career and his life. He had stepped off a curb in Woodmere two weeks ago when a fellow officer in the Nassau County Police whizzed by. Captain Yulch stepped back hastily, tripped on the curb and fell heavily. He broke his pelvis and suffered other injuries.

The diminutive detective, only five feet two inches tall, had difficulty in

joining a police force, and his ambition was not advancement in the police department, but permission to work at his specialty, which was also his hobby. He ranked only as an acting captain in Nassau County, because he never bothered to take the examination for captain.

Captain Yulch's collection of marks not only was vast, but so carefully organized and catalogued, as to area, types, peculiarities, and other distinguishing features, that he frequently could solve a case of identity without doing more than leaving the telephone a moment to go to his files.

When the Nassau County Police Department was organized in 1925 Captain Yulch left the Roosevelt Town Police to join it, but he held unimportant posts until 1936, when a \$12,500 bank robbery occurred in Farmingdale. In the sedan that was used, police found a rumpled suit with a cleaner's mark in the sleeve.

For many weary months the detective plodded all over Nassau County, showing the mark to laundries and cleaning establishments. He extended his search to New York City's 11,000 cleaners, then to Suffolk County, and finally to Westchester County. At last, one day in Mamaroneck, a cleaner said, "Yes, that's my mark."

The cleaner identified the owner of the suit and three New York hoodlums went to prison for long terms.

Captain Yulch convinced his superiors that it was feasible and desirable to make a collection of such marks, classify them, and keep them on file. Despite the jibes of fellow officers, he kept at it, writing and visiting cleaners, and laundries in the metropolitan area, then in surrounding states, and finally extending to Canada.

He learned that many laundries use invisible marks, and added to his equipment ultra-violet lamps to bring them out. He learned to distinguish, under the magnifying glass, the minute differences in the six-point stars used by so many Chinese laundries.

CSP extends sincere sympathy to Nassau County Police and to Captain Yulch's family. All of us in law enforcement have suffered a great loss.

EDWARD J. HICKEY
COMMISSIONER



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE
100 WASHINGTON STREET
HARTFORD 1, CONN.

June 19, 1950

Hon. William P. O'Brien
Commissioner of Police
240 Centre Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Commissioner:

On behalf of the Connecticut State Police Department, I want to express my appreciation of the outstanding assistance and whole-hearted cooperation extended to us by Capt. Frank Phillips, Main Office Detective Division, and his assistants, in connection with the Woodbury, Connecticut bank robbery.

The meagre clues obtained in the case were forwarded to Captain Phillips, and his subsequent activities contributed more than any other factor in establishing the identity of the Rothermel brothers as the parties guilty of this armed robbery.

These cordial and cooperative relations between our respective departments will undoubtedly inspire other law enforcement agencies in the war against crime. It is good to know that teamwork of this kind exists between municipal and state forces of law and order. Its success depends upon the intelligence and perseverance of such officers as Captain Phillips and his associates.

With kind personal regards and assurance of our continued cooperation in all matters of mutual interest, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Hickey
COMMISSIONER OF STATE POLICE

EJH/CVC



THE POLICE COMMISSIONER
CITY OF NEW YORK

June 20th, 1950.

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

It was indeed thoughtful of you to write to me as you did on June 19th, expressing appreciation for the cooperation rendered by our Acting Captain Phillips and members of his command, in connection with the case to which you refer.

I am more than happy to know that the assistance rendered to your splendid organization in this case was so helpful. It will give me much pleasure to have your expression of praise brought to the attention of all concerned.

Thanking you for your kind words, and assuring you of our desire to render complete cooperation at all times, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William P. O'Brien".

William P. O'Brien
POLICE COMMISSIONER.

M.

Hon. Edward J. Hickey
Commissioner
Connecticut State Police
100 Washington Street
Hartford 1, Conn.

TOUCHE: Nine months ago the Woodbury (Conn.) Savings Bank was used as the scene of a film by state police showing how a bank robbery could be foiled in a matter of minutes. On June 9 two robbers wearing rubber noses attached to tortoise-shell glasses held up the bank and escaped with between \$10,000 and \$12,000. Reminded of the film, one police official muttered: "Let's not go into that." ---Newsweek

HEROIC POLICEMEN

Joseph P. Dinan Also Agrees
They Deserve Promotions

To the Editor:

I agree wholeheartedly with P. T. Gaynos' letter in the Live Letter Column in reference to proper recognition for two of Connecticut's State Policemen, Leo Dymkoski and Bill Wallace. These men certainly deserve an on-the-spot promotion for the gallant deed they accomplished in apprehending two very dangerous criminals that in my opinion tried to outsmart our very efficient State Police department.

In New York when a policeman apprehends a criminal or does a fine piece of police work in the line of duty, he is rewarded immediately by the commissioner with a raise in pay and a step up in grade. They too are governed by civil service and like the fine print on an insurance policy there is a clause in there that says the commissioner reserves the right to promote and demote, etc.

I feel that this arrest and apprehension of these two bad men, is the most outstanding pinch made by any law enforcement agency in the past 10 years.

This particular arrest meant a lot to Col. E. J. Hickey and the entire State Police department and if it is humanly possible, Dymkoski and Wallace should be rewarded for their very important part in capturing two former convicts who in my estimation had a policy of "kill or be killed".

Congratulations Leo and Bill on a

good job well done.

Joseph P. Dinan,

(Bridgeport Post)

WIESBADEN POST EXCHANGE

APO 633 c/o P. O.

N. Y., N. Y.

Germany, June 29, 1950

State Police Commissioner
Edward J. Hickey
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and opinion of the motion picture on safety and crime prevention, made by your department about a year or two ago. It is being shown at all American installations here in Germany and has been commended highly for performance, very well dressed and neat appearing troopers and modern equipment.

General remarks were passed as to why we don't have more pictures of this type, also have them run a little longer, and have more realistic scenes, this in my estimation is the best means of educating the public in all phases of safety and crime prevention. Pictures of this type should be a must in all schools to keep our children alive, and backed up of course, by your fine highway patrol and safety slogans.

My congratulations to you, Sir, on the operations of The Connecticut State Police Dept., and leading the rest of the States on safety, crime prevention, safety slogans, neat appearing cars and personnel.

Having spent twenty years in Milford, I am proud to say I am from Connecticut, so let's have more motion pictures of your department so the rest of the world can benefit by your experience.

Good luck to you Troopers.

Sincerely yours,

Paul O. Duhaime

Editorial Comment

WHY CRIME DOESN'T PAY

No praise is too high for the Connecticut state police and their fine work in closing the case of the Woodbury bank robbery. Police work like this is what keeps Connecticut one of the nation's most crime-free states.

It's as simple as this. The one main reason for Connecticut's relative freedom of crime is that Connecticut makes it hard for criminals to operate.

There have rarely been better examples of how difficult Connecticut makes it for criminals than the circumstances that led up to the capture of the two bandits who held up the Woodbury Savings bank last week.

The Woodbury bank may have looked like an easy job for the brothers who walked in brandishing pistols and asking for the cash last Friday. It wasn't as easy as it looked.

Due to an excellent communications system and the alertness of the state police, the bandits in their getaway car were spotted within minutes after leaving the scene of the robbery, and their escape plans were thwarted.

The bandits were able to hide in the Southbury woods from Friday afternoon until Thursday night, but because of the excellent organization of the state police search and patrol system they were unable to make an escape from the area.

When the brothers Rothermel finally became desperate enough to try breaking out, they were spotted again by state police within three minutes after stealing an automobile. Before they had gone two miles their adventure had come to an end, the loot they had taken was recovered, and they were captives again and on their way back to prison.

Bringing this case to a close within a week wasn't a matter of luck and it wasn't a question of catching amateur criminals. The bank robbers both have long records, and they had planned the Woodbury holdup very carefully. But what they hadn't counted on was state police officers like George Bunnell of Ridgefield Barracks who recognized them

and took after their car a few minutes after the holdup, forcing them to hurry their escape and making it possible to know where they were hiding.

They hadn't counted on courage like that of State Troopers Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace who gave chase and ran them down in the gun battle along the Woodbury-Roxbury road Thursday night.

They hadn't counted on the well-trained force under State Police Comsr. Edward J. Hickey that created new difficulties for the criminal venture at every turn. There are few if any places in the country where crime pays less than it does in Connecticut. Anybody planning future bank robberies here might note this.

---Waterbury Republican

DUTY IN FACE OF DANGER

Next time you're out in the family car, either as driver or a front-seat passenger, just imagine how it would feel to be obliged to sit right there and have someone shooting at you through the windshield.

That's what happened to State Policemen Leo H. Dymkoski and William Wallace as they sped after a stolen car in which two of the Woodbury bank bandits were trying to escape. The police car's riddled windshield is eloquent testimony to the peril both these officers faced. The fact that they kept up the chase, and finally captured both the bandits, is convincing evidence of their heroism and capabilities.

What was it that obliged these men to sit through the hail of bullets and press ever closer to the desperadoes? It would have been simple for Dymkoski to have eased up on the gas and let him-

self be distanced in the dangerous chase. It would have been quite possible for Wallace to have fumbled a bit with his gun and, instead of exposing himself by leaning from the window to fire, to have crouched for protection.

What held them there was courage and a sense of duty stronger than the natural impulse of self-preservation.

What enabled them to act efficiently under such circumstances was the thorough training and discipline they had received as members of our State Police.

The men who have been caught were not only lawless but vicious. Their capture is the result of the thorough coordination of every branch of the State Police from the first road-block that forced the bandits into the woods to the marksmanship that finally halted them.

The net result is one for which all the State is grateful. The handling of the case was efficient and clean-cut, without wild-goose chases or grandstand plays of any kind. It is all a credit to the entire Force.

But the two officers, who didn't flinch when the bullets and the glass began to fly, deserve special distinction. Law and order and justice itself would be impossible without men like that.

---The Hartford Times

THE WOODBURY BANK HOLDUP

Now that the State Police vigil and patrol has ended in the capture of the two paroled convicts who held up the Woodbury Savings Bank a few days ago and made off with some \$11,000, Southbury and Woodbury residents and especially denizens of the wooded and hilly region between the Housatonic River and the Southbury Training School can breathe easier and sleep better. The desperadoes, brothers from New York City with a long criminal record, abandoned their get-away car when they met a State trooper at the Route 6 bridge over the Housatonic and took to the tall timbers, leaving behind in their hasty flight over \$2,000 in small bills, food and other supplies. After nearly a week in the wooded hills, they came out to a

highway, held up a South Britain resident and in his car attempted another road escape in which State troopers overtook them.

The natural first reaction of the law-abiding citizen is one of appreciation and admiration of the State Police whose skill, persistence and courage finally brought a pair of dangerous outlaws into captivity. One cannot but wonder what abuse or blundering in operation of the parole system turned them loose on society.

A second query arises from the reported fact that this hold-up was an exact reproduction in real life of the movie dramatization of a bank holdup, in which the State Police were seen in action a few months ago. The scene of the actual crime was the same as that of the fictitious one, the route and method of the get-away ran true to form, except in the film the State Police got their man or men more promptly. If it is true as reported that the film gave the desperadoes the idea and the locale of their exploit, many will wonder whether police authorities are well advised to stage or cooperate in such dramatization of possible crime which will be seen by millions.

Whatever the answer to these queries, Connecticut residents will be more than ever grateful for the deterrent and protective values of a brave and well trained State constabulary.

---New Haven Journal Courier

COPS AND ROBBERS

For a week residents in country areas had been doing an unusual thing at night--they had been locking their doors. The reason was that two robbers who had held up the Woodbury Savings Bank were at large and they might show up somewhere in the New Milford area.

During this time a few newspapers had some fun with the State Police. The bank that had been victimized had figured in a simulated hold-up which appeared in a movie film showing the work of the Connecticut state troopers.

In the picture the stick-up artists

had been captured in a short time. In the real hold-up days passed with the bandits still at large.

If this situation embarrassed State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey or the men under his command, they never made a sign. They stuck doggedly to their job.

The cops discovered that their quarry had taken to the woods near Southbury. Around this area they threw a net of men and machines and watched like a terrier at a rat hole.

In the end their tactics were brilliantly vindicated. The half starved bandits were forced to break cover and were captured in a blaze of gunfire that would have done credit to a Cagney movie.

Special honors are due State Troopers Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace who subdued the Rothermel brothers after a chase during which bandit bullets shattered the windshield before the troopers' eyes. But great credit is also due Commissioner Hickey and the men of his command who applied the technique of thorough police work backed by high courage and dogged persistence. They again provide notice to gunmen of nearby states that crime doesn't pay in Connecticut. ---The New Milford Times

CONGRATULATIONS, AGAIN!

Congratulations again are in order for Connecticut's excellent State police force, which twice this week has demonstrated its alertness and efficiency in this neighborhood.

Capture of the Woodbury bank robbers, after they hid out in the woods not far from the scene of the crime, and apprehension of a pair of Vermont men accused of breaks in Winsted and Canaan have added more laurels to Commissioner Edward J. Hickey's men.

The tenacity of the state policemen in searching for the bank robbers and their braveness in finally taking them into custody deserves high praise, as does the promptness and ability that resulted in the apprehension of the northern New England pair who allegedly

sought some "easy money" near by.

Once again Commissioner Hickey and his men have served warning on the criminal element that Connecticut is not hospitable where they are concerned, and have proved they are capable of providing high-caliber protection to Connecticut residents.

Every citizen should be thankful that Connecticut's highways and byways are patrolled and protected by the type of men who comprise our state police department -- a department that is second to none. ---The Torrington Register

CAPTURED

The two men, who last week started a reign of terror after robbing a bank in Woodbury, met their betters last night in the person of two members of the Connecticut police. The two officers captured the bandits following an auto chase and gun battle during which one of the hunted men was wounded and one of the officers cut about the face by bullet-shattered glass from the windshield of the cruiser in which he and his colleague were giving pursuit.

Thus came to an end the six-day manhunt which began immediately after the bank robbery. It is also noteworthy that most of the \$8,500 taken in the holdup was recovered.

This incident should serve as a warning to other would-be Jesse James types that the members of the Connecticut State Police may be polite and gentlemanly young men at ordinary times but that they are fearless, straight-shooting law enforcement officers whenever the need arises. Commissioner Edward J. Hickey deserves commendation for the splendid way this manhunt was organized and conducted. His theory that the bandits were still in the general vicinity of the spot where the manhunt originated paid off handsomely in the end. The bandits were captured in Southbury, which is only a few miles from Woodbury.

State Troopers Wallace and Dymkoski, who effected the capture, deserve thanks for their most courageous conduct.

---The Bristol Press

OF MANY THINGS

By Thomas E. Murphy

COURAGE IS NOT TO BE SNEEZED AT

I heard a couple of fellows talking the other day about State Policeman Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace. Those are the two officers, you will remember, who captured the two Woodbury bank robbers after facing a hail of bullets. One of the men was loud in his praise. "Those fellows really had guts," he said. "If I saw those bullets coming through my windshield I know what I would have done and I don't mean maybe."

The other, a dried-up little fellow, was not so enthusiastic. "That's what they get paid for, isn't it?"

The first man snorted in indignation. "Whoever gets paid enough for a hole in the head? I think Ed Hickey ought to pin some kind of a special medal on them, give them a vacation, a promotion, and a raise in the order named."

The dry one persisted. "Now look. I'm not trying to belittle. What I mean is a state cop is different from you and me. They're trained. They got reflexes. You can't measure them up against other people. Take me for example. I never had a gat in my hands in my life."

The big fellow said, "We can agree on one thing. They got moxie and we ain't."

Most persons will agree on the first part of that statement. Training or no training, reflexes or not, there's nothing more fundamental, more inherent in human beings, than the will to survive. For a couple of men who like life as well as the next fellow to follow through in the face of almost certain death--and they were only an inch or two from death--is something that's pretty special and deserves special recognition.

I suspect the State Police were a little touchy for a while after the bank robbery. They wouldn't be human if they weren't. For with that well-publicized training film on how to catch bank rob-

bers they would have been ribbed unmercifully if the men had escaped. Yet they really had nothing to be ashamed of. Certainly their response to the alarm was fast enough, the pursuit just about as unerring as it was possible to be. Proof of this is the manner in which the escapees sprayed the trail with disgorged bundles of bills. Their follow-up was thorough and, as it proved subsequently, effective.

I know nothing about such things, but I wonder why it is that banks, particularly in isolated communities do not have automatic alarms rigged up in their vaults, with a direct line to State Police. It is almost standard practice for bank robbers to herd their victims into the vault.

The few minutes lost in sending the alarm at this point often spells the difference between success and failure.

Anyway you look at it, the State Police have earned new laurels in this affair. The next time one stops you for a traffic violation, try to remember that traffic work is only one phase of his job. Bank robberies and the like don't happen often. But when they do, you're mighty glad to have them on the job. If the people of Connecticut needed reassurance about their State Police protection, now they have it.

---Hartford Courant

A TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPERS

Readers had a considerable degree of satisfaction recently in learning that two brothers, paroled New York convicts, had been captured in connection with the \$10,000 Woodbury bank holdup. After being trapped in woods for nearly a week, the men tried to run for it and failed. Like the Northwest Mounted, our Troopers too get their man. In this case, it was men.

There are times when we are inclined to think of our state police in the role of disciplinarians rather than protectors, but in fairness it must be recognized that the two are directly and definitely related. Discipline is essential to protection and we, like

everyone else, must accept discipline if we are unable to properly discipline ourselves. Our protection depends on others' discipline; others' safety and our own as well depend on our willingness to abide by the rules.

Announcement has been made in connection with a new toll board in New Hampshire that cars will be towed free to the nearest exit after breakdowns, and that troopers will change tires for elderly or ailing persons in time of emergency. A somewhat similar situation has existed on the Merritt parkway right along. In case of mechanical failure or other emergency troopers are noted right on the job, preventing traffic hazards but at the same time giving helping hands to those in distress. Such instances have brought expression of heartfelt appreciation from those aided--and warm praise from observers who hold the patrol in high regard as a result.

Such demonstrations are certain to impress our younger generation. They inspire confidence; they impel co-operation in their challenge. The troopers are setting a fine example, and young folks do respond to such challenges.

The Woodbury case is a forceful example of public protection and willingness to face peril in supplying that protection. The two ex-convicts had assaulted a couple and stolen their car for the getaway. They failed to reckon with the troopers' resourcefulness. Their capture came in a running battle with two Westport troopers, Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace. Undeterred as bullets from one of the ex-convicts' guns went through the windshield and past their heads, the troopers knocked out their own windshield to press the chase and facilitate the gunfire. One had probably escaped death because he had his head out a side window when a bullet whizzed through the already shattered glass. That convict was shooting "for keeps." So were the troopers, and the latter won.

This case demonstrates the courage typical of our policing, which is every bit the equal of such highly publicized forces as the Northwest Mounted. They accept every danger; so do our troopers.

Their resourcefulness gives them the necessary margin of safety even in such hazardous instances as that with the Woodbury holdup men--criminals ready and determined to kill in order to escape. They didn't get away with it. In these days of speedy communications, criminals seldom do. Those two potential killers must have a great measure of respect for the pair from the Westport barracks who accepted their challenge and bested their every bid. So, too, have we. State Police Commissioner Ed Hickey has every reason to be proud of his men in their demonstrations that they are real protectors, helpful in distress and businesslike in dealing with those who have no respect for law and order, life, limb and property.

---The Norwalk Hour

STATE POLICE CAPTURE

The flushing out of the two holdup men, brothers in blood and crime, closes the book on the week-old Woodbury bank robbery mystery. All that remains is to turn the New York parolees over to the courts and let the legal authorities administer the fair trial they hardly deserve. Once again invading toughs have learned to their sorrow that Connecticut is not the happy hunting grounds for crime they misjudged it to be.

Pursuit and capture may not have been as swift and dramatic as the documentary training film that used the same bank as a setting. But the fear and unkempt faces of the pictured ex-convicts show the ravages of the hunted, living for six days like cornered animals.

Fortunately for the small town bank, practically all the stolen money has been recovered. No lives were lost, though one of the bandits lies in a New Haven hospital with bullet slugs in his legs. Only a miracle saved the duet from a murder charge when State troopers Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace were narrowly missed by a bullet through the windshield of their cruiser.

If criminals from out of state would take the trouble to find out, they

would learn that Connecticut State Police have reputations for acts of bravery. Perhaps they are not unlike police in other states, in that respect, but it is a matter of pride with Commissioner Hickey and his men not to let criminals escape.

One of the pair of bank robbers may or may not have been the "George" who bought and registered a 1940 car in Stamford. It doesn't matter, except that he, whoever he was, had the good sense to leave town. Unfortunately for them the Rothermel brothers didn't go far enough. They reached the end of the line in Southbury, in an overturned stolen car number two, with two of Connecticut's finest ready to welcome them. Nobody could have blamed the State police if the robbers had escaped after six days and nights of limited freedom. But we're all glad the troopers lived up to their reputations, and got their men with the goods.

--Stamford Advocate

THE WOODBURY BANDITS

Seldom in recent years have the state police had a more dangerous assignment than capturing the two men alleged to have robbed the Woodbury Savings bank, after smoking them out of hiding by constant vigilance on the roads in the vicinity of the place of the crime. There is no question that the Connecticut state police felt themselves more or less on a spot in this case. They were called into the case soon enough to set up road blocks to prevent the escape of the bandits. In fact they chased the car first used by the bandits until the driver had to ditch it. Part of the loot was found scattered around the ground where the car was left. The men took to nearby woods. Then, after days during which the men were evidently in hiding in the vicinity, they made a break for freedom.

In trying to get through the net of police guards they halted a motorist and took his car. The owner notified the state police promptly--telling the authorities that he had been held up

at gun-point and his car seized. Soon afterward the chase began. Two troopers in a car spotted the men in their stolen machine and gave chase. The hold-up men, both ex-convicts, were determined not to be taken and began shooting at the pursuing car. Several bullets went through the state police car's windshield, but State Troopers Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace were not struck, fortunately, by the shots, even though Dymkoski was cut about the face by flying glass.

The troopers gave as good as they received. The older of the two bandits was wounded twice in the leg by state police bullets, which was exceptionally good shooting under the circumstances. The younger hold-up man was slightly hurt when the second car they had used left the highway and was partly wrecked. When the police officers jumped from their car to collar the men, one put his revolver to his head as though about to commit suicide, but the nearest officer knocked the gun out of his hand. The other bandit's gun was empty, its cartridges all fired.

This is the kind of demand that may be made upon a state policeman almost any day, although it is true that there have been few such running gun fights in Connecticut involving the state police. The point that should impress the public, though, is that the state police organization was able to make it a highly unprofitable venture for these two New York hold-up men to try their technique in the Connecticut small town that they selected. It took time to get them out of the woods area where they had disappeared, for the trail was not clear when they abandoned their first car and disappeared into rough and overgrown territory. Efforts to follow the men with dogs did not succeed, and a long search of the vicinity failed to dislodge them. But in due time the fugitives became nervous and tried to escape and that was their undoing.

All the officials concerned deserve a hearty word of praise, especially the two officers who finally came to grips with the men, in momentary danger of their lives while doing so.

---The New London Day

THE BANDIT CHASE

It used to be said that calling robbers "bandits" was glorifying them or their deeds. But it's not so. A bandit is an armed crook and enemy of society. No one is being "glorified" by being called a bad man.

The two men who robbed a bank in Woodbury have been termed "bandits" by nearly everyone, including the State Police who so tirelessly sought them. Finally two suspects, brothers, were taken in two after a gun battle--regular wild west stuff! These stand charged with the crime.

See any moral in that? Here are two men who--so the police say from the records--made a sort of profession of law-breaking. When they got out of prison they went right back to the same old crime business.

There are some people in the world like that -- always have been -- and somehow we cannot help think they are mental misfits in society.

They advertise to the world that crime doesn't pay.

To the State Police should go nothing short of the last word in credit. They caught 'em though for a time the chase looked hopeless.

Cooperation by neighbors did it. Whenever you see something suspicious, call up the police!---New Britain Herald

THE LAST LAUGH

Congratulations to Connecticut's State Police force on the final capture of the two armed bandits who robbed the Woodbury Savings Bank, a week ago. And oh! what a relief it is to the State Police force.

For the truth is, that in addition to all the natural considerations which would make our state guardians anxious to capture these bandits, they have been receiving an unmerciful joshing since the episode.

It was an unfortunate coincidence (or was it really a coincidence?--we'd like to ask the bandits) that the Woodbury Savings Bank was the very institution

earlier selected by the State Police department for an educational film to show the people of Connecticut just how a bank robbery could be foiled by the State Police.

The motion picture, taken at the Woodbury Savings Bank, showed an attempted holdup in which the bandits had hardly made the first move before State Policemen began dropping out of trees, out of the skies, appearing from behind bushes and 'covering' the intruders from every possible angle.

Well it didn't work that way when an actual holdup took place at the Woodbury bank. Imagine how red the faces of our State Policemen were, every time they thought of that confounded movie.

But the end of the real life drama was quite as satisfactory as the end of the movie. Thanks to courage of the highest order, on the part of State Policemen Leo H. Dymkoski of Bridgeport and William Wallace of Fairfield, the bandits were captured with the loot in their possession after the two policemen in question had faced gunfire in a running chase at 70 miles an hour, but had not swerved an inch from their course or their purpose, even when the bullets of the bandits smashed the windshield of their car and came only inches away from their heads.

These men deserve a citation for sheer, raw courage. And as for the police force,--

"He laughs best who laughs last."

---The Bridgeport Sunday Post

IT DOESN'T PAY

Connecticut's law enforcement agencies have for generations past been unusually effective in the matter of bringing criminals into custody. The capture of the two who allegedly robbed the Woodbury Savings Bank demonstrates that efficiency once again.

It was on the 9th of June that the two men took \$8,500 from the little bank and then made their getaway. They took refuge in a strip of woodland and there the forces of the State Police were mustered by Commissioner Edward J. Hickey,

who took personal charge of the manhunt.

As the days went by it appeared as though the culprits might not be in the woods after all. But a tight vigil was maintained. Hunger finally drove the men out, and in short order the state police had them cornered.

Not only were the men captured, most of the money was recovered. And though the hazards were great, no one was killed in the adventure. The culprits gained nothing by their ill-advised career of crime in the old Nutmeg state. They made no money, could not even escape, were forced to give up through hunger and the inability to get through the police net. Now, alas for them, there is the prospect of a long stay in Wethersfield, if proven guilty.

There have been other bank robbery attempts in Connecticut, and the result has been much the same. It may take a day, or a week, or a month, or even a year, but eventually Connecticut justice catches up with the culprits. Our police do not easily give up the chase. That must be well known to those who have a yen to break the law, because the incidence of successful bank robbery in this state is extremely low. And that reflects credit on the ability of our police to maintain law and order.

---Middletown Press

BANK ROBBERS NABBED

Canada's Royal Northwest Mounted Police have had more worldwide advertising, but Comsr. Edward J. Hickey is in a position today to point out as a plain fact of record that the Connecticut State Police, also, customarily can be depended on to get their man. In the latest instance, as it happened, they got two men.

It is worthy of note in passing that, just as an incidental phase of the day's work, one of the two came critically close to getting one of the police, in the course of a comparatively short but wild and bullet-spattered chase through the township of Southbury. As a point of additional credit to the State Police, appreciative public notice may be

directed to the fact that only a little more than six days had elapsed between the time when the Woodbury Savings Bank was robbed and that when two of Comsr. Hickey's men caught up with and captured a pair who are reasonably suspected of having been directly implicated in robbing it. In comparison with a thus far fruitless hunt for the gang who robbed Brink's, Inc., in Boston, that was pretty quick work.

It is no less gratifying to learn that just about all of the money snatched from the Woodbury bank has been recovered. So, in consideration of this welcome denouement, it seems that the fancied irony of a motion picture taken at the same place last year, to illustrate typical details of a bank robbery, is not so ironical, after all. Thanks to the courage and zeal of officers Wallace and Dymkoski and their colleagues, the scenario has had a fitting and eminently satisfactory sequel.

---Waterbury American

THE GREAT BANK ROBBERY

The great Connecticut bank robbery of 1950 and the manhunt that followed are now history. And the history is one that must bring intense satisfaction to Police Commissioner Hickey and his men, and reassurance to everyone else. The holdup men have been captured, almost all the stolen money has been recovered, and although plenty of them were risked, no lives were lost in the process.

Commissioner Hickey was sure all along that the two men were trapped in the woods the State Police were patrolling. As day followed day without their being captured this seemed increasingly less likely. But the story told by the two inveterate criminals reveals that they were not only surrounded all the time, they were without food, too. And the money with which their pockets were crammed did them no good.

Capture of the two men after a week-long search was due to the alertness of the residents of the southwestern part of Connecticut, as well as to the courage and vigilance of our State Police.

It was prompt cooperation between the two that kept the men from escaping from their trap in a stolen car.

Bank robbing in Connecticut, it seems, is still a highly uncertain way of making a living, even when it is attempted by professionals. We're lucky to have Commissioner Hickey and his men on the job all the time. Other would-be bank robbers, please take notice.

---Hartford Courant

CRIME DOESN'T PAY

Crime doesn't pay.

That is the threadbare but ever-true statement coming first to mind upon reading of the capture of the two thugs who held up and robbed the Woodbury Savings Bank of \$11,000 on June 9th.

A second thought is that it doesn't pay society to parole those who have been proved guilty of crimes of violence unless there is convincing evidence they have reformed and really intend to "go straight".

Both these desperate bandits were on parole in New York, after having been convicted of armed robbery.

A third facet of this cops-and-robbers story is the persistence, intelligence and high courage of the State Police of Connecticut.

These were experienced, bloody-minded desperadoes. They thought out the robbery and their get-away with great pains. They were armed, and ready and willing to take life. They knew how to shoot, and shot with deadly accuracy from their careening stolen car as they were pursued by State Policemen Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace. One bullet crashed the windshield of the police car, missing Dymkoski by an inch or so, and cutting his face with glass particles.

But this did not stop the pursuing police. They kept on. The police proved they were excellent shots, too. For one of the bandits was wounded in both legs.

The State Police deserve all the good things that are being said about them. They worked tirelessly and intelligently

on the case, and Commissioner Edward J. Hickey was confident all during the week that his patience and planned work would in the end result in the capture of the two men. From the time when Policeman George Bunnell prevented the bandits from getting across the river and possibly out of the state, until the time they made their break, a week later, officers of the state force were on vigilant guard.

Major Leo F. Carroll, of Ridgefield, deserves great credit for his work on the case, as, indeed, does every member of the State Police who worked on the case.

It is fortunate that no lives were lost throughout the hold-up, the first chase, and the attempt at escape. This speaks volumes for the control, coolness and good sense of the troopers.

All this would not have happened had the State of New York been more careful of the workings of its parole system. Probation and parole are good only if they are wisely and carefully administered. Admitting to parole such desperate and unregenerate thugs as these two is unforgiveable and ineffably stupid.

---Danbury News-Times

POLICE PERSEVERANCE PAYS

The people of Connecticut can take pride in their State Police organization. There can be high confidence in their ability to cope with crime and to safeguard the lives, property and wealth of our citizens. The capture of the alleged Woodbury Savings Bank bandits is recognized nationally as a splendid bit of police work. Not only does it constitute a strong crime deterrent, but it shows a public, often inclined to be critical and ready to scoff at police efforts that fail to produce, that perseverance pays.

For the capture of the two men now held under \$35,000 bond for court action in connection with the bank holdup is nothing but a reward for perseverance in the face of odds, and long odds.

For six and a half days State Police kept a cordon of men, vehicles and e-

quipment flung around the heavily wooded area where the suspects were believed to be in hiding. This force at times ran as high as 200 men, beating the woods and scouring the highways and countryside. When time ran on and no captures were made, the scoffers had a field day. Comparisons were made to the celebrated Boston Brink robbery. Wise opinions were advanced that the police were watching an empty sack.

But the detail under Lt. George Remer of Bethany Barracks stayed grimly at their task. Every possible clue was investigated. No angle was overlooked. This finally produced results. The actual capture was in the best traditions of a movie-thriller, with a shot punctuated chase, flying glass that cut and menaced the two pursuing officers, Troopers Leo Dymkoski and William Wallace, and the wounding of one of the pursued pair.

This job represents alert, efficient police work at its best. The entire department is entitled to feel high pride in the result.

---The New Haven Register

STATE COP DYMKOSKI BACKS PISTOL WITH BOXING, WRESTLING SKILLS

By Tom Magner

State Policeman Leo H. Dymkoski, who with William Wallace, a fellow trooper, captured the Rothermel brothers, Woodbury bank robbers, Thursday night, carries a pistol in his holster only because his job, and the law, demand it.

Leo--whom we wouldn't care to meet in a dark alley any night--stands 6-1 1/2, and on the Fairbanks hits about 240 pounds.

But that isn't all. His two big fists are what counts.

For Dymkoski used to be a pugilist and a wrestler, and a star football player in his high school days at Harding.

Born On East Side

Born on the East Side, Nov. 1, 1914, Trooper Dymkoski, got his early educa-

tion in Staples school on Jane street and then entered Harding. One of his pals stuck the monicker of "Lomski" to him and he went by that name throughout his athletic career. The name, he will tell you, came about following a victory over one of the neighbor's kids in a school scuffle.

Anxious to go into anything daring, Leo took flight instructions in 1938 at Bridgeport airport and was soloed out by Al Burnham, his instructor. How a little 40-horsepower Taylorcraft took to the air with Leo and his 240 pounds, has always remained a mystery to other pilots at the local airport.

Said "No" to Boxing Career

As a boxer Leo attracted the attention of the late "Dutch" Schultz, New York racketeer and beer baron. Schultz saw "Lomski" in a couple of his ring encounters and liked his style. Schultz wanted to handle him as a professional, but Leo turned thumbs down on the offer when his mother said "no." Leo's ring record shows him taking part in 17 fights as an amateur, including a draw with New Haven's Natie Mann.

Following a job in Stamford, where he was employed by a collection agency, Leo worked for the Haynes-Morrissey auto agency here, later shifting to the employ of Irving Mills. In 1939 he took over as head of plant protection supervision at the Auto Ordnance company, later the Maguire Industries.

Joined Force in 1941

Leo wanted to be a state cop and he certainly had the build for that dangerous occupation. He was accepted on the State Police force, Aug. 1, 1941, and assigned to the Westport barracks. Since 1944 he has been assigned to the Bethany barracks. He is rated as one of the best shots in the state police department, as one of the Rothermel brothers, now lying in St. Raphael's hospital, New Haven with a bullet wound from Leo's pistol, can testify.

State Policeman Dymkoski resides at 160 Sage street and is married to the former Eloise E. Eubanks of Spencer, N. C. The couple have a son, Leo Chester, going on two. ---Bpt. Sunday Post



NEWS ITEM . . . Bank Robbers Held in Bonds of \$35,000 Each.

THE CONNECTICUT PRISON ASSOCIATION

R K O RADIO PICTURES, INC.
134 Meadow Street,
New Haven 10, Conn.

June 20, 1950

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

June 22, 1950

Just a personal note of commendation for the very fine police work by your department in apprehending the two Woodbury bank bandits. It most certainly shows the very excellent training under your administration and the perseverance under your personal direction. I think you must know that we are all proud of our Department of State Police, and I want you to know that I am personally grateful for the excellent cooperation given to this office particularly on the interstate parole matters. While you have a specified job to do you at the same time have a very fine understanding of the problems of most men who have been in trouble. You have shown a desire to see them properly adjusted in the community and become law abiding citizens. Again, congratulations!

Dear Commissioner:

The writer was away during the time that the Woodbury Bank was held up and returned when the hunt was on for the men implicated in the robbery. I might say that I was quite concerned in view of the fact that the short subject my Company made, namely, STATE TROOPER, had the Woodbury Bank in the story.

I wish to congratulate you and your department for the alertness of your men who did a splendid job in capturing the culprits that were involved. I feel certain that the citizens of Connecticut are more cognizant of the fact that when your department is called upon, a thorough and complete job is always assured, as it was in this particular case.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Charles M'Grath, Field Director

Barney Pitkin

BANK BANDITS GET 12-15 YEAR TERMS

By Ellery Stewart

Litchfield--Fred Rothermel, 51, and his brother, Arthur, 47, pleaded guilty July 7 to the Woodbury Savings Bank holdup June 9 and were sentenced to Wethersfield State Prison for not less than 12 nor more than 15 years.

Sentence was imposed by Judge Edward J. Quinlan of Norwalk in Litchfield County Superior Court.

The two brothers, neatly dressed but with Fred still on crutches from bullet wounds received during his capture in the Southbury hills, received the sentence calmly.

Before sentence was passed Arthur told the judge: "Your Honor, we know that being sorry for this does not make amends. But we both ask that you temper your justice with mercy."

Judge Quinlan said, "The court is not callous." But he said he must bear in mind the careful preparation the brothers had made before holding up at gunpoint the Woodbury bank and robbing it of \$11,427.

He said also that in passing sentence he was giving due consideration to their age, the fact that they faced other charges in Connecticut in connection with the stealing of a car in their final dash for freedom one week after the holdup, and also that they were parole violators and faced prison sentences on that count in New York state.

After hiding out for nearly seven days in the Southbury hills while state police combed the area, the Rothermels committed armed robbery in stealing a car from a South Britain couple at gunpoint in their getaway attempt. This case will be heard later in Waterbury.

The sentence imposed by Judge Quinlan was recommended by State's Atty. H. Roger Jones of New Hartford, Public Defender Thomas F. Wall of Torrington, who represented the brothers, told the court he considered the prosecutor's recommendation "very fair".

The Rothermels were brought to the Litchfield County courthouse by Sheriff Harry B. Morse and four deputies, Peter

Billier, James Ryan, Clifford Stoddard and Albert Huband.

The older brother apparently had considerable difficulty getting out of the car. He was wounded twice by State Policemen Leo H. Dymkoski and William Wallace of Westport barracks during the chase and capture.

One wound was serious, the bullet lodging in his left knee.

In the partly-filled Superior Court room here were State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey and Major Leo F. Carroll, leaders of the week-long man hunt in the Southbury hills. Also present were Harmon S. Boyd, treasurer of the Woodbury Savings Bank, and his wife. Atty. Harry A. Goldstein in Bridgeport was present to represent the Boyds in the event the Rothermels did not change their plea to guilty, he told The Times. Previously the two brothers had pleaded not guilty and asked a jury trial.

State's Attorney Jones told the court the two bandits had sent for him asking for a conference. He said they told him they wished to change their plea to guilty. He described the brothers as "very cooperative" during his talk with them in jail.

He said they had fully described their previous troubles with the law, extending back to 1919. At that time and up to the middle '20's, they were members of the so-called Cowboy Gang in New York. During the early '20's, they said, they engaged in many armed robberies and holdups. They were captured and sentenced to long terms, 20 to 30 years. During the following years they made separate escapes and were recaptured. In one escape a guard was slugged and seriously hurt.

Attorney Wall brought out that for a long time while on parole both brothers had apparently "lived within the law". Later, however, Judge Quinlan said he could not accept that statement as an indication of "reformation".

Southbury bandit case shows red warning flag is up in Connecticut and crooks will be quick to jot it down in books.

---The Elm City Clarion

State Police Cited For Capture Of Woodbury Bank Bandits



Awards to State Police Department personnel in connection with the capture of the Woodbury Bank bandits were announced July 9. They were made to, left to right, Radio Dispatcher Van Buren Dayhoff, Troopers Edward Steele, Joseph Jasonis, George Bunnell, Alden Thompson, John Swicklas, William Wallace and Leo Dymkoski and Lt. George Remer.

Two state troopers who pursued the Woodbury bank robbers in the wild auto chase and gun battle which led to their capture were voted the State Police Award for Valor on July 8.

The highest honor given by the department, awarded for the first time since its inception, will go to Troopers Leo H. Dymkoski of Bridgeport and William J. Wallace of Fairfield. Both are attached to Westport Barracks.

Three other troopers were voted the Award for bravery and four troopers and a civilian were cited for honorable mention in connection with the capture.

The award winners, and the others cited by the Board of Awards, will receive medals and citations at a formal public ceremony. The date and place for the ceremony have not been set.

The hearing before the board of awards disclosed for the first time the part officers Swicklas and Thompson played in the chase on the night of June 15. Both refrained from disclosing

their activities until departmental regulations forced them as well as all officers on duty that night to file written reports as to reasons for discharge of departmental firearms.

Then it was disclosed that Swicklas and Thompson had both discharged two bullets from their respective firearms. Perusal of reports filed indicated Swicklas and Thompson had received information by both radio and from residents of South Britain that the auto stolen by the bandits was fleeing toward Route 6. Swicklas and Thompson put out for the car before the State Police radio announced the identity of the stolen car. They came to an intersection of Routes 67 and 172 in Southbury towards Route 6 when they came upon Dymkoski and Wallace who were stationed at this fixed post.

At the time of Swicklas and Thompson's arrival the State Police radio broadcast went out and the four officers hearing it, immediately transmitted

three-way to each other such information as they had available. They started eastward, came upon the fleeing car going over the brow of a hill and then the race began. Dymkoski's car was following the Thompson car and when Thompson announced over the three-way radio he was able to identify the Wargo car, Dymkoski replied "We have a fast car; let's go." Thompson allowed Dymkoski to pull ahead. The bandits increased their speed and then the shooting started. Dymkoski and Wallace in hot pursuit returned the fire. The bandit car became wrecked and up pulled the two State Police cars, both with headlights extinguished.

The bandits called out to the officers to "come in and get us" but Dymkoski, the senior officer in the quartet, issued instructions not to go in and more shooting followed until the bandits surrendered. While Dymkoski and Wallace held the bandits at bay, Swicklas and Thompson went into the dark after them, handcuffed the pair and then searched in the bandit car for the weapons which were found to be .38 and .45 caliber pistols.

The dangers and risks at the scene were great and extremely hazardous owing to the darkness, the report said.

The board of awards granted honorable mention to Officers Steele, Jasonis, Meagher, Waltz and Radio Dispatcher Dayhoff for the diligence, perseverance and ability in handling and dispatching radio messages during the emergencies and while under stress of attending excitement in dealing with the public in the instant case.

Comsr. Hickey after the board meeting and with the board's approval commended Lt. George H. Remer, Bethany Barracks for the outstanding service he rendered in directing activities and in pursuing all clues.

While the board cited these particular officers for meritorious service it also commended the traffic, patrol and special service divisions for tireless and painstaking work.

Act well your part, there all the honour lies. ---Pope.

PUBLIC REACTION

The congratulatory messages that have been received since the capture of the bank bandits are indeed gratifying. Far too numerous to list or reprint we are quoting below a few comments and once again we thank all of our well-wishers.

"First, full congratulations to you and your staff for the Woodbury-Southbury job.

Second, full appreciation for your assistance and generous cooperation to ease our tasks in gathering and presenting the cleanup story and pictures." ---Andrew H. Lyon, Managing Editor, Post Publishing Co.

"The skill with which this capture was planned, the courage and quick-thinking of Policemen Dymkoski and Wallace and the efficiency of your department as a whole have excited the highest admiration of citizens everywhere. In this feeling of pride in the Connecticut State Police, permit me to join." ---Carl E. Lindstrom.

"The Department should be proud to have Patrolmen of the calibre of Dymkoski and Wallace, especially, in the danger of gunfire." ---Herman Isacs, Jr.

"I wish to extend to you and the members of your Department my sincere congratulations for the excellent police work that was done in the Woodbury Bank Robbery and in the apprehension of the robbers."

"It was surprising to me how interested the public, in general, was in this case. They are so happy over the results and are very generous in their praise of you and your men." ---William J. Roach, Superintendent of Police, Wby.

WOODBURY SAVINGS BANK--

At a meeting of the Directors of this bank held last evening, it was voted that I convey to you and to the members of your force, our appreciation of your efforts and success in the capture of the bandits who held up this bank on June 9th.

It was a splendid piece of work and the State should be proud to have such an excellent Department.

---W. J. Burton, Secretary

THE *Customers* ALWAYS write

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

CITY OF NORWALK CONNECTICUT

DANBURY LODGE OF ELKS, NO. 120

Office of the
CHIEF OF POLICE

June 22, 1950

June 13, 1950

Dear "Ed"

Please accept my most sincere thanks for the courtesy of your Department in "loaning" us Lt. Walter Boas to instruct members of this Department in Communications procedure and policy. He did a remarkable job, reflecting extreme credit not only to himself but to you and your organization.

Again my thanks and warmest personal remembrances.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah F. Dorney
Chief of Police

NEW ENGLAND POLICE
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

June 20, 1950

Dear Commissioner Hickey:

The New England Policewomen's Association again votes Connecticut as the acme in hospitality.

The charming Castle Inn with its scenic setting contributed appropriately to the excellent program arranged by your proficient policewomen.

Please accept our sincere "Thank you" and our cordial invitation to be our guest in Massachusetts in late September 1950; we will advise when definite date has been made.

Respectfully yours,

Theresa E. McDermott
Secretary, N. E. P. W. A.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your cooperation in assigning your men and equipment to police our WAKE UP AMERICA DAY Parade on Sunday June 18, 1950. Your men were most courteous and helpful and cooperative in making this event the success that it was.

It is very gratifying to have the cooperation of your department in a patriotic service such as this.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Jimmy Welch, Chairman

June 16, 1950

Dear Officer Pritchard:

Mr. Gillies, my son Richard, and I wish to express our sincere appreciation to you for your efficiency and kindness in the recent automobile accident in which we were involved on May 31st. We also extend our thanks to the other officers for their cooperation in assisting us to reach home. Naturally, we were quite upset, and I feel we did not realize at the time, all work involved for you, and the extra courtesy in helping my son retrieve Mr. Gillies' insulin, etc. Physically we have recovered from our cuts and bruises. We have not obtained our car as yet, but hope to get all the insurance adjustments cleared up soon. Also the Court requirements that are being handled by Mr. Tierney, our attorney.

Our appreciation again, and if you are in Greenwich--say "Hello".

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie R. Gillies

CITY OF ITHACA

TOMPKINS COUNTY

NEW YORK

June 29th, 1950

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

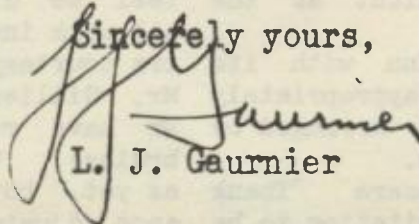
Dear Commissioner Hickey:

The citizens of Ithaca are indeed indebted to you as commissioner, and the men and women of the Connecticut State Police, for your cooperation and assistance in making it possible for our policewoman, Mrs. Gladys Harrington, to gain firsthand experience in the workings of your department.

There is no question in the minds of either Police Chief Marshall or myself but what Mrs. Harrington is going to prove to be a better public servant of our community than had she not had this opportunity of working with your group.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to you for your cooperation in this matter, and assure you that the Mayor, Chief of Police, and local Board of Aldermen feel the same.

Sincerely yours,



L. J. Gaurnier

LJG:M

STYLES IN CRIME

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

NATIONWIDE BOOST IN HIJACKINGS

NEARLY HALF A MILLION CURRENTLY REPORTED SHOW WIDE RANGE OF TARGETS



No better object lesson in current trends in truck cargo thefts and hijackings could be found than the month's list of previously unreported losses assembled by the Cargo Protection Bureau. Here they are from Storm Lake, Iowa to New York City, from fish, linoleum, sheet music and cadmium balls to the usual textiles, clothing, television and what have you. And they add

up to nearly half a million dollars of new losses. These are all first half of the year losses — and the records all point to a rise in the second half of the year. The Bureau reports them as follows:

Jan. 10—Everett, Mass.	\$5,551—linoleum	April 2—Chicago	\$2,043—clothing
Jan. 22—Terre Haute, Ind.	\$4,421—clothing	April 3—Peoria, Ill.	\$2,000—liquor
Jan. 27—New York City	\$6,179—yarn	April 3—Chappaqua, N.Y.	\$2,200—money
Feb. 14—Enroute Cleveland	\$1,505—clothing	April 4—New York City	\$4,000—furs
Feb. 21—New York City	\$1,000—clothing	April 4—Louisville, Ky.	\$1,524—clothing
Feb. 21—New York City	\$2,376—clothing	April 6—New York City	\$1,900—clothing
Mar. 1—Baltimore, Md.	\$1,450—clothing	April 6—Cleveland, Ohio	\$40,250—cigarettes
Mar. 8—Storm Lake, Iowa	\$4,000—foodstuffs	April 7—Union City, N. J.	\$2,000—gen'l merch.
Mar. 16—Newark, N. J.	\$5,722—nylon	April 7—New York City	\$1,000—liquor
Mar. 18—Chicago	\$2,500—gen'l merch.	April 7—Chicago	\$1,430—liquor
Mar. 18—Chicago	\$1,500—TV sets	April 8—Freeport, Ill.	\$1,200—clothing
Mar. 19—Canton, Ohio	\$2,000—steel plates	April 11—New York City	\$2,160—furs
Mar. 22—Chicago	\$3,700—liquor	April 16—Matawan, N. J.	\$2,500—clothing
Mar. 22—Chicago	\$1,000—sheet music	April 17—Dorchester, Mass.	\$2,500—clothing
Mar. 22—New York City	\$2,000—clothing	April 17—L. I. C., N. Y.	\$1,000—gen'l merch.
Mar. 23—St. Louis, Mo.	\$15,000—watches	April 17—Montreal	\$1,120—clothing
Mar. 24—Chicago	\$7,492—cigarettes	April 17—Hammond, Ind.	\$6,000—clothing
Mar. 24—Chicago	\$2,799—cigarettes	April 18—Montreal	\$1,000—clothing
Mar. 26—Bet. Conn. & NYC	\$3,000—furs	April 18—Somerville, Mass.	\$2,991—money
Mar. 27—Bronx, N. Y.	\$1,500—money	April 19—Des Moines, Iowa	\$45,000—nut meats,
Mar. 27—Newburyport, Mass.	\$4,500—cigarettes	April 19—Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	\$2,200—furs
Mar. 28—Chicago	\$1,200—camera equip.	April 21—New York City	\$1,000—clothing
Mar. 28—Detroit	\$11,000—cadmium balls	April 24—Moonachie, N. J.	\$1,000—foodstuffs
Mar. 28—Boyertown, Pa.	\$1,200—unfinished hosiery	April 24—New York City	\$1,000—clothing
Mar. 29—L. I. C., N. Y.	\$1,000—clothing	April 26—Euclid, Ohio	\$40,000—liquor
Mar. 30—New York City	\$1,034—appliances	April 26—Jackson Heights, L. I., N. Y.	\$20,000—camera equip.
Mar. 30—Chicago	\$100,000—clothing	April 26—Pawhuska, Okla.	\$1,000—beer
Mar. 31—Chicago	\$2,000—clothing	April 27—Houston, Tex.	\$4,000—money & jewelry
		April 28—New York City	\$1,000—nylons
		April 29—Chicago	\$1,000—cigars
		May 1—Brooklyn	\$17,000—TV sets
		May 1—Kansas City, Mo.	\$6,000—service station access
		May 1—Detroit	\$1,000—produce & canned
		May 3—Chicago	\$51,000—jewelry
		May 3—New York City	\$2,050—clothing
		May 4—Brooklyn	\$3,000—clothing
		May 9—Gloucester, Mass.	\$2,000—fish
		May 9—Chicago	\$3,787—cigarettes
		May 11—New Haven, Conn.	\$1,100—clothing
		May 11—En route, Hagerstown, Md.	\$2,800—clothing
		May 16—New York City	\$1,800—hosiery
		May 16—New York City	\$1,000—gen'l merch.

Issued by

**CARGO PROTECTION
BUREAU**

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New York 14, N. Y.

THE GAMBLERS

The rolling dice keep turning here
 and there
 With faces of ambiguous intent;
 And slot machines illuminate despair
 In tricky patterns of illusion meant
 To hold the faith of dupes a moment
 more.
 The sun must rise and set as horses
 go;
 Sometimes a missing card will whisper
 lore
 That only men on bread lines ought to
 know.
 But they who gamble for triumphal
 arches,
 Sun-mad, have other ways of snaring
 chance.
 They have a flair for elegies and
 marches,
 For grandiose device and circum-
 stance,
 Until a marble bust on rubbish tossed
 Informs a scavenger of something
 lost.

---Waterbury American

A NEW YORK CITY BOOK-
 MAKER PLEADS GUILTY

Frank Erickson, a round-faced, blue-eyed-grandfather learned last week the prison term (2 years and \$30,000 fine) he must serve for having been one of the most prosperous gamblers in the United States. He pleaded guilty on sixty counts, which could have brought him sixty years in jail; but he received leniency from the court. His guilty plea saved New York State the expense of a trial, and it saved Erickson's wealthier clients from the embarrassment of publicity. He told a Senate investigating subcommittee in April that he had been a bookmaker for thirty years and that his net profit has been about \$100,000 a year recently.

Justice Praises Plea

Just before sentence was imposed, presiding Justice Nathan D. Perlman, sitting between Associate Justices Frank Oliver and John V. Flood, said, "We wish

to commend District Attorney Hogan for his vigorous prosecution of the biggest and most influential gambler ever brought to the bar of justice in this state."

"And to you," Justice Perlman said, addressing his remarks to Sol Gelb, Erickson's lawyer, "your client was wise to accept your advice to plead guilty and thereby not add perjury" to the charges against him.

Arrested Ten Times

District Attorney Hogan said that Erickson had been arrested ten times in all and has yet to spend a day in jail" and once had the temerity to call upon a badly ailing client in a hospital to solicit business for the future.

The prosecutor also tied Erickson to leaders of the underworld, including the "notorious Frank Costello," Joe Adonis, Meyer and Jake Lansky, brothers, and members of the former Detroit Purple Gang.

"Erickson," the prosecutor said, "is top man in a dirty business and in no sense is to be considered a sacrificial lamb."

NEW SPEEDING EXCUSE

Oklahoma City, Okla.--A speeding teen-ager gave Oklahoma City traffic police a new answer to think over.

He stopped as soon as he heard their siren and saw their blinking red light. He was speeding, he said, because he thought the boy friend of a girl he had just visited was chasing him.

PRISONERS SWIPE EVIDENCE

Nowata, Okla.--Sheriff Arthur Turner is looking for another place to hide the liquor he confiscates from bootleggers.

Eight prisoners used hooks of wire and molding to rake several bottles from another cell where the whiskey is "stored" and went on a jailhouse jag.

Between



Ourselves

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

Your Pal -- The Connecticut State Trooper

By Francis Farrington

The siren on the State Police patrol rose to banshee wail, and the motor's roar to a high whining note, as the car sped along the Merritt Parkway. The passing scenery became a misty blur as our speed rose higher and higher. Foot by foot we overtook the fleeing victim, then edged in front, forcing him to the curb. The police car door opened and the Trooper, gun in hand, leaped out, rushed over to the other car, threw open the door, and--

Dramatic, isn't it? Romantic, thrilling, you say? Well, maybe. But if that's the picture your imagination conjures up when you think of the Connecticut State Police, you have a lot of company, but your picture is out of focus. Yes, there is drama, excitement, thrills too, in the life of the State Policeman. But--do you know the inside story of his everyday duties? Like that of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, the Texas Rangers, and other famous organizations, the Connecticut State Police work is a combination of physical stamina, courage, long, careful training, and scientific, modern police detection methods, all carefully mixed with hard work. Of all these ingredients, hard work fills the greatest part. There are hundreds of daily details to be carried out, and the drama, if any, is incidental.

The writer was fortunate to be permitted to visit Station G, Westport Barracks, recently. The building appears rather small from the outside, but is far more impressive within.

The officer in command at Station G, is Lt. Victor Clarke, a powerfully

built man of medium height, and pleasant manner, at least in the circumstances under which we met. He is a busy man, and after a brief chat, during which I learned a great deal about the way the force is run, he summoned Officer John Carlson to show me around the barracks.

On the first floor, in addition to the office of Lt. Clarke, and the main office, the kitchen and dining rooms also are located. From the office of Lt. Clarke, an inter-communication system runs to the main office, and to all other parts of the building, so that he can reach any section quickly and surely if the occasion should arise. By throwing a switch, he can also monitor all calls between the station and the patrolling cars, which police the great area between the New York state line and the toll house at Milford, Connecticut.

The radio transmitter is an important part of the communications system which forms the heart of all modern police centers, and at the Westport Barracks, is located the heart of the area system. The powerful transmitter at Station G is assured operating efficiency by a tower 150 feet high, located in Wilton. In addition to this there are 21 phones in the station with a loud speaker system attached. The teletype receives messages from other State Police stations, from municipal police, and directly from State Police of 9 other states. A grim reminder of the "business" conducted at Station G is the small block of three cells, providing "accommodations" for six prisoners and the small but deadly arsenal of special

weapons, including tear gas and riot guns.

In the basement of the station is located the pistol range, where the patrolmen keep their shooting skill in tip-top shape. In this section, too, is located the setup for taking the fingerprints, height, weight, etc., of prisoners. In addition, there is a complete photography department for developing and enlarging pictures of fingerprints, accidents, criminals, etc.

The task of becoming a state policeman is no easy chore. The "rookie" must go through a rigorous training schedule designed to fit him for the grind ahead. On the pistol range mentioned, he is given careful training in the use of the '38 Police Special, which is issued to each man. He must learn how to take fingerprints, and how to use them for solving crimes. He is taught how to utilize the smallest clue found at the scene of a crime, or, perhaps, a hit-run accident. A tiny piece of glass fitted into place in the headlight of a suspected car may help solve a puzzling accident. Often restoration of the writing on a burned fragment of paper may supply the necessary evidence to convict a criminal who would otherwise escape justice.

After completing his basic training, the rookie goes out for six months probation, on patrol under the guidance and observation of an experienced officer. Where the flight cadet wins his spurs, the full-fledged State Policeman wins the coveted ignition keys to his own patrol car.

When we finished our tour of the building, Lt. Clarke invited me to have dinner with the troopers. It was explained that due to patrols, not all the troopers eat together at noon, but as they come in from duty. After dinner, your reporter was treated to the thrill of a lifetime--a ride on patrol with the Connecticut State Police! Officer Carlson was the driver; his speedy Ford spun easily up the winding road to the Merritt Parkway where his "beat" is the section from Westport to Greenwich. As he toolled the car along at a moderate cruising speed, he explained that a great part of the duties

of the State Police patrolling the Parkway consisted more in aiding motorists in trouble or involved in accidents, than in apprehending criminals or chasing speeders. They cover their territory and are prepared for emergencies, of course, but the prevention of violations, when possible, is considered the best police work.

Suddenly, our Ford started to pick up speed. We shot past car after car until we came abreast of a station wagon occupied by two men. Officer Carlson motioned them to pull over onto the shoulder of the road, then nosed in ahead of them. He got out of the patrol car, and after a short conversation with the driver, returned and slid back behind the wheel. He finished writing out his report of the incident, then turned to me and said.

"I suppose you are wondering why I stopped him?"

"Speeding?" I questioned.

"No," said the officer, "That car had combination plates, permitting it to be used for commercial purposes, which he was doing. Since the Parkway is for pleasure vehicles only, I stopped to warn him. Should he again violate this rule, he will be arrested."

That is another example of the observation taught State Police. In the same manner, by closely observing all cars, stolen automobiles may be detected, and defective or obscured plates noted.

Every time the patrol car came upon a parked auto, Officer Carlson pulled over to see if the people needed any help. Several of them were abandoned by the owners, others were merely parked for minor repairs, or while their drivers took a short rest.

On the return trip from Greenwich, the same procedure was followed. Officer Carlson was alert for possible trouble, but except for the usual quota of parked cars, none was in serious difficulty, until he spotted a recent model on the other side of the Parkway. The hood was raised, and the occupants were looking helplessly at the motor. Officer Carlson found that their son had already left to try and locate a garage. He speeded the patrol car up, caught the

motorist, and brought him back to the scene. He then called the station on the two-way radio and arranged to have help sent out. We left them very grateful to the State Police

Thus it went throughout the tour; no motorist in seeming need of help was overlooked, and a watchful eye was kept for speeders, and particularly reckless drivers. Officer Carlson explained that due to the mild weather and clear roads, the accident rate was not so high this winter nor were as many motorists in trouble as would be had the roads been icy. At such times the State Police are really busy.

The record of the State Police in the criminal field speaks for itself. Quietly, efficiently, their alertness, keen organization, and teamwork results in quick apprehension of thousands of criminals. Working in close harmony with municipal police, they have an enviable record of arrests, ranging through every crime in the book from petty larceny to murder. But, a greater part of their work lies in their service to the public, an instance of which is the Parkway patrol. Founded on a basis of public service, the State Police organization operates quietly and efficiently day in and day out, protecting the public when protection is needed and extending a friendly, helping hand as required.

When I questioned Lt. Clarke as to whether there were any particularly heroic men under his command, his answer was that they were all outstanding. A few had been awarded citations for meritorious service, but in his opinion, any man under his command would and could have done the same if placed under the same circumstances.

So, if your picture of the State Policeman is the swaggering, badge toting "hard guy" of the movies, making arrests with a heavy hand, change the slide! He is efficient, keen, and when arrests are necessary, he makes them courageously, skillfully. But thousands of motorists, from Connecticut and almost every other state, remember him as a hard-working, well trained, courteous servant of the people, and they gladly join you and me in saying, "Hats

off to our pal--the Connecticut State Trooper!"

---The Bellarmine Quarterly

A WAY OF LIFE

Alcoholics Anonymous, that strange organization of ex-drinkers, is, in no sense of the word, a religious sect. It has no answers whatever for those who may want to know why they were born into the world and where they are going after this life is ended. As a matter of fact, if the spiritual element of the Alcoholics Anonymous program could have been omitted altogether, many of the original members would have been very well satisfied. For, even today, the spiritual side of the A. A. program is an initial stumbling block to numerous alcoholics who can accept everything else in the program. Alcohol addiction, like any other vice, has a strong tendency to estrange its victims from religion and to make them look upon religion with suspicion. It is one of the great benefits of membership in the A. A. and of following the A. A. program that the average alcoholic is brought back to the knowledge that religion is a necessity for him if he is to live at all happily. Many A. A.'s of all faiths have been awakened to their religious duties.

"Alcoholics Anonymous has but one purpose: to help the sick alcoholic recover if he wishes. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on any controversial subject, nor does it oppose anyone." These two sentences are quoted from A. A. literature. They serve to show the single-minded devotion of A. A. to a particular end and aim, the rehabilitation of the alcoholic. However, in seeking that end and aim, the original members of the A. A. found that they could not omit the spiritual element. However, broadly and vaguely God might be brought into the program. He and His grace were necessary if an alcoholic were to be released from the "allergy" of the body and the obsession of the mind which according to the book "Alco-

holics Anonymous" make up the elements in alcohol addiction. So we find, in the program of living offered to its members by Alcoholics Anonymous, that God occupies a major part.

Here is the Alcoholics Anonymous program set forth in the famous Twelve Steps so familiar to the members of A. A. or to anyone closely interested in the organization.

1. We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol--that our lives had become unmanageable.

2. We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

3. We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

4. We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

5. We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

6. We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

7. We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

8. We made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

9. We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

10. We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

11. We sought, through prayer and mediation, to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

12. Having had a spiritual experience as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The Twelve Steps, to say the least, offer an astonishing way of life, especially when one considers that they were devised by a group of drinkers as a means of dealing with their addiction. To analyze it in one column, or a dozen

columns, is quite impossible. At this point we can only say that the Twelve Steps are neither rules nor commandments. They are a historical description of the manner of living by which, in the beginning, hundreds of alcoholics and in our times, scores of thousands of alcoholics regained sobriety and happiness in sobriety. "We did these things", they say. "As a result we arrived at a peace of mind and a freedom from the obsession of alcoholism which we never thought possible. If you are an alcoholic, you can follow in our pathway, if you wish. This way of life is as open to you as it was to us. Take it if you chose." ---Catholic Transcript

STATE POLICE CHIEFS ELECT GODFREY TO HEAD ASSOCIATION

Chief Michael J. Godfrey of Hartford was elected president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association at the annual meeting held in Manchester June 22, He succeeds Chief Henry Clark of New Haven.

Other officers elected were: First vice-president, Police Superintendent John A. Lyddy of Bridgeport; second vice-president, Chief Kenneth Howland of Woodbridge; secretary, Chief Edmund Crowley of Bristol; treasurer, Timothy Kelleher of East Hartford, and sergeant-at-arms, Chief Walter A. Sandstrom of West Hartford.

About 60 police chiefs and law enforcement agents throughout the state attended the meeting which was held here for the first time. Town Manager George H. Waddell welcomed the group and during the day matters relating to law enforcement were discussed.

Dinner was served at noon and the Manchester Police Department headed by Chief Herman O. Schendel acted as hosts for the meeting. Among those present were Chief John M. Gleason of Greenwich, president of the International Police Chiefs' Association and Galen Willis of New Haven, State FBI head.

The greatest remedy for anger is delay.

Before You Sound Off...

THINK FIRST

By Carl Holmes

Many of us have forgotten one of the most important lessons of the last war, that loose talk, among other things, was responsible for the sinking of a great many ships, and the loss of thousands of lives. Garrulous talking about persons and matters of importance about which we have very little information, is one of the most common, and deadliest sins, which all of us may so easily fall into.

When the devil wishes to concoct a most vicious brew, he enlists the help of narrow-minded, bigoted and ignorant people, who are afflicted with the gossip habit. Gossip is a personal confession of either malice or imbecility. Gossip ruins without killing. Gossip has disrupted friendships, made neighbors enemies, destroyed careers, injured honorable men, broken up homes and families, and split up churches. The roads to loneliness, divorce courts and law suits are paved with mischievous tattle and idle talk.

Gossip has been well defined as putting two and two together and making it five. Too often we substitute rumor for fact, fill in gaps of knowledge by unfounded suppositions, suggest unworthy motives where it is difficult to ascertain the true purposes. We know that we cannot believe everything we hear. But we can repeat it, and those of us who have the capacity for evil are the first to believe and pass on the worst about other people.

It would be a good thing for all of us to challenge every rumor. We might ask ourselves the following questions:

Who says so?

What motive might he have for saying so?

Where did he get the information?

Is there any sense to it?

Does it sound reasonable and sane?

What actual ground is there for believing it?

Gossip seems to be almost a universal trait. Everybody has a lot to tell us that we have no right to hear. But scandal, ill reports and idle rumors, like poison, cannot be handled without some of it remaining on our hands. If for nothing else, we should be careful of what we say because we are constantly being rated by our words as well as our actions.

Christians are not just asked to tell the truth. They are asked to tell the truth in love, and this is an important distinction. We cannot love our neighbor if we are not careful of what we say about him. Before we pass on anything that looks like gossip, let us ask ourselves; Is it true, kind, necessary?

The reason a dog has so many friends is that his tail wags instead of his tongue. There is an old saying that an empty brain and a tattling tongue are very apt to go together. The following bits of advice on this subject have been picked up by the writer from various sources and he believes that they merit consideration:--

1. Hear as little as possible to the prejudice of others.
2. Believe nothing of the kind until forced to do so.
3. Never drink in the spirit of one who circulates an evil report.
3. Always moderate as far as possible the unkindness expressed toward others.
5. Realize that in almost every case if the other side were heard a very different story would come to light.
6. Look for the good in everybody not the evil.
7. In any doubtful case, communicate with the party before forming a judgment.
8. Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself.
9. Believe that story untrue that ought not to be true.
10. Love puts the best construction on what is told and the lack of love puts the worst construction on it.

There is an old Negro spiritual which gives us some very good advice, "Don't let Satan use you for de spreadin' of bad news."

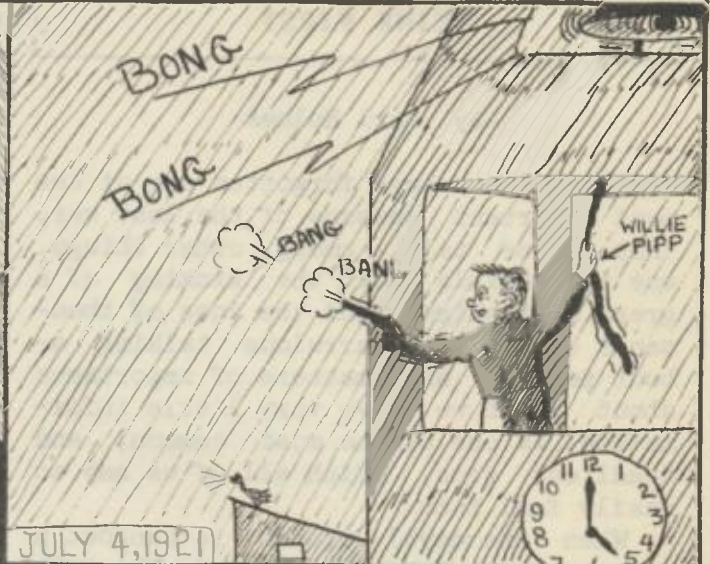
---Speakers Magazine

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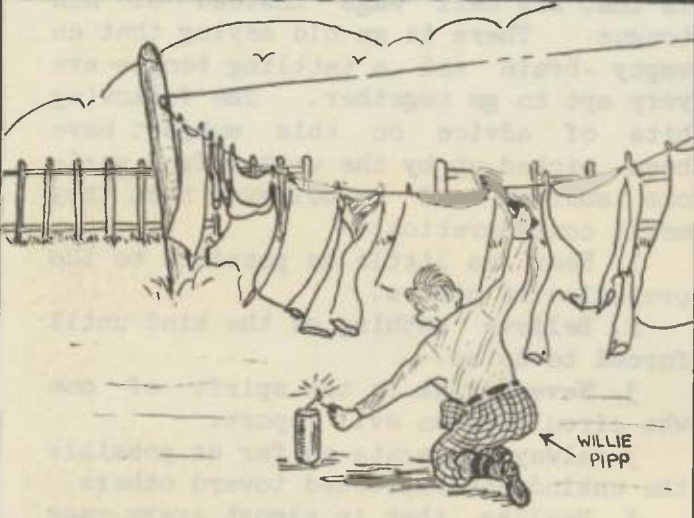
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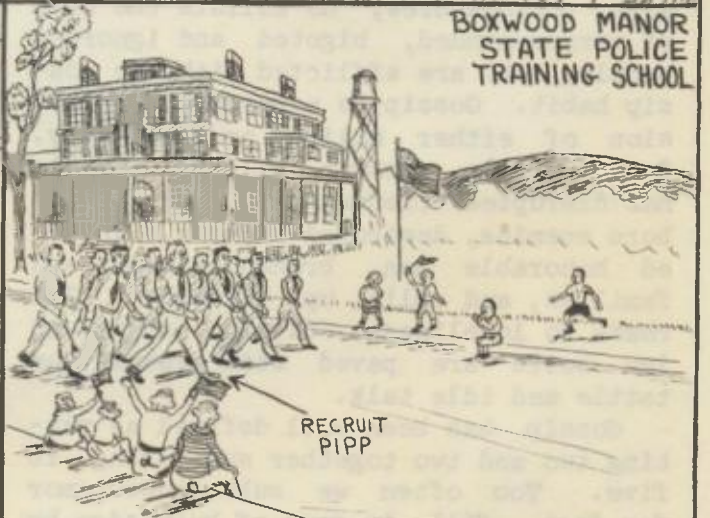
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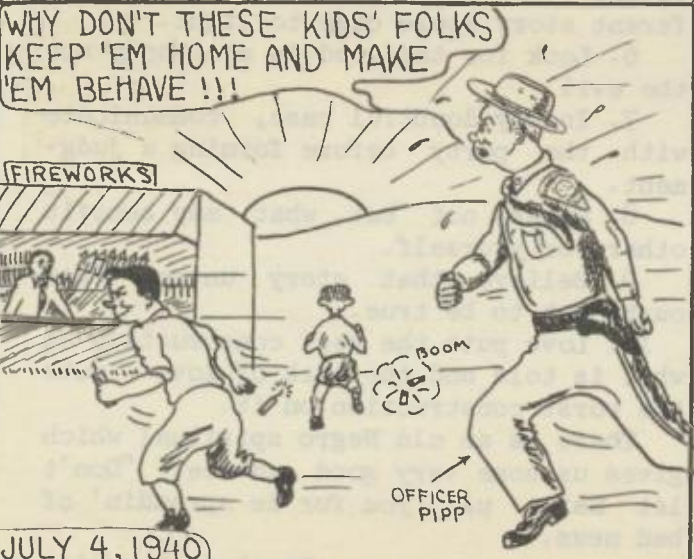
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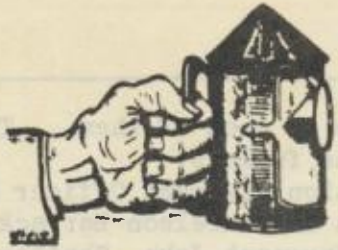
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JULY 4, 1950



the Spotlight

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

On June 14 and 15 while CSP engaged in the manhunt, Southbury for the Bank Bandits, Commissioner Hickey journeyed about the Circuit, Eastern Division presenting awards and encouraging us to continue firearms training. These items reflect his confidence in the force when the "cards were stacked" against us and the going a bit rough. "We are on the right track and will come through, so chins up boys, don't let 'em get you down," we were advised by IHQ.

Accepting The Challenge Of The Underworld



Left to right: County Detective Rowe Wheeler; Lieutenant Albert Rivers; Officer Albert Powell; Sergeant Robert Herr; Dispatcher Millicent Maloney; Commissioner Edward J. Hickey; State Policewoman Susan B. Kenyon; Officer Marcus Johnson; Officer Vincent McSweeney; Lieutenant Michael Smith, attached to headquarters in Hartford; Captain William Schatzman, commanding the Eastern Division, Connecticut State Police.

Medals And Citations Also Presented By Commissioner Hickey

At Ceremonies In Various Barracks

DANIELSON

Wednesday, June 14, 1950, was a happy and memorable day for four men and two women attached to Station D, Connecticut State Police, when Commissioner Edward J. Hickey came here to personally present each one of them with an award for meritorious service, faithful performance of duty and excellent marksmanship.

The presentation ceremonies were conducted on the lawn in front of the barracks on Westcott Road in the presence of County Detective Rowe H. Wheeler; Captain William Schatzman, commander of the Eastern Division; Lieut. Albert Rivers, commandant at Station D; and Lieut. Michael Smith of Headquarters, in charge of the shooting competition program. A few relatives and guests were present.

The awards are made by the decision of the Board of Awards of the Connecticut State Police Department, which consists of six or more of the top ranking officers of the department including the Commissioner. The department is interested in recognizing meritorious service and faithful performance of duty.

Said Commissioner Hickey: "The State Police are being challenged by the underworld--the Metropolitan underworld has passed around word that we're not given to shooting--in awarding these citations we are warning the underworld and are accepting their challenge and if it comes to shooting we can outsmart them." He then presented shooting contest medals to Officer Albert Powell (to whom he referred as "always a 'straight shooter'") for First Place, High Individual Score; to Sgt. Robert Herr for Second Place, High Individual Score; and to Policewoman Susan B. Kenyon, a member of the State Policewoman's shooting Team, for First Place, Pistol Team 14, Third Series.

Stressing the importance of faithful performance of duty as an example to others and a challenge to the criminal element, Commissioner Hickey stated that "the major thing is the prevention of crime". He then presented framed citations to Officers Vincent McSweeney and Marcus Johnson and to Radio Dispatcher Millicent Maloney, with a per-

sonal message to each of them. The citations are as follows:

The citation awarded Officer Marcus Edgar Johnson of Danielson Barracks, together with Sergeant John Chester Lawrence, Officer Walter Smiegel and Officer James Walker Dick of Stafford Springs Barracks, reads:

"For exceptionally efficient police service in discovering and preserving evidence at the scene of several chicken thefts and in bringing to justice two men responsible for stealing chickens in Connecticut and Rhode Island to the value of approximately \$7,000 (Case C-665-E).

"On November 20, 1949, an Ellington resident reported a chicken theft. Officer James W. Dick noticed tire impressions at the scene made by a vehicle with dual tires. He also found an overturned fence post smeared with red paint. The impressions were photographed by Sergeant Lawrence. When Rhode Island State Police reported similar breaks on December 8, Officer Dick went to Rhode Island and found that the tire marks left at the scenes there were similar to the Ellington tire marks.

"On December 19, 1949, a resident of West Willington reported the loss of several hundred chickens. This case was investigated by Officer Walter Smiegel, who noticed dual tire impressions in the mud. Casts of these impressions were made by Sergeant Lawrence and Officers Dick and Smiegel. The following day Officer Dick made additional casts. The impressions were similar to those made by the vehicle in the Ellington break. Sergeant Lawrence and Officer Smiegel took these casts to Rhode Island, where they were found to be identical with those there. All the information relative to the chicken thefts was given to Station "D" by Sergeant Lawrence and Officer Smiegel on their way home from Rhode Island.

"On January 4, 1950, while on patrol, Officer Marcus E. Johnson stopped at a Thompson garage and his attention was attracted to a red truck parked in the yard. On checking, he found that it had dual rear wheels and one tire mounted in reverse. There was chicken dung smeared over the body of the truck. The garage

T H E S P O T L I G H T

owner stated he had recently bought the truck from Leo and Russell Gobin, of River Road, Pomfret. Officer Johnson immediately realized the importance of his discovery and felt positive that the chicken thefts were as good as solved. The combined efforts of Officer Johnson, Sergeant Lawrence, Officer Dick, Officer Smiegel and Officer Clement R. Ashmore, of the Rhode Island State Police, resulted in a full confession by the Gobin brothers.

"Sergeant John Chester Lawrence, Officer James Walker Dick, and Officer Walter Smiegel of Stafford Springs Barracks, and Officer Marcus Edgar Johnson, of Danielson Barracks, displayed excellent judgment and tenacity of purpose in the investigation and speedy solution of these numerous chicken thefts, and we hereby commend them for efficiency and award them Honorable Mention for exemplary performance of duty."

The citation awarded Officer Vincent Joseph McSweeney reads:

"For coolness and excellent police service in apprehending a fugitive believed to be armed, who had beaten and robbed a Massachusetts taxicab driver (Case D-385-D).

"On September 24, 1948, at 2:31 a.m., the officers at Danielson Barracks learned by teletype from Wrentham, Massachusetts, that about twenty minutes previously, taxicab driver, one Joseph Crowley, had been held up, beaten, and robbed by an unknown man who fled toward Connecticut in the cab. Patrol cars in the Danielson area were so informed at 2:45 a.m.

"At 3:30 a.m. Officer Vincent Joseph McSweeney was patrolling Route 44. Suddenly he saw the wanted taxicab and gave chase, apprehending the operator at the intersection of Route 44 and Providence Street, Putnam. This operator, David Robert O'Brien, age 25, of 265 Main Street, Springfield, Massachusetts, offered no resistance. He was unarmed despite the impression created by the original alarm. The prisoner was taken to Danielson Barracks, where it was learned he had worked for a cleaning company and had stolen and sold his employer's truck for \$75.00. The taxicab driver had been brutally beaten by

O'Brien, who had used his feet as well as his hands on the victim.

"Officer Vincent Joseph McSweeney deserves commendation for his singlehanded capture of this supposedly armed man. We hereby commend him for efficient police service and award him Honorable Mention for his fearless performance of duty."

The citation awarded Radio Dispatcher Millicent Esther Maloney reads:

"For diligence and good judgment in the performance of duties as Radio Dispatcher under trying circumstances--handling emergency radio calls from a State Policeman in pursuit of a convict fleeing from the State in a stolen automobile after escape from the Osborn Prison Farm at Enfield (Case H-1225-E).

"On the evening of March 6, 1950 Radio Dispatcher Millicent Esther Maloney, on duty at Station D, Danielson, received radio calls from Officer Arthur Hess, who was pursuing Henry G. Barnes, a convict escaped from the Osborn Prison Farm at Enfield. Recognizing registration plates on a car to be those on a car reported stolen by the State Police, Officer Hess notified Station D by radio as to his pursuit and the dangerous operation of the stolen car.

"Radio Dispatcher Millicent E. Maloney received said information by radio, accepted radio calls, and promptly responded to Officer Hess's call for assistance to effect apprehension of the stolen car and its dangerous occupant. She continued to issue radio calls to other cars in the area, directing their attention to the course of the pursued car. Despite the extraordinary emergency and excitement caused by the speedy broadcasts, she kept her head, remained calm and collected, and her alertness materially assisted Officer Hess in his duties.

"Radio Dispatcher Millicent Esther Maloney displayed unusual ability in handling this emergency and deserves warm praise. We hereby commend her for excellent police service and award her Honorable Mention for outstanding performance of duty."

STATE POLICE OFFICERS RECEIVE MEDALS, CITATIONS AND AWARDS



Nine State Policemen and a State Policewoman were presented with awards by Commissioner Edward J. Hickey at ceremonies June 14 at Station "C".

Left to Right: Sergeant John Lawrence, Officer William H. Stephenson, State Policewoman, Miss Margaret Jacobson, Officers James Dick, Theodore Sheiber, John J. Yaskulka, Walter Smeigel, Robert Lutz, Arthur Hess and Sergeant Edward W. Formeister.

STAFFORD OFFICERS RECEIVE HONORS AND PRAISE FOR EXCELLENT WORK IN VARIOUS PHASES WHILE ON DUTY

Medals, citations and awards were presented to ten State Police officers at Station C June 14 by State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey.

The ceremonies took place following a dinner at the State Police Barracks on East Main Street and was attended by personnel of the Barracks, their wives and family and members of the Press in Tolland County.

Shooting Medals

Sergeant Edward Formeister, Officers John B. Yaskulka, Walter Smiegel, Theo-

dore Sheiber and William Stephenson received medals as a team for placing first in two out of a series of three shoots in the New England Police Revolver League Shoot. In addition Sergeant Formeister was awarded medals for individual high man in two, and 2nd place in one, of the series of three.

State Policewoman Margaret Jacobson was awarded a medal in the pistol target division of the Connecticut Police Womens Team of the New England Police Revolver League.

Sergeant John Lawrence, Officers

Walter Smiegel and James Dick received citations from the Board of Awards of the Connecticut State Police Department for successfully obtaining and preserving evidence relative to chicken thefts in Willington last November. Investigating a chicken theft in Ellington earlier in the year, Officer Dick noted tire marks in the vicinity and red paint on a fence, presumed left by a car, this evidence later was instrumental in apprehending the chicken thieves in Danielson.

Citations For Bravery

Officer Arthur Hess received a citation and emblem for bravery, rare courage and total disregard for his own safety in rescuing an escaped convict from a burning car on Route 15. The Officer saved the life of a convict from Enfield State Prison who had stolen a car in an attempt to make a getaway. Unfamiliar with the operation of the car the driver apparently lost control, turned over, the car catching fire. The Officer succeeded in pulling the man from the burning wreckage and sent him to a hospital. The convict while in the hospital wrote to the Officer thanking him for saving his life. The convict was resented to State Prison on an additional charge of attempting to escape.

Officer Robert Lutz received a citation for good judgment, quick thinking and action in apprehending an armed maniac. In presenting this citation Commissioner Hickey states that "in the country where the area is open, as in this case, the danger is heightened because there is little opportunity to close in on the criminal as would be possible in a more congested area and the Officer is subjected to greater personal danger to himself."

Efficiency of Duty

Sergeant John Lawrence, and Officer James Dick were presented emblems in recognition of efficiency in the line of duty.

Commissioner Hickey commended Lieutenant Hulburt on the fine record achieved by officers of the Stafford Springs Barracks.

Commissioner Hickey said there is a crime wave in Connecticut at the present time, the worst in twelve years. There has been a recent bank robbery, a payroll robbery and a highway robbery. Mr. Hickey mentioned that somebody had said Connecticut State Policemen wouldn't shoot, because in the bank robbery, the officer who spotted the getaway car (and who was not within shooting range of the robbers) didn't shoot.

Police Will Shoot

Commissioner Hickey said officers will shoot: that the state policemen are of the calibre and character and training to win out against this crime wave. They, the Connecticut State Police, have the men trained to get evidence, to make it stick in court, they are brave, resourceful and will shoot at the right time.

Revolver training is under Lieutenant Michael D. Smith, stationed at Headquarters and has developed excellent shooting and many crackshots. Station C has taken a generous share of honors in still competition. Policewomen are participating in this training and becoming fine shots, as evidence Miss Margaret Jacobson's (of Station C) medal award.

The New England Police Revolver League was originally formed as strictly New England contest of skill. It is being gradually extended to include some adjoining states and this year an invitation has been extended and accepted by the Canadian Mounties. Competition in the shoots beginning in July will be broader and stiffer.

Personal Safety

Awards for bravery are not given easily. The Station commander citing some officer's bravery, makes his recommendations to a special Board who thoroughly investigates the specified incident of the particular man, and only after an exhaustive study does the man get an award for bravery. Many are turned down. Bravery is a special police duty performed, with disregard for personal safety.

(The Stafford Press)

Groton Dead-Eye-Dicks Win Pistol Awards



State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey presented gold medals June 15 at Groton barracks to five members of the crack revolver team which won the Class Five championship in the New England Police Revolver league.

Members of the team, shown above with Commissioner Hickey, are left to right, Officers Charles A. Mansfield, Joseph F. LaFramboise, Gail L. Smith, Edward A. O'Connor and Otto W. Hafersat.

Mansfield won more than his share of medals. He was presented one for being the high individual shooter in the first and third series of matches and another for being second high man in the second match.

Mansfield will be one of 13 members of the state police department who will take part in New England matches July 27-30 at Wakefield, Mass.

In awarding the medals, the commissioner pointed out the importance to law enforcement agencies of training in the use of firearms. This was brought into focus within the past few weeks when bandits pulled two big robberies in the state, Hickey said.

"We must be well trained to meet these conditions," he declared.

Lieut. William E. Mackenzie, commanding officer of Groton barracks, looked on as the commissioner presented the medals.

WESTBROOK

State Police officers were given citations by Commissioner Hickey June 15 for reviving a child who had fallen into a Westbrook cesspool in 1948.

The citations went to Lieut. Carroll E. Shaw, commander, Off. William Conlon and Off. William Connolly of the Westbrook Barracks; and Officer Ernest Morse now of the Hartford Barracks. A fifth citation was awarded posthumously to Det. Sergt. Harold G. Washburn.

John J. Doerr, of Westbrook brought his then two-year-old son to the barracks in his town at the time of the mishap. The state police officers applied their skill quickly to revive the child.

Medals and awards for the New England Police Revolver League were given to Sgt. Dorrence Mielke, Off. Lloyd Babcock, Off. Frederick Moran, Off. Henry Cludinski, Off. Howard Sternberg, and Policewoman Kathryn Haggerty.

Off. Henry Cludinski was the recipient of an Award for Bravery.

The Citation awarded to Officer Henry Leonard Cludinski reads as follows:

For absolute fearlessness and efficient police service in connection with the capture of an armed man wanted in New York State for assault and robbery (Case F-1009-D).

While patrolling at 4 P.M. on March 6, 1949, Officer Henry Leonard Cludinski observed a New York taxicab parked beside the road with the operator behind the wheel. He immediately questioned the operator but received no reply; thereupon he ordered the man out of the cab. He wore a cartridge belt, and when Officer Cludinski saw him reaching into his inside coat pocket with his left hand, he immediately seized the man's wrist and overpowered him. A fully-loaded and cocked .45 caliber Army Automatic was found in his pocket and he also possessed 215 rounds of .45 caliber ammunition.

The man proved to be one Herman Santos, of New York City. Further questioning at the barracks revealed that he was wanted by the police of North-



Off. Henry L. Cludinski

castle, N. Y. for assault and robbery. At gunpoint he had forced a cab driver, Robert Scofield, to drive him to a lonely spot where he ordered Scofield out of the cab after robbing him. Santos then drove the cab to Connecticut looking for a place to rob. He was formerly superintendent of an apartment house. According to his own statement, he did not care whether he got shot and he thought of starting a war with Officer Cludinski.

Officer Henry Leonard Cludinski displayed courage and fearlessness of a high order in a situation fraught with grave personal danger. He deserves high praise and Departmental recognition of his conduct. We hereby commend him for outstanding bravery and award him, Officer Henry Leonard Cludinski, the Connecticut State Police Department's Citation and Emblem for bravery in the performance of duty.

Duty then is the sublimest word in our language. Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.---Robert E. Lee

HARTFORD

A departmental citation was given Officer Ernest J. Morse of the Hartford Barracks at a ceremony Thursday June 15 in State Police Headquarters. Commissioner Hickey, who made the presentation, also gave Morse a medal as a member of a winning team in the 1949-50 shoot of the New England Revolver League.

Officer Morse was a member of the Hartford Barracks team which captured a "first" in the shoot. Other members of the team, also given medals, are Det. Sgt. Anton Nelson, and Officers Walter Perkins, Vincent O'Brien and James McCormick.

State Policewoman Evelyn Briggs, of

Special Service, was awarded a medal as the result of her scoring in the shoot.

Morse and four other state policemen received the citations for reviving a supposedly drowned Westbrook child on February 24, 1949. John J. Doerr, of Westbrook, brought his 2-years-old son to the Westbrook Barracks after the child had fallen into a cesspool at the rear of their home. After working for 15 minutes, the officers revived the child. The other officers who participated in the life-saving deed were Lt. Carroll E. Shaw, commander of the Westbrook Barracks, Officer William Conlon, Officer William Connolly and the late Det. Sgt. Harold G. Washburn.



Left to right: Det. Sgt. Anton Nelson, Off. James McCormick, Off. Walter Perkins, Off. Ernest Morse, Off. Vincent O'Brien and Commissioner Hickey.



Commissioner Hickey presents Medal to State Policewoman Evelyn Briggs

STATE POLICE PROMOTIONS

Lieut. Harry Taylor and Sgt. Albert H. Kimball, promoted to these ranks July 12 by State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, attended the State Police Training School together back in 1938. Both also attended the Traffic Institute at Northwestern University.

After tours of duty at the Groton and Colchester Barracks Lieutenant Taylor was transferred on March 15, 1943, to headquarters as liaison officer with the State Council of Civil Defense. He was promoted to sergeant in October of the same year, assigned to the Hartford Barracks. Since February 18 of this year, he has been engaged in civil de-

fense work again.

Sergeant Kimball served several years at the Stafford Springs Barracks, then in June, 1946, was transferred to the traffic safety division, where he will remain.

Lieutenant Taylor replaces Lt. Frank Shaw of East Hartford now retired, who was in charge of photography, while Sergeant Kimball replaces Sergeant Palau of Norwalk, also retired.

"The promotions of Taylor and Kimball are in strict accordance with the merit system," Commissioner Hickey said. "Both officers are top men on the eligible list."

Commissioner Honors Two At The Colchester Barracks

In a brief but impressive ceremony Commissioner Edward J. Hickey honored Detective Ralph Boyington and Policewoman Lois Miller for their distinguished scores in New England Revolver League competition.

Prior to the actual presentation, Commissioner Hickey spoke briefly about "shooting as an essential function of police work." According to the Commissioner, a Connecticut team will be represented in a New England Regional Shooting Match to be held next month in Massachusetts.

Mrs. Miller received her award for being a member of the Connecticut Police

women's team which came in first place. Detective Boyington was awarded a special plaque for individual high score. He hit 196 "bulls eyes" out of 200 shots. Next month Boyington will "put his plaque on the line" again. Commissioner Hickey expressed little doubt but that Boyington will return from Massachusetts with the plaque. Besides the plaque, Detective Boyington received three medals for placing in the various series.

Following the presentation, a steak dinner was served with Lt. Rundle as host.

---Colchester Citizen



State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey is shown presenting Det. Ralph Boyington the high individual scoring plaque. State Policewoman Mrs. Lois Miller was also given an award as a member of the winning policewoman's team. The presentation was made at Colchester Barracks on June 15th.---Colchester Citizen

LEST WE FORGET

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

CONNECTICUT MAN HUNTS

June 24, 1934--John Crowe, Wolcott, middle-aged laborer shot and killed two men and wounded a woman tonight. Two hundred police officers, local police from Waterbury and surrounding towns joined with state police in the man hunt. Crowe, it is believed, will elude capture as he is an experienced woodsman and thoroughly familiar with the countryside. (Ed.'s Note: Crowe has successfully evaded capture to date, July 1, 1950.)

CROWES, STATE POLICE

According to the coroner the body of the man found in the Southington reservoir this week is not that of John Crowe, double murderer for whom the State Police staged a futile hunt a year ago in the town of Wolcott. The body is toothless while Crowe's gold teeth were noticeable. A number of persons who knew Crowe are convinced, besides, that the corpse is that of a smaller man.

No doubt the State Police would be delighted to establish the identity of the drowned man as Crowe. They have had no reason to feel elated over the showing their department made either in the Crowe man hunt or the pursuit of the late Alexander Kaminski in this vicinity and would probably welcome a chance to mark the Crowe case "done". Yet the individual members of the force should not feel too badly about either of these flukes. In each instance they were called on to do a job for which they never had any training and to which the State Police system of this state is not adjusted.

No state police organization can even approach complete efficiency until part, at least, of its members are equipped with a considerable degree of experience in woodcraft. In Connecticut, particularly, there are large and numerous

areas of wild land in which, with the modern facility of automobile movement, criminals can easily take refuge--as did both Crowe and Kaminski. To hunt them out calls for qualities not to be picked up on the cement highways or in city alleys.

It is probably too much to expect that the State Police Department shall insist on its present members converting themselves into woodsmen; but the General Assembly has just authorized an important increase in the department's personnel, and there is every opportunity right now for the appointment to the force of a certain proportion of new members who can at least tell north from south in the woods and whether a track in a bog was made by a man or a cow--in short, country bred young men who have hunted coons, who know how to get across country on a dark night, and who can tell a man from a stump even then. A sprinkling of actual outdoor men might prove to be a highly valuable leaven to the Connecticut State Police Department. They would probably prove to be up to the average as police officers in other respects and the next time the force is called on to conduct a chase for a criminal in wild country they might save it from being so seriously at a loss.

---Manchester Herald--June, 1935.

BLOODHOUNDS SEEK KAMINSKI IN COVENTRY

September 19, 1934--A large force of Connecticut and Massachusetts State Policemen are combing the woods in Coventry, Tolland County with bloodhounds seeking Alexander Kaminski, New Britain, convicted slayer of a Hampden County (Mass.) jail guard who escaped from Springfield jail a few days ago. Kaminski succeeded in escaping through the police dragnet and fled to New York City. There he continued his criminal activities for weeks without detection. While enroute later to Albany, N. Y., he left a suitcase with loot and revolvers on a bus. The operator of the bus finding the suitcase called the Albany Police and Kaminski was apprehended in Union Station, Albany, returned to Springfield, Mass., and executed at Charleston Prison.

KAMINSKI'S USEFULNESS

Out of the otherwise wholly useless life of Alexander Kaminski it is possible that one quite important service may eventuate--some sort of reorganization, or at least renovation, of the Connecticut State Police Department.

Up to the time of the Wolcott double murder some months ago, the prestige of the State Police Department was high. It was generally recognized that the force, though relatively small, was made up of men of good character, intelligence and devotion to duty, that its morale was high and its serviceability unquestionable. The search for the Wolcott murderer, Crowe, was, however, flagrantly muddled. The rubberneck public was permitted to overrun the scene, there was much going about in circles, no capable leadership was ever developed and the outcome was completely discreditable.

But that was just one bungled job and to offset it was a history of years of creditable effort. Now, however, comes this farcical Kaminski man hunt--and it puts the State Police Department completely out of luck. Even if the fugitive killer were to be captured, of which there seems at this mement no prospect, the reputation of the department has suffered an impairment which, after the Crowe episode, it can hardly withstand.

It is axiomatic that no army is better than its commander, no regiment better than its colonel, no matter of what excellent material either may be composed. No state police force, regardless of the quality of its personnel, is at all likely to greatly surpass its own leadership. And it is being impressively borne in upon the people of this state that the activities of their state police have not been so directed as to make the department a serviceable one on a job of this kind.

Yet jobs of this kind, open country jobs, are precisely the sort of thing for which any useful state police department should be especially trained.

It is unlikely that, for the sake of the reputation of any one or two or three officials of the department, the State Police force's inadequacy to a major task will be allowed to continue at least without a powerful effort for its improvement being made in the next Legislature provided that Governor Cross does not bestir himself to do something about it--which is scarcely to be expected.

We have, in our State Police Department, everything essential to a potent agency for the preservation of order, the prevention of crime and detection and capture of criminals--everything but adequate, experienced and intelligent leadership. And that we must have.

---Manchester Evening Herald, 9/29/34

NEWS FLASHES

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

BULLETS AND TARGETS

BULLET DENTS UPPER PLATE

Baltimore--A bullet fired by a bandit last week hit Morris Maisus, tavern owner, in the mouth, but all it did was cut his lip and dent his upper plate. The bullet itself got lost and police couldn't find it, but Mr. Maisus didn't worry too much about the lost bullet. He was too glad to be alive. Police believed the bullet struck the upper plate and then fell out on the floor. The bandit got \$100.

MURDER SUSPECT SURRENDERS TO WINCHELL

A suspect in last year's phone-booth slaying of N. Y. garment union organizer William Lurye surrendered to Walter Winchell in New York City after a series of radio appeals by the columnist. Taken into custody was Benedict Macri, who said he'd been trying to give himself up since last June, when he first heard Winchell's radio call. A rendezvous was finally arranged; the two men met outside a midtown police station. Winchell turned Macri over to police authorities, made formal claim on the \$25,000 reward in the name of the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund. Still at large: second suspect, John Giusto.

WINNER?

Policewoman Mae Kelleher, of New Haven, Conn., was injured three years ago in an automobile accident. So she sued Leonard Gilhuly, the driver of the car in which she'd been riding. Now superior Court Judge William Shea has awarded her damages of \$4,719.93. Miss Kelleher since has married, but her husband will benefit also.

Her husband's name: Leonard Gilhuly.

SLEEPING POLICEMAN ROBBED

New Orleans--A burglar stole Patrolman Joseph Bowman's trousers, badge, cartridge belt and \$13.50 from his home on Piety Street recently. Patrolman Bowman explained to Captain Edward Delatte of the 2d Precinct that he returned home tired out from guarding other people's property, and went to sleep. He was so tired, he said, that he didn't even turn over when the burglar opened a kitchen window and stole the trousers and cartridge belt from a doorknob. The badge and money were in the trouser's pockets.

STICKUP WEAPON: TOOTHPASTE

Eastbourne, England, was warned against a thief who squirts a tube of toothpaste on people in crowds. He pretends it's an accident, helps wipe the victim off, steals his wallet in the process.

BURGLAR ALARMS ARE OF NO AVAIL

Buffalo, N. Y.--Paul Feinman, a salesman, bought two burglar alarms for his home.

Before he had time to install them, they were stolen from his parked automobile.

Mrs. Truman Gavle, mother of four, was found guilty of first-degree murder by an Albert Lea, Minn., jury in the poison death of Oscar Rasmusson. The state had charged her with putting strychnine in whiskey for her husband to drink--but neighbor Rasmusson drank it instead. Regardless, her husband stuck by her.

Police suspects, one with the right eye blacked and the other with the left, say a Detroit policeman did it. Evidently a switch hitter.

---Hartford Courant

PLEA CHANGE HALTS TRIAL OF ZAMBORYS

New Haven--In a dramatic climax to their three-day trial Steve and Joseph Zambory of New Britain pleaded guilty to robbery last month in Superior Court.

The brothers' change of plea came shortly after State's Attorney Abraham S. Ullman produced a transcript of a conversation in which Joseph Zambory had admitted their participation with Real Downing and Louis Benigni in the \$6000 holdups last March of the manager of the First National Store in Wallingford.

The transcript had been made from stenographic notes taken by State Policewoman Ruth Wilcox of a conversation she had overheard May 16 between Joseph Zambory and Mrs. Benigni in the latter's apartment. Francis R. Danaher, defense counsel, objected to the admission of the transcript, but Judge Abraham S. Bordon ruled that Miss Wilcox might read her stenographic notes from the witness stand.

Danaher immediately asked for a recess to discuss the matter with his clients. An hour later the Zamborys changed their pleas.

Judge Bordon agreed to continue sentencing until the next Tuesday and the brothers were permitted to remain at liberty on bond of \$10,000 each.

The transcript included comments by Joseph Zambory corroborating the testimony given earlier in the trial by both Downing and Benigni. Joseph Zambory had been described by the two men, each of whom is serving four to six years in State Prison for the hold-up, as the "get away man" while Steve was said to have been with Downing in the car of Harold A. Wuterich, chain store manager, when the actual hold up was staged.

Miss Wilcox said that she had gone to Mrs. Benigni's home with State Policeman Jerome F. Smith in response to a call earlier in the day from Mrs. Benigni. They returned about 5:30 the same day and the woman hid in a clothes recess in the bedroom while Smith hid in a shower stall.

The Zambory brothers, who had been pretty unemotional throughout the trial,

occasionally smiling and laughing, read the transcript over the shoulder of their attorney. Their expressions changed visibly as the realization of the state's strong evidence against them dawned upon them.

Steve Zambory pressed his hand over his mouth as he read the transcript while both brothers reddened.

Danaher asked for the recess at 3:10 and exactly an hour later the change of pleas were accepted.

On June 27, 1950 Steve and Joseph Zambory were sentenced to 3½ to 6 yrs. by Judge A. S. Bordon in the Superior Court, New Haven County.

'WINDOW SHOPPER' SPOTTED AS '48 THIEF

In Valley Stream, L. I., Saul Gahan looked out the window of his jewelry shop last week into the face of a dapper, dignified, small man about sixty years old. The window shopper strolled on, and Mr. Gahan ran to his telephone.

When Detectives Kenneth Warren and Norman Plant arrived at Ford Jewelers, Inc., 139 Rockaway Avenue, a few minutes later, Mr. Gahan pointed to the man, who was lingering in front of another window down the street.

"There's the man who held me up May 20, 1948," he said. "He took two wrist watches from me. I got a good look at him, and that's the man."

The detectives approached the suspect and said, "We're detectives and we want--"

The suspect interrupted with a rueful laugh. "You got me, boys."

He produced an expensive cigarette lighter, handed it over, and admitted that he had just lifted it from another jewelry shop in Valley Stream.

At the police station, he identified himself as Herbert Maddox, fifty-eight, of New York. He admitted that he was discharged from jail in Hackensack, N. J. only a few days ago, and had served a year in 1948 and 1949 on a charge of shoplifting in New York.

Confronted by Mr. Gahan, he denied the holdup of two years ago.

**MINISTER HELD AS ATTACKER
OF 3 TEEN-AGE GIRLS**

A regrettable news flash from Brookfield, Mo., late last month related that a twenty-seven-year-old minister was charged with the rape of one teen-age girl and felonious assault on two others.

The charges were filed by Prosecuting Attorney Marvin Hopper against the Rev. Merritt Kenneth Kirks, pastor of the Christian Church of Mendon, Mo.

Mr. Hopper said the minister signed a statement admitting raping a fourteen-year-old girl and striking two sisters, thirteen and twelve, with a Luger pistol.

In the statement, Mr. Hopper said the minister told how he picked up the three girls in his car and drove to a spot near Saint Catherine, Mo. There he forced the sisters to get out of the car and turn their backs to him. He struck them on the head with the pistol butt.

Then he raped the third girl after forcing her to disrobe. He drove four miles from the secluded spot, let the girl out of his car and drove to Mendon.

Sergeant Walter Snyder and Captain G. W. Pate of the state highway patrol and Mr. Hopper arrested the minister at his home last night after Sergeant Snyder's investigation led him to believe the clergyman was the offender.

The minister is married and the father of two daughters, one and three years old.

POLIO VICTIM'S BICYCLE STOLEN

New Haven--Exercise, said a physician, would help Madeline Mauro, 14, recover from the effects of infantile paralysis.

He prescribed a bicycle.

Madeline tearfully reported soon after that her bicycle was stolen. She made a public appeal for its return.

Her mother, Mrs. John Mauro, said the family couldn't afford another.

"She needs the bike badly," she said.

**DRAGGING OF SOUND ENDS AS
MISSING BOY IS SEIZED IN BREAK**

The scheduled all-night dragging of waters off Southport Beach by Fairfield police, in search of a body of a 14-year-old Southport boy was called off last week when, Westport State Police, say, the youngster was nabbed in the act of breaking and entering the Westfair Pharmacy, Westport.

The youngster was reported missing by relatives when he failed to return home for the evening meal.

His clothes and bicycle were found on the Southport beach by his stepfather. More than 500 policemen, volunteers and firemen had joined the search.

The boy was apprehended by Policeman William Quaintance, who said the lad admitted a series of breaks by him recently in Westport and Southport.

**HONESTY PAYS OFF,
CANAAN BOYS LEARN**

Canaan--Honesty pays off. If you don't believe it just ask Peter Conklin, 13, and Bill Monroe, 12, both of Canaan.

July 1st the boys found a wallet containing \$108 on Main St., and turned it over to State Police at Canaan Barracks. Next day, the owner, Mrs. Frank Stevens, wife of the town clerk, claimed it and gave each of the boys a \$10 reward for their honesty.

Peter is the son of State Trooper Raymond Conklin.

**2 BOYS IN AUTO TRUNK 2 DAYS,
THEIR KIDNAPER SLAIN BY POLICE**

Police shot and killed a thirty-two-year-old hitchhiker during a running gun battle in Mingo, Ohio, June 19, after he had kidnaped two teen-age boys and held them prisoner in the trunk of an automobile for nearly two days without food and water.

Officers identified the hitchhiker

as Joseph Pacific, of Canonsburg, Pa.

The two sixteen-year-old boys, Nick Curtis and Joseph Colenschick, both of Cokesville, Pa., were found locked in the trunk of the automobile which Pacific had stolen from them and abandoned after his wife told police of his act.

The two boys were taken to a doctor's office where a physician pronounced both well, but awfully hungry.

The boys told police they were en route to a dance at Cokesburg on a Saturday night when they picked up Pacific, who was hitchhiking. He suddenly overpowered them and forced them into the trunk of the car after taking their money.

Police said Pacific then went to the home of his wife near Canonsburg and forced her to accompany him. They said Pacific apparently roamed over Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio highways, while the two boys were imprisoned in the trunk.

Mrs. Pacific said her husband parked the car in Mingo at 5 p. m. to go into a 10-cent store and she raced across the street to call police.

**STATE POLICE DISPLAY EFFICIENCY
IN CASE OF
'LITTLE GREEN VANITY CASE'**

Milford--This is a story about a Washington couple here for the "Fourth" Holidays, a little green vanity case, and the cooperation and efficiency of the Connecticut State Police Department.

The couple are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reilly. The vanity case is important because it contained the Reilly cash, jewelry, and most important, some prescriptions for Mrs. Reilly, who is recuperating from a recent operation. And, the State Police play a role because they recovered the vanity case, and returned it to the Reillys in less than two-and-one-half hours.

Reilly, a one-time American vice consul in Europe, and later, a special writer for the Register, and editor of the New Britain Herald reviewed details of the police "errand of mercy" while visiting with his brother-in-law and

sister, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Collins, Mrs. Collins is Woodmont's postmistress, and she and Mr. Reilly are the daughter and son of the late Third District Congressman, Thomas L. Reilly, who was also one-time New Haven County Sheriff.

Now Washington manager of the New York public relations firm, Allied Syndicates, Reilly said he and Mrs. Reilly motored to Connecticut with an associate, who was going to Beverly, Mass., for the "Fourth".

"Well," he added, "it was a long, hot trip, so we invited our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Guinivan, in for some refreshments, before they continued to Boston, removing our luggage as we did."

That over with, Reilly said, he and his brother-in-law, directed the Guinivans back to the Milford toll station and the parkway.

"We returned to the Collins home, a short time later, to find my wife standing nervously on the porch.

"'We forgot,' said Mrs. Reilly, 'to remove my vanity case from the car.'"

Call State Police

The Reillys and the Collins held a family conference, and, within a matter of minutes, Mrs. Collins was on the telephone calling State Police Major Leo Carroll, at his home in Ridgefield.

"She happened to think of Major Carroll," said Reilly, "because my niece, Anne, was visiting with Kathy Carroll at the time."

Carroll, interrupting the conversation with Mrs. Collins, radioed State Police patrolling the parkway, and, although the Guinivan car had already passed over the Connecticut River toll bridge at Hartford, a State Police car spotted the Washington automobile just south of Stafford Springs.

The bag recovered, it was relayed by the police to the Milford toll station, where Mr. Reilly and Mr. Collins picked it up. "That certainly was fast work by Major Carroll and the men of the Connecticut State Police," Reilly concluded.

What made it difficult, was that all the information they could give the police was that it was a new two-door Chevrolet sedan with Washington Markers.

Safety mindedness

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

1949 Traffic Safety Contest Awards
Received By Connecticut

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE AWARD



FIRST PLACE IN TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT

1949

GROUP I

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut State Police share International Association of Chiefs of Police First Place Award, 1949, for efficiency in traffic law enforcement with Delaware State Police.

S A F E T Y M I N D E D N E S S



Commissioner Edward J. Hickey, CSP (left) receiving IACP First Place Award 1949 from Supt. Wm. J. Roach, (Waterbury, Conn. P.D.), a member of the Executive Committee IACP, representing President John M. Gleason. The presentation was made June 12, 1950 at the State Highway Safety Commission Meeting.

NOTE: Also in 1948 the International Association of Chiefs of Police gave First Place Award (tie with Pennsylvania) for effective traffic law enforcement to the Connecticut State Police Department.



Governor Chester Rowles (left) receiving 1949 Grand Award for the State from President Ned A. Dearborn, National Safety Council at Hartford Club June 12, 1950, Highway Safety Commission Meeting.

S A F E T Y M I N D E D N E S S

Connecticut entered the National Traffic Safety Contest sponsored by the National Safety Council in 1937. Since then Connecticut has received following awards for traffic accident prevention effort:

STATE HONORS

- 1937 Honorable Mention
- 1938 Honorable Mention
- 1939 Honorable Mention
- 1940 Grand Award; First in Eastern Division
- 1941 None
- 1942 First in Eastern Division
- 1943 First in Eastern Division
- 1944 Grand Award; First in Eastern Division
- 1945 First in Eastern Division
- 1946 Grand Award; First in Eastern Division
- 1947 Grand Award; First in Eastern Division
- 1948 Special Awards for Outstanding Achievement in "Public Information," "Safety Organization," and one hundred per cent "City Participation."
- 1949 Grand Award; First in Eastern Division
Special Awards for "Accident Records," "Public Safety Information," and "Community Organization."

**MORE CONGRATULATIONS
AND BEST WISHES**

To the State of Connecticut, its officials, the various organizations and all the people, who in any way assisted, hearty congratulations on winning the 1949 Grand Award in the National Traffic Safety Contest sponsored by the National Safety Council, and also special awards for "Accident Records", "Public Safety Information" and "Community Organization".

Additional congratulations to the Connecticut State Police Department which received the First Place Award for efficiency in traffic law enforcement; the State Highway Department, recipient of First Place Award for efficiency in highway traffic engineering; and the various towns (over and under 10,000 population) for Fatality Free Awards. In all, twenty different awards were given at the Highway Safety Commission luncheon held in Hartford on Monday, the greatest number ever to come to this state.

These traffic safety contests are a means toward achieving the highest ideal

in life, namely, the saving of human lives; and they help toward reducing economic losses and human suffering. But winning these trophies for past effort is not enough. They must act as a challenge for future results.

We must redouble our efforts during the remainder of the year and the years to come, BECAUSE, the rate of accidents, injuries and fatalities is still too high. During this year, as of midnight June 11, there were 13,512 accidents; 4,715 injuries; and 111 fatalities as compared to the record of the same period last year which listed 12,263 accidents; 4,682 injuries and 76 fatalities. This means an increase of 46.1 per cent in the fatality rate.

Everyone can help. We must be "ever vigilant"; "ever watchful" and "ever ready to do our bit" toward saving human lives.

After the schools are closed there will be increased child-use of traffic ways and longer hours daily.

Be Safety Minded.

Remember the life you save may be your own or one of your loved ones.

---Windham County Transcript

SAFETY IN 1950

Thrice in six years Connecticut has received the National Safety Council's award for the best traffic safety record in the country. The luster of the 1949 award, however, has been tarnished by a not-quite-so-good record during the first six months of 1950.

What we in Connecticut ought to be striving for isn't just an award, or the glow of pleasure that is derived from being citizens of a state that is singled out for high honors. What we ought to be striving for is to save lives, to prevent accidents, to keep people from being hurt and mangled unnecessarily on the roads.

Enforcement is of course a part of this program. The major part of it, however, is educational. It is up to all of us who drive to educate ourselves to safety on the highways if for no more noble motive than that the life we save may be our own.

---Ansonia Sentinel

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
Hartford 4, Conn.**

June 16, 1950

Dear Commissioner:

It was a pleasure having you and members of your staff at the Award Luncheon of the Highway Safety Commission on June 12th at which time you accepted the IACP Award.

Thank you, and through you the members of your staff who made possible recognition given to Connecticut by both the National Safety Council and the IACP, and whose efforts in the interest of Safety earned for the Department of State Police such special recognition.

Sincerely yours,

Robert I. Catlin, Chairman
Connecticut Highway Safety Commission

LAW AND THE MOTORIST

If a motorist is unfortunate enough to be involved in an accident it is very advisable that at the time of the accident he do only such talking as is absolutely necessary. Of course, he must identify himself and give the information required by police officers. It is not necessary, however, that he go into a discussion of why and how the accident occurred.

Everyone should realize that the talking that they do under the stress and strain existing after an accident may not be accurate and that statements made may later be used to their disadvantage in a Court hearing.

The law under the Res Gestae Rule permits testimony to be offered in Court as to statements made immediately after an accident. A recent leading decision by the Tennessee Courts clearly illustrates this rule.

During the trial of action for damages X testified that Y stated to him at the scene of and immediately after an accident: "I just couldn't help it, I had no brakes."

Y denied that he had made such a statement at the scene of the accident.

X won the law suit and Y appealed on the ground that the testimony as to the statement mentioned above should not have been allowed in evidence by the Trial Judge. ---Hartford Automobiler

**POLICE FORCE GETS
THREE NEW HELICOPTERS**

Commissioner William P. O'Brien, New York Police Department last month added three new Bell Rotary-wing helicopters to NYPD Emergency Division. "Few New Yorkers realize," said Commissioner O'Brien, "how much this aircraft might influence the happiness of their homes in the future. The Police Aviation Bureau under command of Captain Gustav Crawford will use the aircraft to search for lost, rescue, swimmers in distress, reroute traffic jams on holidays and perform other related tasks. ---Herald Tribune

**ALCOHOL TESTS PROTECT
THE INNOCENT, TOO**

The grim parade of defendants before the bar, pleading their innocence of drunken driving, is not the only reminder that our judgment (of whether a man has had too much liquor to drive safely) is far too flimsy a procedure. It is not a sound and fair basis for making that often crucial decision that can effect a man's whole life--particularly if he requires a car in his work.

It is painfully obvious that this is not a local issue alone, but it is something of a shock to realize that in Stockholm, August 30, there will be an International Conference on Alcohol and Traffic--the first one.

Not only will the conference study how scientific testing for drunkenness could make the highways safer in West Hartford, for example. It will also explore many cases in which an innocent man was convicted of being under the influence of liquor because the tests were too crude. That might, once in a while, be the case in West Hartford court where only the roughest rule-of-thumb drunkenness tests are used. They are woefully subject to possible error in human judgment, even though it is obvious that the doubts are nearly always resolved to the benefit of the driver. Still that is not a safe method for administering justice.

In Daytona Beach, to cite a newcomer in the ranks of cities using the "drunkometer" to determine how much alcohol has been assimilated into a man's blood, they gave the test to 135 suspects last year. They found that 31 of them were not under the influence of alcohol.

In Daytona a truck driver struck an 11-year-old schoolboy. The driver had stopped on his way home for lunch and bought a bottle of beer. Shortly after he had had lunch and drunk the beer, he was involved in the accident. The boy was badly hurt and the crowd at the scene smelled beer on the driver's breath, openly accusing him of drunken driving. The driver smartly insisted on the drunkometer test, and his story that he had only one beer was substan-

tiated. The little gadget proved he could not have been under the influence of alcohol.

Nearly every city, town and state which finally adopts some scientific way of measuring excessive quantities of alcohol in the blood finds that guesswork can be pretty much removed.

The Court and the police do the citizenry no service by delay in investigating and perhaps then adopting these proven techniques for helping solve the growing menace of the drunken driver.

---West Hartford News

NEWS FROM "MAIN STREET"

There were fewer automobile accident deaths on streets and highways of the nation last year than in 1948, but more injuries, according to figures released recently by the Travelers Insurance Companies.

Fatalities in 1949 totaled 31,800, compared with 32,200 in 1948, the companies reported, but injuries last year soared to an all-time high of 1,564,000. The 1948 figure was 1,471,000 injured.

These statistics are highlights of "Maim Street", sixteenth in an annual series of traffic safety booklets issued by Travelers. The Hartford insurance firm maintains an accident statistical bureau which collects and analyzes accident data from the 48 states.

An examination of the figures is not too encouraging. The decrease in deaths in 1949 affords scant satisfaction with the realization that more than a million and a half Americans were hurt during the same period. No one knows how many of these injuries would have been fatalities except for prompt, expert medical attention. Nor does anyone know how many of those who were injured will spend the rest of their lives under physical handicaps that rival death itself as tragedies.

Speed a Factor

Excessive speed headed the list of accident causes in 1949, as it has in most recent years. "Exceeding the speed limit" caused 10,100 deaths and 398,700

injuries in 1949. "Speed was a greater factor in traffic casualties last year than at any time in history," the report states. One out of every three Americans who lost their lives in last year's wrecks were killed because someone was driving too fast.

Speed has been causing a great percentage of accidents year after year. Traffic laws and law enforcement are part of the answer. Engineering will help some. But with perfect roads and perfect police work, the man behind the wheel can still exceed the limit if he wants to or if he isn't thinking.

This is a good thing to keep in mind as you drive. Stay within speed limits and you'll be doing your full part in a crusade to reduce automobile accidents by one third.

There were 890 fewer fatalities among pedestrians in 1949 than in 1948, but 180 more persons were killed crossing streets between intersections last year than in 1948.

Last year, for the first time since the war, the percentage of 18 to 24-year-old drivers involved in accidents took a downward turn. "Youthful drivers, however, are still the cause of thousands more deaths and injuries than their numbers warrant," the booklet declares.

It may surprise you to learn that experience can be dangerous--even deadly. 97 per cent of last year's traffic accidents were caused by drivers with at least one year's experience.

Learning how to drive is relatively easy. The mechanics of driving become second nature soon after a student "solos." At this critical point, attitudes begin to take over. The super caution of the beginner is diluted by an ever-increasing confidence based on experience. And, with too many drivers, caution is ultimately replaced by indifference and carelessness.

Experience Causes Lethargy

The skill of experience can sometimes get you out of trouble on the highway. But the chances are your over-confidence, your indifference got you into the trouble in the first place.

The moral is clear and urgent. Those

of us who are experienced drivers must also be humble drivers.

We who drive--and walk--along the nation's streets and highways are responsible for the accident record. We are the record. We must accept this awesome responsibility by driving and walking carefully.

Just consider the following statistics:

Last year, 31,800 Americans were killed in traffic accidents.

In 1949, 1,564,000 Americans were injured in traffic accidents.

There were 93,000 more persons injured in U. S. motor vehicle accidents last year than in 1948.

Speeding on U. S. streets and highways last year killed 10,000 men, women and children.

Speeding on U. S. streets and highways last year injured 398,700 men, women and children.

In 1949, 9,350 pedestrians were killed in the United States.

Last year, 269,000 pedestrians were injured in the United States.

Twenty-five per cent of all drivers involved in fatal automobile accidents in the U. S. last year were between the ages of 18 and 24.

Ninety-seven per cent of drivers involved in automobile accidents in the U. S. last year had at least one year's driving experience.

Male drivers in 1949 were involved in more than 90 per cent of all U. S. automobile accidents.

Three out of four traffic accidents happen in clear weather on dry roads.

About 75 per cent of last year's automobile accidents were caused by drivers of passenger cars.

--Speakers Magazine

IN-SERVICE STUDIES

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

The Policeman In The Witness-Box

In the course of my working life I have been a solicitor with a fairly extensive practice in advocacy and common law, an amateur naval officer, and I am now a justices' clerk. In the first and last of these jobs I have had ample opportunity of hearing constables in the witness-box, whilst even during my naval career I had to give evidence myself against defaulters and to deal with men brought before me for punishment, as well as to preside over a naval court constituted under the Surrender Terms, sitting in a German town.

Of course, the greater part of the evidence I have heard has been given by police officers, and it does seem to me that a few notes may be of assistance, not only to the young constable anxious to make his way in the Force, but also to the old hand who may have got into bad habits in his evidence.

Before dealing with what to say in the witness-box, and how to say it, I should like to mention one thing. I think that it is important that any police officer should make his smartest appearance when in court. The many policemen who served in the Senior Service will know that even the most "pusser" ship makes a special show for inspection by a senior officer. A policeman, who should always be smartly turned out, should make a special effort when he appears before any court of justice; but however prepossessing his appearance, he will never impress if he takes the oath in a slovenly manner.

There are many ways of taking the oath, but only one of them is correct: remember that it is not a mere formality, but an obligation as solemn as any man can take, and so read it with dignity and reverence. However, familiar you may be with the words always read it, and you will not fall into the error of gabbling it, an error which is not uncommon among experienced officers. Nothing sounds worse than to hear an of-

ficer rattle off the oath without drawing breath, bang down the testament, fall over his own tongue as he gives his name, and heave an audible sigh as he reaches for his notebook, perhaps even licking his finger to turn over the pages before he utters another word. And always give your full name, number, force, and station: no matter how well you may think that you are known to the Bench, and to its clerk, who has to keep a record of these particulars as part of your evidence, the accused may not be so familiar with you, and he is entitled to know who is giving evidence against him. When you have done these things, then you will come to your evidence.

I do not know what you are taught with regard to the use of your notebook. In law you are allowed to refresh your memory from it if you have made notes when the events which it records are fresh in your mind, or you may have taken a statement in it from the accused, which you may wish to read. But whatever you do, do not read all your evidence from it, and before going to court mark in some way the page to which you may want to refer. To fumble through the book for the page will not only tend to fluster you, but will annoy the court, as an unnecessary waste of time.

Your evidence should flow smoothly, but not glibly, from you, and so that you can give it properly and without hesitation you must know beforehand what you are going to say. When a solicitor is preparing a case he takes from each witness a proof of his evidence, in which he arranges the story in its chronological sequence, and from which, if he is wise, he prunes everything which is not to the witness's knowledge and which is not relevant to the case. He does not attempt to get the witness to learn this by heart, but is content if he knows what is in it,

and in particular the points which he hopes will be proved. It might be as well for the young constable to write out a proof of his own evidence beforehand, trying to put what he has to say attractively, tersely, and clearly, and not forgetting to use simple words rather than long pretentious ones: the great masters of our language do not use a long word where a short one will serve. With practice the knack of giving evidence will come to you, and you will be able to dispense with a proof. You will not be allowed to read from it, or to refer to it in court, but if you have made one all the material facts should be ingrained in your mind.

Do not try to get away with things you cannot prove if challenged; many a policeman gives evidence of a measured distance over which he has timed a car, or tested a speedometer, and if he is challenged as to when he measured it he is obliged to admit that he has never done so, but was told that it was a furlong, or a mile, by another officer. If this happens the court may get the impression that you are trying to bluff it with hearsay evidence, which is good neither for your own reputation as an officer nor for that of the Force to which you belong.

Do not forget that the Bench, the accused, the clerk, and the Press should be able to hear you, whilst the clerk has to make a note of your evidence. If you watch his pen you should be able to gauge if he is keeping pace with you. Keep your voice up but do not shout, and when your voice sounds right to you, neither falling flat nor echoing, you are probably at about the right pitch for the court-room you are using. They all vary, but with practice you will get the knack of finding the right pitch in a few words. Talk at a point in the air midway between the chairman and the accused, and they will probably both be able to hear, and speak slowly and clearly, sounding all the consonants distinctly--but why should I write this, for all you have to do is to listen to radio announcers? There is no need to ape their accent, but you will not go far wrong if you copy their timing and inflection.

Finally, when you are cross-examined, do not lose your temper! Answer firmly and respectfully, being careful to avoid a sullen or resentful tone, and if you tell the truth no advocate on earth can shake you.

---Montreal Police & Fire Bulletin

A TRIBUTE TO POLICE COURTESY

by Clifford B. Ward*

- The Shield -
Indiana State Police Magazine

It just occurred to me the other day that I have never done right by the Indiana State Police. The thought struck me riding along in heavy automobile traffic after a Saturday football game. A state policeman blew his whistle for a break in our line of traffic and we stopped. When a traffic officer blows a whistle to stop traffic, that's an order, but this cop threw a pleasant smile our way and said, "Thank you."

It then dawned upon me that Indiana State Police officers have been treating me that way all over the State of Indiana for years and treating everyone else what way. I watched this cop in operation while we were stopped and he had a smile and a pleasant greeting for every driver he directed. To one youngster, driving a jalopy, he leaned over pleasantly and said, "Watch it, son, on the way home."

The State Police Officers give the impression that they know their job, like it, and the people with whom they are working. Now that sort of thing doesn't just happen. Whenever you see an organization on its toes, you can be certain that someone at the top is using the right system. The State Police act as if they were serving the public, not attempting to ride herd on them.

A policeman has to work so many hours so why shouldn't he try to enjoy his job by trying to become efficient and at the same time please the public for which he works. It is a lot more fun being on the top of your job than it is having your job on top of you and weighing you

down.

There are people who contend that getting efficiency is always a matter of paying enough money to get the right people. That is only partly true. No matter how little money the right kind of person is getting, he isn't satisfied with doing less than the best job of which he is capable. But the wrong person, no matter how much he is paid, won't do a good job. Any normal person would rather handle a tough job that requires more of him than to handle a job that pays more but demands less of him.

I doubt if the public ever realizes what a tough job a conscientious traffic officer has in any large community or in the kind of traffic jam that frequently develops on a state highway, following some big event. It isn't easy to stand on a metropolitan corner for hours and direct traffic. It is hard physical work and it is hard mental effort. Yet there are officers who can do an efficient job for eight hours at such corners and never lose their good disposition.

There is much more danger in the work of a traffic officer than there is in the work of those engaged in apprehending criminals. There are more officers laid up in the course of a year by traffic accidents than there are officers laid up by bullet wounds.

Anyway, my respects and orchids to the Indiana State Police.

*Mr. Ward is feature editor and columnist for the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel. This article appeared in his column, "Good Evening."

STOLEN CARS CAN BE HARD TO IDENTIFY

Suppose your car is stolen tonight while you're attending a movie. Would you be able to identify it positively if the thieves gave it a new paint job and changed around the accessories?

For 90 per cent of car theft victims, the answer is yes. But for the other 10 per cent, it is definitely no.

The authority for this statement is

Capt. Det. Armand Gagnon, head of the Montreal police stolen autos squad. Says Gagnon: "Sometimes we have to show the victims proof before they believe it's their car".

Most motorists think it would be easy to point to their car and declare categorically. "That's it", but the police know otherwise. Too many people have no way of proving that recovered cars are the ones that were stolen from them.

After a repainting and a change of accessories, your car becomes difficult to recognize. Even with the license plate and serial numbers changed, identification is difficult for most owners. The police must be sure. They want proof. Where do they get it?

From various parts on the body of the auto. Car manufacturers with forethought have imposed what are known as "secret numbers", known only to the company which produced the car. On some makes, the number is imposed four times, on other makes five times. Most of the time, the car owner doesn't even know they're there. But that's how police can tell your car.

You can help, too, though.

The simplest trick of all is to slip your business card down behind the rear cushion or in some part of the upholstery where it will not be disturbed and not be damaged. More effective, however, are permanent identification marks which you can put on the car's frame, such as file marks at certain points. You should record the details along with your bill of sale, duplicate registration figures, and other records of the car.

Many motorists assume that because they have ordered a special color and have dressed up the car with a lot of accessories it would be simple enough to recognize the car anywhere. But these accessories are the first things a thief removes. He can sell the car without them, and the accessories are good for a few dollars on the side.

The color is easily changed.

It helps to have a record of the tires, though thieves often change tires. You could devise some simple identification mark to put on the spare.

One odd tool in the tool pouch is sometimes an advantage.

There is no end to the tricks you can use to make sure you will know your own car when you see it.

But Gagnon still thinks the "secret

numbers" are the best of them all.

"The trouble with personal identification marks," says he, "is that some people would probably forget where they put them."

---Montreal Police and Fire Bulletin

OUR DEMOCRACY— by Mat

RIGHT—*and* RESPONSIBILITY

"Every Citizen may freely speak, write and publish his Sentiments on all Subjects, being Responsible for the Abuse of that Liberty."

—ONE OF THE ARTICLES IN THE FIRST CONSTITUTION IN AMERICA—
THAT OF CONNECTICUT, ADOPTED IN 1639.



HUBERT MATHEU

—THIS EXPRESSES A BASIC PRINCIPLE OF TRUE DEMOCRACY—
THAT THE LIBERTY OF THE INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE ABUSED
AT THE EXPENSE OF THE COMMUNITY... AND THAT PRINCIPLE
WAS TO BECOME A PART OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION;
FOR THE CONSTITUTION-MAKERS, HAVING HAD EXPERIENCE
WITH GOVERNMENT THAT HAD VIOLATED INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS,
WERE ZEALOUS TO SAFEGUARD THEM. IT WAS FOR THOSE
RIGHTS THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR WAS FOUGHT.

(Torrington Register)

AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Vox-Cop

July, 1950

STATION "A", RIDGEFIELD

Congratulations are in order to the newly promoted officers of the Danbury Police Department: Sgt. Favorina Mazzia to Lieutenant, Officers Willis Woodin, Howard McGoldrick and Richard Leheny to Sergeants.

Our hats are off to all of the personnel who participated in the search and subsequent apprehension of the Woodbury Bank Robbers.

Officers from this station and from our Traffic Division are making final preparations for the Annual Danbury Soap Box Derby which is to be held in the near future.

Officer John Jones on his annual vacation seen toting the golf bag on the local green - while Officer Samuel Wilson, also, on vacation is swinging the pick-axe and doing a little grading on his newly constructed home.

Lieut. Foley back from vacation - stated he didn't have to paint his house - the 21 day rainfall did the job!

Our thanks to the Danbury News-Times and Local Radio Station, W-L-A-D, for their assistance and cooperation in the Woodbury Bank Robbery.

Officers Jones and Merritt riding motorcycles looked right at home leading the Elks' Parade in Danbury on June 18th, and we received a very complimentary letter from Danbury Elks' Chairman, Jimmy Welsh thanking us for our cooperation in making this event a complete success.

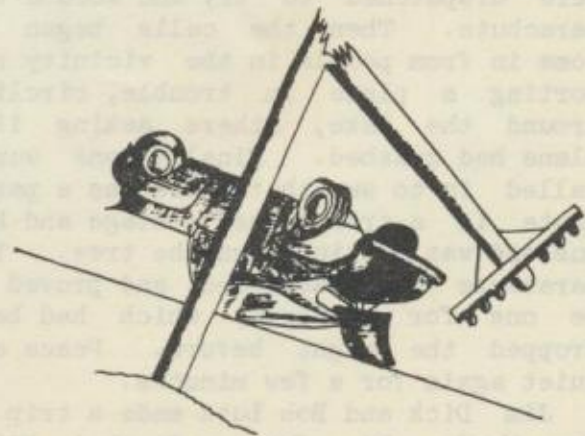
Officer William Francis took into custody one Charles Frank Lilley of Danbury charged with being a fugitive from justice (Parole Violator from New York State). A \$5,000 bond was posted for the accused and the case was continued so that the New York Authorities could make arrangements to return him to their jurisdiction. Through the efforts of Lilley's Attorney the case was con-

tinued several times and quite unexpectedly the Attorney obtained a Writ of Habeas Corpus, issued by the Danbury Superior Court and signed by Judge Thomas Molloy. The Habeas Corpus Hearing was set down for June 24, but was continued again for one week. At this writing it was learned that Lilley's Attorney is going to obtain an injunction against the New York Parole Officers for attempting to return this parole violator to New York. The Attorney is, also, going to attack the Constitutionality of Connecticut Parole Statute Section 8841. As this is a very unusual situation, the decision will be given in the next issue of Vox-Cop.

Officer George Noxon using some of Sherlock Holmes's tactics, solved a "Hit and Run" Case which had him baffled for quite some time.

Officer Guy Bonuomo back from his vacation and looking fit as a fiddle - that outdoor work certainly agrees with him.

Officer William J. McNamara, working in coordination with Chief "Bruce" Nearing, is certainly enforcing the statute prohibiting the throwing of firecrackers from moving motor vehicles. Let's all get together and see if we can't put a stop to this dangerous practice.



This Was Caused
When A Firecracker Was Carelessly Thrown
Into This Car
While It Was Moving On The Highway

TOLLAND COUNTY TALES

Activity at the Scale House is at a standstill. Reason - one operator misjudged distance by a few inches, the front of his trailer contacting the overhang of the building. Results - no damage to truck or scales - building will have to be replaced. We've been expecting this to happen.

On June 28 the members of the newly graduated class had their first chance to display their training in life saving. Under the direction of Officers Vernon Gedney and John Scribner an exhibition was held at Sweetheart Lake, Tolland, for the Stafford Boy Scouts. Officers Falvey, Hall, Kosloffsky, Larizzo and Minieri demonstrated some of the basic swimming and life saving methods. The scouts then participated in the practice of artificial respiration. Movies were also shown by Officer Gedney. Much favorable comment has been heard about town and many requests for similar exhibitions have been received from other groups. Of course Lieut. Hulburt was on hand to see that everything went smoothly and to rescue any life saver who might have gotten into trouble.

Excitement reigned about the station for a while a few days ago. A rescue squad plane from Westover Field had spotted a parachute in a tree near Staffordville Lake. Officers from here were dispatched to try and locate the parachute. Then the calls began to come in from people in the vicinity reporting a plane in trouble, circling around the lake, others asking if a plane had crashed. Finally one woman called in to say that there was a parachute in a tree at her cottage and her husband was cutting down the tree. The parachute was recovered and proved to be one for a flare, which had been dropped the night before. Peace and quiet again for a few minutes.

Jim Dick and Bob Lutz made a trip to Fort Meade, Md., for one Frank A. Hill, wanted by this department for escaping from the Tolland County Jail recently. Upon arrival at the Fort they found that

they would have to return home without the prisoner. Why? He had escaped from a guard a few hours prior to their arrival. Consensus of opinion is that this young man has been involved in some serious crime or he wouldn't be so anxious to get away. Give us time and we will have him yet.

While Chef Fontaine is enjoying a Canadian vacation we are losing no weight as the result of the meals served by his substitute, Francis McMahon, of East Hartford. Variety is the spice of life and we have plenty of it--that is in food.

Edwin Potter of West Stafford has joined our civilian force in the role of Chef's helper.

Officer and Mrs. Kenneth Hall, of Clinton, are the proud parents of a son, Richard James, born on June 11, at New Haven. A future policeman?????

We have had with us for the past week a young man, Mark Colburn, of Redding, Mass., although only a second year high school student, he is one who has made up his mind that he is to be a criminologist. We wish you success, Mark, in your future career.

STATION "D", DANIELSON

Now that the Woodbury Bandits have been apprehended, we can smile again--especially at the critics who took the opportunity to needle the Department because its capture of the Bandits did not coincide with that shown in the picture "State Trooper". We know the public loves fiction that keeps them in the air most of the time but they should realize the State Police Department with its feet on the ground at all times--must operate on facts. The whole Department deserves credit because once again it demonstrated what teamwork can accomplish. Special commendation is due those who effected the immediate capture. We at Station "D" want to add our congratulations

Sergt. Robert M. Herr, who likes the title Gentleman Farmer, and he can

spread it, has acquired land on Hopkins Hill, Route 12, Plainfield. As he puts it "What a view!" Oh! Oh! no artesian well expense because he has clear sparkling spring water right on the property". Invitation for all to stop --for a drink of water--It's free. Powell claims that the Sergt. will strike oil when he starts the foundation. All kidding aside--"Wish you luck, Sergt."

Vacationing season opened with a band at Station "D" and with three, Officers Norman Winslow, Marcus Johnson and Joseph Hart, away we have eleven to go. Yep--Anywhere needed.

The State Troopers of our neighboring State of Rhode Island will have a new Superintendent effective July 15, 1950, and he will be John Sheehan present Major of the Department. Colonel E. Ralph Bonat, present Superintendent has seen fit to retire after 23 years of service to become a member of the National Fire Underwriters.

He supervised a Departmental Inspection held at the Scituate Barracks on Friday June 30, 1950 and delivered his farewell address. The members of the Department presented him with a Scroll bearing "THE BONAT STORY", an electric clock and a Gold Badge. Mrs. Bonat received a bouquet of red roses.

Governor Pastore commended Colonel Bonat for his excellent service to the State of Rhode Island and mentioned numerous improvements that had been made during the colonel's tenure of office.

Lieut. Rivers, who attended the Inspection, extended the department's Best Wishes and Congratulations to both, Retiring Colonel E. Ralph Bonat and to the newly appointed Colonel John Sheehan.

PUTNAM POLICE USE MOBILE SERVICE

The Putnam Police department is now using an SNET installed private radio-telephone system for communication between police headquarters and a police cruiser car.

A land station with radio transmitter equipment has been constructed at police headquarters in the City Hall, with a 60-foot antenna mounted on a

pole adjacent to the property.

From a special telephone at headquarters, calls are dispatched by radio to the cruiser as it travels anywhere in the city.

The officers in the car hear the calls through a loud speaker in the vehicle and reply by a telephone, which rests in a cradle under the dashboard.

The equipment has a "push-to-talk" button on both the telephone at police headquarters and the one installed in the cruiser.

Police Chief Henry Mathurin said the new service is of great value in providing quick, dependable communication between headquarters and officers on patrol duty.

He pointed out that up to the time the new system was placed in operation, it was necessary for patrolmen to "call in" every 15 minutes from telephone pay stations.

He added that it not only makes police work more efficient, but the valuable minutes saved in communicating orders and information to the cruising police car may even result in the saving of life or prevention of accident.

"It is a worthwhile investment and an additional protection for citizens and policemen alike," Chief Mathurin said.

STATION "E", GROTON

Lieut. Mackenzie, Station "E's" pride and joy was elected governor of one of three newly created districts at the Griswold hotel.

Mackenzie, a member of the Groton Lions club, will head District 23C which includes Tolland, Windham, Middlesex and New London Counties.

Mackenzie, who is presently serving as a deputy district governor, was nominated by Herbert R. Hillery and seconded by Ernest S. Brown. Both Hillery and Brown are members of the Groton club. Mackenzie announced he would appoint his cabinet later.

We congratulate the Lieutenant for his civic leadership. CSP commends

those police officers who take active part in community services and strive to promote good will for the betterment of the public service.

With the advent of summer weather the two "Bikes" at our barracks are pressed back into service. Off. O'Grady made the first arrest this year patrolling with the two wheeler.

Inspector J. Reardon of the Fire Marshal's office was guest speaker at the New London County Fire Chief's Association.

Mrs. A. Lackey, Groton borough policewoman, Mrs. L. Noonan of New London, Miss L. Boland of our barracks and Mrs. G. Harrington, visiting policewoman of Ithaca, N. Y., attended a two-day convention at Old Saybrook.

Mr. D. B. Fancher was appointed chief operator and director of maintenance for this station. This was decided at a recent meeting of the Amateur Radio Auxiliary held at our barracks.

Sgt. W. E. Farrow has a job to do and does it. He recently gave a ticket to a scion of the famed Theodore Roosevelt family for stepping on the accelerator too heavily.

Representatives of the New London Garden Club, American Legion, State Police, State Highway Dept., Veteran Organizations, Submarine Base and the City of New London attended a simple ceremony in which the New London Garden Club's War Memorial was dedicated.

P. B. Nash and L. Williams of the Emergency division have completed the erection of a new cedar closet at our barracks.

Mrs. Bickford presented Off. Bickford with a fine baby boy. Congratulations.

Commander Harrison of the Legal Office at the Sub-Base stopped in for an early morning visit recently, narrating to our 1-E, that he was going stale "hanging around" his office and needed a change. Coffee is always in order with the Navy and as our Lieutenant Mackenzie "poured" our visitor was soon out of the "dumps" we all fall into so often.

The new mailing address for our barracks is "P. O. Box 431, New London."

Officers Fitzgerald and O'Grady with

the water safety equipment represented the State Police in the New London parade held on boat race day.

When the groom doesn't show up at the wedding, that's not news.

When the bride doesn't show up that is news.

But when the minister fails to appear, that's confusion.

Town policeman Swan reports a tardy minister because he couldn't find the home where the ceremony was to be conducted. Armed with the girl's name Officer Swan searched every available source he knew. The knot tying time was near and the address of the girl could not be learned. The weather cool, yet both gentlemen were perspiring. We won't mention the bridal party's condition. On a hunch they travelled all of Groton in search of a collection of out-of-state cars and the hunch paid off.

Officers Dowling and T. Smith formerly of Station "E" with Officers J. Smith and Fitzgerald attended a "get-together" at Sun Canyon dude ranch in the Adirondacks recently. Rumor has it, Off. Dowling is now a full fledged bronchobuster.

POLICE SERGEANT TURNS FIREMAN IN \$1,500 BLAZE AT BLACK POINT

Niantic--Sparks from the chimney of an open fireplace set fire to the attic of the home of Dr. Adrian Lambert at Black Point. Damage estimated up to \$1,500 resulted and one fireman was injured.

Also, the blaze saw a policeman turn fireman as Sgt. Roy W. Goodale, resident state police officer, drove the Niantic Fire Dept. pumper to the scene.

Sergeant Goodale was with State Policeman John R. Fitzgerald, assisting in the search for four missing fishermen, and Mrs. Goodale relayed the call to the Groton state police barracks, from which Sergeant Goodale was notified by radio.

At first it was impossible to contact any of the volunteer firemen, so Sergeant Goodale took the wheel of the pumper and drove to the Lambert home.

The firemen gathered quickly and found the flames had ignited some wood shingles and had licked their way into the attic. The firemen remained at the scene about two hours.

TOLL MAN PUZZLED FOR GOOD REASON

Since there's only one tollgate on the Groton-New London bridge, a toll collector was puzzled when a motorist objected to handing over his dime on the ground that "I just paid at the other side of the bridge."

The toll taker finally figured it out. The motorist was talking about the bridge over the Connecticut river between Old Lyme and Old Saybrook, 17 miles away on Route 1. It's got one tollgate, too.

---New London Evening Day

STATION "F", WESTBROOK

They say this is the month of roses, weddings, graduations, and all the nice things marking the start of the good old summer time, but we at the old mansion have been going from one thing to another at such a pace that June has rapidly faded. Oh, well, think of all the Junes we can sit and reminisce in that old rocking chair. We did take time out to congratulate Officer and Mrs. Frank Cassello on the birth of a son, and Officer and Mrs. Robert Hart on the arrival of a baby girl. The stork is now hovering over Clinton and a certain nice fellow called Brink should have a report for us by the next issue.

SPORT got off to a fine start last Saturday with try-outs for the baseball team being held at the field so kindly donated by the Neidlingers, plowed by Holbrook and Co., and rolled by the State Highway Department. Its really quite the diamond. The local youth came out in fine style for these try-outs, and we should have a great team. It's too bad that some of those excellent

baseball scouts could not have seen the form of Lieutenant Shaw, Bill Connolly, John O'Brien, Clayton Gaiser, and Bill Brink. There was no comment the next day but we noted at least several 2nd degree sunburns, and a few were seen to move around with caution. Could it have been a little soreness of the muscles boys? Billy (Tim) Haggerty applied for a try-out but it was decided that he'd better attend the next Police School first to get his equilibrium under control, and take off a few excess pounds.

Commissioner Hickey honored us with a visit a few weeks ago, and we were proud of our boys who received citations for outstanding police work. They included Lieutenant Shaw, Officer Wm. Connolly, Wm. Conlon, and Henry Cludinski. Awards for the N.E.P.R.L. were also given Sgt. Mielke, Officers Babcock, Moran, Cludinski, Sternberg, and Mrs. Haggerty. Several wives were present for the awards as well as other members of the officers' families, who stayed for a delicious Turkey Dinner served by our Bill Young.

We now have two Dibble's at Station F, Edward Dibble who is our latest addition to the radio dispatching job, and Hugh Dibble who is keeping in condition for the summer vacation helping Bill Young. Welcome, boys, it's nice having you with us.

Joe Suchanek has just returned from the Maine woods where he had a wonderful time on his vacation. You should hear about those bears and moose, and the ideal weather, while we had rain, rain, rain, that particular week. Guess we're a little jealous, Joe.

Mrs. Gladys Harrington, Ithaca Policewoman, paid us a visit during her stay in Connecticut. Between all the cases at E, & K, we think she was kept mighty busy, with the Boland-Miller combination, so had to get around our territory in a short space of time. We bet Gladys can tell a few tales about our backwoods, on her return home.

If you must slander someone don't speak it--but write it--write it in the sand, near the water's edge!

STATION "G", WESTPORT

The boys at Station "G" feel amply repaid for their efforts in searching for the Woodbury bank bandits since two of their number so dramatically effected the capture.

In-Service Training is going on apace. Following an earlier demonstration of nitrate-nitrite paraffin casts, Off. Jack Carlson wound up the last meeting with a demonstration of the making of plaster casts of various impressions "under all conditions."

Off. Emil Struzik has returned to duty following a slow recovery from the effects of the motor vehicle accident in which he was injured. Currently investigating the theft of an automobile, he is faced with a dilemma. Either the perpetrator is very mature or very young. If he is mature he could not drive the car at all and if young he might but how far can you pedal one of those things?

On the afternoon of June 29, 1950 an anonymous call was received at Station G, Westport reporting that a 2 tone Green Nash Club Coupe was enroute to Hartford with a load of Marijuana and Cocaine. At 5:00 PM "Uncle" Warren French and "Nephew" George Turrell apprehended Morris Joseph, colored, age 24, of 357 Trumbull Street, Hartford at the Greenwich Toll Station driving the car in question. They found the "Package" under the dashboard. Joseph is a waiter at a Hartford club and sells the "Stuff" as a sideline. Although young, this is not his first arrest on narcotics charges.

We are used to occasionally hearing radio transmissions on our police frequencies from other states and nations but a new angle has developed. The other night Off. George Fray was watching the "Ken Murray" show on TV when he heard "19G to G"---eastbound at Route 65A---Conn. Reg. HX-1 needs 6:00x16 tire and tube." We wonder how many listeners heard this transmission and many others. It certainly brings home the necessity for care in the use of our facilities as the field of listen-

ers grows wider each day.

June 10, 1950

Dear Sir:

I want to thank you for the kind attention I received on the afternoon of June 8th when my Anglia broke down. Have traveled the Merritt Parkway many many times, but this was my first experience with any member of your Department. Officer Frank Muldowney was most courteous and thoughtful, and cheerful (that's a great asset). The situation was "well in hand," when he took over. The Arnov service was very efficient.

You surely do have your Department well organized.

Thanking you all again I am

Sincerely yours,

Miss Dorothy Peace

STATION "H", HARTFORD

The summer season is upon us in full swing now, the best evidence to this fact being that Off. Joe Palin has been assigned to handle all complaints of theft of bicycles from Spring Pond Park in South Windsor. This is a normal summer occurrence, the youngsters apparently being too tired after swimming all afternoon to walk home. We can think of no better officer to handle this situation than Joe, who is calling upon all of his Indian training and "Sea Bee" training to put a stop to these thefts.

Officers Jim Duane and Tom O'Brien have provided a sequel to a recent Breaking and Entering case in Station "B" territory in which six young Hartford boys were arrested for breaking into a gas station. Investigation by the above officers has brought forth the fact that these boys, along with others in Hartford, have broken into several business places in Hartford,

Newington, Berlin, and Cromwell, as well as taking 11 guns from a private residence in Avon. At the present time the investigation is continuing, with several cases having been cleared up.

Officer Ed Faith had a Hit and Run case recently in South Windsor in which the victim, following the impact, turned around and gave chase to the offending car and took the marker number. Ed visited the offender at his home later and found that paint left on the victim's car matched the paint on the car of the offender. This young man admitted his guilt, the fact that he had no operator's license apparently having a great deal to do with his failure to stop.

Det. Sgt. Nelson and PW Briggs recently investigated a complaint of Rape in the Town of Newington, assisting the Newington PD. This case came to light when a woman approached a Newington officer on traffic duty at an open air theatre on the Berlin Turnpike and told him that she had been brought to an overnight cabin by two young men who assaulted her, and then locked her in the cabin while they left to go to Hartford and bring back some more men. She further related that she had been taken some place in Windsor earlier in the afternoon by these same two men, together with two others, and had been assaulted there by all of the four men. Further investigation by all of the officers involved brought out several discrepancies in the story of this woman, which resulted in a charge of Lascivious Carriage and Giving False Information being placed against the complainant, and Lascivious Carriage charges against the men involved.

Every Friday seems to be the "Thirteenth" at "H" lately, the latest episode being a holdup at the Pola Brick Co. in South Windsor on Friday, June 30th. This holdup serves to further emphasize the recent forecast of Commissioner Hickey that Friday would be the busiest day of the week for police agencies, between the heavy volume of traffic and payroll holdups. We hope to be able to report a successful conclusion to this investigation in the next issue of Vox-Cop.

"TRAINING PAY OFF"

In a recent phone call to Headquarters, Officer John Ehlert (Retired) acknowledged the value of our First Aid Training program. "Buck" stated that he hadn't really considered the possibility of an emergency occurring right before his eyes and had often thought that all the emphasis on Artificial Respiration was a bit over-done. "Buck" has now changed that opinion and is convinced that we don't give First Aid enough emphasis. It all happened like this:

June 8 - 4:45 P.M. - Accident near Carty's Restaurant, Newington - on Berlin Tpk. - Utility pole knocked down and wires strewn around on highway. Robert Hall, 32, of Scotch Plains, N. J. attempted to assist with the injured and brushed against a live wire. He was rendered unconscious and was not breathing. Retired State Policeman Ehlert came to the rescue and rendered artificial respiration until normal breathing was restored in the victim and Hall was soon out of danger.

This true story clearly illustrates the Boy Scout Motto - "Be Prepared" and a good training program makes every police officer prepared for just such an occasion.

P. S. "Buck" wants to be advised when the next First Aid Refresher course is to be held in the department and we are certain that he will give undivided attention, especially when Artificial Respiration is the subject of the discussion.

STATION "I", BETHANY

June 9, 1950 Woodbury Bank Robbed.
June 15, 1950 Case Closed. 'Nuff said.

Officer Barney Bozentka will be the "Hello Boy" on the desk for the next six months.

We learn that the Canadian Lynx have moved to an area somewhere in the vicinity of Meriden. They are bothering one of our officers. Kingston is assigned

to track down the Lynx and save Officer Steeles' nerves and sleep.

Officer Puester and Bob Halpin of the Bethany Airport are busy with low flying planes in the vicinity of Westville.

Officer Al Kovach is still deeply admiring the beauty of the Litchfield Hills.

Off. Frank Baylis who has been accused by Officer Duma of aging, has sent to the Fountain of Youth for some kind of baby water. He now carries this potion in his car and has been seen taking the prescription.

Don Fournier is getting ready to launch the good ship, "SASS" in July. That is why there will be all the fireworks shot off and all the bonfires to celebrate this launching on July 4, 1950. In fact there will be such a crowd using fireworks throughout the State to celebrate this launching that the day has been declared a legal holiday and the Fire Marshal's Inspectors have been checking on the type of fireworks being sold throughout this state.

Ansonia's contributions to the State Police, Officers Menard and Ferguson are now enjoying their vacations. Ferguson has made good use of that rubber cushion in the past and is now using it for a float. Menard is using his vacation time to learn new card tricks and when he completes this course he will be known as "The Great Shark".

The July 4th holiday is going to be a long one this year. Four days of traffic, and its traffic at its peak, will be a job to control. Last year we had 11 killed. This year traffic will be heavier and we want to see a reduction in the Traffic Fatals, Accidents and Personal Injuries. The problem is a vast one but it can be licked if only we can get the full cooperation of the public that walk and drive. A pedestrian that has anything but his own safety on his mind is a potential victim. A driver without a sense of responsibility and an "I don't care Attitude" is a potential killer. How many of them realize it is a matter of debate.

The Radio and Press are doing their share. The police are doing theirs and

if the public will cooperate the thing will be licked. If there is a heavy toll on the highways who gets the criticism? If those doing the criticizing would only analyze themselves they will easily find that it is Human Failure and nothing else in most cases. It is easy to set up a plan and carry it out if one has full cooperation but if one link breaks then the plan is doomed. The link that generally breaks is that link of Human Control and not the failing of any well conceived plan. The loudest critics are generally the ones with the least knowledge of the Traffic Problem and almost little or no knowledge of Traffic Control. If you kill yourself over the holiday, blame no one else.

Some day analyze the accident reports, analyze the drivers involved, analyze the pedestrians, analyze the conditions, analyze the police, analyze yourself. Be fair and broad minded and render a clear-cut decision and you will have the answer to the Traffic Toll. You will then agree with me when I say in the vast majority of cases it is the GLARING RESULT OF HUMAN FAILURE.

STATION "K", COLCHESTER

Click, Click; that quick: No, not Shick dispensers: That continuous clicking sound during Detective Boyington's shift is just our Ralph making certain of consistently good scores at Wakefield this summer. If practice makes perfect, he can't miss.

Speaking about Southbury--Off. Kevin McDonald reports that he heard a loud noise in the woods to the rear of the cottage where he was posted and was sure that he was going to capture the bandits but lo and behold, what was it--O you guessed it, a Deer.

Not too long ago, on Waterhole Rd., Colchester, right in front of the famous "Palmer Lodge" a mysterious explosion rocked the neighborhood and roused the local citizens from their sleep for a distance of two miles around. Off.

John Fersch "Noted Nighthawk", was first on the scene followed shortly thereafter by Off. P. Hickey. Lights were on all up and down the road, and considering this was 3:15 AM in a rural community, that alone is evidence of the severity of the explosion. The following day Lt. Rundle and Off. Ackerman uncovered the Remnants of the "bomb". Laboratory analysis disclosed this to be a "Flash Carbide." There was much talk of a "Vigilante committee among the residents if perpetrators were located.

However, since that time, the press has reported a series of mysterious explosions occurring successively in Middletown, Durham and lastly in far off Westport. Are they attempting to throw the Colchester "Cops" off the trail? Time will tell.

Residents of Malboro are still throwing Bouquets to Lt. Rundle for the assistance rendered by Off. Frank LaForge in protecting the White Swans that stayed in Lake Terramuggus, Malboro for about two weeks in March. This bird attracted wide attention because of an article in the Hartford Courant.

Off. Dan McKenzie is complaining that it is beginning to get monotonous for him to be flagged down while on patrol by some bobby soxer only to be told, "Oh, excuse me, I thought you were Bill Hickey". It is also reported that they are forming a "Bill Hickey Fan Club" in one part of our territory.

The personnel of Station "K" are all anxiously waiting for the return of Mrs. Lois Miller from her emergency leave in Florida. Cases, buttons, grounds and flowers need her personal attention.

STATION "L", LITCHFIELD

Summer has arrived at last and with it comes the opening of the summer camps in Litchfield County. Once again the poor city folks are all rushing to the country to open up their summer homes in the Litchfield hills, and we can put away our snowshoes for a little

while--we hope.

The Personnel at Station "L" wish to congratulate Off. and Mrs. John Lombardo on the arrival of a baby boy at their household. We also wish to welcome back Off. Lombardo after having his tonsils out. John had very little to say around here for a few days--due to the sore throat we hasten to add.

Off. Hurley and Off. Waltz have just returned from a two weeks' vacation and look well rested and ready for hard work.

Station "L" recently had open house for some of the children of our personnel. Officers Swicklas, Hurley and Schrader had their offspring pay us a visit. They were all very cute and full of pep. Just like their dads we suppose----(once upon a time).

We welcome to our barracks a new chef, Sinclair Jennings, who is doing a good job of keeping everyone well fed.

SPECIAL SERVICE DIVISION

Off. Thomas O'Brien of Special Service plus Det. Sgt. John Paulsen of the West Hartford P.D. and Det. Sgt. William McCue of the Hartford P. D. are still plugging on the holdup-murder of the West Hartford package store owner. No success there as yet but since the start of that investigation they have been instrumental in the apprehension of over a score of youths involved in breaking and entering and theft cases in Hartford, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Newington, etc. Cooperating with Off. James Duane of Sta. H they helped in the solving of several breaks in Avon and vicinity which netted 7 young thieves. A highlight of several of these cases was the seizure of several guns stolen or otherwise illegally possessed which represented potential holdup equipment.

Some of the headquarters Special Service members returned to the hinterlands on the 4th and patrolled rural areas which were scenes of their activities when first they joined this de-

partment. Mike Santy said hello to friends in the T-ville and Suffield areas; Henry Marikle renewed acquaintances in the Killingly and Thompson territory; Tommy O'Brien visited in Andover, Coventry and Columbia section but got involved in a car-bus accident; Sam Rome, John Zekas and Russ Starks roamed throughout Litchfield county and kept an eye on Sheriff Harry Morse's bastille wherein repose our friends--the brothers Rothermel.

Special Service and Headquarters office join in Congratulations to Officer Albert Kimball on his promotion to Sergt. "Couldn't happen to better people."

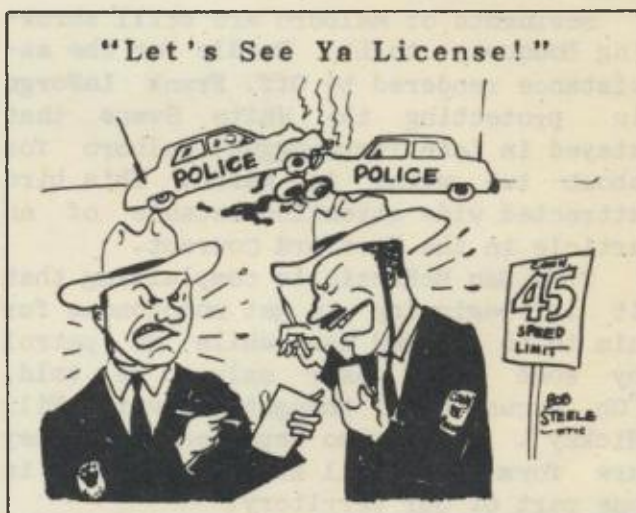
Capt. Mulcahy's office has a new addition to its clerical staff--Miss Helen Norton of Wethersfield. She took over Sgt. J. Francis O'Brien's desk and he moved down to the new squad room in the barracks building. Incidentally, the new squad room is still the envy of all when these hot days come around. The no-afternoon sun and cross ventilation make it the coolest in the two buildings.

Sam Rome had a sizeable expense check due recently. The checks arrive and Sam's was missing. His reports were up to date and, therefore, no reason why it should not be among them. A search upstairs and in the squad room failed to produce it. The mailboy did not know about it. Sam was moaning lustily and loudly. Half-in-jest he asked Zekas to search his voluminous file a la coat pockets. You guessed it--Zeke had it mixed in with the Major's Hartford Courant and Hartford Times bills. Picked up by mistake.

State Policemen in general have a legitimate complaint and one which is often repeated especially at holiday time. Many newspapers including the Hartford ones regularly carry articles about "All state employees will enjoy four-day holiday--long weekend, etc., etc." We'd like to see these headlines add "with the exception of state police officers who will work as usual and for extra hours". How many times have you heard people comment, "What do you want 20 year pensions for--look at the vacations and holidays you receive?" It

might be well to remind some folks that the state police department doesn't close when it is too hot, too cold or the snow too deep.

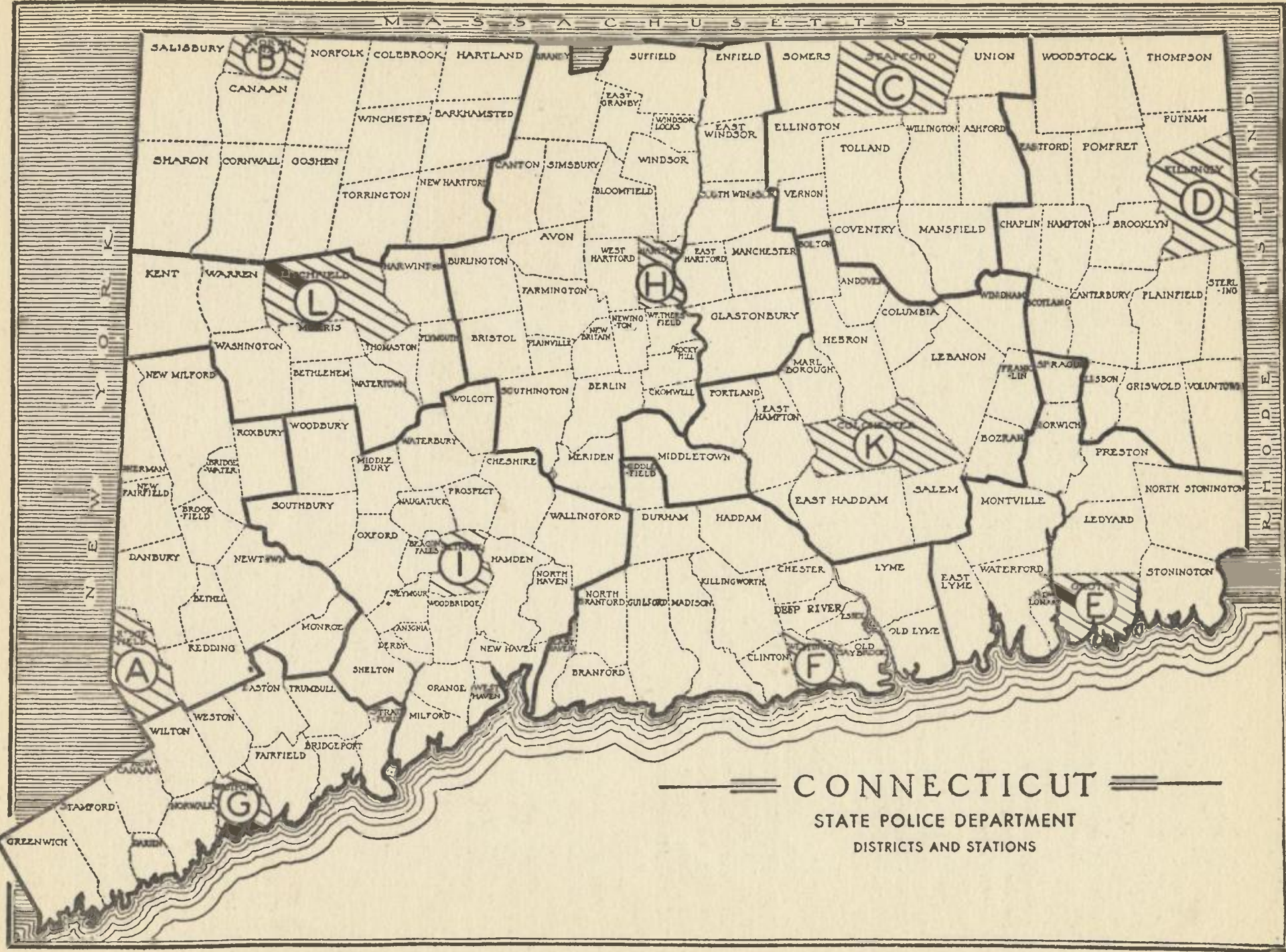
Some headquarters personnel listen to the news broadcasts with more than usual interest of late. Capt. Ralph Buckley, Officer Edward Sheeler, Officer Russell Olsen and Ernest Morse hold reserve officer commissions in the U. S. Army. Officer Russell Starks likewise in the U. S. Navy. A call for the reserves will delete the ranks that much in headquarters. The same applies to members of the department in other stations we know.



5:04 A. M.
CONN. BDCST 3 File 26 4:56 - Orvis
SPH 7 File 26 4:56 A.M.2-16-43 Petry
TO ALL CONN. STATIONS

U. S. WEATHER REPORT
FAIR--CONTINUED COLD--TEMPERATURES FOR
HARTFORD AND VICINITY 21° BELOW ZERO.
TEMPERATURES MODERATE TO ZERO DURING THE
DAY.

AUTH:
ACT. NIGHT EX. OFF. DET. JOHN J. DOYLE
SP HFD.



CONNECTICUT
STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT
DISTRICTS AND STATIONS