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J. Edgar Hoover, Director

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United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.
May 1, 1948

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

The clock of crime ticked off an ugly record for 1947. The time table of the Uniform Crime Reports Bulletin for the year reads as follows:

One major crime every 18.9 seconds.
One felonious homicide every 38.8 minutes.
One burglary every 1.41 minutes.
One robbery every 9.0 minutes.
One larceny every 33.4 seconds.
One rape every 30.6 minutes.
One auto theft every 2.85 minutes.
One aggravated assault every 7.04 minutes.

The estimated number of offenses for 1947 is even more overwhelming for they reached the startling total of 1,665,110 major crimes. A break-down of this total reveals that there were: 7,760 cases of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter; 5,770 cases of manslaughter by negligence; 17,180 cases of rape; 58,100 robberies; 74,690 aggravated assaults; 373,450 burglaries; 943,430 larcenies; and 184,730 auto thefts.

A total of 734,041 fingerprint arrest records were examined during 1947. This is an increase of 13.7 per cent over the 1946 figure of 645,431. Of the arrests for the year, 40 per cent were for major violations. Of the total, 28.2 per cent were for murder, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft. The number of male prints received increased 14.2 per cent; the female, 9.7 per cent. Over fifty-five per cent of those arrested had previous arrest prints on file.

There was a 21.4 per cent increase in arrests of boys 18-to-20 in 1947 as compared with 1946, and a 10.5 per cent increase in arrests of males under 21. The records reflect a 6.6 per cent decrease in arrests of girls under 21.

The wartime excuses of migration, emotional strain, absent husbands and brothers, etc., no longer apply. Two years of peace have failed to bring about an adjustment. Apparently the feeling that the end justifies the means prevails in the minds of youths and adults.

Today's high crime rate is an indication of a decline in moral stamina on a National scale. A continuation at the present level bodes ill for the future of America.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director



FEATURE ARTICLE

In their struggle to gain recognition in the police profession, the members of the so-called "weaker sex" have progressed a long way since that day in 1911 when Alice Stebbins Wells (since retired after 29 years service) was appointed not only Policewoman No. 1 of the Los Angeles Police Department but the first female police officer in the United States.

At the outset, the place of women in police work was strictly limited to such duties as could not be properly performed by policemen, such as jail matron, search and care of female prisoners, and the like. But, by dint of perseverance and application, there are now few, if any, fields of police activity in which women have not proven themselves adaptable and proficient, subject only to natural limitations.

Today, in our department, we find policewomen engaged in both working and supervisory positions in jail, juvenile, social and criminal investigations, and street patrol assignments. And further by their own efforts they have broken down the old-time discrimination of rank and are now accorded seniority on a full equality basis with their brother officers.

At their own insistence, and properly so, they are no longer included in such duty exemptions as release from marksmanship qualification, time and place of duty, and the requirement that they be accompanied by a policeman in places of danger. In other words, the policewoman has demonstrated her ability to "take it" and perform the complex and frequently dangerous duties of a modern police officer.

Indicative of the quality and quantity of their work, our records show that during the year 1947 policewomen conducted 3,190 investigations and participated in the arrest of 2,118 individuals. In addition to this, policewomen investigated 3,060 cases of juveniles who were not arrested but were referred to social agencies.

Recognizing their versatility, this department is about to inaugurate another progressive step

Professional Policewoman

by JOSEPH F. REED, *Assistant Chief,*
Los Angeles Police Department

through the institution of street patrol by uniformed policewomen. Attired in their smart new uniforms, patterned largely after the type adopted by the United States Navy during the war, but with the addition of a service revolver and other standard police equipment neatly and compactly carried in a very feminine handbag, they will be an important adjunct to the field patrol services.

The women attracted to police work are distinguishable by their smart appearance as well as their intellectual ability, and, while they have proven their efficiency in their often unpleasant and arduous duties, it has not been achieved at the expense of style, charm of manner, or femininity.

While they have earned wide acclaim for their accomplishments, it is realized that they have only scratched the surface of public recognition and reward for their contributions to the police profession. The door is wide open and the possibilities of advancement will continue to attract well-educated career women of high ideals and character desirous of entering into this important branch of public service.

★ ★ ★

FEDERAL TRAIN-WRECK STATUTE

The FBI has investigative jurisdiction when a train, or any part thereof, engaged in interstate or foreign commerce has been wilfully derailed, disabled, or wrecked; or if subject wilfully damaged by setting fire to, placing explosives on or near, undermining or otherwise rendering unsafe or unusable, railroad property or facilities used in connection with interstate or foreign commerce. It also has investigative jurisdiction when an attempt to do any of the above acts with intent to derail or disable a train or any part thereof used, operated, or employed in interstate or foreign commerce has been made. (Double-jeopardy clause makes State prosecution a bar to Federal prosecution.)

SCIENTIFIC AIDS

Indented

Writing

The almost invisible depressions appearing on a sheet of paper or other soft materials underneath those on which visible writing or printing appears, are known by the general terms of "indented writing" and "indentations."

Pressure applied to the writing or printing instrument is, of course, responsible for these depressions or indentations.

The letters, words or messages left in such a manner are seldom distinct. Often, however, by appropriate treatment they can be rendered legible. In this manner much valuable information and evidence becomes available to law enforcement agencies.

Recently a suspect, who was being questioned concerning a check which he had tried to cash, was accused of slaying an officer. The subject claimed he had never been in, and knew nothing about, the town where the officer was killed.

A small souvenir address book was found when the subject was searched. He readily admitted that it was his. He also admitted that all of the handwriting in this book had been written by him.

In addition to the book, the search yielded a small sheet of paper concerning which the subject professed to know little. This sheet contained names of individuals living in the town in question. One of these names was signed to the check the murderer tried to cash.

Both the address book and the sheet of paper were sent to the FBI Laboratory. An examination of the sheet showed letters and other indentations impressed thereon. (See fig. 1.)

These indentations were made when the name of the town was stamped on the cover of the souvenir address book. This fact and other evidence indicated that the sheet was undoubtedly the first page of the subject's address book. This refuted the subject's statement that he had never been in, or knew anything of, the town where the police officer was slain.

In another case an anonymous letter was sent to the FBI Laboratory for an examination of the handprinting on it. While checking it, the examiner noticed some indentations. A study of these furnished information which enabled the

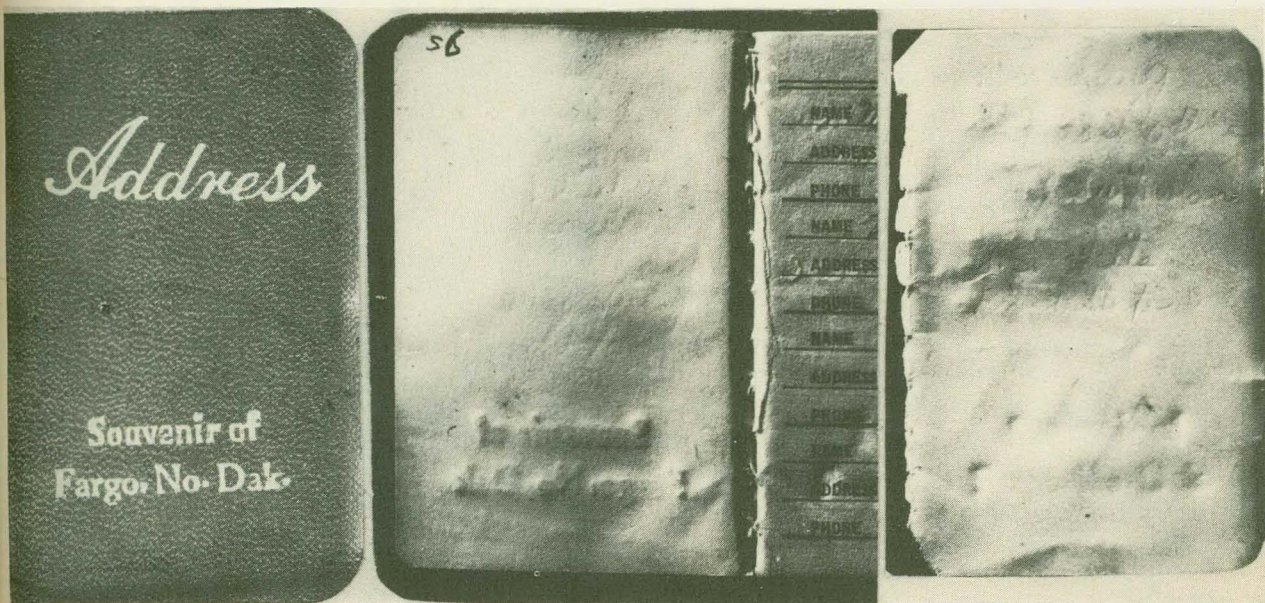


Figure 1.

proper authorities to apprehend the writer of the letter immediately. The indentations on the sheet containing the handwritten message were made when the writer used this sheet as a backing sheet while typing out another message on a typewriter. (See fig. 2.)

Tablets, desk blotters, magazines, pages of books, et cetera, may contain indentations or indented writing which will solve, or help to solve, a case. Indented writing may give addresses, names, or other information. The source of a questioned document may be determined by matching the writing or printing on it with indentations on other sheets of paper, blotters, et cetera, which may have been found in the possession of a suspect.

As previously stated, indentations may be nearly invisible. Therefore, it is suggested that when looking for indentations or indented writing, paper be held in such a manner that the light comes from the side and strikes the paper almost parallel. For instance, hold a flashlight at the edge of a sheet so that the rays will almost parallel the page.

The preservation of the evidence and the proper method of shipment are of primary importance. In no instance should the paper be folded, and every precaution should be taken to avoid pressure or weight on that portion of the paper bearing the indentations.

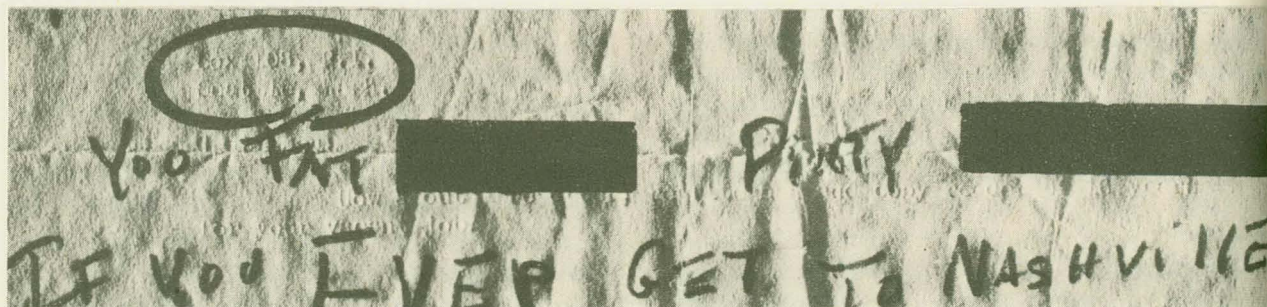


Figure 2. (Matter of Circle Shows Address of Subject.)

Identification of Shoes Helps Solve Bank Robbery

On January 3, 1948, an unknown man waited in line in front of a teller's cage in a crowded bank at Duluth, Minn. When his turn came he slid a note under the teller's grill: "Empty drawers, put money into the paper bag or I'll kill you." The teller read the note, looked at the man who was holding his hand in his coat pocket as though it concealed a gun, and began putting bills into the paper bag the gunman handed him. At the same time he stepped on an alarm button on the floor of his cage. The alarm was connected with the bank president's office. But before he could be halted the bandit took the bag of money and the note from the teller, walked rapidly out of the bank, hurried down the street, and was lost in the busy Saturday morning crowd.

Immediately after the robbery, which involved a loss of \$2,573, an alarm was sent out by the police department. Radio patrol cars blocked the main roads. Trains and planes were searched.



Inside of heel of rubber lost after robbery.

Hotels, bars, and taverns in Duluth were checked. But the gunman had disappeared. The only material clue to his identity was a low-cut rubber which had dropped from his shoe as he hurried out of the bank.

FBI agents were called into the case. One of their first steps was to send the rubber to the FBI laboratory for determination of the make of shoes the bandit was wearing. It was believed that this information could be obtained from the almost invisible impressions left on the inside of the rubber. A laboratory expert was able to bring up these faint impressions by means of special photography, and to determine that the shoes the bandit had been wearing bore soles and heels manufactured by the Gro-Cord Rubber Co. These were inscribed with the brand name "Raw-Cord."

On January 22, 1948, at Billings, Mont., an individual was taken off a freight train by police on the complaint of a sailor. The sailor, also riding on the freight, said the man had pulled a gun on him. The suspect was lodged in the county jail at Billings, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. He was searched and was found to be carrying a large sum of money for which he had no adequate explanation. His new clothes bore the label of a store in Duluth, Minn.

An agent of the Butte office of the FBI, in discussing this arrest with the sheriff at Billings, remembered the robbery of the Duluth bank. He secured the sheriff's permission to question the man, then called the Butte office which had obtained additional information regarding the robbery from the St. Paul office. This included the loss of the rubber and the identification of the "Raw-Cord" brand. Armed with this information the agent began the interview. He obtained a signed confession from the subject who stated



Heel of right shoe worn during robbery.

that about 10 minutes after he had committed the robbery he registered at a hotel approximately three blocks from the bank. Shortly afterward he went to a clothing store where he bought \$200 worth of clothes. He left the shoes he was wearing at the store. Three days later the store proprietor gave the shoes to a woman in Duluth. Agents contacted this woman, obtained the shoes (which had the "Raw-Cord" brand name on their soles and heels), and sent them to the FBI laboratory to be compared with the impressions in the rubber. The right shoe was positively identified as having left the impressions.

The subject is now awaiting trial in Federal court on a charge of bank robbery. The accompanying illustrations are photographs of the heel of the right shoe admittedly worn by the man, and the impressions left by this heel on the inside of the rubber lost during the robbery.

"Classification of Fingerprints"

It is no longer possible for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to supply the above booklet in quantity to law-enforcement officers. Copies of Classification of Fingerprints may be secured from the Government Printing Office in Washington, D. C. The price is 40 cents a copy. Requests for this booklet (which is restricted in distribution to those regularly employed in municipal, county or State police work and those officers of the Federal Government engaged in law enforcement) should be addressed to: Superintendent of

Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

For your information, the Superintendent of Documents of the Government Printing Office does not send the material collect. Therefore, the necessary funds must accompany your order. Checks or money orders should be drawn payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

Requests should be written on the letterhead of the law-enforcement agency of which the person desiring the booklet is a member.



Police Records Systems

Administrative Handling of Investigation Records

Not long ago in a metropolitan area a man was arrested on charges of rape and robbery. The prosecuting attorney wished to present the case to the grand jury on the following day as that body planned to adjourn with the close of business the same day. He called for the complete investigative files on the case from the police department. The request proved extremely embarrassing to the chief of police and to his officers for the department had to inaugurate a detailed investigation before all of the reports and evidence needed by the prosecutor could be located.

The original complaint reports were on file in the desk sergeant's office—where complaints were received. The sex squad handled the rape investigation. Consequently the reports covering this phase of the investigation were in its office. The reports covering the robbery case were located in the detective bureau. This was not too bad but the detective bureau had no assignment record showing which detectives had been assigned to the case. Finally, by a process of elimination, it was determined that two detectives who had just left the city on vacation had handled the case. Unfortunately, these officers were under the impression that the grand jury would adjourn before the case was presented. All of the information gathered in the investigation which they had conducted in the past 2 weeks was in their heads. There was no written report.

What did the chief do? The only thing he could do was to advise the prosecutor, in the first instance, that efforts were being made to locate the reports and, next that the key witnesses—the two detectives—were on vacation and had not prepared their final reports. The chief took steps immediately to arrange a system whereby a complete record of each case could be secured without depending upon the memory of the line officers or without conducting a widespread search to locate the records.

This was accomplished by centralizing all records, establishing complete administrative control through a central recording of complaints, a strict follow-up system, and by a sound filing and indexing procedure.

Let us review a few important items covered in previous issues on the subject of police records. First, all records of a law enforcement agency should be centralized, and the line operating units be relieved of the responsibility of keeping records. Second, a department should have complete administrative control over all complaints and requests for police service. Third, a department should have a central fund of information—a master name index—to which it may refer to locate any information concerning any individual with whom it may have had business.

Review of Complaints

Each day all complaints should be reviewed by a responsible person to determine that all are being appropriately reported and properly handled. In a small department the chief of police should review all complaints. In other departments the officer in charge of the records or central complaint room may review the complaints. The main purpose of the review of all complaints is to make certain that the department is not relaxing its standards in record keeping. The second purpose is to insure that any unusual complaints are referred to the proper officials. For example, a citizen registers a complaint with the police department to the effect that a public sidewalk is broken and is dangerous to pedestrians. While it is reasonable to inform the complainant that he should notify a certain city department, notations to that effect and also to the effect that the police department notified the proper agency of the complaint, should be made on the original record. The police department is then protected from embarrassment in the event the city is a party in a civil suit arising out of the condition reported.

Miscellaneous Noncriminal Complaints

The problem of handling miscellaneous and noncriminal complaints is a grave one from the administrative viewpoint. Most administrators recognize the importance of maintaining a record concerning each such item handled by the police. Still the matter of employee time consumed in reporting, handling and filing these complaints has been a problem and many law enforcement agency heads have resolved in favor of saving the employee time by sacrificing the important feature of an "air-tight" administrative control. It has been found that the habit of not recording each complaint is a difficult one to correct.

Every law enforcement agency should design a simple system for handling miscellaneous and noncriminal complaints, but at the same time one which will allow the department to locate these complaints when necessary. This is necessary to provide the department with correct statistical data and allow studies to be made as to the volume of work handled by time and by area.

The entries in a complaint book, on a daily log, or the complaint report or memoranda, which provide the administrative control record, contain the original information on all complaints. After a miscellaneous noncriminal complaint has been handled the department should be able to tell that action on the complaint was executed in a manner conducive to the best interests of the department as well as the amount of time spent in handling the matter. This can be accomplished in the following ways:

- (a) Investigating officer can record the action taken on the original record upon his return to headquarters.
- (b) The action taken may be reported by radio and the information briefly recorded on the original report by the radio dispatcher.
- (c) Report the action taken to the officer designated to take complaints by telephone and he may record it on the original record. This may be the desk sergeant, radio dispatcher, complaint officers, etc.
- (d) Report the action taken on a standard officer's notebook form, or a car log to be submitted to headquarters.

While it is essential to have a brief report on these complaints, a complicated system should be avoided. It is important to emphasize that this pertains to the average miscellaneous and noncriminal complaint. When an officer investigates such an incident and it appears possible that additional trouble will arise in the future, a detailed complaint or investigative report should be pre-

pared. For example, an officer is assigned a family argument complaint and, if after talking to the participants, he has reason to believe the husband or wife will attempt to do bodily harm to the other, a complete report should be prepared.

Reporting on Investigations

Other complaints fall into the category embracing the loss, theft, or destruction of property or injury to persons and these should be followed up with an investigative report in every instance.

Each crime reported to the department is generally investigated as soon as possible. The first investigation is considered the preliminary investigation and whether it be a detective or a uniformed officer who handles it, a report should be submitted in the same tour of duty in which the complaint was received. This report should completely cover all of the facts developed.

The two main reasons for this requirement are:

1. The information is available immediately and each shift has the benefit of all investigations conducted in the one or two preceding shifts. The information being available often spells the difference between a case cleared by arrest and one remaining unsolved.
2. The head of the department may receive inquiries from the press and other persons. He should not have to reply that the officer who is handling the case is off duty and has not submitted a report as yet.

In an involved or detailed investigation of a crime, the investigating officer should return to headquarters or his precinct station to dictate or prepare his report. The majority of detectives prepare their reports at headquarters or in their stations. Departments, however, do have a problem—the method to be utilized by uniformed foot patrolman and radio car officers in reporting investigations of crimes which are not involved or detailed. Many departments follow the practice of having such investigations reported by phone, either by the police department call box system or by telephone to the appropriate station clerk, stenographer, complaint officer, record clerk or desk sergeant. The investigation is recorded and the report is held for the signature of the officer.

In every modern, up-to-date police department, officers are required to write detailed reports. The patrol strength and investigative time of the detectives are affected by the amount of time spent in writing reports. This presents a serious problem from the administrative standpoint. It would be well for most departments to consider providing stenographic assistance for uniformed officers and detectives alike.

Let us analyze the problem in a hypothetical department with a complement of 100 men, and assume that only 5 percent of their time is spent in writing reports. This means the department has lost the patrol or investigative time of five full-time officers to this function. The salaries of five full-time patrolmen in this department amount to \$15,000 a year. Two stenographers were hired for \$4,000 a year and the time spent by officers in preparing and dictating reports was reduced to 2 percent. On this basis the city, by spending \$4,000 for stenographic assistance, gained \$9,000 worth of patrol strength.

Trained stenographic assistance would result in more uniform reporting. Stenographers would know when information essential to correct reporting was lacking and would seek details from the officers. When stenographers are not kept busy taking dictation and typing reports, they may be utilized on other record work.

Many departments have adopted a standard loose-leaf officer's notebook. Miniature notebook forms may be designed to correspond with the official offense, traffic or specialized report forms used by the department. The officers may refill their notebooks from time to time as their supply becomes exhausted. Plain or ruled paper may be provided for the recording of additional details which cannot be recorded on the miniature forms. In the interests of uniformity, these notebooks may be supplied to the officers without charge.

It has been found by departments using a standard officer's notebook that the report writing is more uniform and complete.

Supplementary Reports

Many cases will be closed with the submission of the preliminary report when it contains all the facts and there is no further investigation to be conducted. If a case is left in a pending status after a preliminary report is submitted, a supplementary report should be submitted at definite stated periods until the case is closed.

It may be well for a department to establish in its rules and regulations a requirement that all investigations conducted subsequent to the submission of a preliminary or initial report be reported on a supplementary report. The main reasons for such a requirement are:

- (a) To insure that all pending investigations will be vigorously investigated.
- (b) To allow all cases to be closely supervised by a ranking officer.

Many departments have found it desirable to establish rules requiring that a supplementary report be submitted 3 days after the preliminary investigation is reported and weekly thereafter, until the case is closed.

Follow-Up Procedure

It is essential that the chief of police, or other executive head of a law enforcement organization, have an administrative device which will insure that all cases brought to the attention of the police receive appropriate attention in due time. This means that a routine procedure must be established whereby there will be a follow-up on all pending cases to see that the assigned employee handles the case promptly and submits reports properly and in compliance with departmental regulations.

The most effective procedure is to maintain a follow-up or "tickler" file. This may consist of a 3- by 5-inch piece of paper for each pending case, bearing identifying information concerning the case involved and a brief notation indicating the action yet to be taken. A tray designed to handle 3- by 5-inch index cards may be used for filing the follow-up slips. The tray will contain guide cards for each day of the month as well as one for each month of the year, a total of 43 guide cards. Figure 1 illustrates a 3- by 5-inch tickler or follow-up box with the appropriate guide cards.

If a preliminary report is received on a burglary on January 12 and the regulations of the department require that a supplementary investigative report be submitted not later than January 15, the follow-up slip on this case should be set for January 16, on which date the follow-up officer will examine the file on the case to see whether the report has been submitted in due course. In the event the report has not been received, he will send a routine notice to the commanding officer of the individual who is delinquent, in order that the matter may receive appropriate attention.

If the follow-up slip is to be set ahead more than one month, it is placed back of the appropriate monthly guide card. On the other hand, if it is set ahead a period less than one month, it will be set behind the appropriate guide card in the daily section of the follow-up file.

Some departments employ a less complicated follow-up procedure by maintaining pending cases in a separate file. The follow-up procedure consists in making monthly or other periodic

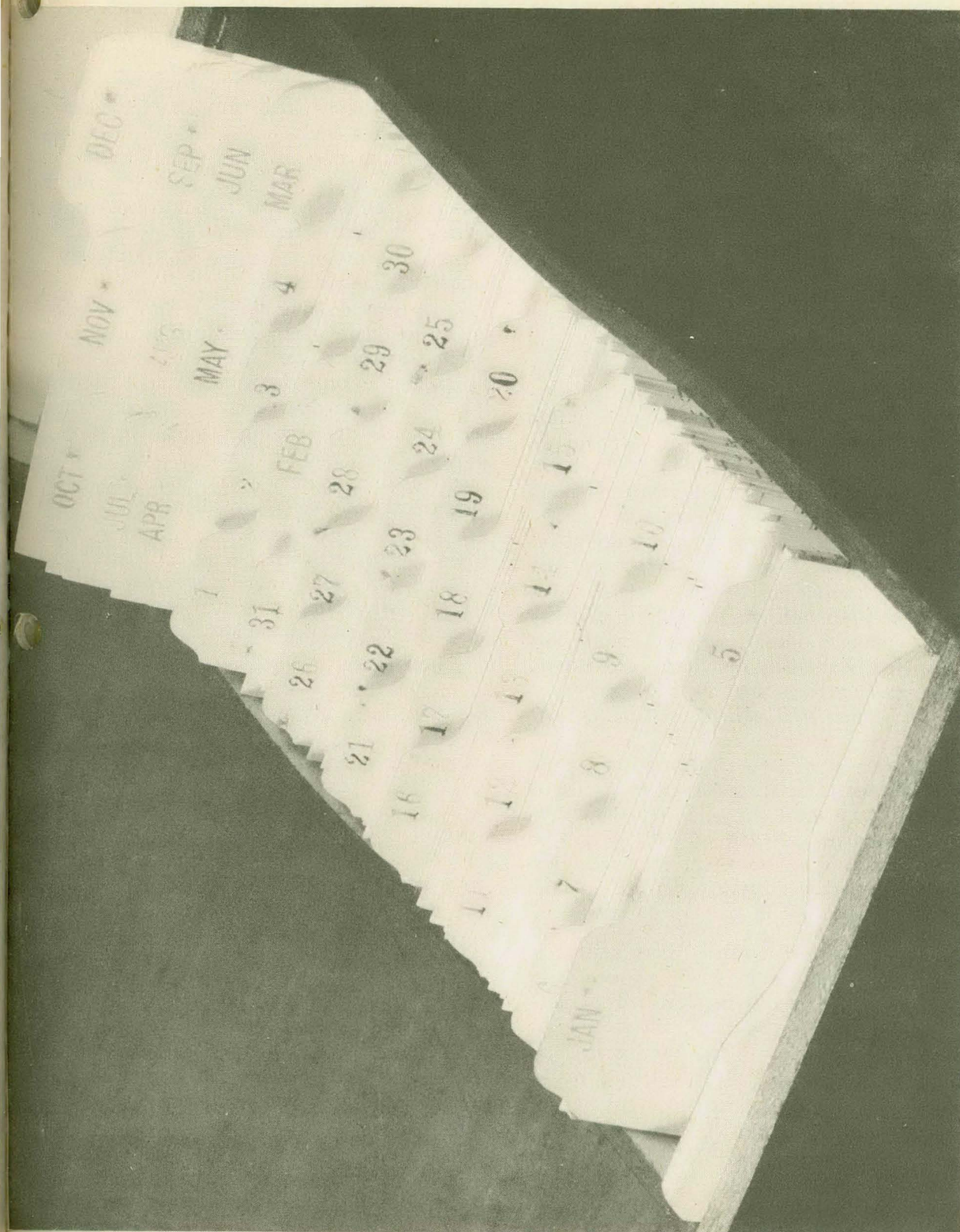


Figure 1.

checks of the pending file to see that in each case the investigation has been properly conducted and reported in accordance with the regulations of the department. When a case is completed, the report is transferred to the closed file. While this type of follow-up procedure is simpler than the system described above, it is possibly less efficient, at least from the viewpoint of promptness in detecting failures either to handle or report investigations.

Copies of Reports

A department should prepare only as many copies of investigative reports as are necessary. Generally, the unit handling the investigation should be furnished a carbon copy of all reports. For example, copies of all reports of cases being handled by the detective bureau should be furnished it. Preparing copies merely for the information of certain ranking officers should be avoided.

One department, because the ranking officers wanted to know what was going on, found it necessary to prepare eight copies of each complaint and offense report. One copy was forwarded to each captain. Some merely threw their copies away. Others attempted to set up a filing system so they would have all information at their fingertips. Obviously, it would have been easier to prepare a bulletin concerning all important complaints to be furnished each man on the department.

All original reports should be filed as the department's permanent record. Carbon copies furnished other units may be destroyed after they have served their purpose.

Filing Reports in the Record Room

In order that superior officers and record employees clearly understand a police record system, it is essential that they realize there are two main types of records. One deals with records of complaints (investigation records). The second has to do with records of arrests. Other records are of a special nature such as identification, juvenile, vice records and the like. Departments also maintain administrative records such as personnel and equipment records, daily and statistical reports, etc., but the main records are investigation and arrest records.

The main records are related only in that cases are "cleared" through the arrest of certain indi-

viduals. A crime is investigated in an effort to determine the identity and to apprehend the perpetrator. Once the perpetrator is apprehended the balance of the case looks toward a successful prosecution.

One series of numbers for filing investigative reports is the best system. It makes for simplicity and provides a chronological record of activities. Old records may be placed in storage without disturbing the system. At some future time old records may be destroyed without a tedious task of sorting out certain records to be discarded. All current files are in one place and the matter of indexing is made simple.

A department using only one form for recording all complaints and investigations may have a straight numerical file. One using a log may desire to number only the more serious offenses and this, too, will provide a consecutive series of numbers. A department using a complaint report for recording each complaint may file the complaint report in straight numerical order. In the latter instance, the offense or investigation reports prepared on the more serious offenses may be filed in skip-numbered numerical order, if they are of a different size than the complaint reports. The following illustrates consecutive numbers on complaint reports and skip numbers on offense reports.

<i>Complaint reports</i>	<i>Complaint</i>	<i>Offense reports</i>
1	Drunk	
2	Hole in the street	
3	Burglary	3
4	Loud radio	
5	Family argument	
6	Robbery	6
7	Larceny	7
8	Boys in the street	
9	Assault	9
10	Fight	
11	Disturbance	
12	Auto theft	12

If desired, offense reports (case files) may be numbered consecutively with a separate series of case numbers; however, the numbers should be cross referenced with the complaint numbers. A department with precinct or district stations may establish a Headquarters number series. The number series used in filing investigation records should continue indefinitely without starting a new series at the end of one or several years.

There should be filed with the original offense report all material of a documentary nature that has a bearing on the offense. The department will then have a complete chronological file on each

crime committed and the investigation conducted.

Offense reports and related material may be filed in file folders with approximately 25 cases to each. The practice of preparing a folder for each case is an expensive one and it consumes a great amount of filing space. If it is anticipated that many reports, signed statements, photographs, etc., will be prepared and filed with one case, one file folder may be reserved for the case.

These records should be kept in a neat and orderly array in the file drawers. If the record employees should become lax in filing, the entire system will suffer.

Charging Out Files

When any records are removed from the file an appropriate "charge out" should be made. This can be accomplished in many ways. The simplest method is to design a charge-out slip which is approximately one-half inch larger than the forms used. It should be of a distinctive color. When a report or file is taken out, the name of the officer to whom the file is furnished, the complainant's or victim's name, the date the file was charged out and the file number should be recorded on the charge-out slip. The charge-out slip will protrude above the reports and a glance at a file drawer will indicate what files are missing.

A second system is to maintain in a 3- by 5-inch charge-out box, a slip of paper or card containing the same information as set out above for each report out of file. A third system is to maintain a bound book in which the name of the officer, the number of the file and the date would be recorded. When the file is returned a line is drawn through the corresponding entry in the book.

Filing Reports in Detective Bureau

A department should maintain only one complete filing system. A practice of allowing a major unit of a department to establish complete records should be discouraged as this only creates duplication of record work and over a period of time will create a decentralized system.

Copies of all investigative reports in cases to be handled by the detective bureau should be furnished to that unit. In the detective bureau the reports may be filed on arch clipboards or in file folders by type of crime, available for examination by all detectives. This pertains only to pending cases and those being actively investigated.

A satisfactory procedure followed by many departments is to keep copies of reports in all unsolved cases in the detective bureau for a period of 90 days to be used in questioning suspects. A team of detectives arrest a burglary suspect and he admits breaking into many residences but he cannot remember where or when. The detectives need merely take all burglary reports which are filed together for this purpose. If they need to question the suspect concerning burglaries committed more than 90 days before, they may obtain the original files from the record room.

If a department has specialized squads within the detective bureau, each should keep the copies of reports pertaining to its cases which are unsolved or pending. However, these reports should be available to other members of the detective bureau.

Closing Cases

What is a pending case? A pending case is one not yet finished. In law enforcement work it means a case being actively investigated.

All investigations should be closely supervised to determine that the officer assigned is conducting a proper investigation. When all facts of a minor crime have been reported and no other investigation appears logical, the case should be closed. Serious crimes will remain in a pending or active status for a much longer period of time.

A generally accepted practice now in law enforcement circles is to close a case in 30 days unless some special reason exists to keep it pending. Closing cases should not be confused with clearing cases. A case is closed when it is no longer being investigated and it is not assigned to an individual officer. A closed case can be either solved or unsolved. Closing a case is merely an administrative operation and not an investigative step.

A case is "cleared" when one or more persons are arrested, charged with the commission of the offense, and turned over to the court for prosecution (whether following arrest, court summons, or police notice). An offense should be considered cleared when one offender is apprehended and held for prosecution even though two or more individuals were jointly involved in the commission of the offense. The arrest of one person may clear several offenses; on the other hand, the arrest of several persons may clear but one offense.

A number of exceptional clearances, not the result of arrests, can be considered as clearing an of-

fense. Detection of the offender is an essential in every exceptional clearance. Exceptional clearances are limited to the following:

1. Suicide of the offender.
2. Double murder.
3. Deathbed confession.
4. Confession by offender already in custody or serving sentence.
5. An offender prosecuted in another city for a different offense; or when extradition is denied.

In all cases if the offense is to be considered cleared, he must be identified as the offender and an attempt made to obtain him.

The recovery of property does not clear a case. All cases in which recovery is the only result are not considered cleared.

It will be seen, then, that a "cleared" case may be in either a closed or pending status.

Supervision and Approval of Reports

All investigation reports should be signed by the investigating officer and supervised and approved by his commanding officer. From the administrative viewpoint it is well to establish a rule that no report may be filed unless it has been approved by a ranking officer.

The head of a law enforcement agency must depend upon the quantity and quality of supervision his ranking officers are giving their subordinates. It will not suffice to merely have a captain, lieutenant or sergeant know that his men are on duty and observe their performance of duty, their attitude and competence from time to time. The ranking officers are supervisors and must supervise all the work of their subordinates.

To a great extent the quality of a police officer's work is reflected in the reports submitted by him. The only way the ranking officer can complete his cycle of supervision is by reviewing the reports submitted by the investigating officers. In this manner he knows what his men are doing and of the activities of his division.

Reports prepared by members of the uniformed division would normally be approved by the captain of the uniformed division or by a designated subordinate. Similarly, reports prepared by members of the detective division would usually be signed by the captain of detectives, whereas the reports prepared by members of the traffic division would normally be reviewed and approved by the commanding officer of that division.

When the commanding officers are required to

approve investigative reports it fixes supervising responsibility for each investigation. The time for the commanding officer to correct any delinquencies, errors or shortcomings in a report is when he approves the report and while it is still fresh in his mind.

In order that individual officers may know what is expected of them, and so there may be standards to be followed by the reviewing officers, it is essential that each department adopt a set of regulations with reference to the preparation of reports. These regulations should set out the circumstances under which the various reports are to be prepared and also state in detail the various items which must be incorporated in each type of report. When these regulations have been carefully prepared and explained to all members of the department, it will be possible to insist that all reports be compiled in compliance therewith. There will, of course, be instances wherein individual reports will not measure up to the departmental regulations either as to form or content. Most such failures should be detected by the superior officer who reviews the report, and he should thereafter bring the matter to the attention of the individual officer who submitted the report in order that the report may be corrected. It will be noted that a report not only makes it possible for the supervising officer to be informed concerning the details of individual cases handled by his division but also enables him to make constructive suggestions to the men under his supervision as to ways and means of improving the handling of individual cases.

It is difficult to overemphasize the need for thorough and intelligent supervision of the handling of individual cases in connection with any attempt to raise the standards of performance within any organization.

The matter of checking records for form may be handled by the record clerks. This pertains to such items as proper names, correct addresses, dates, etc. It is not the duty of a record bureau to supervise the investigation of various line operating units.

Assignment Records

It is desirable that the person responsible for the efficient functioning of the detective bureau or division (usually the captain of detectives) have available for ready reference a record listing cases assigned to individual detectives. A detective as

signment record will make it possible for the supervisory officer to determine the number of pending cases assigned to an individual detective at any particular time and also to determine the degree of success which the individual has attained in solving cases assigned to him. Such a record may be maintained by the captain of detectives or a secretarial employee.

Another method is to prepare a 3- by 5-inch slip of paper on each case assigned to detective for investigation. These slips of paper should contain identifying information and may be filed in a small 3- by 5-inch card file or box behind each detective's name. If the department uses a 3- by 5-inch follow-up system, a carbon copy of the follow-up slip may be used for the assignment record. As cases are closed the assignment slips should be removed from the assignment box and destroyed.

Much of the success of a law enforcement agency

depends upon the quantity and quality of its records system. Before police departments, sheriffs' offices, and State police organizations can be of maximum assistance to one another, they must have adequate records system.

Our criminal population today is as mobile as our fast modern transportation systems. A crime can be committed in one locality and before the sun sets the perpetrator can be hundreds of miles away. The police department in whose jurisdiction the crime was committed must depend upon other agencies to help solve the case and locate the criminal.

The greater the fund of readily available information on file in a law enforcement agency, the greater are the chances of its general operations proving effective.

(Type of crime and location of indices will be discussed in a subsequent issue.)

New Angle—Old Swindle

The following touching letter, postmarked in Mexico, and signed by the Reverend Lawrence Aber, M. D., Chapala, Jalisco, Republic of Mexico, was used in an attempt to secure money in the sympathy racket.

The letter, addressed to a police department, is as follows:

GENTLEMEN: Will you help me find my son James who is probably somewhere up in Maine. I am a missionary down here in Mexico. My wife is dying and I must find James so as to get funds to bury her with when she is gone. Tell him that our mission board allowance won't reach us until too late and that I have used every cent I have for medicine. If mother dies I won't even have money to buy a coffin with or take her body to a Christian burial ground.

James will probably visit some church on Sundays and if this notice is taken to the different ministers they will

probably find him for me. I pray that some way is possible to find him.

Mother has given her complete life to foreign missions and so I want to give her a Christian burial. James will know how to get us some money and my only resource is through him. Won't you take this letter to the different churches and ask the ministers to broadcast a plea for him? Many of the people will help me in this search I am sure.

(Sincerely prayerfully sent.)

The writer's objective is to have the letter sent to various churches where it will be read to the congregation, in the hope, obviously, that sympathetic souls will voluntarily take up a collection and forward it to the subject.

Lawrence Aber, author of the letter, is alleged to have misrepresented himself as a missionary and as a retired United States naval officer.

Theft From Interstate Shipment

This is a Federal offense and falls within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

What constitutes theft from interstate shipment? Briefly: Breaking the seal or lock, or entry and larceny from a railroad car, vessel, aircraft, motortruck, wagon, or other vehicle containing interstate or foreign shipments. One clause of the statute includes such goods when they have been "Embezzled, stolen, or obtained by fraud." Another covers buying, receiving, or possessing such

goods. Still another, the subsequent interstate transportation of such goods. The statute covers theft, embezzlement, and unlawful taking by fraud of money, baggage, or property from any railroad car, motortruck, steamboat, etc., moving in interstate or from any passenger or employee thereon. This statute also covers embezzlements of funds derived from interstate shipments by employees of interstate carriers when such funds are in their custody.

CRIME PREVENTION

Today's Children Are The Citizens of Tomorrow

Belief in the indisputable fact that "today's children are tomorrow's citizens" led the foresighted city administration of Rochester, N. Y. to establish a Youth Bureau and Police Athletic League on September 10, 1947. Unanimous approval was given by the city council to the ordinance as introduced by Councilmen Henry L. Schlueter and Frederick J. Ruppel at the suggestion of Thomas C. Woods, commissioner of public safety.

The Youth Bureau with its cooperating Police Athletic League has been set up as a separate bureau under the Department of Public Safety. As such it has its own director, Henry H. Jensen, chosen for his outstanding work and experience in handling youth problems. For 11 years he has

been a police officer and for the past 25 years, a leader in Boy Scout, YMCA, and American Red Cross work. The bureau's personnel consists of six policemen with outstanding law enforcement and athletic records, and two young policewomen who are veterans of World War II. Because their duties are so varied, the members of the bureau are exempted from regular police department orders. This bureau operates under a separate budget and pay roll.

General objectives of the Youth Bureau of Rochester are:

1. Determination of the size and causes of youth problems.
2. Definite cooperation through referrals with the council of social agencies and the maximum use of their local facilities of youth problems as they arise.



Police Officer Andrew J. Sparacino showing movies to members of the P. A. L. Club at No. 43 School.

3. Establishment of additional recreational facilities based on demonstrated needs.

4. Constant re-evaluation of needs and results of initiated programs.

5. Supplementation and revision of programs if need for it is indicated.

To help accomplish its aim of crime prevention, the Youth Bureau sponsors a definite recreational program for youth between the ages of 6 to 18 years through its Police Athletic League. Ten league centers are already active, after school, in the city's public and parochial elementary schools from 3 to 5 p. m., and more will be added shortly. Police Athletic League outdoor programs will be conducted primarily on athletic fields in full cooperation with the city bureau of playgrounds and the board of education.

In order to further prepare them for their new work, the entire youth bureau staff received an intensive sociology course offered last October by the University of Rochester under the direction of Dr. Earl L. Koos, professor of the sociology department. The purpose of the course was to give the bureau's personnel a thorough understanding of the problems of the child in his com-

munity, of the problems related to antisocial behavior, and of the community resources available to the bureau. Previous to this course, Director Jensen, at the suggestion of Commissioner Woods, made an intensive study of the procedure and organization of the Police Athletic League and the juvenile aid bureau of the New York City police department with the cooperation of its commanding officer, James B. Nolan, sixth deputy police commissioner.

This new Youth Bureau, with its integral part, the Police Athletic League, has received a city appropriation of \$30,000 for this year—as well as \$15,000 maximum State aid—from its sponsor, the New York State Youth Commission, under the chairmanship of Mr. Emmett R. Gauhn, besides enthusiastic moral support from the city's leading officials, especially City Manager Louis B. Cartwright, Commissioner of Public Safety Thomas C. Woods, Chief of Police Henry T. Copenhagen and from local press and radio has been forthcoming. From Rochester businessmen and fraternal organizations, the newly created bureau is receiving some voluntary financial and material



Chief of Police Henry T. Copenhagen, Officers Raymond Yockel and Miss Helen A. J. Fink (instructors), and members of P. A. L. Clubs at St. Monica's School.



Police Officers (left to right, standing), Thomas A. Cellura, U. S. Army veteran; Miss Harriet J. Sherman, former WAC; Miss Helen A. J. Fink, formerly of the U. S. Army Nurse Corps; Andrew J. Sparacino, Marine veteran; (left to right, seated), Raymond C. Yockel, former captain in the U. S. Army; Clarence G. DePrez, coordinator of P. A. L. recreation; A. T. C. Police Lieutenant Henry H. Jensen, director of Y. B. and P. A. L. Bureau; Henry W. Smith, assistant director of Y. B. and P. A. L. Bureau; Harvey Kusse, in charge of Stardust Nite Club and "Palteen" Recreation Club.

assistance, especially to equip the new youth center.

The Youth Bureau and the Police Athletic League, with headquarters in the City Hall, have a definite future in Rochester. In the words of Director Jensen, "We have children and parents who need assistance. The Youth Bureau also, with its Police Athletic League activities, is attempting through its police athletic league centers to fill this need for guidance in personal problems and in the field of recreation. The Bureau of Police is trying to be a real 'pal' to a lot of 'little pals.' It is ready to assist anyone who contacts it.

"Our duty is to extend a helping hand to growing youths through our work and relationship, to help create in them a sense of responsibility and citizenship which will not only encourage respect for those who enforce the law but for the law

itself—because the city of Rochester, N. Y., truly believes that 'today's children are tomorrow's citizens.'"

Unite with the Junior American Citizens Club

On February 17, 1948, the Police Athletic League of Rochester, with 2,000 members, officially joined hands with the Junior American Citizens Club sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution which group was organized by Mrs. Rupert W. Kuenzel, national vice chairman of the DAR club committee. The purpose of Police Athletic League joining the Junior American Citizens Club, according to Commissioner Thomas C. Woods, is to stress good citizenship lessons in the course of the brief business meetings.



Mayor Samuel B. Dicker, Rochester (left); five students from Rochester, N. Y. Public and Parochial Schools—on the Stardust Room and “Palteen” Recreation Center at Edgerton Park; City Manager Louis B. Cartwright (right).

For youth of high-school age, 13 to 18 years, a beautiful dry night club (the first of its kind ever sponsored by a city administration in the United States) and Police Athletic League recreation center was opened. This youth center, named “Palteen,” is centrally located with three transit bus lines and one subway within one block of the center. It will offer a wholesome atmosphere for dancing in its Stardust Room with a large, popular, local, union orchestra. There will be a small fee of about 75 cents per couple, with capacity for 500 youths on Friday and Saturday nights. Monday through Thursday from 3:30 to 10 p. m., there will be juke box dancing and indoor sport activities such as boxing, wrestling, ping-pong, etc. Annual Police Athletic League membership fee for youth is 25 cents per person. This covers the cost

of pledge cards and Police Athletic League emblems. Administration of the youth center will be under the supervision of two youth bureau police personnel assisted by the ideas and suggestions offered by a high school student committee of 28.

The value of the Youth Bureau and the Police Athletic League cannot be measured immediately. The program is a long-range one. One of its constant aims is to impress children with the fact that the policeman is their friend. As a recent Rochester newspaper editorial stated “Policemen can be the city’s ambassadors to future citizens.” Too often their duties present only the stern face of the law to growing folks. Yet organized society has another face—that which looks toward the general well being.

Youth Program Reduces Juvenile Delinquency

by Chief of Police EDWARD H. DAVIDSON, N.A.,
Mattoon, Ill.

I would like to state, first of all, that I believe the law-enforcing officer has a very definite place in religious, recreational, and social programs for youth.

Between November 1945 and November 1946 the local police department had the unwelcome task of questioning and incarcerating 405 youths from 9 years to 16 years of age, on charges ranging from skipping school to rape. During interrogation it developed that only 3 boys of this group attended a church regularly. Only 5 had parents who took enough interest in their welfare to attend parent-teacher meetings at the various schools.

We decided to form a junior police group with the thought in mind that by coming in closer contact with these youths we could obtain their respect and cooperation.

The First Step

Our first step was to contact school officials, ministers, and civic organizations, and obtain their cooperation. We then posted a bulletin at each of our 9 schools requesting any youth who was interested to report to the police department. Within 3 days 475 boys had taken the following oath:

1. I will keep clean, be friendly and courteous.
2. I will respect the rights and property of others.
3. I will cooperate with my teachers and parents in order to become a better citizen.
4. I will attend a church of my own choice regularly.
5. Unless accompanied by my parents or guardian I will be off the streets and be home by 10 p. m.

Their ages ranged from 10 to 16 years, and regardless of race, creed, and color, these boys were taken in a body to each church in town. This took 13 weeks but at practically every church some boy expressed his desire to become a member.

Each boy who joined the organization received a police badge with "Mattoon Junior Police" and his number inscribed upon it.

Civic groups sponsored dinners, parties, and other entertainment. One event which aroused enthusiastic goodwill was a trip of 135 miles to St.

Louis, Mo., to see a big league baseball game. Sponsored by local merchants, the trip was made in 13 busses leased for the occasion. Tickets were furnished free in cooperation with a local radio station and the State of Illinois furnished an escort for the Illinois portion of the trip.

During the summer 18 baseball teams were organized. These were sponsored by local merchants. Preliminary games were played at the Mattoon White Sox Park. At the end of the season trophies were given to the best team, best sportsman, etc. These were purchased by money received from the Community Chest. Our share for the past year from this organization amounted to \$700.

Each year at the Christmas party every member of the junior police is given a treat.

I am sure that this year our organization will have a band. We are presently collecting and repairing instruments.

Urges Public Support

During this past year I have made talks at various parent-teacher meetings urging more effort be made to induce mothers and fathers to attend. Churches have been urged to make their programs more interesting to all members of the family. Schools have been urged to offer more plays and to secure better equipment.

I believe that 95 percent of the so-called delinquency can be traced back to irresponsible acts of parents. I also believe that the local police departments can do more to correct this situation than any other agency. We have the facts at our fingertips. We have the opportunity to see the youngster and his parents in many phases of their lives. Who knows better than a police officer that Johnnie can't go home to his meals because his mother spends her time in a tavern? Or maybe in playing cards and discussing the ills of the world?

I think statistics speak for themselves. November of last year was our first anniversary. By that date our juvenile arrests had been cut from 405 to 13. We experienced less trouble this past Halloween than at any time on record.

There is no program which will make a community crime-free, but there are programs which will help to correct the results of some of our adult faults.

All in all, many youngsters do a remarkable job of living with the kind of parents they have to live with.

POLICE PERSONALITIES

“Mr. Bob”

It was 2 days before Christmas—11:30 a. m., on the morning of December 23, 1947, to be exact—when a boy ran up to Sheriff Bob Reeves in Bremond, Tex., and excitedly told him he had just seen two men pull masks up over their faces as they entered the First State Bank across the street. Immediately thereafter he had seen them close the doors and pull down the blinds.

Crossing the street, Sheriff Reeves noticed a strange car parked in front of the bank with several shotguns and rifles in the back seat. As he approached the door of the bank it was opened by one of the masked men who was carrying a gun in one hand and a sack of money in the other. Covering Reeves, the masked man backed him against the building, and stepped into the car. He was joined by his companion who also emerged from the bank, carrying a gun and sacks of money.

With the first robber at the wheel of the car, the second masked man momentarily took his eyes off Sheriff Reeves and stepped down from the curb. In that instant Reeves dropped his hands and drew his gun. As the robber looked around and started to raise his gun, the Sheriff fired. The masked man collapsed in the doorway of the car with a bullet hole in the exact center of his forehead. His partner started to drive the car away.

A half block down the crowded street, the driver, unable to pull the injured man into the car, pushed him out into the street and sped away. Sheriff Reeves immediately placed a phone call which instantly put a State-wide manhunt into operation with the FBI, State, and local officers cooperating in blocking the roads.

Luck was with the surviving bandit, however. A few minutes later he feigned surrender at a road block, then suddenly gunned the motor. As he sped away officers riddled the car with machine-gun fire but left the bandit unscathed. Mute evidence of his successful running of the blockade was developed several days later when the bullet



“Mr. Bob”

riddled automobile was found abandoned on the outskirts of Fort Worth, Tex.

Within the hour, Sheriff Bob Reeves was joined in the investigation of the robbery by FBI agents, and State and local officers. Laundry marks on the clothing and fingerprints resulted in the identification of the dead bandit as John Bernard Hooper of Belton, Tex. During the early afternoon Reeves received a phone call from Sheriff George Grimes of Meridian, Tex., who reported that a short time earlier Francis Marion Hooper had stopped hurriedly at a garage in a nearby town. There he remarked to the proprietor that he was “in trouble with the law.” Tracing down this lead the officers quickly identified Hooper—a brother of the slain bandit and the fugitive whom they sought.

Stops were immediately placed by FBI agents with known friends and contacts of Hooper across the nation. Shortly thereafter reports began trickling in that Hooper had been seen in Pennsylvania; Reno, Nev.; Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif.

Information was developed that one Ralph L. Thomas had known Hooper in the Navy. Thomas, a patrolman on the Los Angeles Police Department, was advised by FBI agents of the facts in the case and informed that Hooper was wanted.

On January 20, 1948, Hooper telephoned Patrolman Thomas who immediately invited him to his home for dinner that night. In the meantime, Thomas advised his department and the FBI agents who had been in contact with him. That evening Patrolman Thomas and his wife entertained Hooper knowing their house was surrounded by agents of the FBI and Los Angeles police. Dinner over, Hooper walked out of the

door of the Thomas residence and into the arms of the waiting officers.

He was subsequently returned to Texas where, on February 25, 1948, in the United States district court at Waco, he was sentenced to serve a term of 45 years in a United States penitentiary.

Of the \$12,000 obtained by Hooper and his brother in the robbery, \$7,694 has been recovered to date. Of this amount, \$5,843 was found in his personal effects at the time of his arrest in Los Angeles. The abandoned getaway car in Fort Worth yielded \$438 in silver coins when it was recovered. The final recovery of loot occurred on February 15, 1948, near Clifton, Tex., when Sheriffs Bob Reeves and George Grimes, Texas Ranger Joe Thompson, and FBI agents located \$1,321 in coins which Hooper had buried in a dry creek bed shortly after robbing the bank.

Unquestionably, the successful completion of the case was due in large part to the bravery and the efficient work of Sheriff Bob Reeves of Robertson County, in killing one of the robbers and in the part it played in identifying the dead man's companion.

Recognition of Reeves' outstanding work was not long in coming. On the afternoon of the day the bank was robbed he received a long distance call from the Texas State Bankers' Association inquiring for the particulars of the shooting of John Bernard Hooper. Sheriff Reeves was assured that the usual standing reward of \$5,000 posted by that Association for the killing of a robber at the scene of the crime would be mailed to him immediately. The following day's mail brought a check from the Association in payment of the reward.

Sheriff Reeves' personal account of the rapid-fire chain of events (which occurred within a matter of seconds) as he met the two armed men carrying sacks of money out of the bank speaks volumes. "Well, as he started to crawl into the front seat of the car he had to take his eyes off of me for a split second. I shot. It hit him in the center of the forehead. I'm glad the FBI taught me what to do in such an emergency."

The somewhat legendary Texas sheriff is well exemplified in Bob Reeves. He has spent the last 17 of his 53 years in the sheriff's office of his native Robertson County. Back in 1931, "Mr. Bob," as he is affectionately known by the residents of that area and many of the peace officers of Texas, entered the field of law enforcement as chief dep-

uty sheriff of his county. Five years later he was elected sheriff, which office he has held continuously since that date.

Proof that he has consistently endeavored to afford the citizens of his county efficient and effective law enforcement in the administration of his duties is the fact that "Mr. Bob" has for several years been engaged in the study of law through a correspondence course. At present he lacks only five hours of work to receive his LL. B. degree. Within the near future he expects to take the State bar examination. In addition, he has regularly attended police training schools sponsored by the FBI and the Texas Department of Public Safety. He has never missed attending an FBI law enforcement conference held in his territory.

Reeves is married and has two children. His daughter, Imogene, was employed in the Identification Division of the FBI in Washington, D. C., during the war years. His son, Bob, Jr., is a student at the Southwest Texas State Teachers College at San Marcos, Tex.

"Mr. Bob" has become an almost fabulous figure to the would-be criminal element which drifts into Robertson County from time to time, because of the thoroughness of his investigations and his persistence in tracking down and apprehending the guilty persons.

On the night of June 23, 1941, shortly after he returned home, D. S. Love, a merchant residing in Wheelock, Tex., was called to the door, where he found a masked man. Love refused the bandit's order to go back to his store for money and the masked man shot at him.

Arriving at the scene of the crime a short while later, Reeves followed the trail of the getaway car after making plaster of paris casts of the tire tracks. Later, he found the spot at which a meat truck had pulled the car out of a mudhole by using two meat hooks, one of which was left on the ground. Tracing the driver of the truck, the Sheriff requested help from the Houston Police Department. They located the fugitives' car with the other meat hook still on the front bumper.

Sheriff Reeves obtained confessions implicating three men in the attempted robbery. Later, at the trial, he introduced the plaster casts which were a major factor in convicting all three defendants.

On another occasion, "Mr. Bob" trailed a murderer from his county as far north as Nebraska, where the man had been working on a section gang. Upon finding that his man had left there and gone down into Louisiana to cut sugarcane

the sheriff promptly followed him and hired out as a cane stripper to make contacts with the workers in the fields. This time "Mr. Bob" found that he was just 3 days too late—his man had moved on to Mississippi to pick cotton. Here the trail was lost.

Not disheartened, Sheriff Reeves returned home to Robertson County and renewed his contacts with friends of the fugitive around the county. Not long afterward he heard of a letter postmarked Como, Mo., being received by one of the residents from an individual other than the fugitive. His suspicions aroused, Reeves investigated and satisfied himself that this person was identical with the murderer. Departing for Missouri, Sheriff Reeves enlisted the aid of local officers in that vicinity and accompanied them on a raid of a dice game. His questioning of the participants resulted in identifying the fugitive

as a resident of the community. This time he got his man.

The murderer was returned to Texas, where he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Prior to the time that "Mr. Bob" became sheriff no criminal had ever been fingerprinted in the county. Today, every person arrested by Sheriff Reeves and his deputies is fingerprinted immediately after being taken into custody.

In publicly commenting on his work as a law-enforcement officer, Sheriff Reeves stated that he felt he probably owed his life to the instruction and training he has received from FBI-sponsored schools. He related that he has always been impressed with the fact that an officer, when confronted with an armed criminal, should keep cool and wait for a break. This is exactly what he did when he met two bank robbers face to face, their guns leveled at him.

North Carolina Chief Retires

When Chief of Police Eugene W. Lentz, of Hickory, N. C., retired on January 1, 1948, he had completed his thirty-seventh year with the police department in that city. He had served the city as chief of police for 35 of the 37 years. Prior to retirement he had the distinction of being the oldest active police officer, in years of service, in North Carolina.

"Gene" Lentz began his career in law enforcement in 1908 when he and one other officer comprised the entire police force. Hickory then boasted a bare 5,000 population. By 1948 a force of 25 officers served the city of 20,000 people.

The chief likes to reminisce about the "old days" when it was necessary to answer calls on foot, bring drunks to the lock-up in a wheelbarrow or mail cart, and use a bicycle to pursue the drunken driver of a horse and buggy.

Chief Lentz was one of the most active men on the force even though at the time of his retirement he was 65 years old. He is widely known and highly esteemed in North Carolina law-enforcement circles.

When Chief Lentz left the force his many friends in Hickory presented him with a new Dodge automobile and monetary gifts. The Chief and Mrs. Lentz took a trip to Florida in the new car for "the first vacation we ever had."



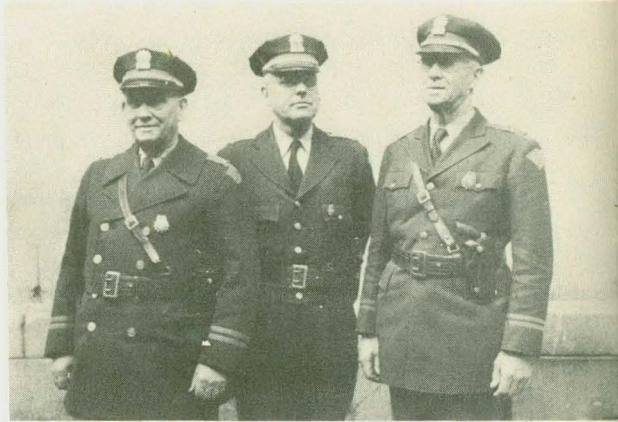
Veterans Retire

Two veterans of the Lynchburg, Va., Police Department concluded a total service of 92 years to their community with their retirement on January 1, 1948. They are Lt. A. Reed Wilson, who has spent 50 years with the organization, and Lt. John E. Young, who began his forty-third year of duty on October 1, 1947.

Lieutenant Wilson was born January 27, 1874, in Bedford County, Va. He joined the Lynchburg police force as a patrolman on January 5, 1898, was promoted to sergeant October 1, 1911, and was appointed a lieutenant on June 1, 1914.

Lieutenant Young, who was born in Prince Edward County, Va., on September 11, 1873, became a patrolman on the Lynchburg police force on October 1, 1905. He became a lieutenant on June 1, 1933.

Both officers have worked under a number of different chiefs of police. Maj. J. H. Boice presently serves in that capacity.



Lieutenant Wilson, Major Boice, and Lieutenant Young.

Detective Sergeant Weller

Detective Sgt. "Art" Weller of the Newark, N. J., Police Department has been an outstanding figure in police circles in the State of New Jersey for over 22 years. Art enlisted in the United States Army during World War I and served overseas with the Twenty-ninth Infantry Division. He has been appointed to many special assignments and has been particularly active in the field of police training. He organized and trained over 1,000 auxiliary police officers during the last war and in 1943 organized the special service bureau of the Newark Police Department and trained its personnel in the handling of problems incident to juvenile control.

Art graduated from the Twenty-first session of the FBI National Academy and served as class president. Since 1944 he has been assigned to the Newark Police Academy as a full-time instructor and in this capacity has assisted in the training of over 500 police officers from his own department as well as from other departments in the State.

Sergeant Weller is the past president of the New Jersey Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates and is also a member of the board of governors of the national organization of the Academy graduates.

At the present time, "Art" is on a special assignment to assist in juvenile matters coming before the Essex County juvenile court.



Detective Weller

MISCELLANEOUS

Wanted by the FBI

Dorothy Mort, with aliases: Madame Patricia, Mrs. Cleo Angelo, Dona Mort, Mrs. Raynelle Stevens, Mrs. Joe Mort, Madame Sylvia, Madame Laretta. Her business card read:

"Madame Patricia, Reader and Life Advisor—Without asking you any questions, I will tell you exactly what you want to know. Are you in trouble or doubt, worried about business, love, health, or family affairs, wills and divorces, and most everything pertaining to the welfare of one's life. No matter what your problems may be, she can help you. Call and consult this gifted reader for reliable help and advice on all affairs of life."

Operating as a "psychic reader" and "life advisor" in Albuquerque, N. Mex., from February 10, 1947, until March 21, 1947, the subject convinced nearly 20 clients that they had been "hexed." She advised that, by "blessing" money, jewelry, household linens, etc., which she would return, she could dispose of the hex. When the victims returned on the specified date to recover their property valued at approximately \$7,000, Madame Patricia had disappeared. So had the merchandise and monies.

The missing fortune teller has been identified as Dorothy Mort.

On February 12, 1948, an authorized complaint was filed at Gallup, N. Mex., charging the subject with violation of National Stolen Property Act, section 415, title 18, United States Code, for the transportation of merchandise and monies in the amount of about seven thousand dollars from Albuquerque, N. Mex., to an unknown point outside the State of New Mexico, about March 21, 1947, which goods were taken by fraud. A warrant was issued on the same date.

Dorothy Mort reportedly is traveling with one Joe Mart, FBI No. 1481825, who is wanted by the FBI for a violation of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940. (A warrant for the arrest of Joe Mart is outstanding at Atlanta, Ga.) She may also be accompanied by a red-haired girl of approximately 16 years of age, introduced at times as a daughter, and at other times as a niece, of the subject.



Dorothy Mort

The members of the trio are described as follows:

Female	
Name	Dorothy Mort, with aliases given above.
Race	White.
Age	About 41. Estimate of age ranged from 35-50.
Height	5 feet 5 inches or 5 feet 6 inches.
Weight	145-150 pounds.
Build	Stout, described as well-proportioned.
Hair	Reddish-brown, parted on right side, wears reverse curls drawn back to roll on neck.
Eyes	Hazel or brown (described by some as blue).
Complexion	Fair to rosy—skin clear, no scars or marks.
Features	Regular, oval face, small mouth, teeth may have gold caps or filling in teeth between front or gold crown on side.
Dress	Conservative, neat, usually wears black, Cuban heels, no jewelry or rings. Wears dark nail polish.
Speech	Speaks in low quiet tone. Has soft accent described both as French and Italian (does not speak Spanish).
Disposition	Has pleasant, natural laugh and smiles and laughs frequently.
Nationality	Mentioned French derivation to several victims, but true nationality unknown.
Marital status	States married, traveling with male companion and with girl described both as daughter and niece.
Male companion	
Name	Joe Mart, with aliases, Joe Mort, Joe Morris, Joseph Mort.
Race	White.
Nationality	May be Syrian or Armenian.
Age	32 (claims birth at Buffalo, N. Y., April 12, 1916).
Height	5 feet 8¼ inches to 5 feet 9 inches.
Weight	140 pounds.
Complexion	Dark; brown.
Eyes	Brown.
Hair	Black.
Build	Slender.
Remarks	Fourth grade education—heavy brows; protruding ears; has heavy beard.
Face	Square; has quiet, sulky expression.

Young girl

Name	Ary— or Rose—
Race	White.
Age	About 16—estimates from 14-20.
Height	About 5 feet 4 inches.
Weight	110 to 115 pounds.
Build	Slender.
Hair	Red, worn in long bob.
Complexion	Light, freckled.
Eyes	Brown.
Disposition	Very quiet.

Any person having information which may assist in locating Dorothy Mort or Joe Mart is requested to immediately notify the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C., or the Special Agent in Charge of the Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation nearest your city.

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Sheriff Seeks Identity of Skeletal Remains

On the afternoon of February 17, 1948, two hunters in McCormick County, South Carolina, came across the skeleton of a human being and scattered and decayed articles of clothing in a swampy, isolated area approximately 12 miles northeast of McCormick.

The remains of the body, pieces of clothing, a 32-caliber H. & R. revolver, Model No. 04326, serial No. 1822, a brown leather holster with button strap and an envelope with "Cal. 32" written on it in green ink, were found in an area about 20 feet square. The shoes were about 18 inches apart and 6 feet from the main skeleton bones. The gun was approximately 7 or 8 feet from the main skeleton and the holster was 6 feet from the gun. Three live cartridges were found in the weapon. An empty cartridge was under the hammer. The holes in the cylinder on either side of the cartridge were completely empty. The belt loop of the holster had been cut off with a knife. The belt was unbuckled and two feet from the gun. The envelope contained two live 32-caliber Rem. UMC, S. & W. cartridges and was folded and pushed down into the holster.

It is not known whether the deceased was a suicide or the victim of murder. The sheriff's office, McCormick County, received no reports of missing persons who might be identical with the deceased.

The evidence recovered was submitted to the FBI Laboratory for examination. According to the Associate Curator of Anthropology of the National Museum, the remains are those of a Negro female, about 5 feet 8 inches in height and from 21 to 24 years of age. The bones disclosed no evidence of injury which might have contributed to the person's death.

The holster was found to bear the trade-mark: Perfect Oil, Top Grain Cowhide, Towson Holster. Examination under ultraviolet light brought out the trade-mark "Footsaver" on the insole of the victim's left shoe. This trade-mark is used on women's shoes manufactured by the Julian and Kokenge Company of Columbus, Ohio. A comparison indicates the shoes were probably size 7.

The fragments of cloth were so deteriorated that type of clothing and colors could not be established definitely. One piece, a dull rayon, could be either from a brown dress or blouse with a white flowered design. A piece of checkered woolen material could be from a gray and black topcoat or jacket. A piece of black dull rayon material could conceivably have been from a skirt or jacket. There were three small painted black buttons, one white button with a bow design, and one red button with a bow design.

Any information which may aid in identifying this unknown deceased should be transmitted to W. L. Brown, Sheriff, McCormick County, McCormick, S. C.

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McClentic Apprehended

Chief Constable W. F. Young, Brockville, Ontario, Canada, advises that Jack Henry McClentic wanted in connection with the abduction of Marcella Rehberg, was taken into custody at Port Hope, Ontario, on February 25, 1948. Miss Rehberg was located on the same day.

Consequently the notice carried on page 23, January 1948, issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, is thereby canceled.

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The Series on "Defensive Tactics"
Will Be Continued in the June Issue

FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

Highlights From the Laboratory

Skeletal Remains Identified

On December 9, 1947, the chief of police of the city of Mount Shasta, Wash., forwarded a small sheaf of papers to the FBI. Stained and damaged by the elements until they were undecipherable, the papers were the only clue to the identity of a skeleton which had been found a week and a half earlier on the slopes of Mount Shasta.

Included in the papers were a notice of classification card, a registration certificate torn in two pieces, a portion of a card bearing the rubber stamp impression of the State Armory, Tacoma, Wash., a Social Security card, and a War Ration Book No. 3 identification stub. All were partly decomposed but efforts were made to develop the obliterated writing in the FBI laboratory.

It was not possible to develop a complete name on any individual card, but by utilizing bits of information deciphered from different cards, the examiners developed the name "John James Hol—ng." Several letters were completely unreadable and the 1 in the last name was questionable. However, the name and address of the local board which had mailed the classification cards, the dates on which they were mailed, and the serial number of the ration book were developed.

Agents checked at the Federal Records Depot for selective service records for the State of Washington, and located the registration record of one John James Holding. His description, various addresses, relatives' names and addresses, etc., were found. The registrant's father was located and interviewed. He stated that the last time he had heard from his son was in November of 1945, at which time the young man was living outside of Redding, Calif., near Mount Shasta.

This information was promptly transmitted to Chief of Police Felix Gaspari, Mount Shasta, Wash. He reported that as a result of the information furnished, the identity of the skeleton had been established, and that the remains of Holding were being claimed by his parents.

Armed Killer Gets Death Penalty

Elderly Will Geer, the proprietor of a grocery store, and his wife, Gertrude, didn't respond quickly enough to the demands of an armed robber in Birmingham, Ala. He shot them both.

The aged man recovered but his wife died.

John Henry Munson, Jr., was charged with the crime. He was questioned by investigating police officers and subsequently pointed out the murder weapon which was hidden in a coal scuttle.

The police department, Birmingham, forwarded the bullet which was removed from one of the victims and the weapon recovered from Munson, to the FBI Laboratory for comparison. The test reflected that the bullet had been fired from the defendant's weapon. The laboratory examiner testified after Munson was brought to trial on June 9, 1947.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty on June 10, 1947, after an hour's deliberation. Munson was sentenced to death.

Hit-Run Case Solved

On October 2, 1947, a woman was struck by an automobile and seriously injured in New Haven, Mich. The driver did not stop. Later, a man suspected of driving the hit-and-run vehicle was taken into custody but denied all knowledge of the crime.

The chief of police at New Haven forwarded the following evidence to the FBI Laboratory:

Human hair taken from the head of the injured woman; strands of hair taken from the top hinge, right door of the suspect's car; sand, gravel, paint and other debris taken from the sink at the hospital where the injured woman's face was washed; paint from chipped spots on suspect's car on right front fender; and a substance scraped from the front of the right fender. This latter appeared to be crushed peaches. The victim was carrying a bag of peaches when the accident occurred.

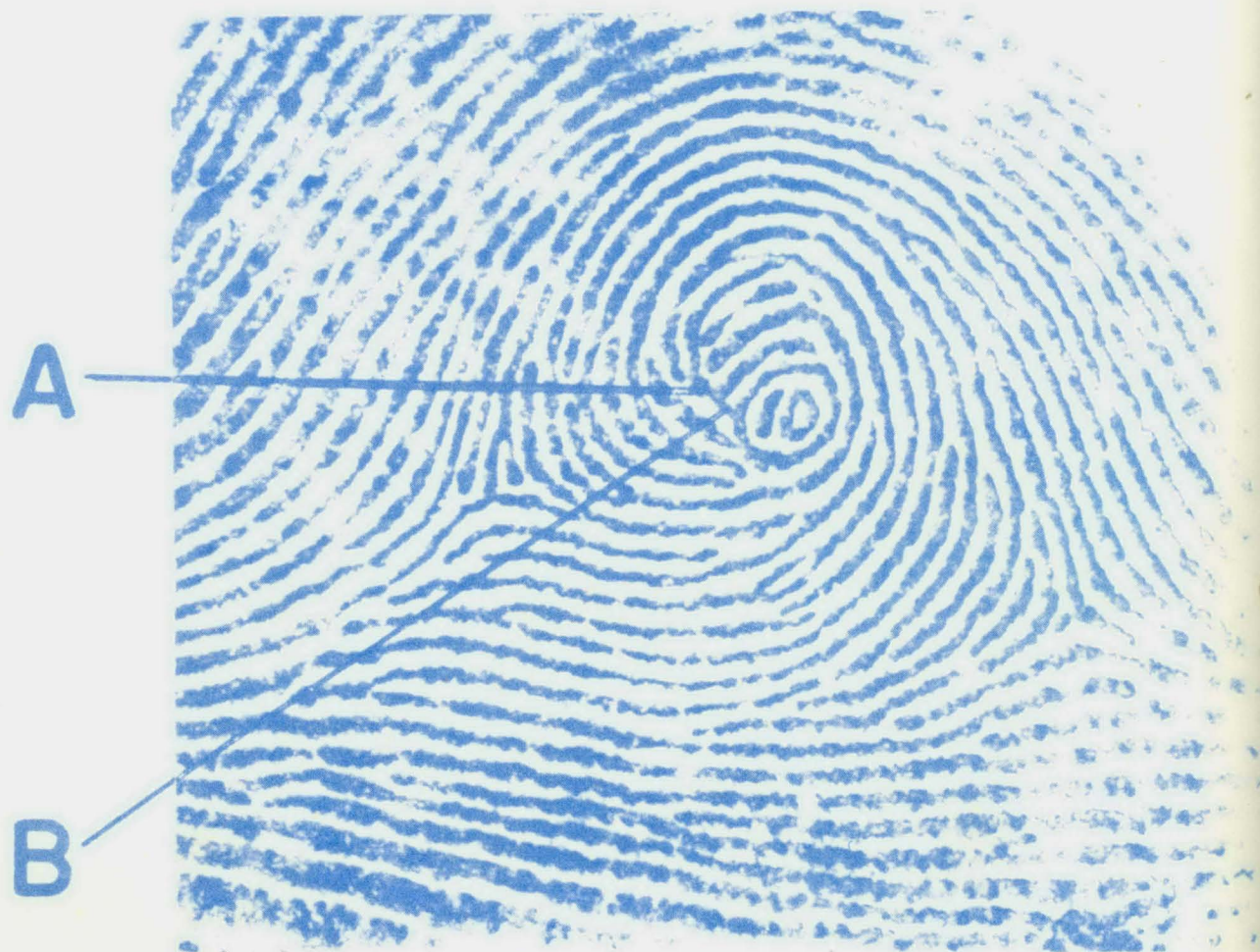
The requested examination was conducted and a telegram dated October 11, 1947, was forwarded to the chief of police, New Haven, Mich.

"Re—Hit-and-run accident. Paint debris from sink similar to paint from car. Hair from car similar to known hair of victim. Substance on car gave some tests tht indicated peach juice but was insufficient quantity for positive identification. Report follows."

On the following day, October 12, 1947, the defendant changed his story and admitted responsibility for the accident.

Questionable Pattern

FINGERPRINTS



The fingerprint pattern presented for this month appears to be a whorl of the accidental type. However, it is given the classification of a plain whorl.

Ridge A appears to be a looping ridge but it is evident that ridge B strikes A at right angles. Therefore, A may not be considered as a looping ridge. Hence, in this pattern there are one

or more recurving ridges making a complete circuit with two deltas. When the imaginary line from delta to delta is drawn, one recurving ridge within the inner pattern area is touched.

This pattern, however, would be given a reference search as an accidental in those files which have been extended by whorl types.