

• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



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**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**J. Edgar Hoover, Director**

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# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

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

December 1, 1952

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

Every officer and citizen interested in good law enforcement should be aware that we are occasionally confronted with proposals pointing toward a centralization of police powers in a State or Federal agency. I firmly believe that such proposals are both unnecessary and unwise. I have consistently opposed any suggestion for a national police force, and I intend to similarly oppose any other plan under which the local peace officer and those whom he serves will be deprived of their right to fully supervise law enforcement in their own community.

When a proposal of this kind is advanced we ought to immediately demand that its proponents show proof that our present system of law enforcement lacks the skill and resources necessary for effective police work. A due regard for the rights and advantages of democratic self-government in every community dictates that our present methods should not be abandoned, either in whole or in part, unless our peace officers are so ineffective that a surrender of their authority to a higher agency of government has become an absolute necessity. If this condition cannot be shown to exist, any plan pointing toward the eventual centralization of police powers in either a State or Federal agency is no more than a dangerous expedient adopted to serve some narrow or temporary purpose.

Any proposal for a shift of police powers on the basis that local officers lack the ability to enforce the law under today's conditions is inconsistent with the facts. Law enforcement is already making use of every system and technique adaptable to its work. Police executives and administrators generally are providing their departments with both the training and the equipment necessary to serve the public interest. Emphasis has also been placed on higher personnel standards and improved methods of criminal investigation.



A particularly effective development in modern police work is the continually increasing cooperation between local, State and Federal agencies. Most law enforcement offices are now so efficiently equipped and operated that any officer needing assistance can get it by turning to his typewriter, telephone or radio transmitter. These same methods can just as easily be applied to the exchange of necessary information. A local officer who obtains a report on criminal activity relating to another area as well as his own can transmit that data to the proper authorities and request what he needs in return. Failure to do so shows a flaw in the human element which will not be remedied by a change in the reporting system.

Assistance which cannot be obtained by interchange between local agencies is made available through the cooperative services of the FBI. Note how these services, each tailored to fill a need in the standards and effectiveness of law enforcement, implement the ability of the local peace officer to serve his community:

1. The FBI Identification Division sends criminal arrest records to both the requesting agency and to others shown as being interested in the subject. Arrangements are made to notify local officers if the same person is arrested later in another area. During the last fiscal year alone, 10,533 fugitives were identified by the FBI through fingerprints. Information on criminals is sent to foreign countries and obtained from them -- another aid to local law enforcement.
2. The FBI Laboratory conducts scientific examinations of evidence sent in by local officers in criminal cases without cost to the individual community. A written report is returned and the technician is available for court testimony when needed. During the fiscal year 1952, 16,925 examinations of evidence were conducted for State and local law enforcement agencies.
3. Our Training and Inspection Division conducts the FBI National Academy, which just completed its 50th session, to train police executives, administrators and instructors. Approximately 2,600 law enforcement officers have been graduated since this Academy was founded. Thousands of specialized police schools have been held upon request in cities throughout the nation. In the fiscal year 1952, the FBI participated in 2,350 such schools. Others are constantly being scheduled.

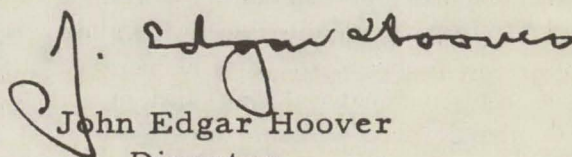


4. Under the Fugitive Felon Act, described in the October, 1951, issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, the FBI conducts investigations to locate and apprehend persons who have fled the jurisdiction of local officers to avoid prosecution or confinement after conviction for eight major crimes and attempts, as well as investigations of persons who flee to avoid giving testimony in criminal proceedings involving an offense carrying penitentiary imprisonment. During the fiscal year 1952, our investigations led to the apprehension and return of 501 such fugitives.
5. When the FBI has evidence that a crime has been planned or committed in another jurisdiction, we make the facts in our possession available to the local officers charged with responsibility in that case.
6. The Uniform Crime Reports bulletins, compiled by the FBI from data supplied by local law enforcement agencies, enable police executives to follow the national crime trend and compare it with that of their own communities. This information serves a valuable administrative purpose.

The tools for effective law enforcement lie within the grasp of every city and county which chooses to use them. If the opposite choice is made, a shift of responsibility elsewhere for crime in that area is only a maneuver, not a solution.

Higher personnel standards, modern equipment, cooperation between police agencies, readily available criminal arrest records, scientific examination of evidence, training in modern investigative and administrative techniques, assistance in the return of fugitives and reports on crime trends are the basic requirements for good law enforcement. All of them are within the reach of every community without any departure from the decentralized, democratic methods of police work now in use.

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# Observations on Safes and Safe Burglary Methods

by INSPECTOR JAMES P. JOHNSON, *San Francisco, Calif., Police Department*

It was 3:45 a. m., when two San Francisco restaurant porters reported for work. The first porter unlocked the door and, as he stepped inside, the second porter saw two hands reach out and pull his hat down over his face. The door was slammed shut and all was quiet.

The second porter promptly went for assistance. As the police got into position around the premises, an elderly man was observed lowering a ladder from the roof. When he reached the street, he was arrested.

During a search of the immediate area, a 30-year-old man was found under the garage runway next door feigning intoxication. One ordinary type canvas glove was found within arm's length of him. Both men denied knowing each other. A glove similar to the one found outside was located inside the building beside the safe. The safe had been opened by "ripping." A drill had been used to start the bar. The floor was littered with particles of metal from the drilling process as well as with insulation from the safe.

The clothing and shoes worn by the younger man and the glove found near him, as well as safe insulation, particles of metal, and the glove found inside the building, were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

The older man was held without difficulty to stand trial for burglary. Attorneys for the younger suspect argued, however, that the police had no evidence that he was involved, and it was with considerable difficulty that he was held to answer. Within a few days, the FBI Laboratory examiner arrived in San Francisco prepared to testify that particles adhering to the glove found outside the premises were similar in observable characteristics to particles adhering to the glove found inside the premises, and that particles of metal and insulating material embedded in the shoes of the young suspect were similar to the metal and insulating material from the safe.

Only then did both defendants plead guilty to burglary and each was sentenced to 1 to 5 years.

Although this case cannot be considered ordinary, since in this case we have the subject immediately in custody, the problem of proof is still the same as in the ordinary case.

The problem in the average burglary case is to prove, without benefit of any direct testimony, that the defendant was inside the premises and actually did commit the burglary. It is usually not very difficult to ascertain how the premises were entered, what method was used to open the safe, and what property was taken. This is important data to establish the method of operation, but to prove that the defendant entered the building, that the defendant opened the safe, and that the defendant took the property, requires painstaking investigation by officers who are not only alert but are ever willing to don a pair of coveralls and work for their evidence.

### *Know the Safe and the Burglar*

Of course we look for the usual trade standbys: latent fingerprints, footprints, tire tread marks, and tool marks; but for real success in solving burglary cases we must benefit by the experience of ourselves and others in the field. We should know safe construction and the possible methods of attack on the safe. We should know that over a period of years it has been well established that safe burglars develop and maintain, to a considerable extent, a trade-mark or method of operation peculiar to themselves.

A safe burglar, as a general rule, is a specialist and once he has success with a particular method, he sticks to that method throughout his years of burglary. Modern burglars work in groups of two or more and the groups keep changing their personnel, thus making the investigator's job more difficult. They may be of any race, creed, or color and burglaries have been committed by persons under 14 years of age and over 60. Of course, there are those who have been known to change or add to their methods but their trade-mark is usually still recognizable. Much information of



value can be learned if the investigator recognizes the trade-mark of the various types of safe burglars.

Burglarious attacks are usually not made on burglar-resistant safes but on fireproof safes. Due to the construction of the fireproof safe, nothing can be done with it which will make it completely burglar resistant. The attempts which have been made to install relocking devices and other safety features will at best only delay the burglar.

The ordinary fireproof safe consists of an outside wall of approximately  $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch steel, an inner lining, and between the wall and the lining is contained fire-insulating material, which is generally unique to each type of safe. This material is strictly for fire resistance and has no burglar-resisting qualities. In fact, every attempt is made to keep the metal content and conduction of heat from outside to inside to a minimum.

### ***Tools of the Trade***

A burglar must come prepared, according to his modus operandi, with the tools to fit the method decided upon in opening safes.

San Francisco police, alerted by police of a nearby city, caused a surveillance to be made on three individuals, safe-burglar suspects, when they arrived in town. When these individuals appeared to be aware that they were being followed, they were taken into custody and the tools of their "trade" were recovered. These tools, representing a rather complete outfit, consisted of a pair of gloves, an electric drill, a rubber hammer, a 4-pound machinist hammer, a drift pin, a cold chisel, a Stillson wrench, four pairs of pliers, and a home-made section jimmy (fig. 1). The jimmy, made from an automobile axle, was used in the old-time "ripping" jobs. These individuals were prepared to drill, punch, rip, or blow.

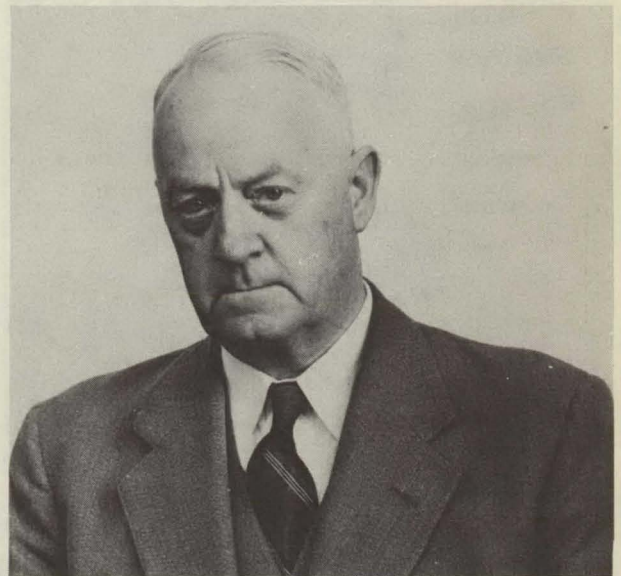
As has been previously pointed out, each safe burglar generally follows a particular pattern throughout his career. The investigator, through knowledge of the method of attack used by various safe burglars operating in his area, can frequently recognize a job just as though a signature had been left by the perpetrator. It is necessary, however, for the investigator at the scene of the crime to obtain specific evidence which will place the defendant at every job since the modus operandi alone is never sufficient to convict a perpetrator.

It is to be noted that in burglary cases we do not have the usual assistance to be expected in other types of cases. As a general rule, there are no eyewitnesses. When the owner left on Saturday, he secured the premises. When he returned on Monday, he found only that his establishment had been entered and his property taken. No assistance can be expected by way of a confession. Burglary is not committed by one emotionally upset but is carefully planned for monetary gain, and the risk involved is considered beforehand. Admissions from experienced burglars are the exception rather than the rule.

### ***Burglars Identified Through Modus Operandi***

Some years back in San Francisco, we were having our troubles with safe burglars operating in this city. The modus operandi employed was to drill for the stopper bar. A number of these safe jobs were committed and, while we had information indicating the identity of the individuals, we had not sufficient evidence to make an arrest.

While making an investigation of a finance company which had been burglarized and the safe attacked, we recognized from the modus operandi the signature of the group in question. During the investigation, we showed pictures of the persons believed to be responsible since they might have been observed while casing the job. An employee asked the name of the individual in one of the photographs. He went to the files and



***Inspector James P. Johnson***



brought back an application with the name of the party we suspected. This man had bought a car on time payments. He returned later, was in fact the last customer of the day prior to the burglary, and paid cash for the automobile. An employee informed him that he would not save any money on the interest by paying cash due to the way the contract had been written. He stated that he wanted to take the car out of the State and a few dollars more or less was of no importance. It was then apparent to investigating officers that this client had returned later to the finance company, burglarized the safe, and obtained not only the money with which he had paid off his debt but another thousand or so dollars as well. In an endeavor to surveil these subjects, we learned that they did leave San Francisco and were gone over the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The same signature, modus operandi, at the scene of a market burglary 3 weeks later informed us that this group had returned to San Francisco. In this burglary the burglars had evidently first started to drill for the stopper bar but decided to knock the dial off and punch the spindle through, resulting in a clean punch job. The two men involved in these burglaries were arrested. They denied knowledge concerning tools which were found in the car used in the burglary, stating that the automobile had been stolen and that the tools had been left in the car by the thief. It was then

necessary to prove by other than tool marks that these individuals were responsible.

Clothing and shoes taken from the residence belonging to these individuals were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory along with samples of insulation material, sawdust gathered from the floor of the market, and plaster and particles of paint taken from the walls at the point of entry. Entry was gained through a skylight into the attic and through the ceiling into the market.

When questioned, one of the suspects admitted his name, address, etc., but answered all other questions generally as follows:

Q. *Have you ever seen this drill before?*

A. I refuse to talk about any of this stuff. I'll talk about it in court.

Q. *Do you deny that this was in your car?*

A. I neither affirm nor deny it.

Q. *Is this your wallet?*

A. I said I don't want to answer any questions.

A plea of not guilty was entered and was maintained until the FBI Laboratory technician arrived in San Francisco prepared to testify that paint samples taken from the building compared with particles in the clothing; the mica and sawdust from the floor of the building compared with particles found on the shoes; and the insulation from the safe compared with the insulation found in the cuffs of the trousers. Upon learning of the presence of the technician, both subjects entered pleas of guilty, one with two prior convictions, and the other defendant with one prior conviction. Both were sentenced to 1 to 15 years.

### ***Prevention Important***

The responsibility of the law enforcement officer is more than to investigate crimes which have occurred. He should seize upon every opportunity to prevent the commission of crime.

Banks were the first establishments subject to attack by professional vault breakers. Since time is "of the essence" to a burglar, this problem was successfully met by the construction of drillproof steel vaults and the installation of burglar alarm systems and the time lock. These devices interfere greatly with the time element which made earlier bank burglaries possible. The burglars have now turned to the misnamed "safe" which is a fireproof box never intended for the protection of valuables from the burglar but built to protect office records from fire.



Figure 1.



At the present time, burglar-resistant safes are being installed principally by those persons who have suffered a loss. When proper burglar-resistant equipment is installed in a location where it cannot be attacked for an extended time without observation safe burglary cases will be greatly reduced. In the meantime, the solution to burglary cases will continue to depend on the individual initiative and imagination of the investigator. Familiarity with safe construction and method of attack; familiarity with the modus operandi of known burglars; a recognition of the value of coordinating burglary investigations not only in a single city but throughout the area which might be covered by a group of burglars; a knowledge of the assistance available through scientific examinations of evidence; and a willingness to don a pair of coveralls and get one's hands dirty in a systematic search of a crime scene are a few of the things which might help not only to bring about the arrest of the responsible person or persons but also to culminate in the verdict "guilty as charged."

## Safe Burglary Problems

by MILTON E. WINSLOW, *Superintendent, Bureau of Identification, Police Department, Minneapolis, Minn.*

The dictionary gives the following meaning to the word safe: free from danger; a place of safety; a fireproof chest for containing money. We who are constantly called upon to investigate a burglary in which a safe has been opened know only too well the first two definitions are false, and that the latter is only too true. Many business places purchase a fireproof box or safe, thinking they have finally found a secure place to put their money overnight, only to unlock the doors in the morning and find the office in a shambles and the new safe, supposedly burglarproof, nothing but a piece of battered steel.

Just 2 years ago, when night depositories were gaining in favor, a survey of five banks which had installed them showed one easily entered by just lifting the cover and fishing out the packages of money. The only tool used was a bent wire coat hanger. Another could have been readily forced due to the faulty construction around the door. Needless to say, both depositories have been reconstructed.

There are several types of safes and all of them can be opened by one means or another. They are the built-in vaults whose mechanisms are controlled by time locks, dog locks, and combinations. Some vaults are installed with just the combination, others with the wheel and door dog-locking devices, and others with just the dial and handle opening mechanisms.

The first type which is usually found in banks, large mortgage lending companies, etc., generally can be opened only by the combination and knowledge of the release time at which the clock arrangement has previously been set to operate or release. Usually this type is burglary-proof, the doors being of such thickness and the space between the door and the face of the safe so tight that enough explosives cannot be introduced to "blow" or force the door. If this type is taken after it has been opened by the usual employees, robbery and not burglary would be the offense committed.

The vault type without the door dog lock and timing mechanism, secured only by the dial, handle, spindle, and gate wheels can be opened in several ways. Attacking this type from the unprotected surrounding wall is one of the methods used. Punching the spindle after the dial has been knocked off and forcing the gate wheels to release is another. Peeling the door is still another.



*Milton E. Winslow.*



The fixed or movable type is the most common type of safe, and of course the preponderance of those burglarized fall into this category. They are opened by "blowing," burning, punching, peeling, or pounding upon the "soft spot" until successful entry is gained.

Here in the Midwest we have been plagued with a continuing series of safe burglaries, about 90 percent of which follow the same *modus operandi*. From what we in Minneapolis can gather from informants and from the cases where there was almost enough evidence to convict, we have arrived at the conclusion that most of them are the work of one gang. We know from their previous arrest records, from informants, and other police departments that members of this gang have operated from central Wisconsin to eastern Dakota and from Louisiana to northern Minnesota.

To those officers who are having safe burglaries where the dial has been knocked off, the hole plugged with nitro and then exploded, I can give no information. All the known "blowers" active around here have been apprehended, one in Chicago, one in Iowa, and one in Wisconsin, and all are serving sentences.

After the last arrest the gang was looking for a good "blower" to join them. They found, however, a new member who has operated in the Michigan and Illinois area. From personal conversations with him while being held here on a writ, we find that he is familiar with all types of safes, their operation, and the easiest method of obtaining entry. The safe burglary on which he was arrested involved \$135,000 in jewelry.

The *modus operandi* of the gang is interesting. All burglaries are well cased; four of the members do nothing but this phase of the work. Entrance to the building is gained by the use of a 1- to 1½-inch bar placed opposite the lock and between the door and jam. Sufficient force causes the casting fastened on the inside jam to be torn loose from the holding screws. If it is impossible to gain entry in this manner, a hole is cut through the roof or, if a skylight is present, one of the panes is removed.

If a safe is small enough to be moved and is not fastened to the floor, it is wheeled to a point 4 or 5 feet from its original resting place and the wheel tracks disappear. Until recently a pair of piano straps was used to bodily lift the safe and carry it to a waiting car. The safe is transported to a lonely place in the country where the bottom is

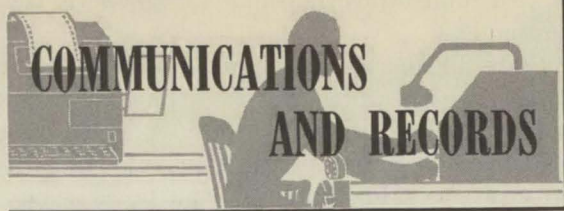
pounded in. On these jobs the dial is seldom knocked off, the handle damaged, or the spindle punched. A 2-wheeled cart, the type used by truck drivers to move cases of bottled goods, is used also. If a safe has been moved a short distance and the impressions of the safe's wheels disappear, or if the tracks of a 2-wheeled cart are observed, it is safe to assume it was stolen by this gang.

If the safe is too bulky to remove from the premises yet can be moved, it will either be taken into a place like a walk-in cooler where the bottom can be pounded in or wheeled to the top of the basement stairs and allowed to fall to the basement and the same procedure followed. If the safe is the "built in" type they may peel the door, always starting on the upper corner opposite the hinges. Brute strength rather than skill seems to be their favorite method. Tools recovered at recent burglaries include only crudely cast leaden hammers weighing from 5 to 10 pounds which will leave no markings on the safe.

The *modus operandi* used in the smaller communities is the same but with this difference. If the goods stolen consist of anything but money, a "fence" who has previously been contacted will meet the car carrying the jewelry, etc., several miles out of town and everything will be transferred to his car. If an apprehension of the occupants of the original car is made, no evidence will remain to connect them with the burglary.

As of May, 1952, only four of the gang had ever been convicted of any offense other than a misdemeanor. One was convicted in Iowa for safe blowing, one in Illinois for possession of burglary tools, one in Wisconsin for possession of jewelry after a burglary, and one in Kansas for violation of the Dyer Act. The car was taken after a burglary as a get-away car. Stalling the trial until witnesses are unavailable, ability to post cash bond no matter how large, and outright intimidation are the means used to avoid conviction. Intimidation of two witnesses here was the means used in two separate and distinct cases where the evidence in possession at the time of arrest was conclusive. Prior statements given to the arresting officers were repudiated by the witnesses while on the stand, and the threat of a charge of perjury failed to change their testimony. If you should apprehend any of them be sure of your evidence, be sure of your witnesses, and be doubly sure of your own ability to conclusively testify when the case is brought to trial.





# **Building and Operating Your Police Library**

by LAWRENCE S. THOMPSON, PH. D., *Director of  
Libraries, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.*

The value of documentary records to assist the human memory cannot be overestimated. Books and magazines, photographs, sound recordings, manuscript reports, and identification files are indispensable to the successful operation of any business or Government agency. Most law-enforcement agencies have careful and dependable criminal identification files. However, the acquisition, care, and servicing of books and periodicals which are likely to be found in a law-enforcement agency are problems of a different order.

The varying types of law-enforcement agencies make it very difficult to draw up any universally valid rules for the organization and administration of a police library. In many cities, for example, it may well be possible to arrange with the local public library to have a deposit station with a few basic reference books and a shifting collection of other books relating to police problems. In the very large cities it might seem desirable to establish an independent library with a full-time professional librarian in charge of it. In most communities, however, it will be feasible to maintain a collection of only a few hundred books and place it under the supervision of a clerical employee.

Books and periodicals have a particularly bad habit of being misplaced unless the whole process of acquiring, cataloging, and circulating them is carefully organized. For the sake of illustration, let us take the problem of library organization in a community of, say, 50,000, with reasonably adequate law enforcement. Funds will not likely be sufficient to employ a full-time librarian, and an employee of the Criminal Identification Bureau will probably have the half-time job of supervising the library. The following remarks will be pointed at this situation, but it should be remembered that the same principles apply to any small special library. In the great majority of cases, the police library will be similar to our hypothetical one, that is, without the services of a trained librarian; and in each such instance the advice of the city or county librarian should be sought at

the outset. In the more elaborate police library a librarian with professional training will make many minor deviations from the following routines in order to meet the needs of the particular situation.

## **Acquisition and Selection**

Book selection is the most enjoyable and at the same time the most difficult of all library jobs. To know a book is to want it, but even the great university libraries of Harvard, Illinois, Yale, and California cannot acquire everything. A librarian must be judicious in his selections.

First of all, any library needs a set of reference books. Three reference books which can be recommended as essential for any library are the *World Almanac*, Webster's *New International Dictionary*, and, if it can possibly be afforded, the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Almost as essential as these three basic tools are *Who's Who in America* (biennial), and Rand McNally's *Commercial Atlas* (giving detailed maps of individual States, indicating population, post offices, and railroads). Scientific reference books are frequently useful; the *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, a ready reference book for chemical and physical data; Dorland's *American Illustrated Medical Dictionary*; Hackh's *Chemical Dictionary*; and the latest edition of the *Pharmacopoeia of the United States of America* are among the most useful works of this type. A book of quotations such as Stevenson's *Home Book of Quotations*, Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations*, or Hoyt's *New Cyclopedia of Practical Quotations* will frequently be useful for speech-making and related activities. There is a reference book on almost every subject, and you can find a comprehensive listing in Winchell's *Guide to Reference Books*, a copy of which may be found in any library, however small.

A law enforcement agency will have a special need for Government documents. There are the publications of the Federal Bureau of Investigation—annual reports of the Director, *Uniform*



*Crime Reports*, speeches by Mr. Hoover, pamphlets describing the facilities of the Laboratory, the Identification Division, and other facilities of the Bureau. Many other branches of the Federal Government and the various state governments publish important material. Technical and field manuals published by the Department of the Army will be useful. Compilations of Federal statutes are published by the pertinent administrative agencies. Other Federal law-enforcement agencies, for example, the Secret Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Coast Guard, and Bureau of Internal Revenue, publish many bulletins pertinent to local law-enforcement work. Every police library should maintain a file of the "Price Lists" obtainable free from the United States Superintendent of Documents. These price lists group current Federal documents under broad subjects, for example, number 10 on laws and number 82 on radio publications. Larger police libraries should subscribe to the *Monthly Catalog of U. S. Government Publications*, a comprehensive list.

There are three ways to obtain Federal documents: (1) by requesting a free copy from the issuing agency; (2) by requesting a free copy from your Congressman or Senator; and (3) by purchase from the Superintendent of Documents,

United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

State documents, especially those of the jurisdiction within which you reside, are also important. The latest State and city codes are musts. Reports and other publications of your State police are as valuable for your purposes as similar materials from national agencies. Publications of your State conservation, revenue, and health departments are also likely to be useful.

Periodicals will be needed. Ulrich's *Periodicals Directory*, available in every public library, lists all magazines of potential interest to a police department. Incidentally, peace officers who would like to learn Spanish will find some excellent South American journals of police science listed in Ulrich. If your library subscribes to more than a dozen periodicals, it will be most advisable to request your purchasing agent to place the order with a larger metropolitan magazine subscription agency.

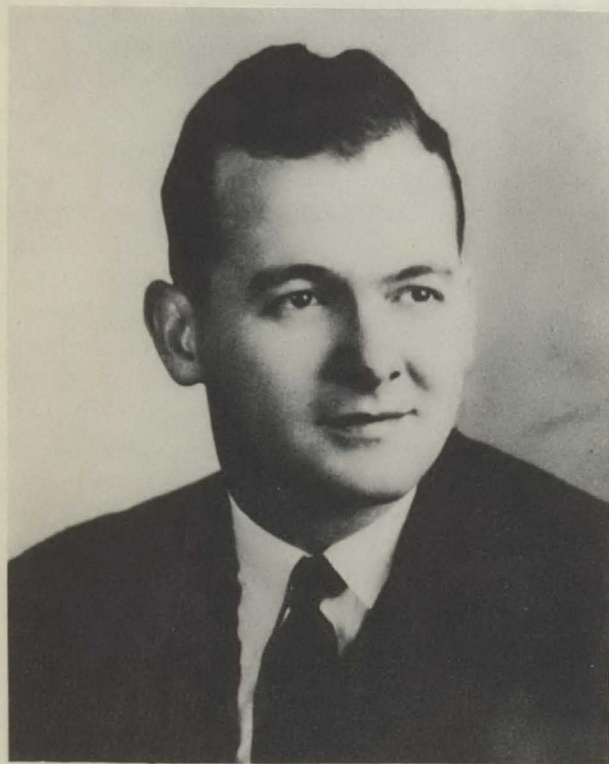
The bulk of a police library is likely to be in ordinary commercial books. You will want books on criminology, traffic, methods of investigation, juvenile delinquency, and every other field in which your particular law-enforcement agency works. Books on other law-enforcement groups are also valuable as a ready guide to their jurisdiction, organization, and methods of operation.

Choice of books in the general police fields will vary according to the amount of money to be spent, the more urgent problems of the department, and what the ranking officers believe to be the educational needs within the agency. No single book or group of books can be recommended as unequivocally the best in the field, granted the natural inclination of the reader to agree or disagree with the author.

Thousands of books in the police field are listed in the latest edition of the *Standard Catalog for Police Libraries* (1950), a large and expensive work which may be consulted in any public library. In the public library you will also find the sources for books of current publication.

In view of local policies, it is suggested that police departments may wish to purchase current books from the same sources used by the local city or county library. Most public libraries purchase these books at a discount from large jobbers in New York City and Chicago.

No library, not even Harvard, the Library of Congress, or the New York Public, can be all things to all men. However, a large proportion of



Dr. Lawrence S. Thompson.



books which have been published in the last five centuries can be found in some library in the United States. If you need a book not in your own police library, write or telephone to the nearest metropolitan public library, your State library or your State university or land-grant college library.

If you still cannot find a book you want, send a letter with a carbon copy to the Union Catalog, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C. You will receive an answer by return mail telling you where you can borrow the book. Libraries frequently lend across the continent.

Occasionally a book cannot be lent. For example, the Reference Department of the New York Public Library is forbidden by the terms of its endowment to lend books outside of the Forty-Second Street building. In such cases you may order a 35-millimeter microfilm for 2 cents a page or less. Microfilm can be read on a wall projector, and most public libraries of any size have a regular microfilm reader. If the microfilm is used extensively, a good reader may be purchased for as little as \$150 (not including tax). Be sure to investigate all varieties of readers before buying one. Your State university library can advise you.

The important lesson to remember is that no book is inaccessible. Somewhere in America or even abroad *nearly every book or periodical ever published is available*. If your problem is especially difficult, consult the reference librarian at the nearest large library.

### Preparing Books for Use

Request several library supply houses to furnish you with their catalogs. The three largest are Gaylord Brothers of Syracuse, N. Y., and Stockton, Calif., Demco of Madison, Wis., and the Library Bureau of Remington-Rand (offices in all medium-sized and large cities). Listed in these catalogs will be all manner of equipment and supplies, the use of which will be self-evident even to the uninitiated. Gaylord publishes an extremely useful pamphlet entitled *Organization of the Small Library*. Free copies are available, and it should be used to supplement the rather sketchy notes in this outline.

### Classification and Cataloging

Proper classification and cataloging require special training, and it is best not to attempt it except in a large police library which can afford a full-time

trained librarian. Usually the most satisfactory arrangement will be to employ the local high school librarian to catalog on Saturdays or in the summer. However, such arrangements may not always be feasible; and therefore the following notes have been jotted down for your guidance when it is impossible to secure a professional cataloger.

The most useful classification for a small library is the *Dewey Decimal Classification*. The major classes of that system are indicated in the following outline:

000-099	General works	500-599	Science
010	Bibliography	500	General science
030	Encyclopedias	510	Mathematics
050	Periodicals	520	Astronomy
070	Journalism	530	Physics
100-199	Philosophy	537	Electricity
150	Psychology	540	Chemistry, atomic theory
170	Éthics, conduct		Geology, physical geography
179	Thrift	550	
200-299	Religion		Weather
220	Bible and Bible stories	551	Biology
291	Mythology	570	Prehistoric man
300-399	Social sciences	571	
310	Statistics, yearbooks	580	Botany
320	Political science	590	Zoology
328	Parliamentary law	591	Animals
330	Economics	595	Insects
333	Natural resources	597	Fish, frogs
340	Law	598	Birds
350	Government administration	600-699	Useful arts
367	Clubs, associations	608	Inventions
370	Education	613	Health, hygiene
380	Commerce	614	Public health
383	Postal service, stamps	620	Engineering, machinery
390	Costumes	621	Radio, telephone, television
395	Etiquette	629	Aeronautics, automobiles
398	Folklore, legends, fairy tales, fables	630	Agriculture
400-499	Language	634	Fruit, forestry
420	English language	635	Gardening
423	English dictionaries	636	Domestic animals, pets
430	German language	640	Home economics
440	French language	641	Food, cooking
460	Spanish language	645	House furnishing
470	Latin language	646	Clothing, sewing
		647	Household organization
		650	Business
		655	Printing



670	Manufacturing	915	Asia, geog-
680	Handicrafts		raphy and
690	Building		travel
700-799	Fine arts	916	Africa, geog-
709	History of art		raphy and
710	Landscape gar-		travel
	dening	917	North America,
720	Architecture		geography
730	Sculpture		and travel
740	Drawing	918	South America,
750	Painting		geography
770	Photography		and travel
780	Music	919	Oceania, geog-
790	Amusements		raphy and
800-899	Literature		travel
804	Essays, ad-	920	Biography, col-
	dresses		lective
808	Rhetoric, com-	921	Biography, in-
	position		dividual
810	American lit-	929	Genealogy,
	erature		flags
811	American	930	Ancient history
	poetry	940	Europe, Medie-
812	American		val and mod-
	drama		ern history
814	American	942	England, his-
	essays		tory
815	American	943-949	European coun-
	oratory		tries, history
820	English litera-	950	Asia, history
	ture	960	Africa, history
821	English poetry	970	North America,
822	English drama		history
824	English essays	971	Canada, his-
825	English oratory		tory
900-999	History, geog-	972	Mexico, history
	raphy	973	United States,
910	Geography,		history
	travel and	974-979	Individual
	adventure		States, his-
	(general)		tory
912	Maps, atlases	980	South America,
914	Europe, geog-		history
	raphy and	990	Oceania, his-
	travel		tory

In a copy of *Dewey's Abridged Decimal Classification* you will find elaboration of the various class numbers. Under the class number write the first letter of the author's name. Shelve books numerically by classification, and arrange books with the same classification, alphabetically by the author's surname.

Cataloging is a rather complex operation and confusing to the neophyte. The best introduction is in Susan Akers' *Simple Library Cataloging* (1944). Even if you feel you cannot master all the details of cataloging at once, you should learn to make two cards. The first is for your alphabetical author file and should look something like figure 1.

The second card is the shelf-list card for a file arranged exactly as the books appear on the shelf. It serves as a subject index to your collection and also as an instrument for inventory. It should be exactly like the author card except that it should contain an accession number (a number assigned to books in the order in which they are added to the library). Figure 2 is an example.

If you acquire sufficient skill as a cataloger, you will want to add subject headings to additional copies of the same card and interfile them in your author file. For this you may use a copy of Minnie Earl Sears' *List of Subject Headings* (6th ed.; 1950). Thus for the Floherty book you will find two subjects, **CRIME AND CRIMINALS—UNITED STATES** and **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**. These cards will be prepared like figure 3.

### Marking the Book

The name of the agency owning the book should be stamped or perforated on the back of the title page and on one or two other pages, possibly pages 50 and 100. A card pocket should be pasted on the inside of back cover, and a date-due slip should be pasted opposite the card pocket. A book card should be typed showing the class number, the author's last name, and the brief title, and inserted in the card pocket. Write the class number and the accession number on the back of the title page. It might also be a good idea to pencil in the price and the name of the vendor on the inner margin of the next page. The class number and, just below it, the first letter of the author's name (these two elements constitute the "call number") should be marked on the spine of the book about 2 inches from the bottom. Use white ink on books with dark covers, black ink on books with light covers. Apply a light coat of shellac over the call number on the spine after the ink has dried. Stamps, perforators, card pockets, date-due slips, book cards, ink, and shellac are described in the catalogs of library supply houses.

### Periodicals

There must be some manner of recording periodicals and other serial publications as they come in. Each periodical or serial should be stamped immediately with the name of the agency owning it and the date received on the front cover. Then it should be entered on a card, preferably in a visible



file. Several types of cards may be necessary, and the library supply houses will show them in their catalogs. All supply houses have traveling representatives who will be eager for your business and therefore happy to make suggestions to satisfy your own needs.

### Binding, Rebinding, Repair

Binding and rebinding can be done through large firms. It will probably be best to select the firm used by the local public and school libraries and approved by the local purchasing agent, since binding is a highly competitive business. You can bind your own pamphlets. There are numerous pamphlet binders available, and you will need only a heavy stapling machine and a cutting board to insert your pamphlets in them. You can perform many of your own repairs. Various types of cloth tapes for repairing covers and transparent paper tapes for mending torn pages may be bought from local stationery shops. Plastic glue which may be bought by the gallon is the most practical adhesive. It is desirable to insert the books in a small press while they are drying. As your repair problems grow, you will add other equipment.

### A Vertical File

Much ephemeral material—clippings, folders, pictures, very small pamphlets, maps—will drift into a library. Such material may best be filed in a four-drawer, legal-size filing cabinet. Each folder should have an appropriate subject heading which may be selected from the same list you use for your catalog. The vertical file should be weeded frequently if it is to be of maximum value.

351.74	Floherly, John Joseph.
F	Our F.B.I.; an inside story. Phila- delphia, J.B. Lippincott co., 1951. 155 p.; illus.

Figure 1.

351.74	Floherly, John Joseph.
F	Our F.B.I.; an inside story. Phila- delphia, J.B. Lippincott co., 1951. 155 p.; illus.

Figure 2.

### Library Equipment

All of what we have been talking about presupposes equipment. It is a simple matter to make a contract with a national library supply house or even a local office supply house for typewriters, card catalog cases, tables, chairs, shelves, magazine racks, and desks; and, of course, everyone wants to buy new equipment whenever it can be afforded. Most of us, however, are hard-pressed for funds. Certain items of equipment, for example, card catalog trays (available in 2- to 60-drawer units) and typewriters must be bought in standard models. Shelving, tables, chairs, magazine racks and related items can generally be made. In some States it is possible to buy satisfactory and extremely cheap library furniture from the State penitentiary. In no case should you get into an irreconcilable argument with your local purchasing agent, since the good will of this official is indispensable.

A basic aspect of library equipment is lighting. Heating and ventilation in a library cannot always be controlled, but lighting can be. If there is any problem, you may wish to spend \$25 to \$50 to secure the advice of an illumination engineer be-

351.74	Crime and criminals - United States
F	Floherly, John Joseph. Our F.B.I.; an inside story. Phila- delphia, J.B. Lippincott co., 1951. 155 p.; illus.

Figure 3.



fore spending \$500 to \$1,000 on expensive fixtures and wiring.

Some minor equipment can be improvised. Bricks wrapped in manila paper can be a good substitute for book supports (which cost about 25 cents each). Typed slips and scotch tape are as effective as steel shelf label holders (at about 15 cents each). Book cards, card pockets, call slips (to be discussed later), book plates, date-due slips and other printed forms can generally be bought most cheaply from library supply houses, but in some localities it is less expensive to order your own printing. Use cheap paper for all of these forms, but insist on 100 percent new rag content in catalog cards.

Visit other libraries as frequently as possible, and make notes about their gadgets. Manpower must be saved for those aspects of library work where the human touch is essential—and these are legion.

All of what has been said up to this point is preparatory to the main function of a library, the use and circulation of books. Rule number one

in this department is to make no rule which cannot be broken. A library must be a friendly place, all the more so if it is connected with the stern realities of a business firm or Government agency. Make access to your books and periodicals as easy as possible.

Of course, a record must be kept of books taken from the library. Make up a "call slip" something like figure 4.

It may be mimeographed if you prefer. Each borrower who takes a book from the library should fill out a call slip and sign his name on the book card. The date due (2 to 4 weeks hence) should be stamped on both the call slip and the book card as well as the date-due slip in the book (as a reminder to the borrower). The call slip should be filed under the date due, while the book card should be filed in classified sequence.

This method is only one circulation system, and it is possible to simplify it considerably in a small library. Indeed, it is probably better to operate only with the bookcard in most police libraries, filing it under date due. Machines are available to simplify circulation work in larger libraries.

A word about getting books back: Good-natured firmness is the watchword. The custodian of a library has the dual responsibility of protecting his books and making his readers feel welcome and at ease. Let your readers do anything consistent with the best interests of their fellow readers, common sense, and the house rules of the building in which the library is located (including smoking and conversation).

The writer of this article will be happy to answer any specific questions by letter, and he will welcome visits from police officials in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and in the Ohio Valley who are interested in establishing libraries. The University of Kentucky Libraries contain well over a half a million books and an equally large bulk of public documents and manuscripts. A dozen or so equally well equipped reference libraries exist on the east coast. In the South the Universities of Virginia, North Carolina, Louisiana, and Texas, and Duke University have comparable collections. In the Midwest any of the institutions identified with the "Big Ten" and the "Big Seven" can serve as research libraries. In the West there are the Universities of Colorado, Washington, Oregon, California (both at Berkeley and Los Angeles), and Southern California, Stanford,

(Continued on page 17)

Call No.	(Group of numbers and letters in upper left corner of Catalogue Card.)
<hr/>	
Author	
<hr/>	
Title	
<hr/>	
Borrower's Name	
<hr/>	
Address	
<hr/>	
Library Form No. 15—500M—6-49	

Figure 4.





## **Richland's Traffic Enforcement System**

### **"Cops" Many Awards**

by HARRY W. STROCK, *Chief of Police,*  
*Richland, Wash.*<sup>1</sup>

It isn't easy to achieve national recognition in the field of traffic safety even when your city grows with the automobile. Richland has not had the benefit of many years of planning; it mushroomed from a rural community of 265 to a city of approximately 25,000 in 9 short years. The designers visualized a construction town of short duration and failed to provide many essentials of the normal city.

Richland is a city with only one industry and the necessary commercial facilities to feed and clothe its residents. All manufacturing operations are located in the north of the city. Since it has never been possible to build housing to keep abreast of employment, at present it is necessary for some 685 employees to commute through the city. In addition, the necessary expansion program requires a large number of personnel who must also commute. This makes traffic counts very high.

#### **Bridge Creates Bottleneck**

At present over 12,000 vehicles cross the Yakima River Bridge at the south entrance of the city each day. This bridge, which is the only link between Richland and the nearby communities of Kennewick and Pasco, was formerly a narrow two-lane structure which frequently created a terrific bottleneck and backed traffic up into the heart of the city, a mile and a half away, for periods up to 2 hours, morning and night, during shift changes. We now have a four-lane bridge which was completed in 1951 and a four-lane highway from downtown Richland to Kennewick. Accidents along this route have been greatly reduced since widening and improvement of the highway.

#### **Parking Restrictions**

Many of the streets of Richland's residential area were built only 17 to 22 feet in width, with sidewalks on only one side and with no consideration given to parking problems. Accident rates

were so high in these particular areas that parking was prohibited on one side about 5 years ago. A study of remaining accidents led to restriction of parking on the other side from 6 a. m. to 8 p. m., or during the hours of heaviest traffic and while children were at play.

#### **Cooperation Needed**

Even the ideal city layout will not succeed in reducing accidents without the support and cooperation of the city's residents and civic organizations. We are fortunate in being able to call upon numerous groups for assistance in putting over a successful safety program to the public. The Richland Safety Council spearheads our public information programs, as recommended in the brochure published by the National Safety Council. Civic organizations, which have members on the council, take turns in putting on the programs each month and inject many new ideas into the publicity and methods of reaching the public.

The city manager has appointed a traffic control committee, representing eight city departments, which considers and makes recommendations on traffic control problems originating with the public, the city council, the police department, or other community agencies. The recommendations are then carefully studied by the chief of police and his administrative staff. If they comply with the city traffic ordinance and appear to be financially feasible, they are almost always placed into effect. It is generally necessary to call upon the public works department for street repairs, sign fabrication and installation, and the engineering department for improvement of street design. We always have excellent cooperation from these groups and our traffic needs are handled with a minimum of delay.

<sup>1</sup> The traffic program followed by the Richland Police Department brought an award for "First Place in Traffic Law Enforcement, 1951" (Group 9, 10,000 to 25,000 population) from the International Association of Chiefs of Police.





*Chief Harry W. Strock.*

The Richland Police Department consists of 42 police employees—38 police officers and 4 female clerks—working a 40-hour week. We train and encourage every man to take an active interest in traffic law enforcement. Every officer is urged to look out for and report anything which may come to his attention that could cause or contribute to accidents. A call to the public works department will get a “chuck” hole filled immediately. A personal contact with a resident, diplomatically explaining the hazards to traffic, will get his cooperation in trimming trees or hedges which may be obscuring traffic.

The police department is divided into four operating sections and specific responsibilities are delegated to each. Due to the size of the department, some overlapping is permitted. There is a Central Records section which processes all records and communications, prepares court cases, publishes the police daily bulletins, operates a lending library for traffic safety films and assigns traffic books to officers as needed. Traffic tickets are numbered and credited back to the issuing officers as they are returned to records, attached to criminal complaints. Any break in numerical sequence is immediately investigated and a report made to the judge. All cases must be processed by the court unless legally voided by the arresting officer.

### ***Training Is Important***

The crime prevention and investigation section operates much in the same manner as a detective

division operates in most police departments with special emphasis being placed on crime prevention. The low crime rate in the city is a credit to their efforts. The greatest difference in operation from the usual organization is observed in the enforcement section. This group incorporates the activities of both police and traffic enforcement. The shift commander, a lieutenant, is responsible for assigning his men to various duties during each tour of duty, such as foot patrol, general policing and traffic patrol. One man on each shift is assigned as accident investigator and, where possible, is detailed to all accident scenes. This assures uniform reporting and makes special training possible.

Each officer in the department receives approximately 96 hours of police training each year. This program includes firearms training, general police practices and selective enforcement instructions. About 35 percent of this instruction is devoted to traffic law enforcement and accident investigation.

Nearly every officer has attended special police schools conducted locally by the FBI and police science instructors from the University of Washington. In addition, 13 officers have attended a 2-week course in basic law enforcement at Fort Lewis, Wash., a school conducted by the FBI. We feel that public relations are greatly improved if every officer is qualified to cope with any police problem he might come in contact with during his regular tour of duty. If an officer does not have sufficient training or lacks confidence in his ability to handle a problem he often makes mistakes which reflect on the efficiency of the department and are not overlooked by the ever-present spectator.

### ***Statistics Aid Traffic Program***

Lt. E. E. Miller, traffic control officer and a graduate of the Northwestern University Institute of Traffic, is charged with the responsibility of expediting the safe and even flow of traffic with a minimum of delay. The plant administrative offices are located in the heart of the city and traffic originating from this source during shift changes merges with the through traffic, thus creating many traffic problems. The installation of traffic lights has relieved officers from point control duty and permits them to be utilized in enforcement work.



Considerable emphasis is placed on selective enforcement based on statistics compiled by the traffic control section. Accident and violation spot maps are maintained and kept up to date. A large graph shows the relation of accidents to citations on a monthly basis and indicates 5 years' experience. Officers are kept familiar with the progressing picture by being required to pin the maps at the time violation reports are written and to indicate this fact in the report.

A careful analysis of traffic statistics is made each month to forecast the development of trouble areas and to permit the application of corrective measures before they get out of hand. To aid in these studies we have seven traffic counters in constant rotation throughout our arterial system. We also make many speed surveys, pedestrian checks and turning movement studies. In order to control pedestrian traffic in the busiest section of town, a public address system mounted on a jeep operates during the peak pedestrian traffic hours each day. This has proved very successful; the last pedestrian check of 1 hour revealed 4 violations of the 883 pedestrians counted at one intersection. This and other efforts to control pedestrians, such as the 151 regularly maintained crosswalks, pedestrian barriers and 1 pedestrian controlled traffic light, have resulted in no pedestrian accidents being reported in the last 6 months.

A school boy patrol of 283 members organized in 1943 operates with top efficiency at all school crosswalks. To date, not one pedestrian accident has occurred at an intersection under their direction. Organizing and training this group requires a lot of time, but the results have more than justified the time and effort devoted to this phase of our program.

### ***Superior Traffic Record***

A fine organization has been developed in the Richland Police Department and it has aided our community in establishing superior traffic records. There is an excellent spirit of cooperation among our personnel and this same spirit exists between the department and other groups and residents of the city. In the past 3 years, we have won 12 traffic safety awards and have the distinction of receiving the highest score ever compiled by any city in the National Safety Contest. This high score was received for our entry in the 1950 contest. A traffic fatality on July 7, 1951, the first in 4 years, reduced our total score for the past



***Capt. W. A. Ziegler (left) and Lt. E. E. Miller with one of the traffic safety awards.***

year, but we were successful in receiving awards in four separate categories. We are convinced that Richland is the safest city in the nation and our organization will go on planning improvements.

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## **POLICE LIBRARIES**

*(Continued from page 14)*

Washington State, and Oregon State. With a few exceptions nearly all large cities have good public libraries, and nearly all States have competent State library commissions or State libraries. The public libraries and State libraries are not, in general, research libraries, but all will be glad to help with police library problems.

## **FOOTPRINTS**

In very rare cases persons without hands are arrested. A file on footprints is maintained in the FBI Identification Division on such individuals.



## POLICE PERSONALITIES

## New Officers Elected at IACP Conference

The city of Los Angeles, Calif., played host to the fifty-ninth annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, September 21 through September 25, 1952. The convention, which was well attended by representatives of law-enforcement agencies throughout the Nation and various foreign countries, discussed such timely subjects as civil defense; international police relations; police reorganization for an expanding area; what the United Nations means to law en-

forcement; the foundation stones of sound prison management; the investigation of tax frauds; and the citizens' responsibility versus crime and corruption. In addition, the convention held discussions concerning the use of scientific devices in detection; effective techniques in law enforcement; the selection of recruits and psychiatry in recruitment; the role of women in law enforcement; how to work with delinquents; arson; police unions;

*(Continued on inside back cover)*



*A photograph taken at the 1952 IACP Conference. From left to right: Walter E. Headley; Walter Elliott (general chairman of the IACP State and provincial section); George A. Otte; Carl F. Hansson; William J. Roach; Cyrille Leblanc; James M. Broughton (honorary president); I. B. Bruce; John D. Holstrom; Lawrence Morrison, and Alfred T. Smalley.*



## OTHER TOPICS

Police officers in the Omaha, Nebr., Police Department collected a rather unusual assortment of evidence one night early this year when they arrested three men on the basis of confidential information that the subjects were operating private gambling games and using special equipment to do it.

Search of the premises in which the arrest was made netted a black leather traveling bag which contained a set of printer's type and approximately 200 sets of dice. Some of the dice were of standard design and characteristics but others were of abnormal specifications and performance. Some of the abnormal dice were without odd numbers and others were without even numbers. In either of these types the dice would not roll a seven. Other dice were "shapes"—trimmed down and beveled at varying degrees so as to roll certain points more than others. Still others were "concaves"—one or more sides of the dice made concave so as to roll certain points more than others.

The "shapes" or "concaves" are not easily detected with the naked eye because the alterations are very slight. They can be detected, however, by an expert using a caliper.

The trunk of an automobile belonging to one of the men yielded a complete printing outfit, electrically operated, three sets of type and seven rolls of tape of different colors to be used with the electric printing machine. By properly using the tape and the printing machine it is easy to print, in any color of enamel which is desired, the initials or name of a person or organization for whose "benefit" the dice are to be used. There were also two sheets of paper containing names of cities, persons and organizations, telephone numbers and dates for meetings or gatherings of some kind.

Search of the persons of the three men disclosed signed membership cards in a number of reputable fraternal, social and business organizations.

Inspector Harry M. Green of the Omaha Police Department advises that no victim came forward to testify against the men. When the defendants failed to appear in municipal court to answer

## Dice Made To Order on Equipment Found by Omaha Officers

charges of vagrancy, the court forfeited the \$100 bond put up by each defendant and ordered that all evidence be confiscated.

A study of the items seized in this case suggests a use to which they might be put. First, obtain bona fide membership cards in a number of reputable organizations and learn the dates and places for organization meetings in as many cities as possible. Then attend the meetings, using the membership cards to get in. If the climate seems suitable, a dice game can be started using dice already printed with what is believed or known to be a name or insignia suitable to the occasion and organization. If the visitor knows how to handle the equipment his "luck" is probably phenomenal throughout the evening.

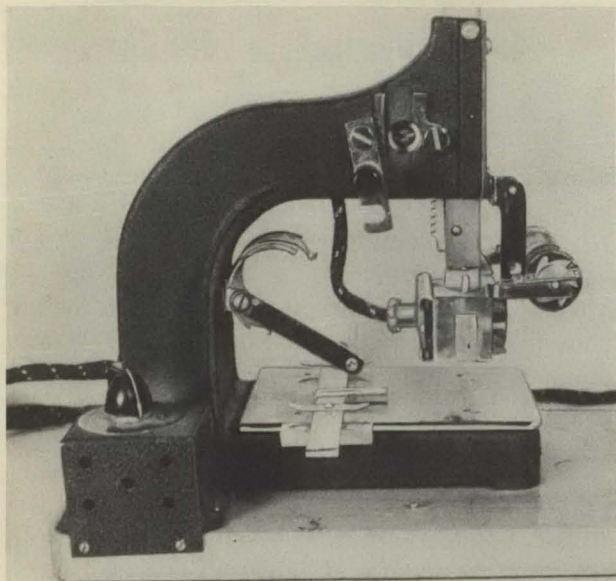
A confidence game of the suggested type might easily escape the attention of police officers unless they are aware of the modus operandi and are on the lookout for it. Victims not familiar with manipulated dice will tend to believe that the winner is "just lucky." Others, suspecting that the game is crooked, will be reluctant to testify publicly to the circumstances in which they were swindled. In either case no report will be made to the police.



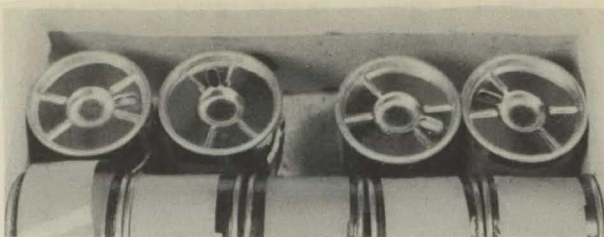
*Inspector Harry M. Green*



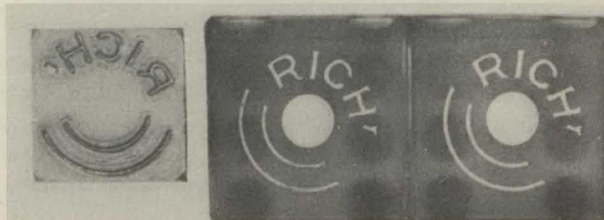
Photographs of the equipment seized were taken by Sgt. Frank P. Elliott of the Identification Division of the Omaha Police Department.



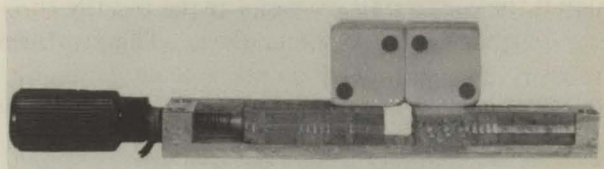
*Electric printing machine.*



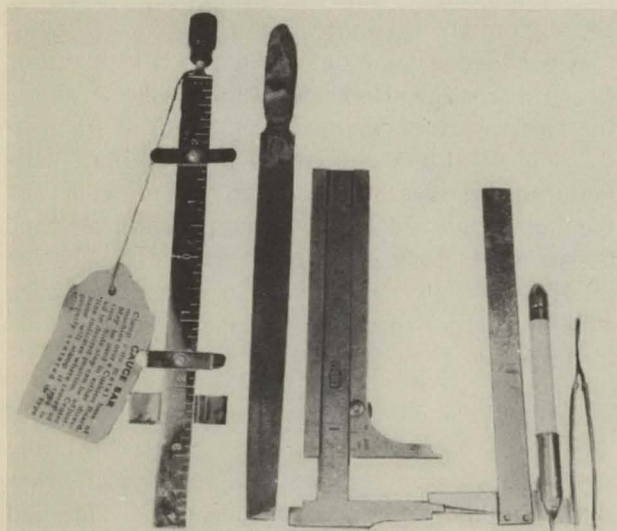
*Rolls of colored tape to print descriptive data on the dice in different colors.*



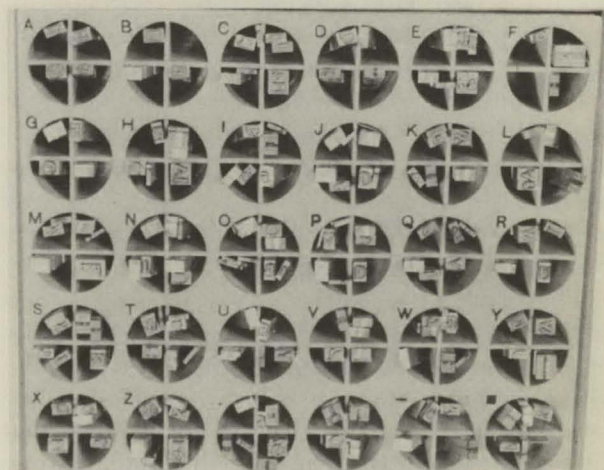
*Piece of type (left) and two dice printed with that type.*



*Type bar and type set.*



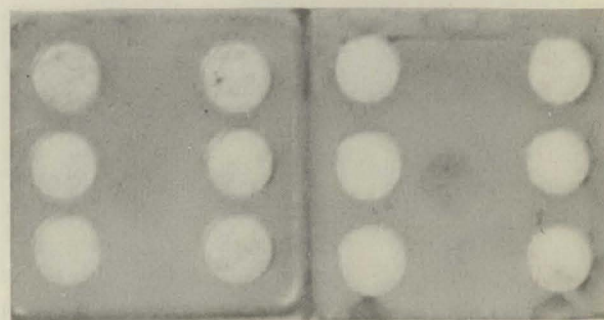
*Tools used for setting type in printing press and altering the dice.*



*One box of type.*



*Extra dice, appropriately labeled as to color, etc.*



*Altered dice. Note imperfect alinement.*



## WANTED BY THE FBI

**James Eddie Diggs, with aliases: Dick Diggs, "Smitty"**

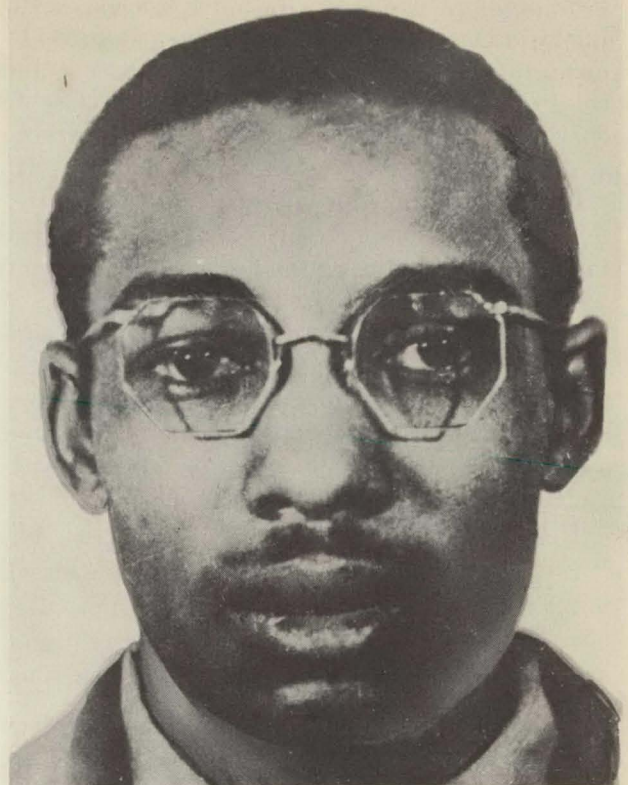
### ***Unlawful Flight To Avoid Prosecution (Murder)***

At approximately 7 a. m., May 26, 1949, James Eddie Diggs, a mechanic employed at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Va., allegedly shot and killed his wife and two sons, ages 4 and 6. Mrs. Diggs had been shot twice and each child three times. A .32-caliber revolver was used.

Early on the morning of May 31, 1949, an officer of the Hamlet, N. C., Police Department observed a 1949 Chevrolet sedan bearing city of Norfolk and Virginia State license plates. The officer ordered the car to pull over and requested the three occupants to identify themselves. The two men riding in the front seat promptly complied. The third passenger, who had been sitting in the back seat, got out of the vehicle as though preparing to furnish identification. Suddenly he drew a revolver and fired one shot directly into the officer's mouth. The three men immediately fled in the automobile, leaving the critically wounded officer at the scene. Subsequently rushed to a hospital in a serious condition, the wounded man was able to write a short note to fellow police officers in which he described his assailant as well as the car involved. The officer eventually recovered.

The attacker was identified as James Eddie Diggs, and the car in which Diggs was a passenger belonged to a Norfolk, Va., acquaintance. The two other men in the car at the time of Diggs' reported assault upon the police officer voluntarily surrendered to the Norfolk Police Department on the evening of May 31, 1949. They claimed that Diggs had forced them at gunpoint to drive from Norfolk to Hamlet, N. C., beginning on the evening of May 30. After the officer was shot, Diggs allegedly ordered the men to drive to a remote wooded area several miles from Hamlet where he left them abruptly with the explanation that he was "going to take to the woods."

Evidence that Diggs had fled from the State of Virginia following the death of his wife and children enabled law enforcement officials at Norfolk to request FBI assistance in apprehending the fugitive. Accordingly, on June 2, 1949, a complaint was filed before a United States Commis-



**James Eddie Diggs**

sioner at Portsmouth, Va., charging Diggs with a violation of Title 18, Section 1073, United States Code, in that he unlawfully fled the State of Virginia to avoid prosecution for murder. A warrant for Diggs' arrest was issued on the same date.

Diggs was born on May 29, 1913, at Morven, N. C., and resided at Morven with his parents until 1933 when he moved to Norfolk. He was married in 1937. Diggs had been employed almost continuously at Norfolk since 1933 as a porter, truck driver, plumber's helper, and mechanic. He had been employed as a mechanic at the Naval Air Station since March 1943. In 1941 Diggs purchased a home in Norfolk and by May 1949, he had promptly met all mortgage payments on this property and had the home nearly two-thirds paid for. Diggs maintained an excellent credit record at Norfolk and was generally well regarded by fellow-workers, neighbors, and acquaintances. Diggs was described as a quiet, hard-working individual. Diggs has no military service; however, during World War II he voluntarily served as an air raid warden in the civil defense program.

Diggs reportedly began drinking to excess about 1946 and, shortly afterward, was rumored to have



been keeping company with other women. During 1948 Diggs was arrested on four occasions by members of the Norfolk Police Department and the Prince George County, Va., sheriff's office on charges of drunkenness, reckless driving, carrying a concealed weapon, and assault and battery. He was ordered to pay fines in each case.

Reportedly, Diggs and his wife quarreled violently and often during the last several years and were even separated for a short time in 1948.

Diggs is known to be a hunting enthusiast and he allegedly owns an automatic shotgun, a high-powered bolt-action rifle, and a Smith and Wesson .32 caliber revolver with a 4-inch barrel and a nickel-plated finish. He is said to be an excellent rifle and revolver marksman.

Diggs' complexion is normally dark brown, but it is believed that he may be using a skin bleach making his complexion much lighter in color. It is also reported that he has very poor eyesight and, consequently, wears glasses nearly all the time.

**Diggs is said to carry a .32 caliber revolver and is to be considered extremely dangerous.**

He is described as follows:

Age-----	39, born May 29, 1913, Morven, North Carolina.
Height-----	6 feet.
Weight-----	160 pounds.
Build-----	Slender.
Hair-----	Black.
Eyes-----	Brown.
Complexion-----	Dark brown.
Race-----	Negro.
Nationality-----	American.
Education-----	Eleventh grade.
Occupations-----	Aircraft mechanic, chauffeur, and porter.
Characteristics..	Wears mustache and glasses, space between upper front teeth, right upper front tooth gold.
FBI No-----	216,692A.
Fingerprint classification..	8 O 5 A II 3 O 17 A II
Reference-----	1 A 17 aA

### Notify FBI

Any person having information which may assist in locating this individual is requested to notify immediately 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 FBI Office nearest his city.



### Whose Child Is This?

A woman identifying herself as Mrs. Thomas Daly of Dallas, Tex., registered at a Detroit, Mich., hotel on August 29, 1952, accompanied by two children—a little girl between 4 and 5 years old and a male infant approximately 8 months old. Mrs. Daly remained at the hotel for only about an hour and then departed with the little girl, leaving the pictured infant in the hotel room. Because of her brief stay at the hotel only a vague description of Mrs. Daly is available. She is described as between 25 and 30 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches tall, slim build and a fair complexion.

The abandoned baby, who appears to be in excellent physical condition, is being cared for temporarily by a child care agency in Detroit.

Detroit authorities are of the opinion that the woman is quite possibly not the natural mother of the abandoned child. The authorities believe that Mrs. Daly may have obtained the child from his parents to serve some personal need and having accomplished her purpose, has abandoned the child. A Detroit police official advanced the theory that the parents, believing the child will receive excellent care from the woman, and being faced with some social problem in the family, may wait months or years before they show an active interest in the baby's welfare or whereabouts.

Any information which may be of assistance in establishing the identity of the child and make

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and other matters of interest to all officers.

An election of new officers for the ensuing year was held on September 25, 1952. Those elected and their new positions are as follows: Cyrille Leblanc, Gardner, Mass., president; Carl F. Hansson, Dallas, Tex., first vice president; I. B. Bruce, Colorado Springs, Colo., second vice president; Walter E. Headley, Jr., Miami, Fla., third vice president; George A. Otlewis, Chicago, Ill., fourth vice president; John D. Holstrom, Berkeley, Calif., fifth vice president; Alfred T. Smalley, Highland Park, N. J., sixth vice president; John F. Murray, Perth Amboy, N. J., secretary; William J. Roach, Waterbury, Conn., treasurer; and Lawrence Morrison, Houston, Tex., sergeant at arms.

### WHOSE CHILD ?

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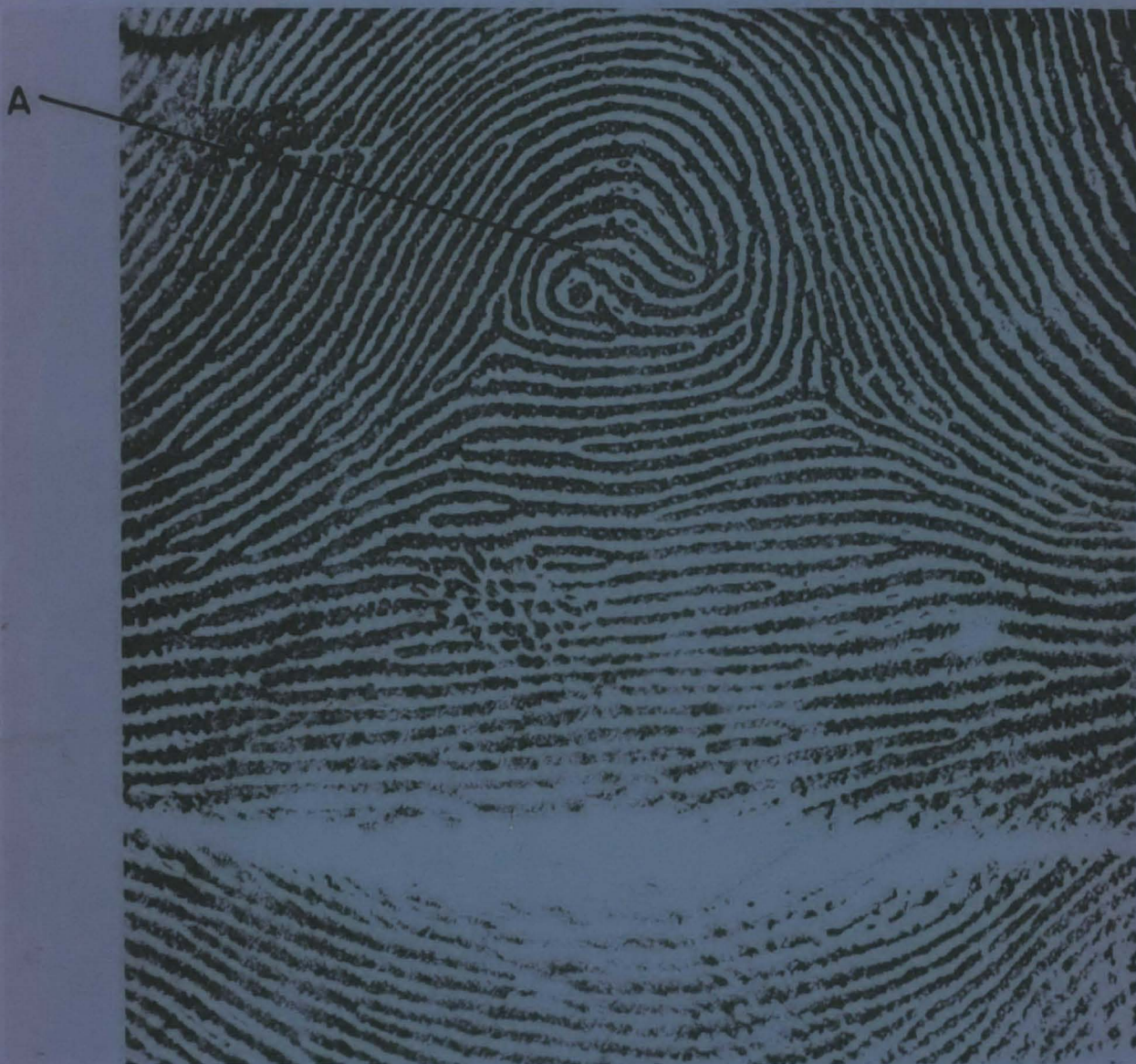
possible his return to his rightful parents should be transmitted immediately to Mrs. Margaret Snow, Chief of Woman's Division, Department of Police, Detroit 31, Mich., or to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

All officers are also requested to advise the FBI immediately of any information indicating that this child was kidnapped.



## Questionable Pattern

# FINGERPRINTS



When two loops are joined together the classifier may still type the pattern as a double loop provided the appending ridge does not abut at right angles between the shoulders of the loops. The classifier must also exercise care in these cases to note that the core formation is not the "S" type, the

interlocking type, or the formation with one loop inside the other as these types are not classified as double loops. In the above pattern the appending ridge A does not abut at right angles. Therefore, the pattern possesses all the requirements for a double loop. The tracing is "inner."