

• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

FBI

Law Enforcement

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J. Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

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The *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* is issued monthly to law-enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Much of the data appearing herein is of a confidential nature and its circulation should be restricted to law enforcement officers; therefore, material contained in this Bulletin may not be reprinted without prior authorization by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.





United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

April 1, 1952

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

It seems incredible that in the middle of the 20th century a man could become a police officer without a check being made of his fingerprint record. This data is an indispensable part of the investigation to determine the applicant's character and past conduct, both so important in determining his qualifications for police work. Even so, the practice of checking the arrest record has not yet been universally adopted.

There is no justification for such laxity. We use many thousands of fingerprint cards every day of the week to determine the identity and previous record of those who are charged with the commission of crimes. Our courts, attorneys and law enforcement officers long ago accepted this procedure as one of the basic essentials in proving identity and, in cases where fingerprints are left at the scene of a crime, the actual guilt or innocence of the accused. With such an accurate tool in our possession, we cannot possibly be excused for not using it to learn in advance what kind of man we propose to employ in the public service.

Justice does not begin with the apprehension of a person accused of a crime. It begins with the most positive assurance possible of the good character and integrity of the officer making the investigation. We can weed out some of the men without those qualifications if we will only check the fingerprints of every applicant against the record.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "J. Edgar Hoover". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John Edgar Hoover
Director



FEATURE ARTICLE

Memphis Police Make Systematic Auto Theft Check

Using a system of inspection and reporting devised to work in conjunction with a city ordinance, detectives of the Memphis Police Department are working to create an unhealthy climate for the auto thief, including both local thieves and outsiders who bring their wares to Memphis. Investigations are made by the Auto Theft Bureau, directed by Inspector-in-Charge E. L. Hutchinson. This bureau is a part of the Detective Division under Chief of Detectives M. A. Hinds.

The Auto Theft Bureau does not limit itself to handling the usual auto theft cases involving autos stolen in Memphis and persons arrested there in possession of stolen cars. Their plan is to both make the individual theft dangerous for the thief and to operate a method of control which leaves all auto thieves fewer loopholes for doing business. They operate on the premise that if the system makes it difficult to dispose of stolen cars in Memphis, word will spread and thieves will not attempt to peddle their wares in the city.



Mr. M. A. Hinds, chief of detectives.

Assistance to the Auto Theft Bureau in its campaign is found in a city ordinance requiring all used-car dealers, under prescribed penalties, to report all purchases of second-hand automobiles. Used car dealers are reported to be completely co-operative. The program makes them less susceptible to becoming the victims of thieves selling stolen cars.

The city ordinance requires each dealer in second-hand automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other self-propelled vehicles and second-hand bicycles, and second-hand accessories for all such vehicles, to keep a well-bound book and to enter therein a minute and detailed description of every second-hand automobile, truck, etc., which is bought, exchanged, or traded for by the dealer.

In this book are recorded the date of purchase, name, and address of the person from whom purchased, and the year, make, motor number, and license number of the vehicle. The motor number must be personally examined by the used car dealer and mere acceptance of the motor number appearing on a bill of sale or title is not acceptable.

At the time of purchase the used-car dealer executes a report which is in the form of a 3 by 5 card entitled "Second-hand Automobile Dealer's Report to City of Used Cars Bought." On the face of this card are recorded the date and time of purchase, make, model, motor number, serial number, and license number of vehicle purchased; name and address of seller; name and address of dealer as well as the name of the salesman handling purchase. On the reverse side of this 3 by 5 card are recorded a description of seller (filled out by used-car dealer), right-thumb print of seller, and signature of the seller.

Reports to the Police

Each used-car dealer is required to submit to the Auto Theft Bureau by 9 a. m. each day a report of all vehicles purchased the preceding day. This report consists of a 3 by 5 card as described above for each vehicle purchased. The city ordinance

prohibits the second-hand dealer from disposing of vehicles purchased until 24 hours after the dealer has reported to the police department the purchase of such vehicle.

When the daily reports of used-car dealers are received at the Auto Theft Bureau, an immediate check is made of these cars against the stolen-car file of the Auto Theft Bureau. This stolen-car file includes not only autos reported stolen in Memphis and yet unrecovered, but a section listing out of city cars. The Auto Theft Bureau receives and maintains in its files auto-theft reports from some 15 or more neighboring States.

When the used-car dealer reports have been checked through the Auto Theft Bureau's stolen-car file and no identification is made, these reports are maintained in a separate file for future checks against autos subsequently reported stolen. In this connection, the used-car dealer is required to record in the bound book referred to above the name and address of the individual to whom a used car is sold, as well as the date of sale. These books are permanent records and are subject to inspection at any time by officers of the Auto Theft Bureau.

Daily Check on Dealers

Two or more detectives are constantly assigned to checking the operations of used-car dealers. Each day these detectives are furnished a list of the used-car dealers who have reported purchases for the preceding day, and this list shows the number of used cars purchased by each dealer. At any time, without notice, these detectives may, and do regularly, appear at a used-car lot and make an



Mrs. Loyd Glover, secretary and clerk of the Auto Theft Bureau, searches used car dealer reports through the stolen car file.



Mr. E. L. Hutchinson, inspector-in-charge of the Auto Theft Bureau.

inspection. If the dealer has on his lot a vehicle which is not recorded in his bound book or a vehicle which, though recorded in his bound book, has not been reported to the Auto Theft Bureau within the prescribed time, he is subject to a fine, minimum of \$25 and maximum of \$100.

The Auto Theft Bureau prepares daily a mimeographed bulletin reflecting an up-to-date listing of city cars stolen and out-of-city cars stolen. In addition to distributing this bulletin to law enforcement agencies, State and Federal, in surrounding States, a copy is sent to each used-car dealer in Memphis, there being approximately 150 such dealers in the city. In this manner a used-car dealer can and often does detect a stolen car while the thief is on his lot, and he immediately reports all such cases to the Auto Theft Bureau. In case of FBI jurisdiction, the Memphis Office of the FBI is called in.

Junk Dealers and Wrecked Automobiles

All junk dealers fall within the city ordinance. They are required to maintain records of wrecked autos purchased, these records being identical to those maintained by used-car dealers. They are required to make a personal inspection of the motor number of each vehicle purchased and to obtain the right-thumb print of the seller as well as the other data listed above as required for used-

Second Hand Automobile Dealer's Report to City of Used Cars Bought

Date _____	Time _____	Make _____
Model _____	Motor No. _____	
License _____	Serial No. _____	
Name _____		
Address _____		
Name of Dealer _____		
Address _____		
Name of Salesman _____		

Form used for dealer's report to city of used cars bought.

car dealers. It is noted that at the present time junk dealers are not required to turn in bills of sale or titles to wrecked autos purchased by them. The Auto Theft Bureau is presently examining the new Tennessee Auto Title Law which becomes effective in April 1952, to determine if it is possible to require purchasers of wrecked automobiles to submit to the State Motor Vehicle Bureau or to the police department the titles secured when wrecked automobiles are purchased.

Detectives of the Auto Theft Bureau maintain the same rigid check-ups on junk dealers as they do on used-car dealers.

Other Automobiles

When an automobile is recovered abandoned in the city of Memphis, the police department by use of its own wrecker tows the automobile to the police parking lot. When an individual is arrested by the police department, and is in possession of an automobile at the time of his arrest, the automobile is taken to the police department parking lot. The officer causing an automobile to be placed



Detectives L. J. Freeman (left) and D. C. Vincent examining the motor number of a vehicle on the police parking lot.

on the police department parking lot makes out a report, a copy of which is delivered to the Auto Theft Bureau. Detectives from the Auto Theft Bureau examine each automobile brought to the police parking lot, including a personal examination of the motor number. All such automobiles are checked through the stolen-car file of the Auto Theft Bureau. If there is no stolen report in the file and if the automobile is licensed locally, a check is made with the owner to ascertain if stolen. In the case of autos bearing an out-of-State license or bearing no license plates, the Auto Theft Bureau advises the Memphis Office of the FBI and wires appropriate officials of the State where licensed to ascertain if stolen. In many instances wherein circumstances indicate it desirable, a wire is dispatched to the National Automobile Theft Bureau for a possible stolen report and to have the owner of the vehicle traced.

Before an auto is released from the police parking lot by the Traffic Bureau that bureau must receive from the Auto Theft Bureau a written authorization for release.

Stolen License Plates

The Auto Theft Bureau maintains a file on lost or stolen license plates. When an owner reports his automobile license plate lost or stolen, a card with appropriate data is placed in this file. When automobiles which are recovered or are under investigation by the Auto Theft Bureau bear license plates that are not duly registered to the automobile in question, this license is checked against the stolen license file. Identifications made eliminate the necessity of further checks to determine the owner of the licenses and to ascertain if stolen.

Ordinances

The following excerpts from citations pertinent to the work of the Auto Theft Bureau appear in the charter and related laws of the city of Memphis as compiled in "The Memphis Municipal Code, 1949." Authority for the Memphis code derives from a charter from the State of Tennessee and State laws of local application, adopted by the city commission of Memphis.

730. Second-hand dealers.—Records to be kept; information to be shown; index of record; inspection by police; transactions with minors. In counties having a population of 190,000 or more by the Federal census of 1910 or any subsequent Federal census, it shall be the duty of each dealer in second-hand automobiles, trucks, motor-

DATE _____

AUTOMOBILE RELEASE

Traffic Bureau
Building

The below described automobile has been checked by the Auto Theft Bureau, and we have no further want on it:

OWNER _____
ADDRESS _____
MAKE OF AUTOMOBILE _____ MOTOR NO. _____
LICENSE NO. _____
STORAGE CHARGE _____ TOW IN CHARGE _____
Remarks: _____

By _____

Form used by the Auto Theft Bureau to report to the Traffic Bureau those automobiles authorized for release from the police parking lot.

chinery parts, worn-out motor vehicles and parts thereof, et cetera, are bought, sold, or stored.

550. *Junk dealers to keep records of purchases.*—All junk dealers and buyers, by which is meant all persons in any way buying, selling, exchanging, trading, or dealing in scrap iron, brass, empty bottles, or second-hand metals or any sort or kind, including automobile accessories and automobile parts, within the city shall keep a book in which they shall promptly enter the names of all persons from whom they buy or get iron, brass, or other metals of any sort, bottles, and other articles of every nature whatsoever, followed by the date of purchase, the amount paid therefor, the kinds of metals purchased or received, the number of pounds of each kind and a description of all other articles purchased. These entries shall be made in chronological order from day to day, as the business is transacted. This book shall at all times be open to the inspection of the police or other officers, who may desire to see it and shall be kept in good faith and preserved, by such dealers for the convenient inspection aforesaid.

551. *Copy of purchase record to be delivered daily to chief of police.*—Every person engaged as a junk dealer or buyer shall prepare and deliver daily to the chief of police, before the hour of 9 a. m. each day, a legible and correct copy of such registry of the description of all scrap iron, brass or other metal, and articles of any sort, including automobile accessories, or any other personalty or merchandise purchased, exchanged, or in anywise acquired by such dealer or buyer, giving the number of pounds of each kind, the date and hour of purchase, the price paid therefor and . . . (identifying information) . . . of the person from whom such material was purchased or received.

552. Purchases to be kept separate for easy inspection; how long; exceptions. Such dealers or buyers shall keep on hand and in separate packages, and not allowed to be mixed or confused with the other purchases, in order that identification may be easy, all scrap, brass, copper, lead, and all other metals, including automobile accessories, except scrap iron and iron castings, and bottles and merchandise bought or received from any person. This material shall be kept separate and subject to easy and

convenient inspection of anyone desiring to investigate, for a period of not less than 48 hours after delivery of report to the chief of police as required by section 551; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to scrap iron or iron castings.

553. Dealers to deal only with persons personally known to them; to give information upon request. The dealers or buyers shall deal only with persons to them personally known, and of whose identification they are certain. They shall promptly give to any officer inquiring about them, information to enable the seller to be identified. Dealing with strangers or failing to give such information on demand shall render such dealer guilty of a violation of this article.

Under the authority vested by the State legislature, Memphis collects a privilege tax from many occupations.

Section 1248.20 of the Official Code of Tennessee (1932) reads as follows in part:

All persons engaged in dealing in, buying, or selling automobiles:

In cities of 100,000 inhabitants or over, each per annum, \$100.

Automobile agents or salesmen, each per annum, \$10.

The tax on agents and salesmen herein levied shall not apply to agents or salesmen of dealers paying the dealers privilege tax above provided, in the county where the dealer pays.

Persons dealing in, buying, or selling second-hand automobiles or parts either as the principal business or as incidental business, shall be taxable under this item and section.

★ ★ ★

Use of Junk Titles for Stolen Automobiles

Salvage businesses and junkyards often provide the raw material for a complicated auto theft operation. Salvage motors and parts can be used in rebuilding stolen cars. Titles and license plates from junk machines turn up on stolen cars of similar make and model. This latter system was used by one auto theft ring which is known to have handled 58 stolen cars before its principal members were apprehended.

The first step in the system was to take out a license as a used car dealer and rent a large estate in the country where buildings and woods were suitable for concealing and rebuilding automobiles in quantity. There was the usual facade of a legitimate business organization. Tools and equipment were purchased and installed.

Through an intermediary, contact was established with the owner of an automobile junkyard from whom titles to junked cars were bought at a price of \$250 to \$400 per title. In many cases the

ring also purchased serial number plates, license plates and a section of the frame bearing the public motor number of the junked car. The intermediary received a commission of \$50 per title, plus one gift of a late model car stolen by the gang and rebuilt.

As the titles and license plates were received by the ringleader, they were given to a lieutenant who handled the theft operation. The lieutenant took the members who did the actual stealing, drove to an adjoining State and selected the cars to be stolen. These cars matched the surface descriptions of the titles in hand. A short distance from the point of theft the thief took off the license plates, replaced them with plates from the salvage car and started back for gang headquarters. The title was in his pocket ready for display should he be stopped by an officer. There would be no "hitch" unless the officer found reason to compare the title numbers with the identification numbers on the car.

In making these trips into adjoining States the thieves often took their wives and young children as a cover for the operation. The wives returned home in the car used for transportation on the outgoing trip.

Personal property found in the automobile at the time of theft was destroyed or sold during the return trip. This point was considered so important that another inspection to locate such material was made on arrival at gang headquarters.

Motor numbers and other identifying features were changed by common processes within a few hours after the car reached headquarters. In some cases that part of the frame on which the motor number appeared was cut out and replaced by welding in the same section from the junked automobile. When the entire job was done, the stolen car corresponded in description and identification to the salvage title. It was then ready for sale and was delivered to a salesman in another city. Sales were often arranged through newspaper advertising.

The entire system was so efficiently operated that a car stolen in an adjoining State was usually rebuilt, delivered to another city and ready for sale within 24 hours of the theft.

Activity at the estate led to a complaint. Confidential inquiries were made near the scene of operations and the license plate numbers of the cars in the thieves' possession were obtained. It was observed that all plates had been issued by the same State.

The investigators placed tracers on these numbers and learned the names of the car owners. Interviews with these people showed that all had sustained total losses on their cars, and had been reimbursed on their policies by the insurance companies, which ultimately took possession of the cars. Further tracing revealed that the various insurance companies sold the wreckage to the same buyer, a junkyard dealer located in the State in which the license plates had been issued.

A State patrolman came up with information from the other end of the line. A friend told him of a neighbor who, though employed as an insurance salesman, over a period of time had in his possession several fairly new automobiles. The officer interviewed the insurance agent and learned that he was acting as a salesman for a used car dealer located in the town where it was subsequently verified that the thieves were operating.

It appeared that the salesman was not knowingly involved in any illegal activity. He permitted investigators to examine an automobile he was holding for sale. The secret motor number did not correspond with the altered public motor number. The secret motor number was traced through the National Auto Theft Bureau, and it was found that the car had been stolen. At this point, the State police, the city police of the town where most of the sales were conducted, representatives of the NATB and the FBI discussed the developments to date.

Identities of the operators of the used car agency and one other salesman were established. Investigators learned that salesmen were contacting various individuals in efforts to sell the cars, and all the cars they handled were coming from the same used car agency.

Upon learning of the identities of most of the people involved, simultaneous arrests were made in three different cities. Some of the salesmen, not involved in the car theft ring, furnished information regarding the identity of purchasers as well as descriptions of the cars. Members of the gang furnished additional information. Charges of interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle and conspiracy resulted in 26 convictions, including the junk dealer who furnished the titles and the intermediary who obtained them from him. Fifty-eight automobiles handled by the gang were located. They had been stolen in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico, and most of them were found in the same general area.

SCIENTIFIC AIDS

FIRST OF A SERIES

They

Write

Their Own Sentences

FBI LABORATORY'S DOCUMENT SECTION

Introduction

During the year of 1950 the FBI Laboratory made its 1,000,000th examination of evidence. This year, the twentieth anniversary of its founding, finds the Laboratory well on its way toward its 2,000,000th examination, and with many more scientific resources for criminal investigation at its disposal than at the start of its first million.

In 1932 the Laboratory started with one microscope, one examiner and one main purpose—to be of service not only to our own special agents in their investigations, but also to city, county, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies all over the United States. Thanks to the cooperation given the FBI by these law enforcement agencies, this purpose has to a great extent been achieved.

The Document Section

The Document Section of the FBI Laboratory is often regarded as primarily concerned with handwriting examinations, but the field of document work is considerably more extensive. The exami-

nations of documents involve not only handwriting and handprinting, but typewriting, check-writer impressions, rubber-stamp impressions, watermarks, printing methods, obliterations, alterations, paper and ink examinations, special photographic processes, charred paper—in fact,

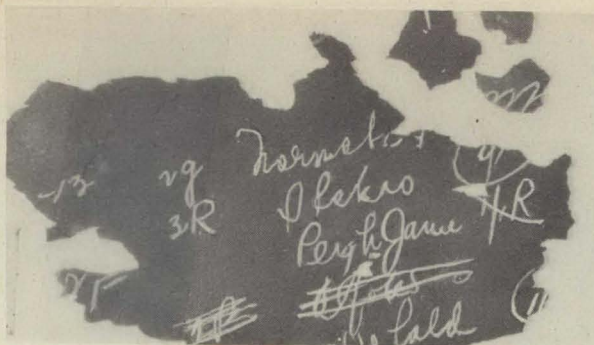


Figure 1.

almost any type of examination that can be made of a piece of paper. The work of the Document Section is not limited to paper evidence, however, as this section also examines many types of evidence used in the preparation of documents, as well as various articles which bear handwriting or other forms of lettering or printing. Thus, it is not unusual for a document examiner to handle such things as used typewriter ribbons, lead printing dies, stolen suitcases from which identifying initials have been removed, wooden crates bearing obliterated addresses, etc.

Sometimes documentary evidence submitted to the Laboratory presents its own peculiar problem which can be solved only by the application of new techniques, and research on such problems is conducted by the Document Section in addition to its regular examinations. For example, considerable work has been done during the past few years in the field of invisible radiations as applied to the problem of bringing up obliterated and altered

writings, or writings which are indistinct because of age, charring, or other reasons. Through experiments with infrared, ultraviolet, and X-ray photography, good results have been obtained in many such cases. As an illustration, infrared photography was primarily responsible for the conviction of four Maryland "bookies" who tried to destroy the evidence of their bookmaking in a furnace. The burned papers were sent to the FBI Laboratory, and infrared photography of the charred scraps revealed handwritten names of race horses and figures listing betting odds (fig. 1).

Ultraviolet photography of evidence in a California bank robbery furnished the first lead to the identification of the two criminals responsible. An aircraft employee's identification badge worn by one of the men was recovered near the scene of the robbery and submitted to the FBI Laboratory, where an examination disclosed that the original identification number on the badge had been removed and another number substituted. The cellophane cover of the badge was photographed by ultraviolet light, and the original identification number was revealed, leading directly to one of the bank robbers. Figure 2 shows the badge cover in ordinary light, and figure 3 the same cover in ultraviolet light.

A watermark whose design cannot be determined by ordinary photographic methods, because it is completely covered by handwriting, type-writing, or printing, can be photographed using "soft" X-rays, whose penetrating power is less than that of "hard" X-rays. This method will usually completely eliminate the written material,



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

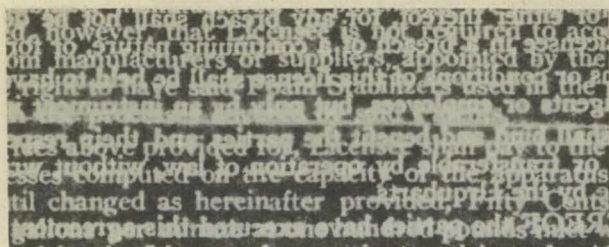


Figure 4.

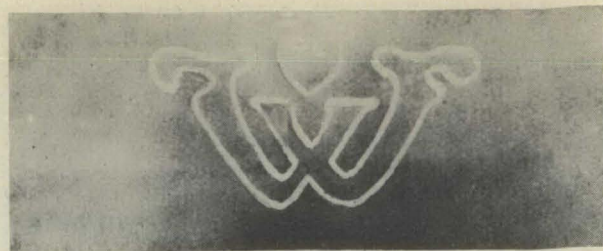


Figure 5.

leaving on the photographic negative a picture of the watermark only. In a recent case involving the age of a questioned document, the usual methods of bringing out the watermark were of no value. However, soft X-rays completely dropped the printing, and the watermark was clearly shown. Figures 4 and 5 show a portion of the document photographed by transmitted light, and the same portion photographed by soft X-rays.

The many and varied types of examinations performed in the Document Section are to some extent shown by the number of reference files maintained in this section. Some of these files against which evidence from law enforcement agencies is frequently checked include:

National Fraudulent Check File.—Photographs of fraudulent checks received in connection with cases previously examined in the Laboratory, with which current checks are compared.

Checkwriter Standards File.—Sample impressions of different styles of check protectors manufactured by various companies. Checkwriter impressions on fraudulent checks can be compared with this file to determine the kind of check protector used.

Safety Paper Standards File.—Samples of types of paper manufactured for use as check forms, including both designs for sale on the open market and special designs containing registered watermarks manufactured for a particular company or bank. The kind of paper used for a fictitious check form can be determined by means of this file.

Rubber Stamp and Printing Standards File.—Catalogs and samples of products made by rubber stamp and printing type manufacturers, for comparison with evidence bearing rubber stamp or printing type impressions.

Typewriter Standards File.—Samples of styles of type used on typewriters manufactured in the United States, as well as many of foreign

manufacture. This file is of value not only in cases involving typewritten fraudulent checks, but for any kind of typewritten document.

Anonymous Letter File.—Photographs of extortion letters and other threatening communications received in connection with cases previously examined in the Laboratory, for comparison with current letters of this type.

Watermark File.—Photographs and brand names of watermarks and directories of paper manufacturers, to assist in determining the origin of paper containing a watermark.

Ink Standards Collection.—Samples of inks of various manufacturers, for comparison with questioned ink writings.

Confidence Men File.—Photographs of handwriting, handprinting, and typewriting on documents used in confidence games, for comparison with current cases of this type.

Much of the evidence received from law enforcement agencies for examination in the Document Section consists of bad checks. These checks range in value from 2 cents (a check given by an Army deserter as a "tip" to a waitress) to thousands of dollars. In skill of preparation they vary from crudely penciled scrawls to a group of beautifully hand-drawn and hand-lettered checks successfully passed by a man who prepared the entire check forms by hand with pen and ink on blank check paper (fig. 6).

Since a considerable amount of the evidence received from law enforcement agencies consists of fraudulent checks, part of the discussion of documentary evidence in this and the articles to follow will be about such checks. The examinations of these checks cover a wide field—handwriting, typewriting, checkwriters, printing methods, safety papers, alterations, obliterations, and other factors. The articles in this series will try to show the law enforcement officer what the FBI Laboratory can do to assist him, and what he can do to

assist the Laboratory in making as thorough an examination of his evidence as possible.

Submission of Evidence

The letter to the FBI Laboratory covering the submission of checks or other evidence can be of much help to the document examiner if details concerning the crime are set out as fully as possible. The letter should be in duplicate, addressed to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington 25, D. C., marked for the attention of the FBI Laboratory, and if the evidence is sent under separate cover a copy of the letter should be with the evidence. A brief listing of the evidence should be given. If there has been previous correspondence in connection with the case, the last communication should be mentioned. The following points should be included in the letter, whenever possible.

1. Names of subject or suspect and victim, if known.
2. Nature of criminal violation.
3. Description of subject, real name (if known), and previous arrest record, if any.
4. Full description of circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime, including the modus operandi of the subject, any credentials used to pass checks, automobile (if one is used), other people with the subject, and any other pertinent information. This point should be covered as fully as possible, as it may be of great value. For example, a recent check was identified with a group of previously submitted checks primarily on the basis of the modus operandi. The subject answered newspaper ads offering musical instru-

ments (usually accordions) for sale by private individuals, gave these people bad checks for the instruments, then pawned them. In spite of the fact that the current check was signed with a name different from those on the previous checks, the document examiner recognized the modus operandi, and a positive identification was then made by means of a handwriting examination.

5. In the case of fraudulent checks, the letter to the FBI Laboratory should state whether the whole check was written in the presence of the victim or only endorsed in his presence, whether any part of the check (including all endorsements) was written by the victim or anyone else other than the suspect, whether any checks other than those submitted are known to have been passed by the suspect, whether any names on the checks are forgeries of a real person, whether the check form itself is stolen or fictitious, and, if a company name is used, whether this company is fictitious.

6. State whether the suspect, if known, is presently in custody.

When submitting any kind of evidence, the types of examinations desired should be set out, and a statement should be made as to whether the evidence may or may not be altered during the course of examination. Changes in the appearance of evidence sometimes occur to some degree in certain examinations, such as in attempts to determine the approximate age of ink, or during chemical treatment to develop altered and obliterated writing or latent fingerprints. It is realized that these changes may sometimes be undesirable when such evidence may later be introduced in a trial. However, the law enforcement officer should weigh this possibility against the fact that chemi-

50-2
C-28536

HEAD OFFICE
THE OLD NATIONAL BANK OF SPOKANE
WEST 426 RIVERSIDE AVENUE
SPOKANE, WASH., NOV. 21, 1950

PAY TO THE ORDER OF E. A. PRESTAD \$5726.31
protest fees - 3.40
\$5729.71 DOLLARS

EXACTLY \$ 5726 31 cts

HEAD OFFICE THE OLD NATIONAL BANK OF SPOKANE

ESC PYT ET-432362

CASHIER'S CHECK

ASSISTANT CASHIER

Figure 6.

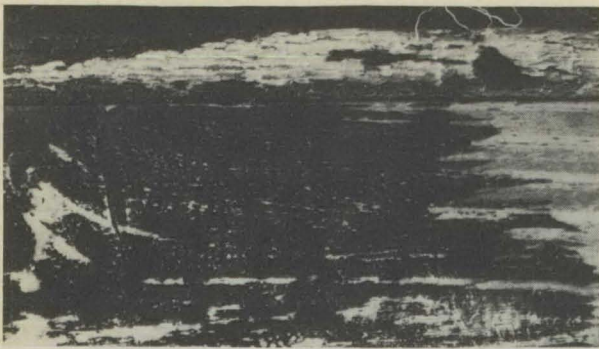


Figure 7.

cal treatment may disclose information which can be invaluable in the investigation of a case, and which might otherwise go undetected. As a rule, chemical treatment changes the appearance of the evidence only slightly, and in no case is it completely destroyed. Also, photographs of the evidence in its original state are always made before any examination is conducted, and methods which will not alter the evidence are exhausted before any other treatment is attempted.

As an illustration of the importance of a complete examination of evidence, in a recent theft case several empty wooden crates were found by investigating officers in the possession of two suspects. The crates were the same size and shape as those which had contained the stolen items, but they were smeared with black paint, and there was nothing visible on them to show that they were the stolen crates. However, they were sent to the FBI Laboratory, where the paint was carefully removed, and underneath were found stencilled letters and code numbers which definitely identified the crates as having once held the stolen property. Thus, the evidence was not returned to the investigating officers in the state in which it had been received by the Laboratory, but as proof of guilt the crates were of much more value in their altered state than they would have been otherwise.



Figure 8.

Figures 7 and 8 show a portion of one of the crates before and after treatment to remove the paint.

A statement should be included in the letter transmitting evidence that the evidence in the case has not been and will not be subjected to the same type of technical examination by any other expert.

Finally, the letter should indicate whether the evidence is to be returned to the contributor, or (as is usually the case when photographs of evidence are submitted) retained in the FBI Laboratory.

(To be continued in an early issue)

Toolmark Evidence

A fraternal club in Baker, Mont., was burglarized and four slot machines were stolen. The following day two suspects were taken into custody in Mandan, N. Dak.

The panel truck which the pair had placed in a garage for repairs bore no license plate. In addition to an automatic pistol and a rifle, the truck also contained, among other items, one 14-inch bolt cutter, one 12-inch wrecking bar, 25-cent pieces in the amount of \$156.25, and \$177 in 50-cent pieces, as well as personal belongings. At the time of the apprehension in their hotel room, the two suspects were counting dimes which they were found to have in the amount of \$108.

The door to the burglarized building had been closed with a padlock, staple and metal hasp. The staple was cut, apparently with a pair of bolt cutters.

Authorities at Baker, Mont., forwarded the staple of the hasp and the bolt cutters to the FBI Laboratory. The fingerprints of each suspect, and fingerprints lifted from the knob of the door through which the burglars entered, also were forwarded to the FBI for comparison purposes. In addition, the police at Mandan submitted the recovered guns to the Laboratory for examination. There was no record of the guns in the National Stolen Property File, nor was a fingerprint identification effected. Microscopic toolmarks appearing on the staple, however, were compared with test marks made with the bolt cutters and found to be similar.

The two men were returned to Montana to face breaking and entering charges. At the trial, an FBI Laboratory examiner testified in connection with his examination of the toolmark evidence. At the conclusion of the trial both men were convicted.

IDENTIFICATION

Identification articles in the January and February 1952, issues of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, discussed methods of classifying whorl type patterns. Reference should be made to those articles for points considered preliminary to the additional discussion presented here.

Whorls are further subdivided according to ridge tracing. Before a whorl can be traced two focal points, the left delta and the right delta, must be established. The rules used for locating the delta for loops are also used in delta location for whorls. In a whorl type pattern, there are two or more sets of type lines and at least two deltas.

After locating the extreme left delta, follow the ridge emanating from the lower side, and trace to a point directly opposite or as near as possible to the extreme right delta, or until the delta itself is reached.

Inner Tracing

The tracing is inner (indicated by a capital letter

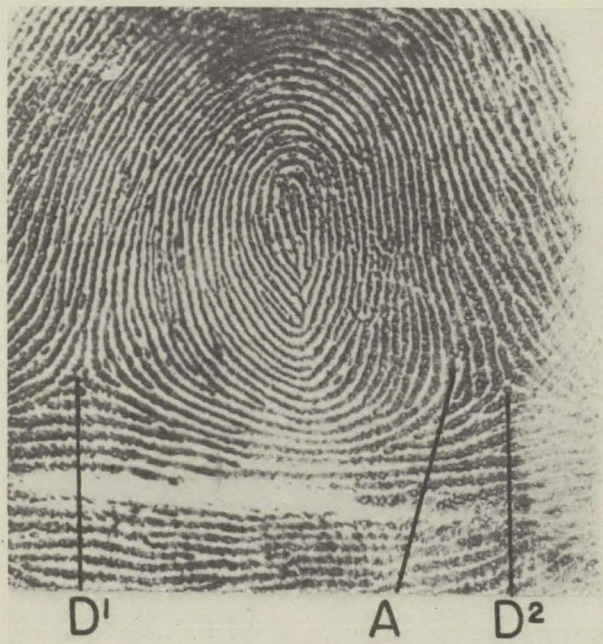


Figure 1.

Whorl Tracing in Fingerprint Classification

I) when three or more ridges are between the tracing ridge and the right delta and the tracing ridge is inside or to the left of the right delta. Never count a tracing ridge or delta, only the ridges between.

In figure 1, the left delta is indicated by "D¹," and the right delta is indicated by "D²." The stopping point on the tracing ridge is at point "A." Since there are three ridges between point A and D², the tracing is inner.

All illustrations in this article will be marked "D¹" for the left delta, "D²" for the right delta, and "A" for the point opposite the right delta where the tracing will stop.

Outer Tracing

The tracing is outer (indicated by a capital letter O) when three or more ridges are between the tracing ridge and the right delta and the tracing ridge is outside or below the right delta. Figure 2 is an example of a tracing where there are ex-

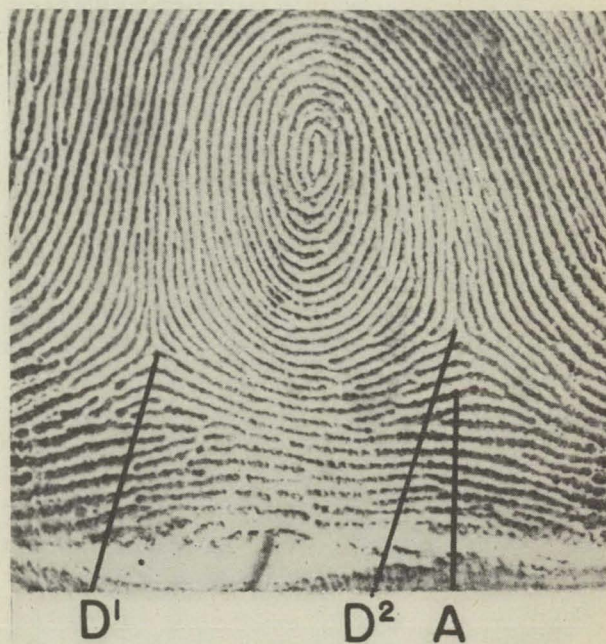


Figure 2.

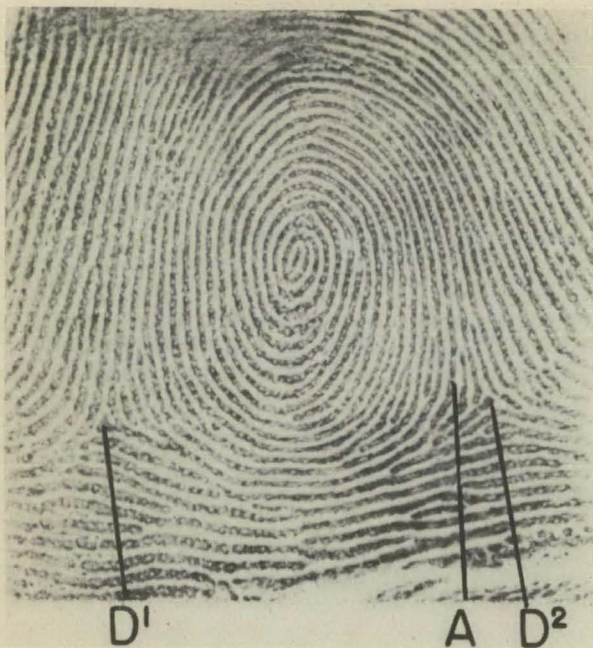


Figure 3.

actly three ridges between the tracing ridge and the delta. The tracing is outer.

Meeting Tracing

The tracing is meeting (indicated by a capital letter M) in all other cases; that is, if there are two or less ridges between the tracing ridge and the right delta, or if the tracing ridge actually meets the right delta.



Figure 5.

Note that a tracing ridge does not actually have to meet the right delta in order to be called meeting. There are far more inner and outer whorls than whorls where the tracing definitely meets the right delta. Those tracings where the ridge comes close to meeting are classified as meeting so that a more equal distribution of the prints in file is obtained.

Figure 3 shows the tracing ridge passing inside

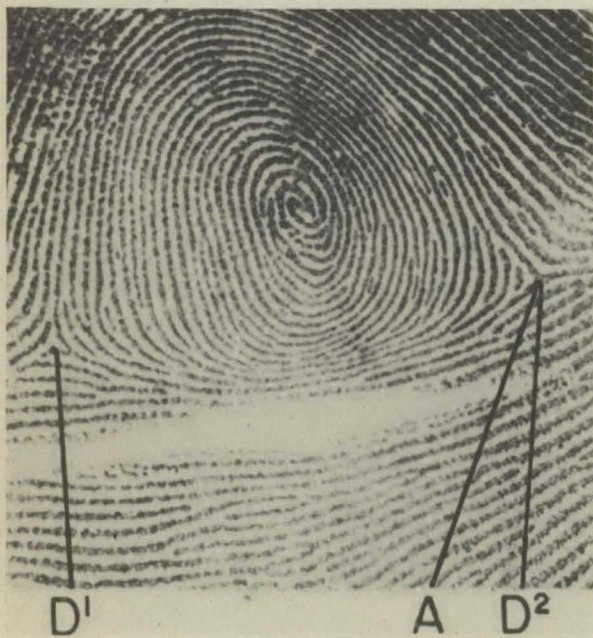


Figure 4.

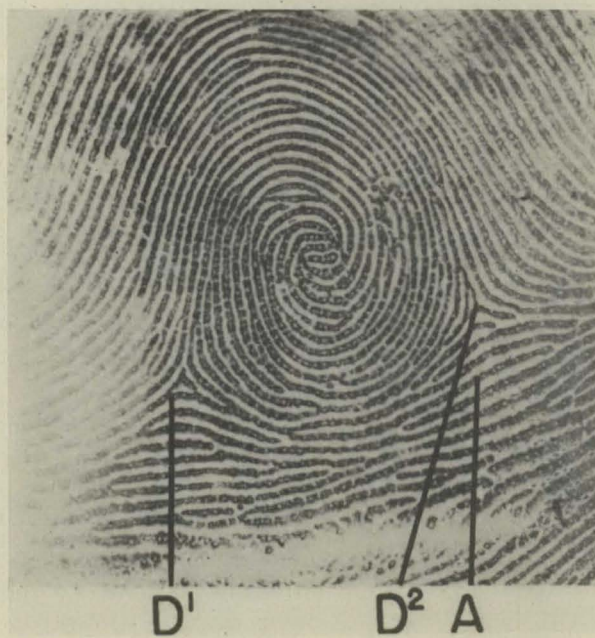


Figure 6.

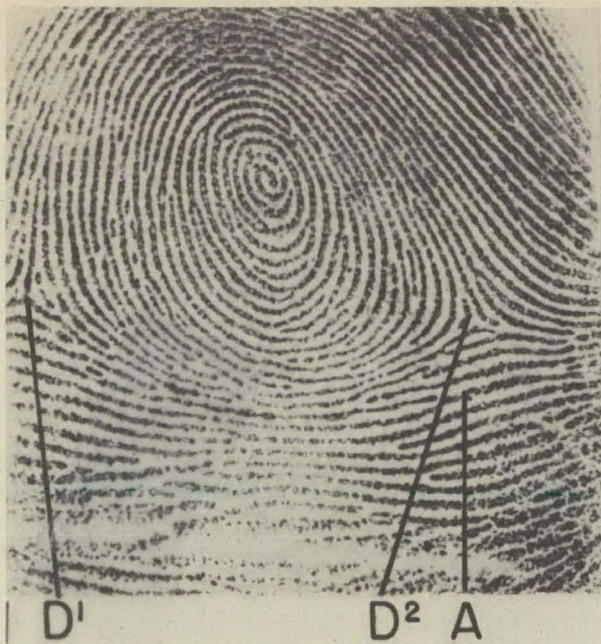


Figure 7.

the right delta, but only two ridges are between the ridge and delta, so the pattern has a meeting tracing.

Figure 4 is a meeting tracing with the tracing ridge joining the delta.

Another meeting tracing is illustrated in figure 5. The tracing ridge passes outside the right delta with two ridges between the delta and the stopping point on the ridge.



Figure 8.

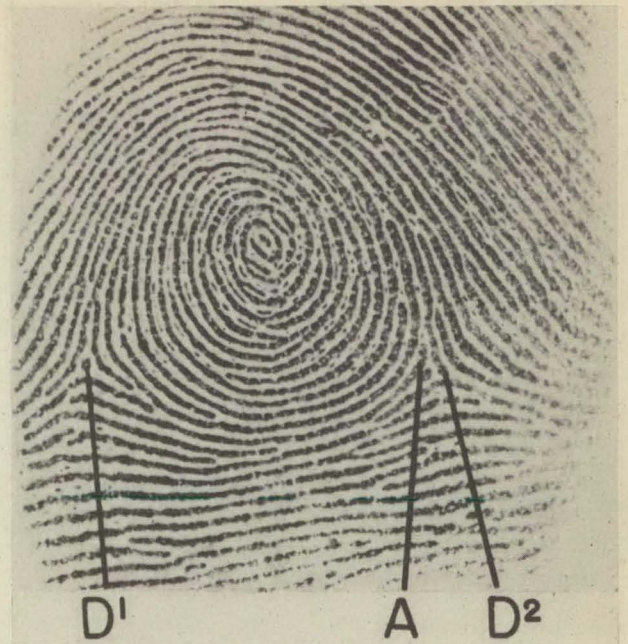


Figure 9.

Bifurcations

Should the tracing ridge bifurcate or fork the lower arm of the bifurcation is followed. By following this established rule, the pattern in figure 6 is determined to have an outer tracing. If the upper arm of the bifurcation had been followed, the tracing would have been erroneously classified as meeting. (continued on inside back cover)

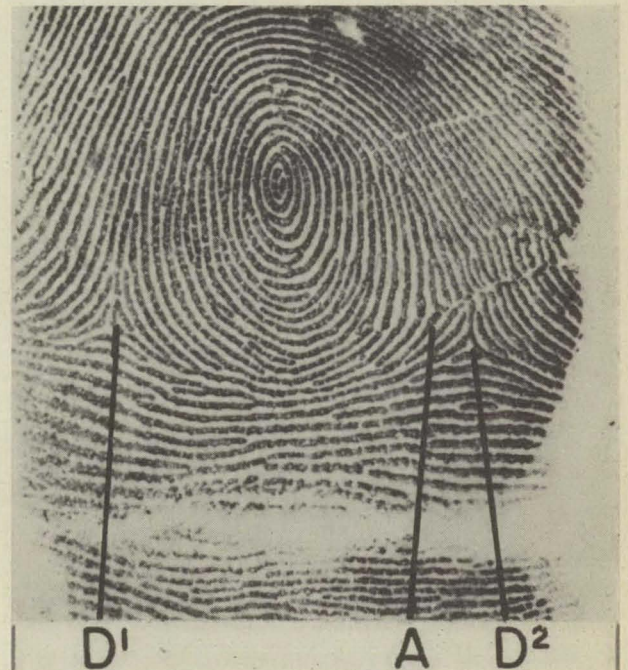


Figure 10.

POLICE PERSONALITIES

Professional standards of law enforcement are given preferred attention by Police Chief Carlisle F. Taylor of Fitchburg, Mass. Many changes improving police methods in this city of 45,000 have taken place through his efforts.

Within 6 months of his appointment Chief Taylor had a survey made of the record system. When the study was completed, Capt. Daniel F. McKenna, a veteran of 38 years' service, was delegated to make the suggested changes and to supervise the records branch of the department.

A complete criminal investigation bureau was set up, with Capt. Joseph P. Darcy in charge. Sgt. Ralph E. Williams and three plainclothesmen assist him in the work. Complete facilities have been provided to aid them. These include interview rooms, a mobile criminal laboratory, complete fingerprint equipment and extensive photographic aids.

Citizen and school safety programs have been initiated by a newly established traffic bureau.



Chief Carlisle F. Taylor.

Law Enforcement Accents Progress In Fitchburg, Mass.

An improved accident investigation program has also been put into effect.

The existing headquarters building was remodeled and a modern and up-to-date police assembly and classroom has been completed.

Always a believer in police training, Chief Taylor has made possible a full week refresher course of training for every officer in his department. Four full-time recruit schools for new officers have been conducted. Every man in the Fitchburg Police Department has had three complete firearms training courses and has qualified on the practical pistol course. The police revolver team was reactivated and the officers have shown much interest in it.

Chief of Police Taylor believes that toleration of organized gambling of any sort is the worst enemy of impartial law enforcement, and fatal to the morale of men working for him. The Fitchburg Police have consistently attacked this problem.

Among the other accomplishments of Chief Taylor may be noted revision of the Police Manual, the first in 27 years; equipping all cars of the department, including the ambulance, with modern three-way radio; installation of a teletype and the successful adoption of the 40-hour week for all men of the Fitchburg Police Department.

In addition, a constructive program to combat juvenile delinquency was sponsored by the police department. This included Christmas and Halloween parties, regular classes in the duties of citizenship; and visits to major sports events, the high light of which occurred in August 1951 when over 1,000 children enjoyed a picnic and major league ball game on funds furnished from the proceeds of the annual police outing.

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CIVIL RIGHTS

When a person is deprived of federally secured rights and privileges granted by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, the perpetrators violate statutes under the jurisdiction of the FBI.



OTHER TOPICS

An analysis of FBI records reflects that violations under the Federal Reserve Act have increased 25 percent during the calendar year 1951 as compared with 1950. This increase is in line with a trend which has apparently been going up ever since the end of World War II. From the 1946 to the 1951 fiscal years, bank defalcations have increased 188 percent.

Approximately 2 years ago one of the larger surety companies made a survey of the typical embezzler of the day. The conclusion reached by the company was that the principal reasons for employees succumbing to temptation were loss of savings, reductions in income, accumulated or foolishly acquired debts, living beyond their means, the other woman, excessive drinking or gambling; an ill, nagging, or extravagant wife; sick children, any or all of which may lead him to be false to his trust.

According to the surety company, collusion was more prevalent among men workers and less prevalent among women. In the recent study, gambling and drinking led among the reasons for men's embezzlements, closely followed by living above means; third in the list of reasons was criminal character; fourth, women; and fifth, inadequate income. Among women the predominant reason for embezzlement was living above means; this was followed by family expenses, extravagance in clothes, ties of criminal background; in fourth place, the woman was influenced by men who got part of the money; family illness and leaving employment to start elsewhere tied for fifth place.

Case Histories

A study was made of over 30 major current bank defalcation cases pending throughout the country. The irregularities in the cases studied totaled

¹ From addresses by Lee R. Pennington, Inspector, Federal Bureau of Investigation, at conferences sponsored by the Mellon National Bank & Trust Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., and the Hamilton National Bank, Chattanooga, Tenn., for their correspondent banks.

Bank Embezzlement Shows Big Increase Over Pre-War Years¹

\$7,420,000. In several of the cases it was not possible to make any detailed survey of the case due to the fact that the irregularities were so recently reported that the investigations have not been completed and detailed reports submitted. It was interesting to note the manner in which a number of the irregularities were brought to light. In seven cases employees were absent from their bank at the time the irregularities were discovered, five on vacation and two in the hospital, one with a broken arm and the other with a broken leg. In seven instances bank examiners discovered the irregularities. In one of the cases within this group, two directors became so suspicious of the supervising employee of the bank that they personally called on bank examiners and requested the examination. Six cases came to light as a result of discovery by bank officials during their current working day. Two of these cases involved substantial check-kiting. In five of the cases customers came to the bank complaining that their accounts did not properly reflect funds on deposit. In two other instances, outside auditors discovered the irregularities in connection with their examination of the banks.

Concerning the disposition of the embezzled funds, the largest group involved 14 banks and related to unauthorized credit extended bank customers by employees. The irregularities in this group alone totaled \$5,143,000. In other words, the study involved over 7 million, and the defalcations in this one group totaled over 5 million. The next largest group involved three banks and related to the purchase and sale of securities in the stock market. The losses sustained in the three banks totaled \$795,000. In the third case the bank's president used \$288,000 to purchase the bank's stock. In still another the bank sustained a loss of \$234,000 through oil-well speculation on the part of an employee. Living beyond income involved employees in six banking institutions and the loss sustained was \$204,000. Horse racing and dog tracks were responsible for irregularities in three banking institutions, totaling \$252,000.

The combination of extra-marital affairs, excessive spending and liquor was responsible for losses sustained in four banks, totaling \$168,000. Gambling and liquor were responsible for three cases totaling about \$72,000. In three cases involving the illegal extension of credit to bank customers, bank employees committed suicide. In two of these cases there is no indication that the employees personally benefited. In one case the bank's vice president did receive two suits, \$500 in cash for a vacation, and railroad transportation to a Rose Bowl game.

The Bad Risk

The study did not cover all of the types of irregularities and only the major cases were picked. The illegal extension of credit cases have been stressed because 69 percent of the funds embezzled, as reflected by this survey, were for the benefit of bank customers who should have not been accorded credit under any circumstances. In the majority of these cases bank employees received practically no pecuniary benefit. Customers, for the most part, inveigled employees into an untenable position and thereafter the employees were afraid for fear of dismissal to bring the matter to the attention of bank officials.

Another type of case in which there has been a marked increase in the past several years is the "mysterious disappearance" group of cases. In 1946 the FBI had only 89 cases; in 1949 the total had jumped to 182 "mysterious disappearance" cases; in 1950 approximately 225 cases were reported. Most of these cases involved small shortages and an accumulation of shortages over a considerable period. It was obvious after the investigating agent had made a few inquiries that many of the alleged violations were the result of errors and did not constitute violations of the Federal Reserve Act.

Catching a Thief

As of possible value in the solution of minor shortages, attention might be given to three cases where bank employees set traps which fixed responsibility for defalcations which had plagued tellers who had previously proved short over a considerable period of time.

In the first, after a series of \$5 shortages from various tellers' change trays, the bank cashier and a teller not under suspicion decided to set a trap

for the culprit. A bank official and a teller marked 20 half-dollars. The teller then placed the marked coins in his change tray at the end of the day's business. The teller under suspicion was observed to be the last employee to leave the bank for the day. A check of the change tray after he left revealed that 10 of the marked half-dollars had disappeared. The bank official called the sheriff and ascertained that the suspect teller had used 3 of the marked half-dollars to purchase whiskey at a liquor store. Upon being confronted with this finding, he made a denial, but the other 7 half-dollars were found underneath the front seat of his car.

Responsibility for a number of tellers' shortages was brought to light in a rather unusual manner. Over a period of several months bank tellers experienced several \$100 shortages. Two of the tellers in whose accounts shortages appeared were quite sure another teller was responsible. In order to definitely ascertain whether the third teller was falsifying his daily settlement sheet, the other two tellers on two occasions were able to place additional cash in the suspect teller's cage which failed to show up on his daily settlement sheet. They thereafter reported the matter to bank officials and the irregularities were found to have been consummated in the following manner: The bank's silver was under the control of one teller and readily accessible to all. The defaulting teller would first remove \$100 from the other teller's silver, placing the silver in his own cash and thereafter removing \$100 in currency. After complaints had been received from one depositor concerning a number of small shortages in his account, the bank auditor sent a trusted employee to the depositor's place of business and counted the depositor's cash on several occasions before it was taken to the bank for deposit. After one count the teller who handled this particular account stated the customer was short \$20. Thereafter the facts concerning the previous count were placed before him and he admitted the irregularities. He likewise admitted stealing currency from other tellers over a period of 2 years. His method of operation was to remove currency in the amount of from \$10 to \$50 from the currency of other tellers. It was easy for him to do this as he acted as coin teller and because of the large amount of coin handled was compelled to use a portion of three vaults for the storage of coin. In addition to the coin stored in these vaults, the cash of other

tellers was likewise stored and as a result he had access to the other tellers' cash after they had settled for the day. He felt safe in removing the currency inasmuch as the tellers would not count their cash before beginning the day's business and, as a result, on days following his peculations would find themselves short in the evening when they made up their settlement sheets.

Another "mysterious disappearance" case involved \$15,000. Employees who could have been responsible were interviewed, including the bank's porter. The porter's statement did not ring true and immediate investigation was initiated concerning his recent expenditures. By the evening of the same day the investigation disclosed that the porter of the bank had given a former girl friend a large sum of money just to show her where his heart was; had paid off the balance owed on items of clothing purchased in the summer of 1950 for another former girl friend; had paid \$300 on a television set purchased for a third girl; had bought a tailor-made suit for another; had replaced an inoperative radio, about which another girl complained, with a new one; and had given a substantial sum of cash to still another girl. This girl he apparently considered untrustworthy—before he entered her house he left \$6,000 in an alley nearby. This money, some of which was subsequently readily identified by the bank's money wrappers, was found by several small boys. The boys said they turned into a dimly lighted alley and there it was, about five stacks of money all in \$20 bills piled neatly against a brick wall. They said they got all excited and commenced stuffing bills into their pockets as fast as they could pick them up; when their pockets and fists were filled they ran to the home of one of the boys, whose mother, convinced that the money was counterfeit, made them report their discovery to the police. The ex-porter stated after he had been convicted and sentenced, that he had come to one definite resolution, namely, that because of all the trouble it had caused him he would never work for the bank again.

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BANKRUPTCY

Federal statutes contain numerous regulations designed to prevent frauds in connection with bankruptcy proceedings. Violations are investigated by special agents of the FBI.

APRIL 1952

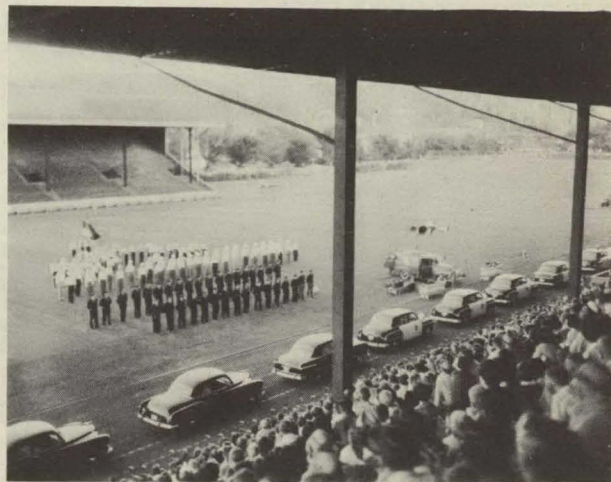
Oregon Department Stages Public Review

Police officers in Eugene, Oreg., and some of their friends put on a public inspection and review last August that turned out to be one of the biggest free shows Eugene has had in recent years. Newspaper publicity, radio announcements, and special invitations issued by Chief of Police Ted Brown to citizens and city officials in Eugene, as well as the officials of surrounding cities, brought a crowd of nearly 4,000 to the football grandstand for the event. Advance notices promised the audience "lots of excitement, no speeches and all for free."

When Dan Sellard, city editor of the Eugene Register-Guard and master of ceremonies for the occasion, called for the blast of a police siren the show was on. The opening act was a demonstration of modern police equipment, with detectives Richard T. Nelson and Robert V. Mollett explaining how each item is operated.

Next the Valley Radio Club, a group of radio "hams," set up a three-way conversation with cars stationed throughout the town and Sgt. Clarence Raines operated a simulated check-in performance to show the public how communications aid in police work.

There were six "acts" in all. Mobile police equipment was swung around the field and lined up; Mayor Johnson, City Manager King, and police officials made an inspection of personnel and a uniformed drum and bugle corps brought down by Portland Police Chief Donald M. McNamara performed in front of the stands. The final event was motorcycle stunt riding by members of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Reserve.



General view of the Eugene police show.

Burglary—\$100 a Minute Crime

Looking for burglars? Statistics indicate the best time to catch them in action is between 6 and 10 p. m. on a Saturday night in January or February. A study of burglaries reported to the FBI under the uniform crime reporting system for the 5 years from 1946 to 1950, inclusive, shows this crime most prevalent during the first 2 months of the year and most likely to be committed during the week end, Saturday in particular.

But burglary is not a winter problem only. While the crime is usually committed with less frequency during the summer months, it is precisely at this time that the burglar has one of his best opportunities for work in residential areas. Many families are absent on vacation and some of them have notified the burglar of this fact by forgetting to stop deliveries of newspapers and milk and thereby leave signboards of the occupants' absence.

Many police departments systematically guard against residence burglaries by urging vacationers to stop delivery of all articles except mail and

have that collected by a friend. They are also urged to notify the police of extended absences so that the patrolman can give special attention to the home. In many cases these precautions have had the dual result of reducing home burglaries and demonstrating the good work of the department to the public.

Almost 2 million (1,930,460) burglaries were committed during the 5-year period of 1946-50. The loot taken averaged almost \$100 per minute throughout the year. Eighty-one percent of the burglaries occurred during night hours. Homes were victims of 40 percent of the burglaries while 60 percent occurred in stores and other nonresidence structures.

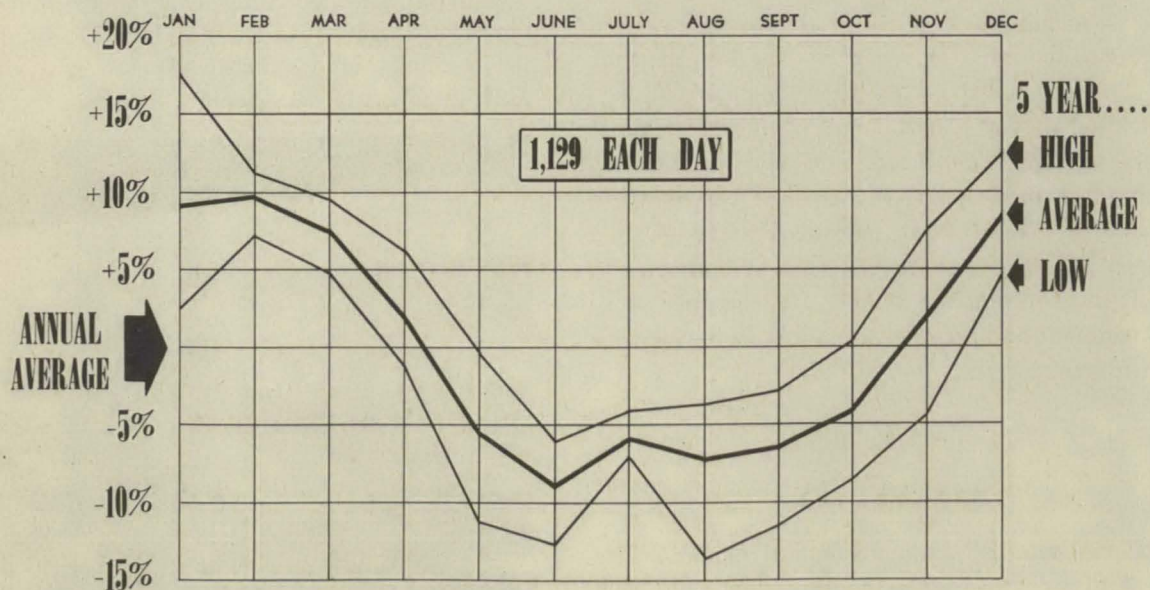
Of the homes burglarized, one-third were entered during the day. Stores are open and attended during the week days, and this is reflected in the one-tenth of nonresidence burglaries occurring during the day.

Cities having over 250,000 population have less burglaries per capita than their next smaller



BURGLARY

PERCENT OF ANNUAL AVERAGE
1946-1950 MONTHLY VARIATIONS



FBI CHART

neighbors, cities with a population of from 100,000 to 250,000. With this exception, burglaries decrease, on a per capita basis, with the population of the cities.

Stores selling groceries and drugs are among the favorite business victims chosen by the burglar. It is interesting to note that of every 100 grocery stores burglarized, 14 are chain stores. Of every 100 drug stores burglarized, 11 belong to a chain. An interesting study might be made by a police department to determine whether these figures are in line with the actual percentage of chain stores to all stores in the same business or whether security measures and other factors differ sufficiently to make one type of store a better target for the burglar than the other.

The *Uniform Crime Reports* bulletin indicates that 61.6 percent of the persons arrested for burglary—breaking or entering—are under the age of 25. Almost 60 percent of the persons arrested for this crime have previous fingerprint records.

Female burglars represent only 2.5 percent of the arrests made.

Week End Is High

The figures of police departments studied indicate that 16.4 percent of the burglaries occur on Saturday. Friday is also high with 15.3 percent of these crimes. The balance of the days of the week reflect 13 percent plus, except Monday with 14.4 percent.

Compilation of data concerning the occurrence of crimes, by day of the week, undoubtedly assists the police in their problems. An additional aid in the effective assignment of manpower is the use of spot maps to determine whether any definite pattern is presented to suggest redistribution of patrol strength. Expenditure of personnel time in preparing spot maps is justified only if the information thus collected is diligently observed and studied for weaknesses in current police coverage or burglar tactics in given areas.

Another type of information compiled by the police in their efforts to glean all possible helpful information from the day to day reports of the officers is a compilation of crimes by time of day. In reviewing available police statistics it is found that some departments break the information down into 1-hour units, while others apparently feel that 2-hour units suffice.

Burglaries by time of day grouped in 2-hour intervals

[Percent distribution]

Hours:	A. M.	P. M.
12 to 2-----	10.1	6.1
2 to 4-----	7.6	5.2
4 to 6-----	4.1	10.1
6 to 8-----	9.1	11.8
8 to 10-----	9.8	11.6
10 to 12-----	5.1	9.4
	45.8	54.2

A study of this type tabulation prepared from daily records, and a comparison of the present assignment of patrol by time of day, may suggest that more patrol coverage is needed during the hours between 4 p. m. and 2 a. m. Such studies are used as a basis for redistributing the patrol force by time of day. Of course, the study for this purpose should not be limited to any one crime classification.

Additional information on burglary and burglars can be found in the *Uniform Crime Reports* bulletins published by the FBI on the basis of information received from law enforcement agencies throughout the nation.

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OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

During the calendar year 1950 uniform crime reports from 1,601 cities with a total population of over 54 million showed arrests were made in 88.3 percent of the manslaughter by negligence cases reported to the police. Charges were preferred in 77 percent of these cases. Manslaughter by negligence results principally from traffic accidents.—*From Uniform Crime Reports, Semiannual Bulletin, 1951.*

A drunken driver arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated stands a greater chance of being convicted in court than does a person charged with any other offense, but, ironically enough, were he instead to negligently kill another and be charged with manslaughter, the chances of his going free are greater than if he were charged with any other crime. The percentage of persons charged by the police who were found guilty during 1950 ranged from 54.5 percent for manslaughter by negligence to 86.4 percent for driving while intoxicated. This data summarizes the reports of police in 206 cities with over 25,000 population, representing a combined urban population of 24,341,092.—*From Uniform Crime Reports, Semiannual Bulletin, 1951.*

Law Enforcement on Display at County Fair

Officers in Turlock, Calif., believe the county fair is an excellent medium for acquainting the public with law enforcement personnel, methods, and problems. They set up an exhibit on the fairgrounds, named it the Stanislaus County Peace Officers booth, and had the pleasure of showing an estimated 30,000 visitors through the exhibit during the 6 days of display.

Former Chief of Police Harry L. Oliver and Sheriff Dan Kelsay set up the booth from their own ideas and others obtained from Chief Marion W. Trowbridge, Mesa, Ariz. Officials of the county fair furnished a booth 19 by 10 feet free of charge. The police department and the sheriff's office shared decorating and other expenses and provided officers to manage the booth from opening time in the forenoon to closing at midnight. These officers were at the same time available for general police work on the fairgrounds.

Exhibits on general police work in criminal cases included the following:

1. Photographs showing handwriting comparisons.
2. Reproductions of forged and fictitious checks.
3. Photographs of tire treads and toolmarks as prepared for use as evidence.



Sheriff Dan Kelsay being interviewed during a radio broadcast from the booth. The weapon being discussed is a gas gun.

4. Charts showing comparison points on fingerprints.

5. Photographs and descriptions of the 10 fugitives "most wanted" by the FBI.

6. Mounted knives, guns, brass knuckles, and other weapons used in committing crimes.

7. Safe mechanisms found at the scene of safe burglaries.

A display of modern police methods included photographs of scientific laboratory equipment and firearms ranges, charts showing eight principal types of fingerprint patterns, and one drawer of fingerprints filed according to classification. Photographic equipment and firearms used in law enforcement were displayed on a shelf built along three walls of the booth.

One wall was used as a traffic display, featuring photographs of fatalities which occurred in Stanislaus County. Posters illustrated common traffic and motoring hazards.

Other exhibits included the marijuana plant and cigarettes, radio receivers operating on the police communications system in the county, and a motion picture, "Plan for Survival," shown at hourly intervals. Members of the Junior Traffic Safety Patrol alternated in the booth to distribute literature on safety and the dangers of atomic warfare.

The American Automobile Association, Civilian Defense Office, California narcotics officers and the FBI assisted by providing material for the exhibits.

A receptionist was constantly on duty to answer the telephone and handle other office work. As the visitors were received, they were formed into groups and an officer took each group on an item-by-item tour of the booth. Local radio stations described the exhibits and conducted interviews in the booth at various times during the week.

One humorous note was added to lighten the story of crime and its problems. A large box with a hinged top bore the legend, "Public Enemy No. 1," and, as expected, aroused the curiosity of the visitors. Inside was a parking meter.

Plans for the next fair have been arranged with the fair officials. They include a booth located more advantageously in the center of the grounds, operation of the public address system in connection with general police duties at the fair, a remote control radio system hooked up with the main station transmitter for county-wide direct communication, and improvements in the various displays.

Third Annual School Held in Colorado

In September 1951 the Third Annual Zone In-Service Police School at Boulder, Colo., was held with 110 officers enrolled. These men represented 20 cities from the States of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska. The Colorado Highway Patrol and many sheriff's offices were represented.

Chief of Police Myron Teegarden and Sheriff Arthur Everson of Boulder, Colo., are the men responsible for starting this school in 1949. They decided that a logical way to accomplish police training would be through a regional or area school held at a stated place at regular intervals. The program met with widespread approval and has continued to grow. There were 60 officers attending the first session and 110 were present at the third training period. Specialized instructors from the Denver Division of the FBI along with National Academy graduates in the area serve as instructors.

During the 1951 session four practical problems were staged in cases of armed robbery, burglary, extortion, and a hit-and-run accident. The officers were divided into four groups and spent one entire day from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. working on each problem. The groups were rotated so each group had an opportunity to work on all the problems.

Fifteen men were separately enrolled in an identification school with instruction on how to classify, lift, photograph, and preserve latent fingerprints. Methods of setting up record systems were also discussed.

On the evening of September 27, 1951, the Third Annual Banquet was held at which time prominent speakers, including the Attorney General of the State of Colorado, cited the value of police schools in modern law enforcement.



Officers studying fingerprints.

Courtesy of Boulder Daily Camera

WANTED BY THE FBI

GERHARD ARTHUR PUFF, With Aliases: James Cornel, James Cornell, Gilbert Cunningham, Kenneth Hardy, Gerhart Puff, Alvin Shelby and Others.

Bank Robbery



Gerhard Arthur Puff.

The Johnson County National Bank & Trust Co. of Prairie Village, Kans., was robbed of more than \$62,000 in cash, large numbers of American Express Travelers checks and several denominations of Series E, unissued United States Government bonds, by two armed men on the morning of November 23, 1951.

The robbers gained entry to the bank at approximately 8:05 a. m. by forcing an employee to open the front door. While one of the outlaws herded bank employees into a reception room near the front of the bank and stood guard with what was described as an M1 type carbine, the other bandit made the cashier open the vault. The loot was collected in a muslin bag resembling a pillowcase and bearing the printing of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Mo.

The get-away was made in a cream colored late model convertible automobile which was abandoned less than a half-mile from the bank. This car had been stolen on November 3, 1951, in the downtown business district of Tulsa, Okla. When abandoned, it carried a set of license plates stolen in Hollister, Mo., on November 4, 1951.

Witnesses said both bandits wore white mechanic-type coveralls with narrow blue cuffs on the sleeves and light colored hunting caps with upturned earmuffs.

A complaint was filed before a United States Commissioner at Topeka, Kansas, on December 3, 1951, charging Gerhard Arthur Puff with participating in the robbery. The other person

charged was George Arthur Heroux. On January 30, 1952, a Federal grand jury sitting in Topeka, Kans., returned an indictment charging Puff and Heroux with a violation of the Federal bank robbery statute.

Gerhard Puff is believed to have been born February 13, 1914, at Dresden, Germany. He came to the United States with his stepmother in 1927 and was admitted to United States citizenship through the naturalization of his father in May 1934. He lived in Milwaukee, Wis., and attended school there through the eighth grade.

Previous Offenses

Puff was arrested on June 21, 1934, by the Milwaukee Police Department and convicted of a disorderly conduct charge.

On August 22, 1935, Puff was sentenced in the circuit court, Walworth County, Wis., to serve three concurrent terms of 1 to 5 years each for stealing domestic animals. He was delivered to the Wisconsin State Penitentiary, Waupun, Wis., on August 24, 1935, but several months later was transferred to the State Reformatory at Green Bay.

While at the reformatory, Puff assaulted one of the guards and on conviction was given an additional term of from 1 to 10 years, to begin at the expiration of the sentences he was serving at the time. He was sent back to the Wisconsin State Penitentiary in February 1937, and was discharged on May 24, 1939, after serving a total of approximately 3 years and 9 months.

On December 28, 1942, Puff was convicted in the municipal court, Milwaukee County, Wis., on a charge of assault with intent to commit armed robbery and was sentenced to serve from 1 to 9 years. He was returned to the penitentiary.

Puff escaped from prison on September 6, 1945, and was apprehended at Fallon, Nev., on September 21, 1945, in possession of a stolen automobile. Again returned to the Wisconsin State Penitentiary, he was discharged on November 19, 1947.

The following June, the circuit court for Dodge County, Wis., found Puff guilty of breaking and entering a warehouse at Beaver Dam, Wis. He was also charged with the 1945 prison escape. Puff received concurrent terms of 1 to 4 years and 12 to 17 months, respectively. He was again admitted to the Wisconsin State Penitentiary in June 1948, and was released on April 25, 1951.

On May 2, 1951, Puff was arrested by the Milwaukee Police Department on a charge of armed robbery and was lodged in the Milwaukee County Jail in lieu of \$3,000 bail. While in jail awaiting trial he became acquainted with Heroux.

On October 17, 1951, an unknown party, acting through a Chicago bondsman, posted a \$3,000 cash bond for the release of Puff from jail. Puff was to appear for trial on November 15, 1951, but did not appear.

Identification Data

Puff is 38 years old and has been employed as a laborer, farm hand, truck driver, and machinist helper. He also has had experience in the printing trade. He is very proud of his physique, personal appearance, and physical strength. He is fond of expensive clothes and likes big automobiles, sports, dancing, and gambling. His description is as follows:

Age-----	Born February 13, 1914, Dresden, Germany (not verified).
Height-----	5 feet 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches.
Weight-----	150 pounds.
Build-----	Slender.
Hair-----	Light chestnut.
Eyes-----	Brown.
Complexion-----	Dark.
Race-----	White.
Nationality-----	American.
Scars and marks--	$\frac{1}{4}$ inch oblique scar right wrist, extreme tip of index finger of right hand amputated, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch boil scar on left forearm below elbow.
Remarks-----	Walks very erect with chest extended.
FBI No-----	973,275.
Fingerprint classification.	O 31 W IMO 17 I 28 W OII

Puff is armed and should be considered extremely dangerous.

Any person having information which may assist in locating this individual is requested to immediately notify the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C., or the special agent in charge of the Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation nearest his city.

THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Theft, embezzlement, robbery, destruction, receiving, and illegal possession of Government property are offenses within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

WHORL TRACING

(continued from page 15)

Frequently ridges are not continuous. They may be broken, or they may end. In order to have uniformity of classification, set rules must be followed. In case of either a definite break in a ridge or an ending ridge, drop to the ridge directly below and continue the tracing.

In the course of tracing the whorl in figure 7, two ending ridges are encountered. Drop to the ridge below in each instance, and continue the tracing. The point opposite the right delta is indicated by the letter "A." The tracing is outer.

A tracing where there is a break in a ridge is illustrated in figure 8. By dropping to the ridge below when the break is reached, the tracing proves to be meeting. The tracing ridge meets the delta. If the ridge is traced through the break, the tracing would be incorrectly classified as inner.

Begin Tracing on Left Delta

A tracing may never start on a typeline, only on the left delta. However, where the left delta is a dot or a very short ridge, the tracing would then drop to the typeline, and the tracing would continue on that ridge.

Figure 9 has a dot as the left delta. The tracing starts on the dot, but since a dot has no direction, the tracing drops to the ridge directly below and continues toward the right delta. The tracing is meeting.

The left delta in figure 10 is located on the first recurving ridge in front of the point of divergence of the typelines. By following the recurve, the tracing is determined to be inner. If the tracing had been started on the typeline, the tracing would have been erroneously classified as meeting.

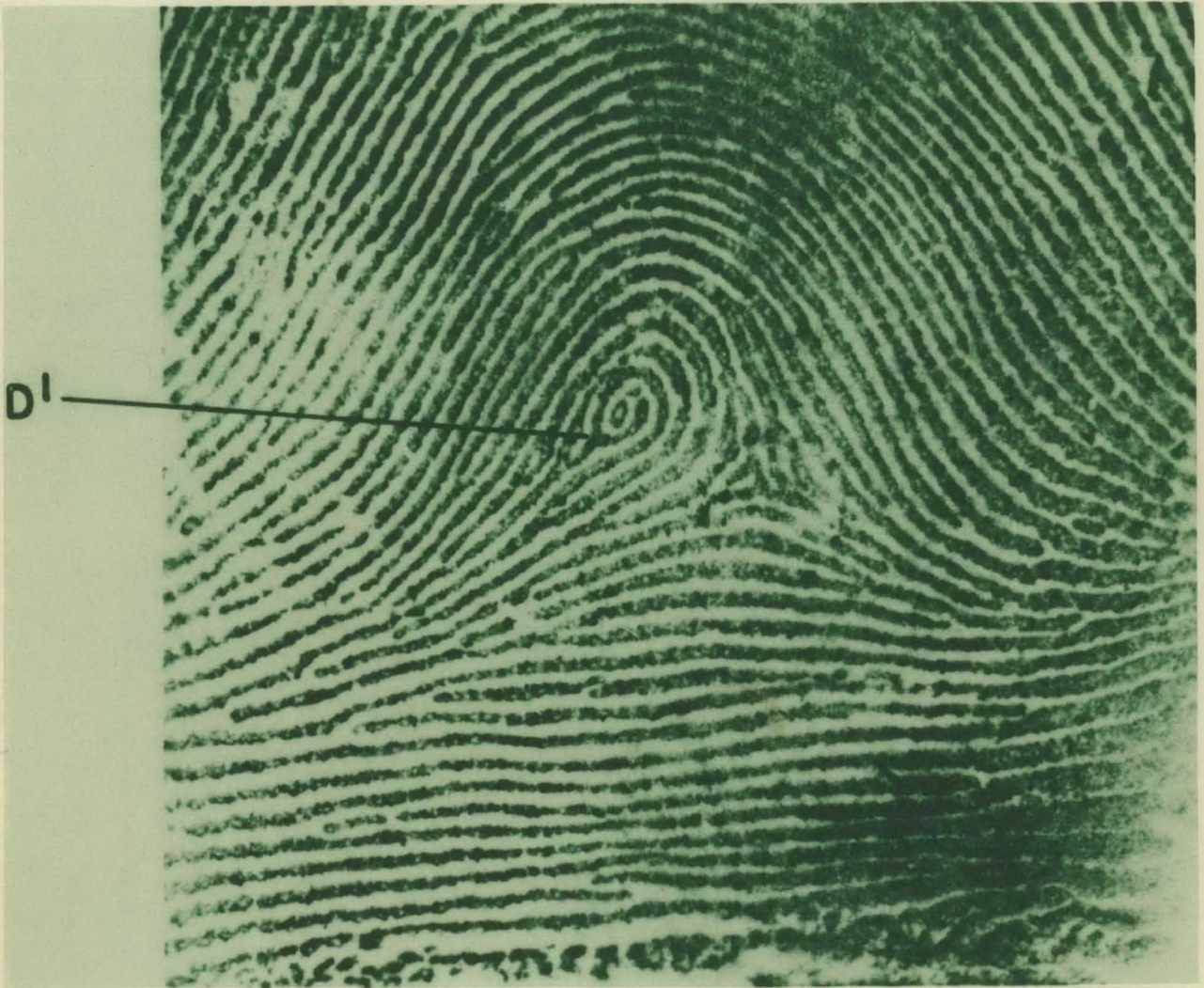
A future issue of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* will present special problems which arise in tracing whorls.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

Over the years many persons have voluntarily submitted their fingerprints to the FBI Identification Division for possible use in the case of an emergency. These cards are not filed with the criminal fingerprints but are maintained separately. Such prints should be taken on the standard fingerprint form entitled "Personal Identification" (Form 16-12547). No answer is given to Personal Identification fingerprint cards.

Questionable Pattern

FINGERPRINTS



The Questionable Pattern for this month is a central pocket loop whorl. Although the circle in front of the inner delta D1 is very small, it is sufficient to call a complete circuit.

After noting the surrounding ridges, it can readily be seen that the white space in the

center of the circle is too large to have been caused by a sweat pore.

The pattern is classified as a central pocket loop whorl and referenced to a loop as heavy inking could make it appear as a large dot. The tracing would be "inner."