





1950 JULY Vol. 19 No. 7 Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice J. Edgar Hoover, Director

# **FBI** Law Enforcement Bulletin

#### **JULY 1950**

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July 1, 1950

#### TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

The first session of the FBI National Academy met on July 29, 1935. The time was propitious. Training programs in many areas were nonexistent. Law enforcement agencies were seeking ways and means to develop and improve themselves. The demand for instruction was great. It was at such a time that the FBI National Academy came into being.

The training program advanced at the Academy's first session was welcomed wholeheartedly. But even the most optimistic could not visualize the far-reaching effect which concentrated training afforded to individual officers could have on the profession as a whole.

It is, of course, impossible to measure the total effect of an institution such as the FBI National Academy. But today, fifteen years after its inception, the impact of its more than 2100 graduates on the police profession has been definite and considerable.

Training given to officers and executives permeates, influences, and often completely alters a police department. A public which has become training-conscious demands much of its police agency. At the same time, convinced that it is best served by properly trained personnel, it is inclined to make adequate provision for its law enforcement body. Space, modern equipment, and sufficient personnel generally are forthcoming if they are earned. This raising of standards invariably results in improved performance. The cycle is a continuous one.

We of the FBI salute the graduates of the FBI National Academy whose fine performance and devotion to duty enable us to note the institution's fifteenth anniversary with pride and pleasure.

Very truly yours,

Director



#### Introduction

A most casual reference to crime statistics will reveal that a great part of the time and effort of our police is expended in the prevention and detection of larceny and the arrest of its perpetrators.

As in the investigation of other crimes, the primary function of the policeman is to ascertain the facts of the case : the When ? Where? Who? What? How? and Why? of the reported offense.

At the outset, the officer receiving a complaint of larceny must determine if a crime has in fact been committed and if the law-enforcement agency of which he is a member has jurisdiction. This preliminary step may save many hours of needless effort.

The complainant may voice the belief, "I was robbed." Whereas, in fact, there was no crime committed and his remedy lies in a civil action. Another may complain of a theft occurring in another jurisdiction. When this state of affairs is promptly determined and explained to the complainant, a referral to the proper agency is less likely to lead him to believe he is getting a "runaround." And, in many cases property is repossessed by the seller, who retains title, when the buyer has defaulted in installment payments. Of course there is always the "complainant" who is in reality the perpetrator, but who is a firm believer in getting his "complaint" in before the person wronged gets around to it. Some larcenies are simulated to cover up defalcations.

Consciously or subconsciously, the officer fits the reported offense into one of the categories of larceny, for this tells him what he must look for in the way of legal evidence.

It is not our purpose to attempt an exposition of the law of larceny. At the risk of oversimplification, it might be wise at this point to summarize some of the more salient legal points of our subject.

#### Larceny Defined

LARCENY—GENERAL DEFINITION: The taking and carrying away of another's personal property with criminal intent.

# Investigation of Crimes— Larceny

by DEPUTY INSPECTOR STEPHEN P. KENNEDY, Waterfront Command, Police Department of the City of New York

LARCENY BY TRESPASS: At common law the property had to be taken from its possessor by stealth or some "trick or device." ("Stealth" requires no explanation.)



Deputy Inspector Stephen P. Kennedy.

LARCENY BY TRICK AND DEVICE: The owner merely transfers possession, not title, to the taker who uses it in a manner inconsistent with the purpose of delivery. The police officer should refer to the statutes and cases of his State for a more specific definition as there is lack of uniformity of decisions in this field. In this connection, the attention of the officer is directed to the "factors" act" of his State.

LARCENY BY FALSE PRETENSES: The representation of a past or existing fact or circumstance (it does not refer to a future happening) must be actually false. Even though the perpetrator believes the fact to be false, and intends to defraud, there is no crime if, in reality, the fact is true.

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The false representation must be willful, made with intent to defraud, and the victim must have relied thereon to his detriment.

LARCENY BY EMBEZZLEMENT: This was not larceny at common law. But many States now include it in their larceny statutes. Embezzlement, generally, is the fraudulent appropriation by one lawfully in possession before the subject matter came into possession of the owner. On the other hand, if the property converted by the perpetrator to his own use was lawfully obtained from the possession of the owner, the offense is called embezzlement by bailee.

EFFECT OF LARCENY STATUTES: Although many States have attempted to incorporate into one larceny statute the common-law offenses of larceny, embezzlement, and false pretenses, in some instances the courts have adhered to the old common-law distinctions. Therefore, the police officer should study the provisions of his statute and its application to particular cases.

DEGREES OF LARCENY: Are generally regulated by the value of the stolen property; the manner of taking, i. e., from the person or otherwise; the place from which taken; and the time of taking. As stated before, the police officer must familiarize himself with the law of his particular jurisdiction.

CRIMINALLY RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY—GEN-ERAL: That perpetrator bought or received stolen property, knowing or having reasonable grounds to believe it was stolen, with intent to deprive the true owner of such property permanently. Many State statutes, in addition, prescribe certain rules of evidence applicable to such transactions.

It would be difficult indeed to discuss the subject of larceny without including the criminal disposition of the fruits of the crime. As we all know, the more difficult we can make the conversion of loot into cash, the more likely we are to curtail larcenies.

#### Investigation

As in the investigation of other crimes, the investigating officer examines the scene as soon as possible to discover traces, fingerprints, and other evidence. But determining the location of the situs of the crime is not always easy. For instance, the property stolen may have been intact at point A; apparently in good order when seen at point B; yet the theft in whole or part may not be discovered until the merchandise is delivered at point C.

If the property was in transit, the officer must

trace the shipment from point of origin to enable him to fix the location of the actual taking.

In a recent case, a part of an intrastate shipment was received on a Saturday morning in the shop of a "fence." The merchandise bore the manufacturer's name but the original destination markings were obliterated. In order to prove legal ownership and to determine the actual situs of the crime, it was necessary to trace the shipment from point of manufacture, through several common carriers to the place where the theft occurred. This tracing was made difficult by the fact that these business houses were closed over the week end and their personnel could not be reached at home. The officers kept the "fence" under surveillance and a short time later the thieves were apprehended when they appeared for the pay-off. They denied any knowledge of the stolen property and stated that their purpose in visiting the "fence" was to make an innocent purchase. As an immediate arraignment of the thieves and "fence" was mandatory, it was important to definitely fix the situs of the larceny as quickly as possible. Various likely shipping points were canvassed and after several hours all but two were eliminated. Examination of the first of these premises disclosed the remainder of the shipment located within the jurisdiction of the officers.

The scene when fixed should be photographed. Traces, tools, markings, etc., should be processed by laboratory technicians, and all persons who might have knowledge of the affair should be thoroughly questioned.

While general investigative techniques are employed in larceny cases, special emphasis is usually placed on certain aspects of criminal investigative procedures.

Larceny is a crime for profit. At the outset, we differentiate between the trained and untrained thief. The professional thief is more likely to follow a pattern of operation which has been successful in the past. The amateur or occasional thief may also employ a pattern of operation but, because of the sporadic nature of his crimes, this pattern is less likely to be discernible. The police investigator, when confronted with a perplexing larceny problem, usually attempts to place himself in the thief's position and thereby gain insight into the mental processes of the perpetrator. The detective realizes that crimes are committed by human beings who are products of the same general mold, yet each possesses certain characteristics and diverse personality traits which separate him from his fellows.

Generally, there are few novel larceny practices. The ordinary thief is no mental giant. His greatest protective device is the carelessness and gullibility of property owners. Although confidence men and forgers are of a higher mental caliber, their very intelligence often leads to their undoing for they are prone to exercise their ingenuity in evolving unique methods. The more unique the method, the more likely it is to characterize its perpetrator and ultimately lead to his undoing. The vanity of the thief can be often turned to the investigator's advantage if it is recognized and included in the plans laid to cause his apprehension.

#### Methods

The astute police officer realizes that no one method will assure success. The rule-of-thumb investigative procedures which may be productive of good results in certain types of cases will result in a blank in others. Experience dictates that to lay the hitherto successful thief by the heels requires the fullest exploitation of all investigative skills.

Knowledge of persons, places, and things, not only within the jurisdiction of the particular officer but also in adjacent and remote areas, is a necessary adjunct of the modern policeman. Years ago, the thief rarely ventured into alien areas to commit his crimes. Today, we have a large nomadic population. Large new centers of population have sprung up. Our older centers of population have increased in population density; whereas, there has been a diminution of people in rural areas. Property, larger in volume and value, is now being swiftly transported over greater distances than in former years. Economic progress has whetted the appetite of our people for more and better means of living. Therefore, it is readily apparent that the intricate convolutions of our modern society have made the work of the police officer of today more difficult than we have ever known it to be in the past.

The modern police officer not only must have a more universal knowledge of the conditions which produce crime and criminals, but he must also be in a position to cooperate with other law-enforcement agencies in preventing and detecting offenders. The day of provincial police complacency is gone. It is necessary to coordinate the myriad activities of the police of our respective political subdivisions without infringing or destroying our constitutional concepts of government on the local, State, and Federal levels.

The modern police officer is aware that in the investigation of crime he may call upon policemen of other jurisdictions to aid him, and that skilled, unstinting assistance will be forthcoming. He is aware that cooperation in the police field is a twoway street; that in order to receive the cooperation he requests, he must stand ready at all times to reciprocate.

#### **General Knowledge**

A knowledge of persons means not only knowing those who reside or do business in the area but also knowing the characteristics of malefactors. Today, most police departments maintain an index of criminal methods, sometimes known as the modus operandi file. This device has proved its worth. When an officer is confronted by a theft committed in a certain manner, he refers to this file if his early investigation does not produce a lead as to the possible suspect. The file is so indexed as to readily show those who have in the past employed the same methods in similar crimes. To be able to use the file intelligently there are two prerequisites: (a) the investigator must have made a complete examination of all the facts of the case and be able to recognize the distinctions, if any, from other similar crimes; (b) the file should be indexed and particularized as to the criminal method employed so that certain subtleties of operation may be distinguished. If the file reveals that a certain person or persons employed the method used in the present case and that he or they are not in custody, it gives the officer a starting point for his investigation. Formerly, many successful detectives kept their own private file and considered it as their own personal property.

The successful police administrator must overcome this practice by showing the advantages which accrue to all in the successful maintenance of a complete department file. It is an obvious fact that no one police officer can know all that is to be known about crime and criminals. It is also equally obvious that team play and cooperation are necessary to insure over-all success. The job of the police administrator is to drive these facts home into the consciousness of every member of his command. It should not be necessary in this age of big business and its demonstrated efficiency,

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to stress the interdependence of multiple units or individuals in an organization. Yet, there are still to be found a few whose private rivalries and prejudices mar the attainable efficiency of some otherwise sound police organizations.

#### Auto Thefts

Those who steal automobiles range from the callow youth who takes a car for a joy ride and later abandons it to the highly organized groups who carefully plan their operations and who have many and diverse means of disposing of the stolen vehicles. Between these extremes are those who steal cars for transportation purposes only, and burglars and robbers who use stolen cars in the furtherance of another crime and then abandon them.

Professional automobile thieves are usually highly organized and include mechanics who are expert at changing serial numbers, the appearance of the car, and the obliteration of identifying marks. Their "drops" are maintained in garages where the car is brought immediately after the theft and where the necessary changes are made. They usually specialize in new models of medium priced cars and frequently have orders on hand for a particular type and make before committing the larceny. Areas where cars are closely parked are usually selected. A member of the group may drive up in a similar car. Another places himself at an advantageous place where he can give the alarm should the police approach. A third may gain access to the car by using a short bar or similar object to force the handle and break the lock or by using a can opener to open the "no draft" panel and open the door by means of pushand-hook wires which turn the inside handle. An "ignition jumper" is employed if the switch is locked. In a matter of seconds the car is started with the group's own car following at a short distance so as to block pursuit. Sometimes a woman member of the group is employed to allay suspicion during the starting operation.

Since laboratory techniques have been successfully employed in detecting filed serial numbers and repaint jobs, some professionals buy a junked or second-hand car of similar make, have it licensed, and transfer the serial numbers from it to the stolen car. Of course, this transfer will inevitably leave telltale marks which will show up under the microscope.

Theft of license plates and forgery of registra-

tion certificates and bills of sale are concomitant crimes committed by the organized group. The original plates of the stolen vehicle are changed and a forged bill of sale and registration certificate are proffered as proof of ownership.

#### **Operate** in Pairs

Car baggage thieves usually operate in pairs. Their scene of operations also is in congested parts of town where visitors to restaurants, hotels, and theaters are likely to leave valuable luggage or parcels in their cars. While one acts as lookout, the other may force the handle or "no-draft" ventilator, quickly remove the loot, and then calmly walk off with it. Here, too, women accomplices may play a part by shielding the initial steps with their bodies from the gaze of passers-by. Where car glass is to be broken, a sheet of flypaper is first placed over a window so as to prevent the fragments from falling onto the roadway.

(Continued in a subsequent issue)

# on patrol

Patrolman Stephen M. Muska of the Binghamton, N. Y., Police Department, patrolled his beat in the nineteenth ward as usual on August 31, 1949. A few minutes before 1 a. m. an unidentified man approached the officer and related that he had seen someone climb the Susquehanna **R**iver flood wall opposite Hawley Street and disappear.

Patrolman Muska rushed to the flood wall, went over the side, and made his way to the river's edge. He searched the water with his flashlight. Spotting a man in the water not far from the side wall, the officer plunged in. Wading and swimming he neared the man who, struggling with his rescuer, appeared bent on staying in the water. Patrolman Muska, however, succeeded in dragging him ashore. First taken to police headquarters, the 25-year-old near-drowning victim was removed to the city hospital and treated for exposure. Later, after an examination, the acting city health officer directed that he be committed to the Binghamton State Hospital.

Patrolman Muska, whose prompt and heroic action resulted in the saving of a life, joined the Binghamton Police Department on August 15, 1948.

# Director J. Edgar Hoover

At Annual Banquet of the Boys' Clubs of America, Washington D. C., May 18, 1950

The Golden Keystone Award is indeed a cherished honor. As its recipient I know that this great honor would never have been accorded me had it not been for the tireless and unselfish assistance and devotion to duty of my associates in the FBI. For them, as well as for myself, I accept this honor with pardonable pride and gratitude.

The fact that the award is presented by the Honorable Herbert Hoover, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Boys' Clubs of America, gives it even greater significance to me. It has been my distinct privilege and pleasure to have served under Mr. Herbert Hoover for many years in my official career and later to be associated with him in the Boys' Clubs work. His life symbolizes the precepts of this great Nation. Inspired by our finest traditions of liberty and freedom and justice for all, he stands foursquare against every disrupting force. His contributions to our Nation's welfare have been outstanding; his great heart and soul are attuned to the needs of humanity which he has served so nobly over the years. May God grant him many years to counsel our country through these troubled times.

There is a parallel between the aims of the Boys' Clubs of America and the FBI. We work on different fronts, but toward a common objective-a more secure America. One of the great tragedies of our generation has been our lack of vision. As a people, we have prospered materially. We have harnessed our vast industrial potential; we have penetrated the mysteries of science. We have achieved a standard of living which is unequaled the world over. The defects of our social order are gradually being overcome. We have more leisure time and opportunities for recreation than people in any civilized land in the world. But we are sadly neglecting our most precious asset-The Citizen of Tomorrow.

#### **Our Delinquencies**

We are witnessing, too often, a gradual dissolution of the traditional American home. The American home too frequently has become merely a place to eat and sleep instead of a place of moral development and spiritual growth. Adult America in too many instances has failed miserably in its responsibility to youth.

The tendency to coddle youth or treat their problems with indifference manifests itself in too many communities. Instead of giving young people leadership through example and discipline, too frequently we permit them to run rampant in the uninhibited expression of their impulses—a practice which has led to disastrous consequences.

The awesome spectacle a few weeks ago in one of our cities, of scores of young people swept by a mob spirit flaunting the forces of law and order by rioting in the streets, and equally startling and frightening spectacles in other cities, are sufficient to make us pause and take stock. The unlawful activities of too many of our young people are a national disgrace. We who are engaged in law enforcement see the results daily in the ungoverned activities of teen-age boys and girls who are responsible for a percentage of crimes out of all proportion to their age group. This is indeed a serious indictment of parenthood.

In fact, some 50 percent of all crimes against property are committed by young people under 25 years of age. In 117,562 cases last year involving young people under 21 years of age, law enforcement agencies regarded the offenses sufficiently serious to take the fingerprints of the offenders for inclusion in the fingerprint files of the FBI. These represent some 15 percent of all persons arrested. Yet, as a group, persons under 21 years of age accounted for 43.8 percent of all persons arrested for auto theft; 38.2 percent of all persons arrested for burglary; 30.4 percent of all persons

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arrested for rape; 26.7 percent of all persons arrested for robbery; and 11.9 percent of all persons arrested for felonious homicide.

This sad spectacle of misdirected energy is an unwholesome blemish on the American scene. Perhaps the disappearance of the woodshed of my generation has had its effect. I have heard too many sorrowful confessions of parents who "spared the rod and spoiled the child" not to be convinced that a firmness and a determination to enforce discipline and order have their merits. There is no satisfactory substitute for discipline in developing character. Hard work, even if it is considered old-fashioned in some quarters, is a stepping stone to achievement.

The break-down in some of the homes and the lack of facilities in the schools to fully administer to the fundamental needs of youth have made necessary such a youth-serving agency at the Boys' Clubs of America.

#### Effect of Boys' Clubs

In the brief span of their existence, the Boys' Clubs of the Nation have left an indelible imprint for good upon the 325 communities where they exist. The 330,000 members of the Boys' Clubs are being given opportunities which they would not otherwise have. Make no mistake—each of these boys will become a better citizen because some adults have had vision and have been willing to devote their time and energies to providing these young men with opportunities which are their inherent right.

The program of the Boys' Clubs has conclusively proven its worth by satisfying the basic desires of youth in offering opportunities for new experience, recognition, response, and security which come from group activities. In making this possible, I want to commend the 6,088 professional and volunteer workers who have carried forward this program in 37 States. Back of these men who give of their time and energies is another group totaling some 35,000 members of the boards of directors and auxiliary organizations in the various communities where Boys' Clubs flourish.

These men, many of whom are here tonight, by their daily deeds are living up to the responsibilities of good citizenship. Their contribution toward the building of a better America sets an example for others. The achievements of the Boys' Clubs invite the scrutiny of every community in the land. The annual expenditure of some 7 million dollars—the cost of maintaining the Boys' Clubs—is returned manyfold in the results of its constructive work. The experience of one neighborhood where the number of juvenile delinquents dropped from 222 to 28, an 87 percent decrease, after a Boys' Club moved into the community, I am sure, is the rule rather than the exception.

The operation of the Boys' Clubs of America is basically American. They embody some of our finest traditions by working in the locales where they can render the greatest service. Our Nation has flourished because of that principle—the serving of local needs. In the final analysis, America is the aggregate of all our people; it is the aggregate of all of our towns, cities, counties, and States. America is only as strong as all of our people and our communities working together in unity toward a common goal.

#### Local Responsibilities

Good citizenship, like charity, begins at home. That is why, for example, I have always opposed the concept of a national police force. The best type of law enforcement is the home-town police. Any other system would be alien to our American way of life. Each community not only deserves exactly what it receives in terms of law and order, but also has within its power the ability to have law observance and good law enforcement if it so desires.

There is not a city, town, or hamlet in the Nation which could not strike a telling blow against the forces of lawlessness within 48 hours if its people had the will and determination to eradicate the breeding places of crime. The law enforcement agencies in the land, with few exceptions, are thoroughly competent and capable. They are willing to do their job if they are unshackled and supported as they should be by an aroused citizenry which will brook no interference and tolerate no alliance between the upper world of officialdom and the underworld of corruption.

Similarly, the youth problem in crime would disappear quickly if each parent and adult recognized his responsibility and made an honest effort to do his duty. I look forward to the day when the number of Boys' Clubs will double, triple, and quadruple. A crying need exists for an extension of this most worth-while endeavor. You, the leaders of this movement, have done your job well

(Continued on page 18)



The city that built the atomic bomb is the safest city of its size in which to live if you would escape death from another deadly instrument of destruction—the automobile. Oak Ridge, Tenn., has the best traffic safety record in the Nation according to the National Safety Council. Only one traffic fatality has occurred at Oak Ridge in the past 50 months.

The city of Oak Ridge has received the following traffic safety awards from the National Safety Council:

1945-Award of Merit.

1946—Citation for Achievement.

1947-Citation for Achievement.

1948—Citation for Achievement.

1948—Tennessee Safety Council Award of Recognition of Accomplishments.

This is a record of which the Atomic Energy Commission officials and the Oak Ridge Police Department are justly proud.

Prior to the autumn of 1942, there was little to mar the pastoral tranquility of the rolling hills and meadows of the Clinch River Valley but an occasional grazing cow or circling eagle foraging from his base high atop the Great Smokies. Few dreamed that within 3 short years there would arise, on approximately 60,000 acres of east Tennessee farm land, in Roane and Anderson Counties, the fifth largest city in the State with a peak population of 78,000. Oak Ridge today is still regarded as Tennessee's fifth city in size with approximately 33,000 population. The city was built and is run by the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

Oak Ridge's enviable record in traffic safety can be attributed to a well-engineered system of streets and roads, to a cooperative citizenry made safety conscious by a constant program of the Oak Ridge Public Safety Department, headed by Director George E. Miller, and to selective and generalized traffic enforcement by the 74-man Oak Ridge Police Department. Six of the seven commissioned officers of the department are graduates of the FBI National Academy, and five members of

## Handling of Traffic Records at Oak Ridge

by C. T. VETTEL, Chief of Police, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

the force are graduates of Northwestern Traffic Institute; consequently the Oak Ridge Police Department has been able to apply the most modern techniques to the handling of the traffic problem with noteworthy success.



Chief of Police Charles T. Vettel.

#### **Record Procedures**

Traffic accident investigative procedures, and a supporting record system, have been the subject of continuing study since 1945 when the Oak Ridge Police Department emerged as the community law-enforcement agency from its earlier genesis as a guard force. The present system of handling traffic-accident records has evolved from the best ideas of traffic authorities supplemented with onthe-spot needs.

So far as the records division is concerned, traffic complaints and investigations are handled in the same manner as other cases—whether murder or barking dogs.

The initial information concerning a traffic accident comes to the desk sergeant from a citizen or police officer and he questions the complainant regarding location and seriousness of the accident and whether any personal injuries were sustained. Then he immediately dispatches an available patrol car to the scene by radio. Officers are trained to follow the steps prescribed in traffic investigations at the scene "according to Hoyle" from proper parking of the patrol car through rendering first aid to the injured, interviewing of participants and witnesses, photographing and measuring the area, to sweeping up broken glass and restoring the normal flow of traffic.

The desk sergeant, as soon as he has dispatched the nearest accident investigation car to the scene, immediately assigns a case number to the complaint, records the complaint on a master control sheet and types the information received on a standard complaint report form. The case number thus assigned appears on all subsequent reports and communications pertaining to that same set of facts.



The desk sergeant operates the telephone switchboard and two-way radio, receives complaints, dispatches cars, books prisoners, etc. Sgt. Charles E. Engel is on duty.

Having completed his investigation at the accident scene, the investigating officer submits a brief narrative report, in longhand, which is typed by a records division typist onto the complaint form and serves to round out the complaint form data. Reports of the investigating officers are reviewed by the lieutenant on duty who checks them for accuracy and to determine if further action is necessary. If a physical arrest is made by the officer, he also submits, in longhand, an "Officer's Arrest Sheet" which is destroyed after the information has been transferred to one or more of the index cards described below.

The next step from the records standpoint is the preparation, accompanied in all traffic accident cases by diagrams, of the Motor Vehicle Accident Report. Detailed instructions are furnished to all officers in how to fill out the Motor Vehicle Accident Report Form. Copies of this report go into the case file, to the Director of Oak Ridge Public Safety Department, and to analytical services of the Public Safety Department where summaries are compiled and analyses made. One copy is forwarded to the Tennessee State Department of Safety provided personal injury or property damage in excess of \$50 is involved.

The above copies are not distributed, however, until the finished accident report has been reviewed and approved by a supervisory officer. A rule, strictly enforced, requires that the original complaint form and the original accident report remain in the records division at all times unless charged out to the officer to whom the case is assigned or to a department official.

Upon its arrival in the records division the accident report is indexed as follows: (a) A 3 by 5 index card is prepared on every name mentioned in the report, whether they be complainants, drivers, witnesses, injured persons, wanted persons, suspects, or violators; (b) a 3 by 5 index card is prepared for the "traffic accident location file," which is filed by street; (c) a 3 by 5 index card is prepared for the "type of offense file," provided a violation of one of the more serious offenses set forth in part I of the Uniform Crime Reports has occurred; and (d) a 3 by 5 index card is prepared on the name of every injured person and this card goes into the "injured persons" file.

In the records division, the accident report is also processed for information used in compiling various useful summaries. For example, the Oak Ridge Police Department, as part of the administrative procedure, prepares monthly and annual uniform crime reports, copies of which are furnished to the FBI. Analytical services of the Oak Ridge Public Safety Department, gleaning data from the same reports, submit copies of monthly and annual summaries and studies on traffic matters to the National Safety Council.

Before the accident report is finally filed by the records division in the case file to which it relates, the status of the case is recorded on a master control sheet which serves as a "tickler" or follow-up reminder in supervising subsequent developments in that particular case. If further investigation is made, the officer handling it submits a supplemental report which, after being processed as above in the records division, is attached to the original report in the case file.



Diagram showing the manner in which accident complaints are handled by the Oak Ridge, Tenn., Police Department.

#### Spot Maps

The Oak Ridge Police Department, as a guide to planned enforcement and more effective assignment of available personnel, maintains traffic accident and violation spot maps. These are prepared on the basis of information taken from analyses of the accident report and from stationary and moving spot checks made by a traffic division supervisory officer who, in plain clothes and an unmarked car, notes such violations as jaywalking, speeding, passing stop signs, ignoring traffic lights, improper turns, failure to give or heed hand signals, failure to keep in proper lanes, parking violations, defective lights, etc. These observations are made on an average of several times per week for both pedestrians and vehicular traffic, the latter broken down to passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, busses, taxis, motorcycles, and bicycles. This "traffic law observance check form," plus the spot maps, aids the chief in assigning officers to points needing special attention at certain hours and helps the officer on patrol to know when and where the types of violations occur most frequently.

The "traffic accident and enforcement summary" is prepared monthly and compares accidents and enforcement activities as to the day of the week and the time of day when accidents occur and when arrests, citations or warnings are made; the disposition of charges; the nature of violations contributing to accidents; types of accidents which occur and the number resulting in fatalities, personal injury or property damage—all set up on a comparative basis for understanding at a glance the progress or digression from the previous period. This summary is prepared from accident reports, by analytical services of the Public Safety Department and is routed to the chief of police for his information, thence to the lieutenant in charge of traffic who prepares from the analyses written instructions to all officers. From this summary periodic evaluations and progress reports are also prepared.

#### Equipment

The Oak Ridge Police Department believes and practices its theory that efficient, economical operation requires good automotive equipment. Thirteen police cars are available for services at all times, all equipped with three-way radios. The city is divided into four zones for the purpose of preventive patrol and policing. One car is on patrol in each zone at all times and is in constant touch with headquarters by three-way FM radio. Two additional cars, fully equipped to handle accidents and emergencies, are referred to as "accident investigation cars." Equipment in these vehicles includes signal flares, first aid kits, blanket, portable flood lights, broom, crime scene kit, etc. The Oak Ridge Police Department maintains a technicians' rolling laboratory which is a fully equipped panel truck capable of being moved speedily to any point and containing various items of technical equipment that may be needed. This piece of equipment is also available for call by the Oak Ridge Fire Department and is equipped with a public-address system for use in handling crowds, directing traffic, or as an emergency command post.

The sole traffic accident fatality in Oak Ridge in more than 4 years occurred at 3:22 a. m. on November 6, 1949, when the automobile of a grocery store manager left the Oak Ridge Turnpike at a curve and smashed into a pole in a fog. Oak Ridge has now set as its goal an even greater period of safe driving and the signboards posted at various strategic points keep drivers informed daily of the number of deathless days they have achieved.

#### It Can Save a Life

Several years ago Patrolman Edward Gray of the Elizabeth, N. J., Police Department, took a course in defensive tactics training for instructors at the Newark Police and Fire Academy from two FBI agent instructors. Patrolman Gray, in turn, passed his training on to other members of the Elizabeth Police Department. One of his pupils was Officer Thomas Saunders.

Recently, Officer Saunders and his partner were investigating a series of burglaries in Elizabeth. Noting an individual who answered the description of the burglary suspect on the street, the two officers halted the man for questioning. The suspect promptly reached for and drew a loaded .45 caliber automatic. Officer Saunders as promptly applied a wrist throw, grounded the suspect, and disarmed him before he could fire any of the nine cartridges in the weapon.

Patrolman Gray, referring to the incident in a letter to the special agent in charge of the Newark Office of the FBI, said in part:

DEAR SAM :

\* \* \* The other night Officer Tom Saunders entered the police gym and shook hands with the writer saying, "We didn't waste our time learning those disarming methods after all. Friday night we applied a hold on that gunman when he pulled a gun on us, and that knowledge saved our lives."

Of course that did hit the spot with this "instructor." And we thought it would be fair to say thanks to you and your staff for the opportunity given us to acquire and impart this necessary knowledge to other law-enforcement officers.

We regret that yourself and Lefty and Jim were not present when Tom showed his gratitude. The genuine enthusiasm that Tom displayed would have made the "faculty" swell with pride \* \* \*

Gratefully yours,

ED GRAY.

The dividends of police training are satisfying ones from any standpoint, but particularly so when they are of positive value to the law-enforcement officer who does the hard, routine, and often dangerous work on the beat.

#### **Social Security Information**

The Social Security Administration will make information in connection with deceased persons, such as next of kin, place of birth, etc., available to any Federal, State, or local law-enforcement agency. Such information is available only with respect to deceased persons and is given in order to assist in the location of next of kin, identification of the dead, and appropriate arrangements for disposal of the body.

Essential information in connection with deceased persons may be obtained by addressing an inquiry to the Social Security Administration, Baltimore, Md.



5

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A rubber stamp in the of a criminal can be to law enforcement

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1

When a forger or check flasher resorts to the use of a rubber stamp on a fraudulent check or other document . . .

11:00

It is not unlike his leaving a footprint at the scene of his crime, for . . .





These characteristics may result from accidental nicks occurring during the use of the stamp. . .

Like a footprint, a rubber stamp impression often contains enough characteristics to identify the stamp used.



Or from the operation of cutting out a "one-piece" stamp and mounting it on its sponge rubber cushion.







Therefore such characteristics can be con-

sidered significant only insofar as the

identity of the original type is concerned.

MOUVI M



In each of the rubber stamps made from the mold.



Because it is not always possible to determine the significance of a defect . . .

Defect reproduced from original type.

Defect due to use.

The suspect rubber stamp itself should be submitted whenever it is available.

Under examination the source of a defect can be determined more readily from the stamp.



Characteristics due to foreign matter on the stamp are highly significant since they point to the stamp itself. For this reason, no attempt should ever be made to brush, clean, or otherwise disturb the surface of a suspect stamp.



Stamps made up of individual letters of rubber type . . .



Are usually in poor alignment since they are hand-set letter by letter.

ares?

Because of this, any disturbance of the alignment of the separate pieces in a suspect hand-set stamp is to be avoided.



These alignment characteristics obviously are highly significant since they are unique with each individual stamp.

# **CRIME PREVENTION**

#### Introduction

"Service above self for Sumter" is the basic premise upon which the Junior Deputy Police Force of Sumter, S. C., is built. Like many cities, we in Sumter had a juvenile problem. Delinquency was involved. Just as important as the delinquency aspect was our heartfelt urge to do something productive in molding the minds and characters of our youthful citizens. Every police department needs and deserves respect. We feel that this respect comes not only from adequate performance of law-enforcement obligations, utilizing sound police principles, and the rendering of honest and efficient service, but also by training youthful minds to strict observance of law.

#### **Beginnings** of the Group

Consequently, in the late spring of 1949, Commander J. L. Davis of the Sumter Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars collaborated with me in the formulation of the Junior Deputy Police Force. Commander Davis is in the insurance business, and, to use his words, there is no better insurance that can be given the people of Sumter than to formulate in youthful minds sound principles of citizenship. With the wholehearted backing of Commander Davis the Sumter Police Department sprang into action. The enthusiastic support of City Manager J. A. Raffield gave added luster to our tentative plans. FBI National Academy graduates Lt. Eugene McIntosh and First Sgt. Henry Foxworth served admirably in handling the details and laving the foundation.

#### **The Present Force**

The Sumter Junior Deputy Police now numbers

## Junior Deputies Help to Solve Youth Problems

by WILLIAM M. HALL,<sup>1</sup> Chief of Police, Sumter, S. C.

210 boys. Membership ranges from 8 to 16 years of age. Good conduct is the keynote of the organization.

Junior deputies are not fully uniformed but each member is assigned a sun helmet, badge, and whistle. This property is charged out to them and the members are held responsible for its proper maintenance.

It is difficult to run an organization unless there be positions of command. Therefore, a junior chief was created, two captaincies, two lieutenancies, and two sergeancies were established. To fill these vacancies, meetings of the entire junior police were held, and from their ranks the appropriate officers were elected.

On the second Tuesday of each month, in the city courtroom located in the rear of the Sumter Police Department, the junior deputies hold their meetings. The city manager and other community leaders drop in from time to time to answer questions, pass on a word of encouragement, or provide advice. As one prominent Sumter resident stated, "These are the best conducted meetings that I have ever seen young people hold."



A moment of everlasting impression. FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> William M. Hall has been chief of police at Sumter, S. C., for the past 2½ years, prior to which time he was chief of police at Savannah, Ga. Chief Hall has been instrumental in raising police officers' salaries and benefits, and in elevating law enforcement in his area to a professional plane. He is a graduate of the twentieth session of the FBI National Academy.

The junior chief presides. Business is transacted in an orderly and sensible manner. Many complimentary remarks have been received from adults.

#### **Duties**

An organization without duties and responsibilities is no organization at all. Consequently, very specific duties, obligations, and responsibilities were outlined for the junior deputies. The boys serve as junior police patrol in the vicinity of school zones. They guard street crossings, see that young people attending school are escorted safely, and halt traffic when necessary, to permit youngsters to cross busy intersections. Parades



This fellow thinks I'm kidding.

and city festivals would not be complete without the junior deputies assisting in holding back bystanders, arranging the lineup of participants, running messages for the regular police officers, and performing numerous necessary duties which make their presence invaluable.

Junior deputies also assist traffic officers in the handling of traffic during rush periods. They serve as guides when visitors come to Sumter and here is the essence of a letter one retired couple from New York City wrote me. DEAR CHIEF HALL:

We recently had the privilege of a tour of the city of Sumter provided by one of your junior deputies. Permit me to congratulate you and the people of Sumter for your progressive thinking and training of the youth of your city. We were delighted by the gentlemanly conduct of your representative and by his knowledge of the history and traditions of your city and State. He is a credit to your community and our Nation needs more boys like him.

Sincerely . . .

Junior deputies also help out at football games and work along with their "big brother" officers. Each member has received basic instruction in fingerprinting and knows how to take fingerprints. His creative urge has been encouraged through the making of hands and other items from plaster of paris and moulage. The youthful zest for physical exercise has been expressed by practice in wrestling and judo. More quiet recreation has consisted of such matters as training in the handling of cameras and uses of photography.

#### Purpose

The junior deputies of Sumter is not an organization for delinquents. It is an organization for character-building and community service, just as adults have their civic and fraternal clubs.

Enthusiasm runs high in the ranks of the junior deputies. On Saturday afternoons it is common to see junior deputies attired in their identifying helmets and badges serving at downtown intersections, carrying packages and escorting persons across the street. A novel way to combat jaywalking has been utilized by the junior deputies. Each member has in his possession a number of printed card forms which are mild reprimands which he hands to persons observed jaywalking. These reprimands are accepted cheerfully and in the proper spirit by adult citizens, indicating that the community as a whole admires the junior deputies.

I thought it would be interesting to my colleagues in the law enforcement profession to read the pledge taken by members of the junior deputies:

#### On My Honor:

1. I will always and ever, honor, respect, and obey my parents.

2. I will always be faithful to my religious duties.

3. I will always respect the laws of my beloved city, State, and Nation.

4. I will always conduct myself in a manner that will reflect credit on me and the Junior Deputy Police Organization of Sumter, of which I am a member. 5. I will always be ready to assist those in trouble who deserve help.

6. I will always, by proper conduct and example, try to lead all boys to do right.

7. I will always be faithful to, and attend all meetings of the Junior Deputy Police Organization, if within my power to do so.

8. I will always be regular in my attendance at school and strive always to do the best I can to obtain a proper education.

9. I will always be respectful of the rights and properties of others.

10. I will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and so conduct my life as to receive for myself and bequeath to others the blessings conferred upon us by its first 10 amendments.

11. I further pledge myself not to aid any criminals by keeping from the law enforcement officers of my county any evidence that I might have against any person charged with and who might be under investigation.

12. I will always be fair to the accused and will not through malice or ill will give false testimony against any person accused of a crime.

13. I will always abide by the rules of the bicycle law and observe them to the best of my knowledge.

14. I will foster no bad habits of another.

15. I will live a good clean life, and always be willing to help the blind, the sick, and all persons in distress.

16. I will endeavor to do right, see right, and to play right for the safety of myself and others.



It's all in knowing how.

Most young people are anxious to help law enforcement. Most young people want to help their cities solve their problems. Most young people do know how to go about fitting themselves into community life managed by adults. The junior deputies of Sumter make it possible for youngsters to be active . . . to help . . . to cooperate . . . and to give . . . "service above self to Sumter"!

#### **Police Receive Law Books**

More than 130 volumes of the West Virginia Reports, the gift of a donor who wished to remain anonymous, were presented recently to the Charleston, W. Va., Police Department.

The volumes, which contain every decision handed down by the State supreme court since the State was founded, will be invaluable, in the opinion of Chief of Police Charles Ray. They will be of use in everyday duties, the investigation of crimes, in taking of criminal evidence, and in prosecutions.

\* \* \*

#### Address by J. Edgar Hoover

(Continued from page 7)

but you have scarcely scratched the surface. There is still much unfinished business.

#### **Moving Forward**

Now is the time for action. The need for giving American youth what is justly his—guidance, training, discipline, proper surroundings, incentive, moral and spiritual development—is more important than ever before in the history of our Nation. The strength, the security, and the future of America depend upon the character and the quality of our youth. In the face of attacks from subversive forces which would destroy our American way of life, we must strengthen and expand those organizations which aid in molding our youth into good citizens.

The Boys' Clubs of America must go forward if other boys are to be given the opportunities of democracy in action—the type of democracy which flourishes in the atmosphere of liberty and freedom in the United States.

FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN



#### Introduction

Firearms instruction is one part of a three-phase training plan developed since the war by Chief of Police Clarence H. Morris, of Pasadena, Calif., for the men in his department. The annual firearms program is a culmination of the year's firearms training.

All members shoot once a month under the direction of a department instructor. Interest is further stimulated by a semiannual "combat shoot" with medal awards for high qualification scores.

The third annual firearms training program was concluded last July. One hundred and thirtyseven members successfully completed the training under the supervision of FBI instructors. Ten percent of the personnel participated each day for a 10-day period. Officers were relieved of normal duties and spent a full day at the range. Training included combat practice with the .38 caliber revolver, the Thompson submachine gun, and the shotgun.

#### **Training Plan**

The three-phase training plan utilized in Pasadena is gaining favor as a practical and effective approach to the training problems faced by cities of medium size. Formerly the recruit learned by working with an older officer for an extended period of time. No particular control was exercised and it was generally conceded that at least 5 years were required before a new man could be considered to be thoroughly seasoned. All personnel received advanced training at irregular intervals. The material was often repetitious to those of longer periods of service and much of it was over the heads of recruits.

During the first stage of the present plan, new men are hired so their employment date will coincide with the 2-week recruit school offered by the Los Angeles County Peace Officers Association.

## Police Training in Pasadena Well Planned

FBI instructors assist in this course which is given approximately four times a year. Eighty hours of instruction are devoted to carefully selected basic subjects, such as laws of arrest, penal code, elements of major crimes, etc. These subjects provide a solid foundation for the recruit's entrance into police work.

#### **Training** Period

Following the basic school period, the recruit begins a 10-week, coach-pupil training period. This is a refinement of the older "breaking in" process and it involves some of the same principles. The modern coach-pupil method utilizes selected officers as instructors. These officers are provided with specific material to be covered during each 8-hour combination instruction and working period. Each tour of duty then becomes a practical field-class session.

After first preparing himself on the specific material to be covered in a training period, the instructor-officer explains the scope of the particular problem to his pupil. He demonstrates the approved method of handling a problem and then allows the recruit to practice and apply the method by doing it himself. This is repeated as many times as the instructor feels is necessary for



Emphasizing dispersal and firepower of the shotgun.

mastery of the particular technique. The instructor then tests his pupil to make sure he has learned the lesson.

As a double check, supervisors spend an occasional shift with the recruit, again testing him on points completed under the coach-pupil instruction.

Coach-pupil subjects combine theory with hard practical experience. Methods of handcuffing a prisoner; how to approach and search a suspect; techniques used when issuing a citation; use of the police radio; emergency calls—these and many other subjects are covered.

Three or four recruits take the coach-pupil training at the same time, and job vacancies are not filled until this number has accumulated.

#### **Specialized Training**

Following the coach-pupil instruction, the recruit returns to the classroom for a week's specialized training. The conference method is used. The recruit meets with the training director and various ranking officers and the resulting discussions answer questions and clarify theory in the light of the recruit's recent practical experience.

Recruit training consumes 3 months. When finished, the new man, though not thoroughly seasoned, is ready to take assignment in the field. Because of the specific training methods used, he will have gained enough insight into practical police operation to perform on his own.

The man is now assigned to field duty. His assignment is rotated so he can spend 3 months on each of the three watches. He is closely supervised, and, at the end of each 3-month period, a narrative type probationary report is submitted to the office of the chief of police.

Recruit training, while important, is only the beginning of the continuing training program. Each January, the advanced training needs for the year are analyzed. Courses are then scheduled for the entire year and announced to all department members. This makes it easier to arrange for instructors and permits the men to make their own plans well in advance.

#### **Advanced Courses**

Advanced courses are open to any member who has completed his probationary period. They are optional and taken during the man's off time.



The sitting position, with emphasis on accuracy.

Completion of certain courses is a prerequisite for specialty assignments. For example, to be assigned to motorcycle duty, a man must first have completed advanced training in the vehicle code.

Courses are duplicated in afternoon and evening sessions so that all may attend. They cover such advanced phases of police work as collision investigation, chemical tests for intoxication, and the collection and preservation of physical evidence.

The content of advanced training courses is made available to the city personnel department to be incorporated into promotional examinations.

#### Retraining

Planned retraining completes the training program. Under this heading comes the monthly and annual firearms instruction. Other special courses are given, as needed, for instruction in new legislation or new procedures. All such courses are conducted on city time.

A new retraining device was recently adopted with the regular publication of Training Memoranda. These are considered to be an unusually effective training device. All officers report 30 minutes before their tour of duty. After announcements and routine shift instructions, 15 to 20 minutes of each "roll call" session are devoted to training. Silent and sound motion pictures, slides, and visual-casts, supplement the written material. The material for this training is taken from the printed Training Memoranda which are predistributed to supervisors so they may be thoroughly familiar with the contents before teaching the subject covered. Later, each member receives a copy of the Training Memorandum for his personal file.

Many of the Training Memoranda have been prepared as answers to problems which arise. Some clarify departmental policy and procedures. Others explain new police techniques or improvements of older methods.

In preparing the memos, research is first made through available literature. Next, officers who are consistently successful in handling the given problem are interviewed, and their experience is reduced to writing. The several types of information are then combined into the finished Training Memorandum.

These three phases of training—recruit, advanced, and retraining—constitute Pasadena's training plan. With this long range program the department knows where it is going in training. Because of this, it is easier to arrange for instructors, and it is easier for the men to plan to participate. This method has been highly successful and is considered a forward step in modern police training.

### WANTED BY FBI



William Francis Sutton.

WILLIAM FRANCIS SUTTON, with aliases: William Bowles, James Clayton, Richard Courtney, Leo Holland, Julian Loring, Edward Lynch, "Slick Willie," "Willie the Actor," and others

#### Bank Robbery—Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement (Armed Robbery)

William Francis Sutton has been identified as one of three unmasked robbers who entered a branch of the Manufacturers Trust Co. in New York City at 8:30 a. m. on March 9, 1950, and walked out with \$63,942. Information received by the New

JULY 1950

York City Police and the FBI indicated that Sutton, under the name Edward Lynch, was employed at a hospital on Staten Island from February 1947, to July 1949, as a porter, and that during that period he resided on Staten Island.

Sutton was admitted to Sing Sing Prison to serve a term of 5 to 10 years for burglary at the age of 25. He was paroled in 1929, but 2 years later was recommitted for assault and robbery and was sentenced to a term of 30 years. He escaped from Sing Sing on December 11, 1932, and was apprehended by the Philadelphia Police Department in connection with the robbery on January 15, 1934, of a branch of the Corn Exchange Bank & Trust Co. in Philadelphia, Pa..

An ingenious escape artist, Sutton broke out of the Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia on April 3, 1945, but was recaptured the same day. As a result of this escape he was sentenced to serve an additional 10 to 20 years on June 5, 1945.

Transferred to the Philadelphia County Prison at Holmesburg, Philadelphia, for safekeeping, Sutton escaped from this institution on February 10, 1947.

A complaint was filed before a United States Commissioner at Philadelphia, Pa., on February 17, 1950, charging him with violating Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073, in that he fled from the State of Pennsylvania to avoid confinement after conviction for the crime of armed robbery. A complaint was filed before a United States Commissioner at Brooklyn, N. Y., on March 10, 1950, charging this subject with violating Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 2113, in that he committed the crime of bank robbery.

Sutton has shown great ingenuity in planning escapes. On one occasion he modeled a head, almost an exact replica of his own, out of plaster of paris, but was detected before he could utilize it in a prison break.

This escapee has lived up to his name of "Willie the Actor" on numerous occasions. In the course of one bank holdup he wore the uniform of a telegraph messenger; during another, that of a mail carrier. In still a third robbery he wore the uniform of a police officer.

His modus operandi in committing bank robberies is equally dramatic. In the past he has made entry into various banks just prior to the morning arrival of the bank employees. As each employee arrived, he would be taken over by one of Sutton's accomplices and placed under guard. In all cases Sutton and his gang would wait for the manager of the bank to open the vault.

Sutton has certain personal idiosyncrasies, knowledge of which may help to bring about his apprehension. As far back as 17 years ago Sutton appeared to have a mania for "hot dogs," and was known to consume an average of from 5 to 10 when he frequented amusement places. In that period Sutton reportedly was very touchy about his personal appearance and always made certain that his hair was properly waved and that his teeth were in good condition. He would brush his teeth 10 to 12 times a day and was constantly visiting dentists. In those days, also, Sutton was an immaculate dresser, bought expensive suits, and always had a small flower in the lapel of his coat. He wore tinted, horn-rimmed glasses which gave the appearance of sun glasses.

Still a neat dresser, Sutton prefers brown or gray suits. A radio fan, he likes sports programs and newscasts. He is alleged to be a Brooklyn Dodger fan. While in prison the subject liked to play chess. A moderate smoker, he prefers Chesterfields and Pall Malls over other brands.

Sutton reportedly smiles often and shows his teeth.

The subject is believed to be armed and is considered extremely dangerous. He is described as follows:

Age	49, born June 30, 1901, Brooklyn,
	N. Y. (not verified).
Height	5 feet 8 inches
Weight	
Build	Medium
	Dark brown, possibly graying.
Eyes	Blue.
Complexion	
Race	
Nationality	
Education	
	Clerk, driller, florist, gardener,
	stenographer.
Scars and marks	Faint ragged vertical scar on fold
	of left wrist, faint oblique scar
	on right elbow, end of right little
	finger scarred and deformed,
	small red flesh mole on forehead
	above left eyebrow, scar on back
	of neck,
Remarks	Sutton may have dyed his hair and
	may be wearing a mustache and
	eyeglasses in an effort to disguise
	his features.
FBI Number	241,884.
Fingerprint	12 M 1 R 000 13
classification	M 4 W 001
	Ref:
	<u>3, 17, 19,</u>
	4 4 4
	4 4 4

Sutton's criminal record includes convictions for the crimes of burglary, grand larceny, armed robbery, and escape.

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, D. C., or the Special Agent in Charge of the division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation nearest his city.

#### FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN



If one asked the various Texas chiefs of police to name a typical member of their profession, chances are the nomination would go almost unanimously to Raymond D. "Boss" Thorp, Chief of Police of Texas' Capital City, Austin.

Chief Thorp's grandparents were among the early pioneers and founders of the community from which the capital city developed. Reared on a farm near Austin, "Boss" used a .22-caliber rifle to shoot squirrels for food. When no ammunition was available he learned to knock them out of the trees by throwing rocks. This training earned him the title of "Iron Man Thorp" in later years when he frequently pitched both games of a doubleheader in semipro baseball. He played with men whose names became famous in the big leagues: Rip Collins, Frank Gibson, Cedric Durst, Roy Moore, and Bib Falk.

Chief Thorp enlisted in the United States Army in 1917. Because of his ability to lead and direct (qualities which earned him his nickname in early childhood) he was selected to attend an officers' training school. After graduation he was made an artillery training officer. In this capacity, he was physical education director and sports director which included the organization and management of the regimental football team. He also operated the officers' mess.

Chief Thorp's career as a law enforcement officer began in 1921 when he became a member of the Port Arthur Police Department. During the ensuing 4 years he served, in rapid succession, as jailer, beat man, short-call officer, detective, and identification officer. He studied 8 hours a day for 3 months learning fingerprinting and identification work under W. R. "Bob" Ellis, then superintendent of the identification bureau of the Beaumont, Tex., Police Department. Chief Thorp thus became one of the pioneers in identification work.

On February 22, 1925, the young officer accepted the position of superintendent of the newly created identification bureau of the Austin Police Department. On November 11, 1928, after the death of Chief Jim Littlepage, "Boss" was ap-

# Public Esteem Won by Texas Police Chief

pointed chief of police, a position he has held continuously for 22 years. Chief Thorp's entire career has been devoted to furthering the interests of the law enforcement profession. A member of



Chief Thorp.

the International Association for Identification since 1923, Thorp was made an honorary lifetime member of the Texas division of this organization in recognition of his outstanding contributions and work in the identification field. He has been a member of the IACP since 1929, and has been active on many committees for the organization. He is also a past president of the Texas Police Association. As a member and official of this organization he worked tirelessly from 1929 to 1935 with the Texas State Legislature to provide for a State-wide identification bureau, the licensing of automobile drivers, and the creation of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

As early as 1929 "Boss" and two members of his department who later became special agents of the FBI, were on a pistol team. In 1934 this team won the State championship in the regular State tournament.

Chief Thorp has sponsored an Annual Newspapermen's Pistol Shoot at Austin since 1934. Local newsmen, as well as all correspondents representing the national wire services which cover the State Capital, participate.

#### **Oldest Police Chief**

Today Chief Thorp enjoys the distinction of being the oldest chief of police of a major city in the State of Texas in the point of continuous service. His knowledge of people and his ability to lead men are exemplified in a department which has received recognition for its efficiency and its exceptional public relations policy.

An example of the latter would be Chief Thorp's week-long conference for the personnel of his department which was both unique and effective. Outstanding civic leaders, businessmen, and officials of the University of Texas were invited to address the group. They were asked to offer constructive criticism and make suggestions for improving police efficiency and for developing even closer relations with the citizens of Austin.

#### **Closed** Sessions

The sessions were closed to newspaper reporters so that there would be no hesitancy on the part of any speaker in offering his most candid views of the department's operations. The need for this was understood by the local press which cooperated to the fullest extent in publicizing the series of meetings and in bringing the purposes and the achievements of the conference to wide public attention.

The success of the conference, which was by way of being an experiment, exceeded fondest expectations.

Chief Thorp said, "We found that our program had a double-barrelled effect. On one hand, the businessmen and citizens of Austin were greatly impressed with the fact that their police department came to them with the question, 'How can we improve the service we are now rendering you?'

"On the other hand, the personnel of the department obtained an entirely different conception of their responsibilities to the community. They found the public intensely interested in good law enforcement and anxious to assist them."

#### **Gainesville Blood Donors**

During the middle of 1949, Mrs. J. S. Thames of Gainesville, Fla., was stricken with a serious illness, necessitating three major operations within a period of 4 months.

Due to Mrs. Thames' weakened condition and the extremely serious nature of the operations, it became imperative that she receive a series of transfusions of fresh whole blood. Before a public appeal could be made for donors at the first operation, 12 of Detective Roy Thames' fellow officers in the Gainesville Police Department volunteered their blood for the record sergeant's mother. Seven members of the group had the proper type of blood and gave transfusions. During the course of the following two operations, a total of 17 additional officers were typed. Of this number 10 donated blood to Mrs. Thames whose attending physicians attributed her complete recovery to the blood transfusions which she had received from her son's fellow officers.

Mrs. Thames, in expressing her appreciation to Gainesville's Police Chief Rupert G. Zeigler and the men in his department, said that her life was spared due to "God's will, the doctors' ability, and the good strong blood coursing through the veins of Gainesville police officers." She added that, "I now have so much policeman blood in me that I think you ought to issue me a badge."

In token of their deep appreciation, Mr. and Mrs. Thames gave an oyster roast party with all the trimmings for all of the Gainesville police officers and their wives at the department's local pistol range.

#### Burglar Caught by Paint Evidence

Chief of Police Andrew J. White, Springfield Township, Erdenheim, Pa., was confronted with a series of gasoline station break-ins. Following a surveillance, a suspect was developed.

Chief White called suddenly at the house of the young man in question and obtained a large screw driver. He observed traces of paint on the suspect item and, securing appropriate comparison samples from the pertinent gas station, personally transported the evidence to the FBI Laboratory in Washington, D. C.

The laboratory report reflected that three layers

of paint found on the screw driver were identical with three layers which covered the window sill of the gas station. In addition, the report revealed that a fourth fragment of paint had been identified with paint on a soft drink machine in the gas station. The soft drink machine also had been broken open.

Confronted with this evidence, the suspect confessed responsibility for the break-in in question and several others as well.

#### **Shelton May Have a Shotgun**



Henry Harland Shelton.

The April 1950 issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin carried an article and a photograph of Henry Harland Shelton, with aliases, Harland Ellis, Harley Shelton, Jack Tearle, "Cheney," "Irish," and "Shanty." Shelton is wanted on charges of kidnaping and violating the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle Statute.

Additional investigation reflects that on November 17, 1949, Shelton stole an automobile at Cairo, Ill. The machine was abandoned following the robbery of a bank at Farmington, Ky., on November 18, 1949. A Browning 16-gauge automatic shotgun, serial No. 75763, which was in the automobile at the time it was stolen, was not recovered. It is, of course, probable that Shelton is

still in possession of this weapon. It is also possible that this weapon may have come to the notice of some law-enforcement agency.

All law-enforcement agencies are requested to check records of their respective departments for any information concerning the shotgun described above and to place a stop notice in appropriate records for any information which may be received concerning the weapon in the future.

Any information in connection with the above matter should be transmitted immediately to 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 nearest division of the FBI.



# FINGERPRINTS



The pattern reproduced this month is called to your attention to emphasize the importance of stopping at that point on the tracing ridge which is nearest to the right delta.

Since there are only two ridges intervening

between the tracing ridge and the right delta, this whorl is given a "meeting" tracing. If, however, the tracing were continued, so that the line between the tracing ridge and the delta touched ridge A, an incorrect tracing would result.

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