

• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



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



# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

OCTOBER 1953

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

October 1, 1953

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

When we are forewarned, we prepare to resist attack. We know that in the coming year the American home will continue to be the object of outrageous assault. The sinister crime of burglary has been rising at an alarming rate.

During the past ten years this major criminal offense has increased almost without interruption. In 1952 it rose nearly nine per cent. If, as seems probable, this ascending scale continues, we can expect more homes to be invaded. For police records on burglary in over four hundred major cities reveal that residence burglaries represented more than two-fifths of the 1952 total and more than three-fourths of the burglaries committed during daylight in the same period.

Too often residence burglaries are a prelude to the more vicious crimes. This is startlingly revealed in the fact that of fifty fugitives chosen at random from those who at one time have worked their way to a place of infamy among the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted," more than half - thirty - have been wanted, charged or convicted one or more times for burglary or the possession of burglary tools. Twenty-five of this group of thirty burglars had been similarly wanted, charged or convicted for robbery, fourteen for assault in some form, twelve for murder or attempt to murder, two for kidnaping and two for rape or attempt to rape. This certainly indicates that law enforcement must consider the burglar as a potentially dangerous offender.

Apart from personal threat which must always be the first consideration, the annual property loss from burglary runs to many millions of dollars. Police records for 1952 in 383 cities of over 25,000 population show that the average financial loss per burglary was 180 dollars - an increase of more than 29 per cent over the previous year. At this rate, the estimated 442,760 burglaries committed in the United States last year meant a loss of nearly eighty million dollars. The fact that a considerable portion of loot taken in burglaries passes through the hands of "fences" complicates even further both the cost and problems of crime.

We need to look to our defenses. With the approach of the winter months when the crime of burglary rises, we need to concentrate upon the proper procedure to meet the threat of this very real menace to person and property.

Very truly yours,

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

John Edgar Hoover  
Director





## FEATURE ARTICLE

# ***Some Observations on Detaining the Mentally Deranged***

by BERNARD A. CRUVANT, A. B., M. D., *Chief,  
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Washington, D. C.*

Recently a metropolitan newspaper carried the following headline: "Maniac Shoots Two Policemen." The account which followed told how early in the morning members of the patient's family called the police and told them the patient was acting irrationally and making threats. They said he had been acting in an odd manner since his mother died some months before. A radio car was sent to the home. The patient, a young long-shoreman, resisted, but four policemen finally got him into the ambulance. Meekly, the patient permitted the officers to lead him into the psychiatric admitting office and then suddenly he pulled off his shoes, turned around and hurled them at the policemen, who ducked. Seizing a chair he crashed it down on a policeman's head, knocking him unconscious. Grabbing the policeman's gun from the holster, he came up shooting wildly at the others, wounding two before he was subdued.

At the other extreme is the following headline: "Mental Patient Shot to Death." This news article described a near riot occurring when a man was shot to death by a policeman on ambulance duty. The father of the patient had called the hospital for an ambulance to take his son to the hospital because he was acting in an odd and unusual manner. The shooting is reported to have occurred when the patient resisted the officer's attempts to put him in the ambulance. According to the news account, the patient had been previously hospitalized and was considered a harmless mental case.

Such occurrences as those above are rare. They attract attention because of their dramatic quality. They illustrate, however, the sort of problems which may confront a law enforcement officer when he is called upon to perform his duties relating to the apprehension, detention, and transportation of a mentally deranged person.

What signposts can the average officer, without medical training, use in recognizing and detaining an insane person? How can he determine whether the person is dangerous? What are his obligations and responsibilities under the law? Equally im-

portant, what are the limitations of the police powers? As any officer well knows, a too-eager arrest of an apparently insane person has resulted in many an uncomfortable false arrest suit.

Let me say at this point there are no hard and fast rules which can be used by the officer, often acting in an emergency and under pressure, to answer the above questions. Determination of the degree and extent of mental disorder and evaluation of a patient's condition with regard to his potential dangerousness is something which often requires extended study by expert psychiatrists. Even then, after considerable study, there may remain a large area of uncertainty. Many of the readers of the *Bulletin* will no doubt recall recent newspaper stories denouncing the allegedly premature release of individuals from mental hospitals and a recent successful suit in New York State in which a family was awarded \$40,000 when a mental patient, recently released from a State institution, shot seven people, killing four of them. I have a number of clippings in my files with such headlines as: "Ex-Mental Patient Shoots Down Doctor" and "Former Mental Patient Held in Slaying of Psychiatrist."

According to statistics recently published by the National Institute of Mental Health, there were 600,000 patients in mental hospitals in 1950, cared for in 201 State and 112 county and other mental hospitals. In addition, more than 100,000 people are admitted annually to these hospitals and a considerable number of thousands discharged. For the past several years the mental hospital population has been increasing about 2 percent per year. There are undoubtedly several hundred thousand people in the general population suffering various degrees of mental illness who do not require hospitalization in a mental institution and probably never will. Of the thousands who will need to be hospitalized annually for treatment, only a limited number will present any particular problem to law enforcement officials. In many cases, however, the law enforcement officer, usually a patrolman, radio car officer,



or deputy sheriff is the first person to recognize the existence of mental derangement in an individual and to take the necessary action to bring him under medical and psychiatric treatment.

The possibility that a mentally deranged person will commit a murder has been greatly exaggerated as a result of the notoriety which usually attends such exceptional occurrences. Recently we reviewed the records of the more than 32,000 persons admitted to St. Elizabeths Hospital during the past 26 years.<sup>1</sup>

Out of this group only 81, less than 3 in 1,000, had committed some variety of homicide. Very few of these would fit the conception of the berserk killer who runs amok and strikes down a perfect stranger, and none of them were "maniacal sex killers." For example, of 57 patients charged with first-degree homicide, the victim was previously known to the patient in 39 cases; in 12 cases accused of second-degree murder, the victim was known to the patient in 9 cases; and in 10 cases accused of manslaughter, the victim was previously known in 7 cases. Although homicide is an infrequent consequence of mental disorder, this should not obscure the fact that many mentally ill people may commit serious assaults and fail to kill only by chance or through inadequate design, itself also the result of the mental illness. In the study just previously mentioned, more than 1,200 patients of the 32,000 were under one or more criminal charges at the time of their admission to the hospital, and there were many hundreds more who had been arrested initially but were so obviously mentally ill that they were not charged or indicted before being sent to the hospital.

### **Recognition of Mental Derangement**

A foot patrolman is walking his beat on a quiet Saturday afternoon. Suddenly a man dashes from a building, yelling excitedly, "Officer, come quick! Hurry! Hurry! My wife and I were arguing—she went into the bathroom and cut her wrist." On entering, the officer finds the woman lying in a pool of blood, moaning and crying, "Leave me alone—go away—I want to die." Or, two officers cruising in a radio scout car suddenly hear the radio squawk, "Signal 32. Attention all cars. Lunatic reported firing at the street from an



*Dr. Bernard A. Cruvant.*

upper window at 29 Hazel Street," and upon arrival it is found that after a minor argument a man has gone upstairs in the house, barricaded himself, and intimidated other members of the family by firing aimlessly. Or occasionally there is a call, "Scout 121. Man on a ledge on fifteenth floor of Hotel De Gink threatening to jump."

Such cases do not pose serious problems with regard to the recognition of the emergency nature of the difficulty and the strong probability that the person concerned is mentally ill. In other cases the problem may be considerably more difficult and a decision much less readily arrived at.

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### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

*Dr. Bernard A. Cruvant is unusually well qualified to discuss the subject matter presented in the accompanying article. He received an A. B. degree from Washington University in 1932, did graduate work in psychology 1932-33 and was awarded an M. D. degree in 1937. He was a lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Army during World War II, serving as a consultant and chief psychiatrist in Army camps. At the present time Dr. Cruvant is Chief of Psychiatric Service, St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C., and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Georgetown University School of Medicine. He is associated with many distinguished groups in psychiatric, psychoanalytic, and other scientific fields.*

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<sup>1</sup> "The Murderer in the Mental Institution," Bernard A. Cruvant and Francis N. Waldrop, *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, November 1952.



In order to recognize the less obvious cases, it may be helpful to first explain in general what mental disorder is and how, without becoming a psychiatrist, the average police officer may recognize the possible existence of a sufficient degree of mental illness to require further examination by experts. In this connection it is important for the officer to remember that just as in the suspected commission of a crime all persons are fundamentally presumed to be innocent until proven guilty, similarly every person is entitled to be considered sane until he has been legally adjudged insane.

Mental disorder is divided into two major groups:

1. *Organic*.—In these conditions the mental symptoms are produced by some actual disease or damage of the brain itself; as by infections (encephalitis, meningitis, syphilis); by injuries which destroy brain tissue; by drugs and poisons which affect the brain; and by diseases of the brain such as tumors, hardening of the arteries, and various other physical conditions.

2. *Functional*.—These are conditions in which there is a more general difficulty in adaptation of the individual and in which any injury or impairment of the brain itself is secondary, and probably not contributory. In many of the conditions in this group the cause is not known or can only be guessed at, and the greatest emphasis in understanding these conditions is placed on knowledge of the psychological forces at work.

The diagnoses of mental disorder generally are placed in one of four major categories. They are: the psychoses, the psychoneuroses, the personality disorders, and mental deficiency. There is another group of so-called "psychosomatic conditions" (such as bronchial asthma) which seem to be solely physical conditions but which are believed to have a very large psychological or psychoneurotic element. These are called technically the "psychophysiologic autonomic and visceral disorders." After reading that name I am sure you will consider it fortunate that the police officer rarely has any reason to detain a person because of these conditions.

The psychoses are the severe mental disorders and most frequently represent those which in lay terms are thought of as "insane" or "of unsound mind." It is important to emphasize that there is absolutely no medical diagnosis such as "insanity." This is a legal term and a condition of "insanity" can be established only by legal procedures. Not

every person who has a psychosis necessarily needs to be in a mental hospital. The decision as to whether a person can be or should be committed to a mental hospital is made according to the law of the jurisdiction. The medical expert can give his opinion but it may be and, occasionally is, disregarded. As we shall see later in this article, the physician cannot force the person to go to a mental hospital because he thinks it is necessary.

### ***Preliminary Examination***

I mentioned earlier that in many cases it may be fairly obvious that the officer is dealing with a mentally deranged person. The vast majority of mentally deranged persons are, however, quiet, unassuming, and at times even self-effacing. Only by engaging them in conversation is the officer able to determine that he is dealing with a mentally disturbed person.

I am going to describe some of the symptoms which may be helpful to the officer in determining his course of action in dealing with various types of individuals he is called upon to apprehend. I want to emphasize that I know of no substitute for sound common sense and good judgment. If the officer is constantly guided by the consideration of what is most likely to be for the benefit of the ill person, he is rarely likely to find himself in difficulty either with the patient or with the courts. Often the decision the officer is called upon to make requires the very highest type of calm and mature judgment. He has a responsibility to the community and to the sick person to see that a mentally deranged individual receives proper treatment, and he also has a responsibility to see that the individual is not unnecessarily or improperly arrested and detained. It is unfortunate that when an individual is apprehended for mental observation and is subsequently released as not mentally ill he may suffer only slight immediate inconvenience but the charge on the book remains forever. On the other hand, the quiet and unassuming behavior of a mentally deranged person is not necessarily an absolute guide to his degree of probable dangerousness. Atrocious crimes are not infrequently committed by the very individual whom the uninitiated and uninformed person would be least likely to suspect.

Keeping the above considerations clearly in mind, what then could be put down as some good general rules for all police officers to follow when dealing with a suspected mentally ill person?



1. Take the subject's troubles seriously. Listen to what he has to say, patiently and seriously, without arguing or quibbling or making sport of him. I have seen people who ought to know a good deal better, argue with a deranged person, trying to prove to him how absurd and "crazy" his beliefs are. It should be fairly obvious on a moment's reflection that if the deranged person could correct his beliefs by being reasoned with he would not be mentally ill in the first place, but merely misguided or misinformed. Similarly, do not be annoyed by the fact that the person makes wild or irrational statements, since again if the person were able to talk reasonably there would be no occasion for your considering whether to apprehend him as a possibly deranged person.

2. Do not get involved in an altercation. Many mentally ill persons may be quite provocative in their manner. One of the symptoms of their illness may be an unconscious need to provoke hostility and reprisal on the part of others, sometimes, according to some authorities, to assuage a feeling of unconscious guilt which they possess, and according to other authorities for a variety of unconscious psychological reasons. If you can keep clearly in mind that you should not become involved in a quarrel, your emotions will not become upset and you will not be led into behaving irrationally yourself. If at some point you feel like "taking a poke" at the mentally deranged person, try to remember that one of the very problems the patient may have may well be a need to be punished and that unconsciously he is trying to provoke you to do just that. Consequently, if you give way to temper you are putting yourself on the same level with the mentally ill patient.

3. Observe the person's behavior, his manner of walking or sitting, his posture and facial expressions. Does he have mannerisms, tics, grimacings, stereotype movements? Does he seem unreasonably suspicious, assaultive?

4. Notice his speech, not only what he says but how he says it. Does he speak rapidly as if under great pressure, with considerable excitement and circumstantiality, jumping from topic to topic without apparent connection? Or are his replies to questions brief, laconic, hesitating, slow, and guarded? Some mental patients exhibit a condition called "blocking" in which they are unable to respond to questions. This can, in combination with other observations, be distinguished from a simple refusal to answer questions.

5. What are the suspected person's mood and emotional reaction? Does he smile and laugh without particular reason, or is he suddenly tearful and depressed, also without apparent reason? Is his expression of his mood or feelings consonant with his appearance?

6. What is on the person's mind? This is perhaps the most important part of the observations to be made by the officer in arriving at his decision as to possible mental derangement. One can sometimes infer abnormal mental content from the person's behavior. He may peer about suspiciously as if he were responding to unseen or imaginary "voices." Fundamentally, however, it is essential to engage the person in conversation in order to determine what is on his mind. Frequently a mentally deranged person will spontaneously express a number of abnormal ideas if simply allowed the opportunity to talk about himself, or during the course of explaining why he pursued some course of action. In this way, without effort, you may discover that he has "hallucinations." These are defined as perceptions of objects with no reality or an experience of sensations with no external cause. That is, the person may see or hear things which are not there. However, do not ask him if he hears "imaginary voices," because he may misunderstand—since to him the voices are quite real. Do not cross examine the suspected person with a barrage of questions. Wait patiently and if you do not get the information you need you may eventually introduce unobtrusively the following questions: (1) Does everyone treat you well? (2) Does someone have it in for you? (3) Do you have any enemies? (4) Has anyone followed or watched you or tried to harm you in any way? (5) Does your food taste all right, or has it been tampered with? (6) Does anyone tamper with or try to read or influence your mind? (7) Do you have any abilities or powers which the average person does not have? (8) Do people talk about you behind your back? What do they say about you? (9) Do you think that you are worse than the average fellow or that you have committed unpardonable sins? (10) Do you have any unusual sensations about your insides and what are they? (11) Do you hear any noises or people talking to you when you are alone? (What do they say, where do they come from?) (12) Do you ever see or feel strange things?

7. Estimate the individual's mental abilities to determine if there has been some impairment.



Frequently, mental disorder is evidenced in disorganization of mental abilities or impairment of the mental faculties. This is particularly the case in the group of organic mental disorders which were mentioned earlier. Often, specific questions are not necessary, since the individual's conversation will soon reveal that his mental abilities have been disorganized. Listen to what he says to determine if he knows where he is, the date, and to whom he is talking. You may, if you wish, ask him questions designed to elicit this information. If you wish to assure yourself fully, you may even ask him simple arithmetical problems to see if he can do them correctly, and questions such as the names of the last three presidents, of the Great Lakes, or simple geographical questions which are known commonly by all people, even those with little or no schooling.

It is obvious that an officer who has proceeded in the fashion suggested above will rarely have cause to worry that he may be charged with false arrest when he takes into custody a person he suspects of being mentally deranged. He will have ample information to support the reasons for his making that decision. When there is any doubt as to the potential dangerousness of the individual, it is preferable to proceed with the necessary action to have him examined by a competent psychiatrist than to attempt to make the decision on your own. In most police departments the officer is cautioned not to be too energetic in apprehending citizens unless he has good and sufficient reason. If you diligently apply the approach suggested above, you will seldom exceed your authority.

The police officer, because of his contact with such a number of people, is recognized by the courts as an expert on sanity with a greater degree of credibility than the ordinary lay witness. In many instances the patient's relatives can be persuaded to take the necessary action when what you have discovered is brought to their attention. However, since many mentally ill individuals who come to the attention of a law enforcement officer are vagrants or indigent drifters, there may frequently be no relatives in the community and the decision will have to be made by the officer. In his judgment the officer must strike a balance between individual liberty and public safety. He can best do this by complying scrupulously with the laws in his jurisdiction. This leads us then to a consideration of the statutory aspects of apprehension, detention, and transportation of mentally deranged persons.

## ***Statutory Aspects of Apprehension***

The laws relating to the commitment of mentally ill individuals differ markedly from State to State. This is understandable in view of the fact that commitment of mental patients is a local matter. Procedures for the commitment of mentally deranged persons to mental hospitals developed gradually in this country, and recognition of the responsibility for the care of the insane as one of the police powers of the State is little more than a hundred years old.<sup>2</sup> The law enforcement officer is, however, rarely concerned with the final commitment of a mentally deranged person to a mental hospital, but only with the emergency apprehension and detention of an individual believed to be mentally ill and therefore dangerous to go at large or unrestrained.

Although statutory procedures vary considerably, I will use as a basis for discussion the procedures established in the District of Columbia for the Metropolitan Police Department.<sup>3</sup> These procedures will probably be comparable in some or all respects with procedures in other jurisdictions and may, where procedures have not been established, serve as a guide.

The District of Columbia Code authorizes the police to arrest and confine an alleged insane person in two situations: (1) Where an alleged insane person is "found" in a public place an officer may make an arrest *without* a warrant and petition the court to commit the person arrested to District of Columbia General Hospital for mental observation. (2) Where an alleged insane person is found "elsewhere," i. e., not in a public place, an officer may make an arrest upon the affidavits of two responsible residents and the certificates of two qualified physicians.

Police regulations note that cases where the alleged insane person is found in a public place have not caused any concern and the authority of the officer to apprehend and detain for "Mental Observation" is clear and recognized. Often, however, officers are called to a house or an apartment (private property) and requested to remove

<sup>2</sup> The considerable diversity in procedures is discussed fully by Weihofen and Overholser in "Commitment of the Mentally Ill," *Texas Law Review*, April, 1946.

<sup>3</sup> I am deeply indebted to Deputy Chief of Police Howard Covell of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia for his helpful assistance in supplying information on procedures in the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department and for his discussion of police problems in dealing with mentally deranged persons.



an alleged insane person. In the District of Columbia officers must keep in mind that in such a case there is a legal obstacle in the way of police entering a private home and transferring a patient to the municipal hospital even though the family has called upon them to do so. Police officers may enter a private home for this purpose only when they have been furnished with the affidavits and certificates prescribed by law.

However, the police are always justified in entering a private dwelling if a felony has been or is about to be committed. So then, if the person alleged to be insane is quiet and peaceful in his home, even though the officer is there by lawful invitation, he cannot remove that person without the necessary affidavits and certificates. On the other hand, if the alleged insane person is violent and disturbed, perhaps threatening people so that crime is rendered probable, or even disturbing the peace and quiet of the neighborhood, using profane and indecent language which can be heard on the street, or is attempting to commit suicide, or has attempted suicide and is in need of medical attention, the question which the officer must ask himself according to the general orders of the Metropolitan Police Department for the District of Columbia is the following: "What should a reasonable and prudent man do in these circumstances?" The regulations state, "The officer should act for the welfare of the patient, and if he does, who is there to complain?"

In a recent case in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, a woman sued Police Officer Jacob Brickman for false imprisonment.<sup>4</sup> When the District Court directed a verdict for the policeman, she appealed. In a unanimous opinion written by Circuit Judge Prettyman, he noted that the woman had cut her right wrist with a razor blade while allegedly attempting to pare a callus on her foot. The blood came freely and in spurts, indicating that an artery had been cut. A hospital ambulance was called and the attendants notified the police that there was "an attempted suicide." A radio call for a scout car was put out, giving the address and saying that there was "an attempted suicide." When Officer Brickman and his partner responded, they were told that there was a woman bleeding to death and she had refused treatment. The officer went up and the scene as described by a neighbor, a friend of the woman, was as follows: "There was

a great deal of blood on the bed, the blankets were full of blood, and the bathroom, including the washbowl, was full of blood." This neighbor said, "I don't see how anybody could lose much more and still live." Officer Brickman and the ambulance attendants succeeded with difficulty in stopping the flow of blood. Officer Brickman asked the woman a few questions, although she was alternately conscious and unconscious. The woman told him that she had cut her wrist when the razor blade slipped while she was cutting a callus, but then she is said to have added that she was glad it had happened and that it would have been better if the officers had not come. Officer Brickman looked at her feet, but as far as he could see there was no callus there. He took her to the Municipal Hospital for mental observation. After several days the woman was released as not insane. A year later she sued the officer and several others for false imprisonment.

In a part of their decision, the judges noted that the woman had cooperated in her removal from the home and went on to say, "She was taken from her home under the direction of the officer lest she should bleed to death. To denominate this removal as an illegal arrest or apprehension would be contrary to the public interest and to the interest of the persons involved, contrary to law, and dramatically contrary to common sense." The court went on to say that despite the requirements of the statutes of the District of Columbia, they did not believe that Congress intended to supersede the common-law power of emergency arrest to such an extent as to impose civil liability on a person who, acting reasonably, detains or restrains a person temporarily for the purpose of mental observation in order to prevent immediate serious harm or injury to the person restrained or to others.

The court concludes: "There is, of course, in cases of this sort a point of balance between the requirements of the person involved if he is in fact of unsound mind, and the interests of that person if he be of sound mind, and there is also a point of balance in the public interest in the proper treatment of insane persons and the proper protection of sane persons against commitment for insanity. The precise balance is difficult in many cases."

However, in another recent case the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ordered the judgment of the district court reversed when they directed a verdict for a physi-

<sup>4</sup> No. 10987, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.



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## EDITOR'S NOTE

*This article is published in the hope that an authoritative discussion of the problems involved in handling mentally deranged persons will be of some value to officers on whom the task falls. It should be clear, however, that a complete set of rules for all situations is impossible to achieve. Each case is unique and, as the author aptly states, there is "no substitute for sound common sense and good judgment."*

*Officers interested in this subject would be well advised to familiarize themselves with both the rules of their own agency and the laws of their jurisdiction as related to police work with the mentally deranged.*

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cian who had called the police and told the officer to take the woman to a hospital for mental observation. The woman was later released and sued the physician for having caused her to be falsely imprisoned because he made the police take her out of her house without a warrant. The law in the District of Columbia in this situation requires two affidavits of residents and two physicians' certificates as a basis for apprehending a mentally deranged person in a private dwelling. In this case<sup>5</sup> Circuit Judge Washington concurred with the opinion that the case should have been submitted to the jury instead of the Court directing a verdict for the physician but also expressed in essence the opinion that the provisions of the statute in the District of Columbia were quite detailed and although normally desirable and workable it could hardly have been intended that every failure to comply with even the most minute requirements of the statute would ground an action for damages, particularly if the persons involved were acting in good faith.

In summing up the question of statutory obligations and limitations in regard to apprehension of mentally deranged persons, it seems that there is apparently little question that a police

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<sup>5</sup> *Jillson v. Caprio*, 86 U. S. App. D. C. 168, 170-171, 181 F. 2d 523-526 (1950) (concurring opinion): "The common law recognized the power to restrain, summarily and without court process, an insane person who was dangerous at the moment. The power was to be exercised, however, only when 'necessary to prevent the party from doing some immediate injury either to himself or others' (*Anderdon v. Burrows*, 4 Car. & P. 210, 213, 172 Eng. Reprint 674, 675) and 'only when the urgency of the case demands immediate intervention' (*Warner v. State*, 297 N. Y. 395, 79 N. E. 2d 459, 462-63.)

officer, or even any citizen, has a right at common law to detain a person who is actually insane and as a consequence is dangerous to himself or others, if the detention is temporary and continues only until legal proceedings for commitment can be instituted. This is buttressed by a number of leading decisions.<sup>6</sup>

## Transportation

Generally, the question of transportation of a mentally deranged person involves the law-enforcement officer only after there has been a determination that the person is in fact mentally ill and there arises a necessity for his transportation from one place to another for treatment, legal procedures, or for some necessary disposition, such as admission to a hospital in another State. Usually, the first consideration which affects the officer is whether the patient whom he is to transport is violent or nonviolent.

Often the transportation of the mentally deranged person is done on a last-minute, hit-or-miss basis. This is usually unnecessary and at times may result in very unfortunate consequences. As soon as you have learned that you are to transport a mentally deranged person, arrange to speak to the physician in charge of his case so as to familiarize yourself with his condition and ask the physician if there are any instructions or special precautions necessary. In the event you are taking the patient to a hospital in another State, make certain that all the arrangements have been properly accomplished. You should have either a letter of authorization to present to the admitting officer at the receiving hospital, or an order of the court or some other document authorizing the transportation. In addition, there will probably be an abstract of the patient's medical record to accompany him for the information of the physicians at the hospital or place where the patient is going. If the patient is a woman, the husband, a close male blood relative (son, brother, or father), or a nurse or other woman should accompany the officer.

Sometimes there is a petition, or interrogatories, or other legal documents to be furnished to the local authorities, such as the sheriff, the judge of

(Continued on page 16)

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<sup>6</sup> Quoted by Weihofen and Overholser, Op. Cit.; *Bisgaard v. Duvall*, 169 Ia. 711, 151 N. W. 1051 (1915); *Keleher v. Putnam*, 60 N. H. 30 (1880); *Crawford v. Brown*, 321 Ill. 305, 151 N. E. 911 (1926); also *Matter of Josiah Oakes*, 8 Law Rep. 122 (1845).



# IDENTIFICATION

## Using the Formula in Fingerprint Classification

Previous issues of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* outlined the construction of the basic classification formula. An essential characteristic of each of the formula's component parts was the achievement of a more equitable distribution of prints within the subdivided groups. However, the vast accumulation of fingerprint cards in the files of the Identification Division made it increasingly evident that expansion in the fundamental equation must be devised. Detailed analyses and protracted surveys were conducted and accelerated the adoption of another formula subdivision known as the major division.

### Expansion Factors—The Major

The major division is similar to the subsecondary classification in point of derivation, although the major pertains only to the thumbs. It employs ridge count values or whorl tracings appearing in the thumbs to exercise its function as an agent of more advantageous distribution. The major is indicated to the immediate left of the primary in the fingerprint formula; left thumb is used as denominator, right thumb as numerator. Where

whorl-type patterns are present in the thumbs the major reflects the whorl tracings precisely as they appear in the affected finger blocks. For example, in figure 1 a major division of O over I in the 5 over 17 primary group illustrates an outertraced whorl over an innertraced whorl in the thumbs. When ulnar loops are present in the thumbs, however, a table is used to translate the ridge counts into designated sets of values, symbolized by the letters S, M, L. An expanding table is utilized for the right thumb when large count loops appear in the left thumb. This device provides for a greater apportionment of prints, as a whole, for filing purposes within the groups indicated.

### Table for Major Division of Loops

Left thumb (denominator)	Right thumb (numerator)
1-11, inclusive=S	1-11, inclusive=S
12-16, inclusive=M	12-16, inclusive=M
17 or more ridges=L	17 or more ridges=L
12-16, inclusive=M	1-11, inclusive=S
	12-16, inclusive=M
	17 or more ridges=L

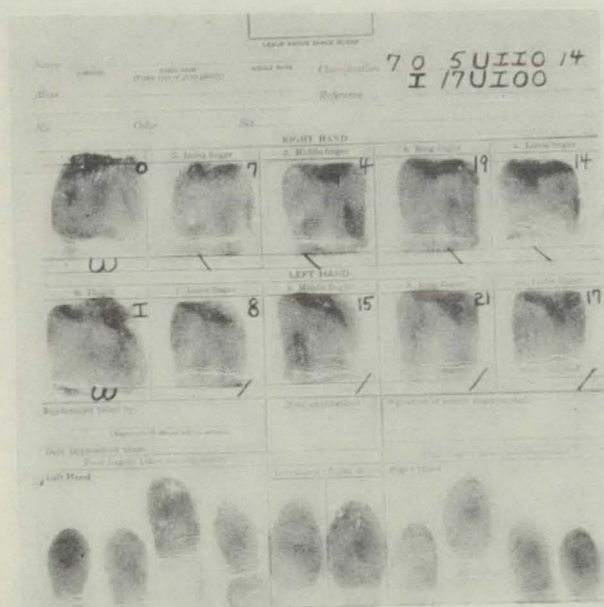


Figure 1.

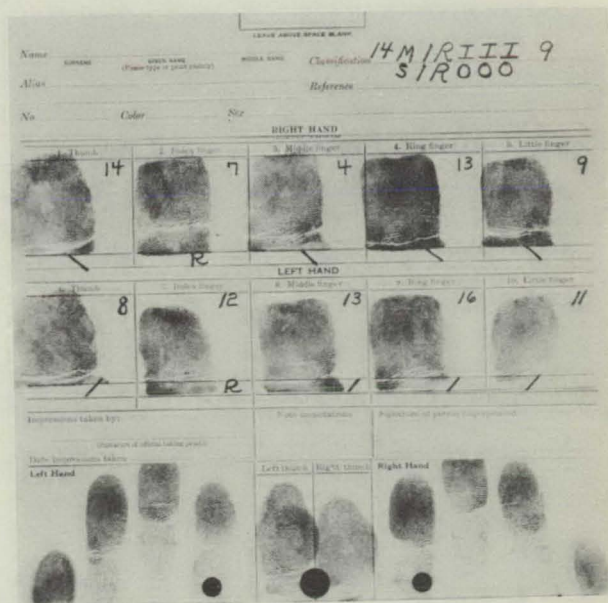


Figure 2.



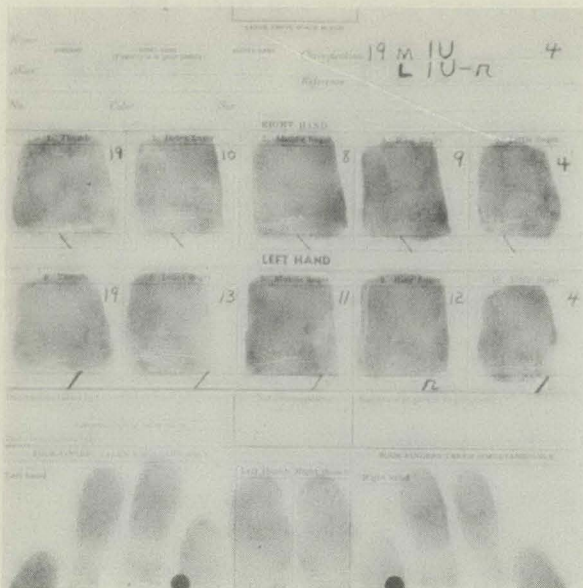


Figure 3.

17 or more ridges=L-----  
 { 1-17, inclusive=S  
 { 18-22, inclusive=M  
 { 23 or more ridges=L

It will be observed that both thumbs have been assigned identical sets of values with the exception that when there are 17 or more ridges in the left thumb, making the denominator "large" (L); the table for the numerator changes. The fingerprint card appearing in figure 2 discloses a major division of *M* over *S* which is derived by counting the ridges (14 in the right thumb and 8 in the

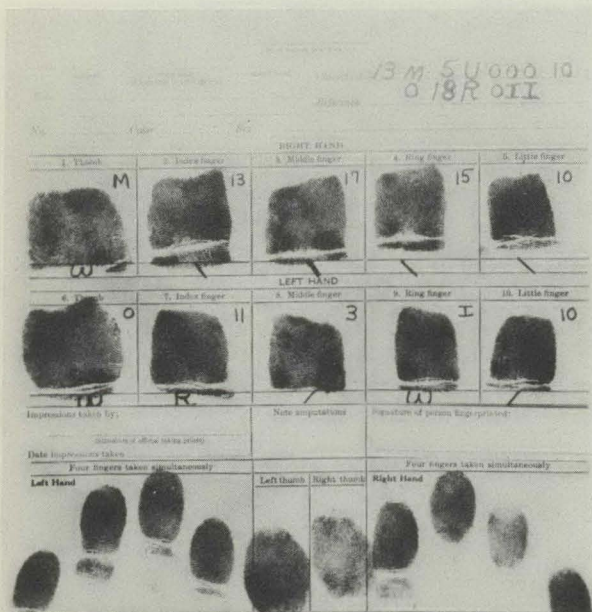


Figure 4.



Figure 5.

left), and according to the table translating them into the letters *M* over *S*. In figure 3 a major classification of *M* over *L* is obtained illustrating the presence of a large count loop in the left thumb and subsequent computation of the major by means of the expanding feature of the table.

A full sequence of the major compiled on the basis of grouping by ridge count values (*S*, *M*, *L*) and whorl tracings (*I*, *M*, *O*) is summarized in the following chart comprising 36 possible combinations. When loops appear in both thumbs:

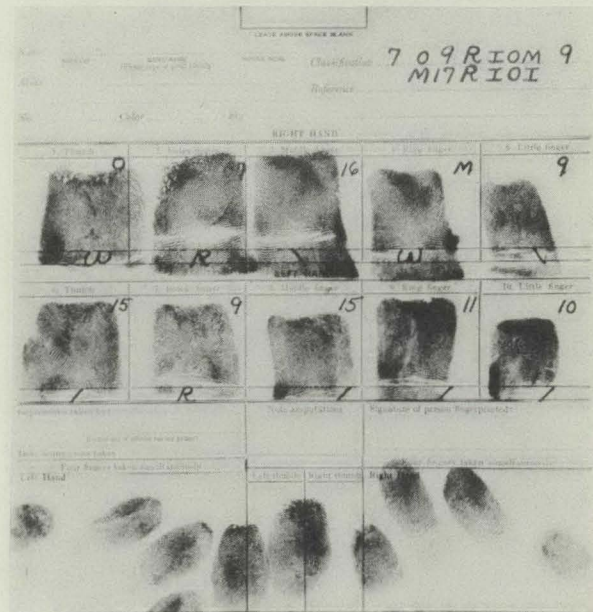


Figure 6.



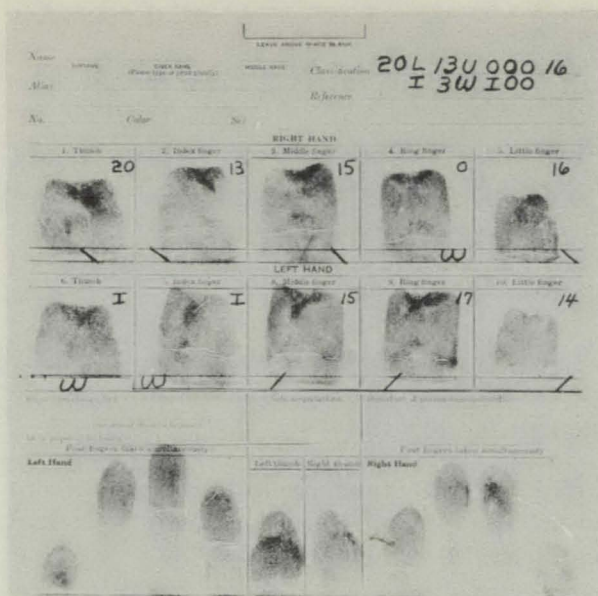


Figure 7.

$\frac{S}{S} \frac{M}{S} \frac{L}{S} \frac{S}{M} \frac{M}{S} \frac{L}{S} \frac{L}{S}$

When whorls appear in both thumbs:

$\frac{I}{I} \frac{M}{I} \frac{O}{I} \frac{I}{M} \frac{O}{M} \frac{I}{M} \frac{O}{O}$

When a whorl appears in the right thumb and a loop in the left:

$\frac{I}{S} \frac{M}{S} \frac{O}{S} \frac{I}{M} \frac{O}{M} \frac{I}{M} \frac{O}{L}$

When a loop appears in the right thumb and a whorl in the left:



Figure 8.

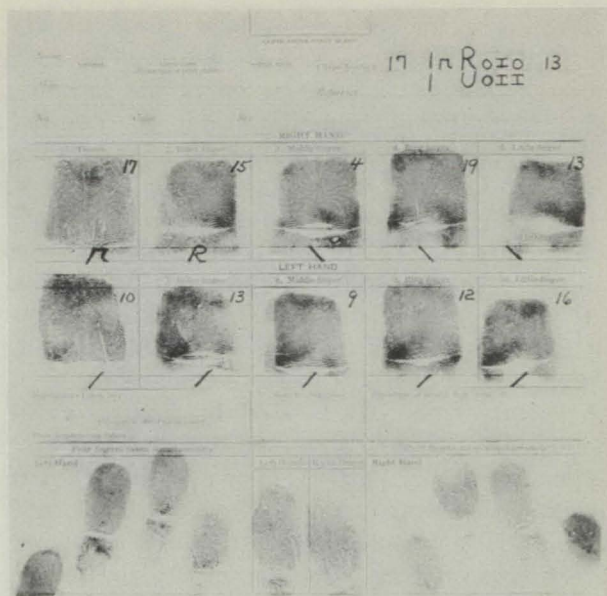


Figure 9.

$\frac{S}{I} \frac{M}{I} \frac{L}{I} \frac{S}{M} \frac{M}{I} \frac{L}{M} \frac{L}{O}$

Figures 4 through 8, inclusive, are inserted to exemplify several of the sequencing combinations illustrated in the preceding chart.

The appearance of a plain arch, or tented arch, or a radial loop in the thumbs is of relatively infrequent occurrence. Therefore, the very presence of these patterns in either or both of the thumbs enables the classifier to dispense with the major division.

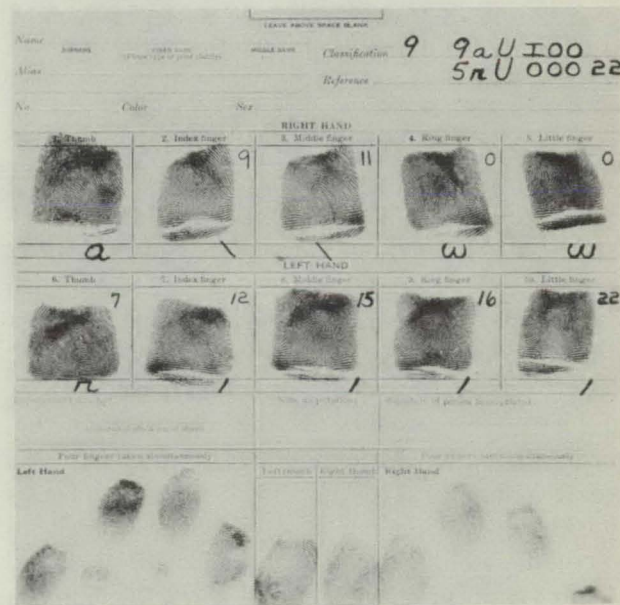


Figure 10.



Figures 9 and 10 are included to specifically illustrate such occurrence. Attention is also directed to their relative position in the formula. The installation of the major with its concomitant value as a factor of distribution has given rise to the adoption of additional extension practices. Formulation of these methods has also been along lines designed to more effectively cope with the voluminous nature of the files of the Identification Division. A complete coverage of other expansion systems, used in conjunction with the classification formula, will properly become the subject matter of subsequent issues of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*.

The fingerprint patterns shown as illustrations in this article were clear and distinct in the original; blurring is caused by printing in the reduced size. This need be of no concern to the reader inasmuch as this series of articles deals with the formula symbols marked on the card and not with the interpretation of individual patterns.

### BOOKLET ON PATTERNS

A booklet on Questionable and Interesting Fingerprint Patterns has been prepared by the Identification Division of the FBI and is now available to police officers. The booklet contains photographs of 43 patterns presenting a classification problem, with a statement under each photograph on how that particular pattern should be classified. Officers desiring a copy for study and reference should direct their requests to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

### CAN YOU READ THESE?

Acc to issC----btg w on rr----ch & swd----dep  
proc----F US obli. These cryptic notations are standard abbreviations appearing on identification records. They mean respectively, "accessory to issuing checks," "beating way on railroad," "cheating and swindling," "deportation proceedings" and "forging United States obligations."

If you have trouble reading identification records, a complete set of the abbreviations from A to W (there is no X, Y, or Z) and the offenses which they signify can be obtained free by writing to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

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## Items To Remember

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**COMMON FAULTS** in the taking of inked impressions are (1) hands are not clean; (2) too much ink is used; (3) the fingers are not rolled completely.

**FINGERPRINT CARDS** should be completely filled out in the spaces provided with respect to descriptive and arrest data.

**FBI NUMBER** is assigned to a fingerprint record when the second arrest fingerprint card is received and identified with the previous "no record" fingerprint card.

**FBI NUMBER** whenever known should be placed on a fingerprint card in the space provided and also whenever known should be used in connection with requests for the identification record.

**PHOTOGRAPHS** of individuals arrested need not be sent separately from the fingerprint card. If photograph of individual arrested is not finished at the time of the transmittal of the fingerprint card a notation "photo available" can be placed in the space provided for the photo.

**SPECIAL HANDLING** will be given to fingerprint cards on which a request is made for answer by telephone, wire or teletype, and special delivery mail service. A notation placed on the fingerprint card should indicate the specific type of special answer desired. Any fingerprint card on which a special reply is desired (immediately before a weekend or holiday) should be sent by the fastest mail service. Routine mail is not delivered on weekends or holidays by the United States Post Office.

**ORDER BLANK** for obtaining forms, envelopes and fingerprint cards appears each month with the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* insert of fugitive notices.

**TRANSMISSION OF FINGERPRINTS** by the "speed photo" machine should be followed by submitting to the FBI a complete set of prints in the usual manner.



# CRIME PREVENTION

The age-old love of children for cowboys and the Old West, and their sincere respect for the police officer have been utilized by James R. Jarboe, town marshal and chief of police at Neptune Beach, Fla., to reduce juvenile delinquency in his area.

Mr. Jarboe is known affectionately by hundreds of his young friends as "Jimmy" and "Mr. Red" and he is a familiar figure in the Neptune Beach community, dressed in his black trousers, tie, and shirt, with a low-slung gun and 10-gallon hat.

Several years ago Chief Jarboe realized his community lacked places where the kids could "let go" with their abundant energy and enthusiasm without bothering anyone. Although the community is located on one of the finest beaches along the eastern seaboard, with wonderful facilities for fishing, swimming, and boating, the chief felt there was something extra needed—just for the kids.

There is no movie theater in Neptune Beach. It is true children can go to movies in nearby communities, but not all have the money or transportation for this youthful luxury. Then, too, these movies were and are attended by adults who felt children should sit quietly and watch the picture. To remedy this situation and to set his ideas into motion, Chief Jarboe acquired a movie projector and a borrowed film. He then presented his first free picture at the city hall. On this occasion "Mr. Red" convinced a local merchant that he should furnish free soft drinks for the kids. Over 300 enthusiastic boys and girls attended. Both the generous merchant and the other citizens of the small community were pleased. The children cheered the hero and hissed the villain to their heart's content. No one told them to be quiet and their "Mr. Red" insisted they yell as much as they wished.

These movies have continued every Friday night since that humble beginning. The attendance has ranged between 200 and 500 children. Should the weather be bad, the movies are held in a meeting room located atop the city hall. If the weather is pleasant, an outdoor screen located

## Free Movies, Soda

## Pop, Make Friends for Police Chief

adjacent to the city hall is used for the entertainment.

Youngsters carry chairs from the meeting hall to the outdoor show and return them after the picture has ended. It is a major crime for a child to leave his chair outside. The guilty offender is always discovered by his companions and, as a result, he or she receives no refreshment at the next show. Needless to say, all the chairs are returned to their proper places.

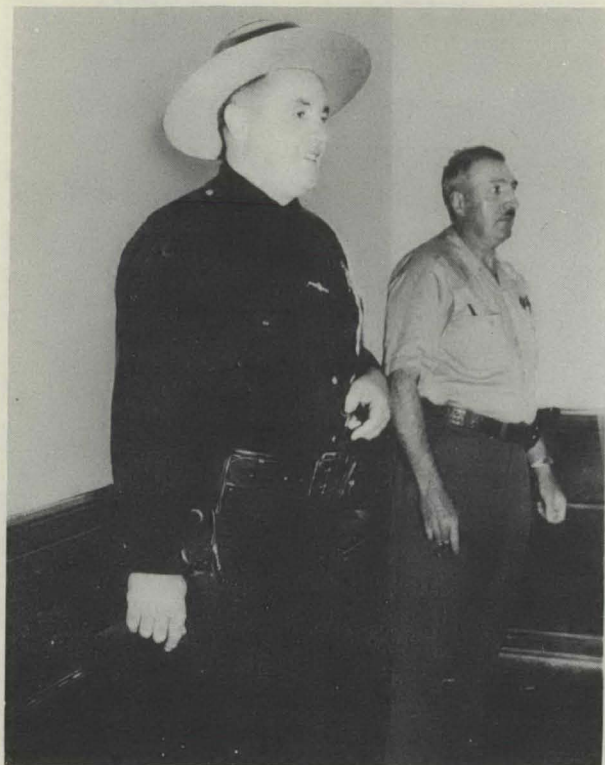
The refreshments are always a surprise to the children. "Mr. Red" realizes this anticipation is nearly as productive as the refreshment itself. Sometimes hot dogs and soft drinks are served, again it might be ice cream—or popsicles—or candy—chewing gum or popcorn. The list is endless and Showman Jarboe plans something new each week.

The movies and refreshments are obtained by the chief gratuitously as he has no fund to cover these particular expenses. Also because his budget is small, the chief borrows old western movies and animated cartoons from film distributors. His free movies are not on a competitive basis with theaters and the distributors have no objection to lending him the films.



*There is competition for the honor of operating the movie projector.*





**Chief James R. Jarboe (left) and George Haslett, water works manager, who doubles as a police officer.**

Chief Jarboe extended his work into the older group of Neptune Beach children by presenting educational films at the local high school. These showings include subjects concerning safety, first aid, and civilian defense. They have enlightened the youth of the community and increased their respect for law enforcement.

"Mr. Red" or, if you prefer, "Jimmy," is host



**An old saddle and inner tubes provide preshow entertainment for the small fry.**

at teen-age parties during the school year for the older boys and girls in the area. The city tennis court is used on these occasions for dancing to merry jukebox tunes. There is also a fireplace nearby where wieners can be roasted and soft drinks enjoyed after the jitterbugs have jittered themselves out.

It is a firm conviction of Chief Jarboe that any law enforcement agency can adopt a similar plan to combat juvenile delinquency. He feels there are countless ideas which can be used to keep kids amused and make better citizens of them. The basic requirement is that the officer truly love children. "Jimmy" does. He has a son, Jimmy, Jr., age 11, and a little girl, Judy, age 7, who assist him in the entertainment department. Judy is the official custodian of the chewing gum and she watches it closely, making certain to whack the hand which takes more than one piece.

Christmas is a really busy season for the chief, with his parties and presents for the kids. His entire family assists in the sacking of fruit, candy, and gum for the poor children, both white and Negro, in the community. With the approach of each Christmas the kids hail Chief Jarboe with the greeting, "Mr. Red, are you going to Santa Claus us this year?"

Chief Jarboe has no juvenile delinquency in his community. There is no vandalism on Halloween and he credits his recreational program as being the ruling factor in this record.

In addition to his duties as town marshal and fire chief, Mr. Jarboe is city manager, and as such, manages all the functions of his community, consisting of 2,500 people. The only person assisting him in police work is George Haslett, manager of the water works, who doubles as a police officer during the weekends and during the busy seasons. Because of his excellent work among the children "Mr. Red" can count on them as auxiliary officers in keeping their community free of vandalism and petty crimes.

### **HAIR EXAMINATIONS**

Dyed or bleached hair can be distinguished from natural hair through FBI Laboratory examination. Dyed hair when observed microscopically has a dull appearance and is constant in color tone whereas natural hair is not and the individual pigment granules in natural hair stand out more sharply. Bleached hairs have a rough appearance, are more uniform in shade and contain less pigment depending upon the amount of bleaching.



## Medals for Bravery and Service

On June 30, 1953, at a rose garden ceremony at the White House, President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented Young American Medals for Bravery to Howard Fitzgerald, age 14, of Dallas, Oreg., and to Charles W. "Joe" Knighton, age 16, of Montgomery, Ala. A third award, the Young American Medal for Service, was bestowed upon Rollin Ray Shoemaker, age 18, of Denver, Colo.

These medals, awarded this year for the second time, were presented in the name of the President and the Congress. The selections were made under an act of the 81st Congress authorizing the Department of Justice to recognize and to award to outstanding, courageous young Americans a medal for heroism known as the Young American Medal for Bravery, and a medal for service and character known as the Young American Medal

for Service. The regulations governing these awards were printed in the January 1952, issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.

Howard Fitzgerald was cited for saving two small brothers from his burning home. Although badly burned and nearly overcome by heat and smoke, he reentered the house in an unsuccessful effort to rescue his father and two other brothers, who died in the flames. Mr. Knighton rescued a drowning man, and although a doctor on the scene believed the man to be dead, he persisted in applying artificial respiration. Even after the "body" had been taken to the doctor's office, young Knighton continued the artificial respiration an hour and 15 minutes until the man was actually revived. Mr. Shoemaker received his award for outstanding work in the field of agriculture.



*The Young American Medal winners visit with John Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI. Charles W. Knighton (left) and Howard Fitzgerald (center) won Bravery Medals. Rollin Ray Shoemaker (right) won the Service Medal.*



## Parties for Pranksters

Vandalism totaling \$2,500! Fifty to sixty police calls complaining of the same crime! A small boy shot and killed in spite of 20 extra police officers employed for the occasion! That was the price which the city of Bremerton, Wash., once paid to celebrate Halloween. But that was 16 years ago; now there is no vandalism and no calls of that type for the police to answer. Assistant Chief Arthur N. Morken, the "father" of the program, states that any police organization can do equally well.

Beginning 16 years ago, Halloween parties were planned for all the children of the city. Attendance grew from 1,500 at the first party to approximately 7,000. In the third year, the junior chamber of commerce joined in the program and since then has been a cosponsor. Financed by the policemen's ball, junior chamber of commerce scrap drives and other events during the year, the party is free to all. There are fireworks, prizes and refreshments including hot dogs, hot chocolate, and other appropriate sweets for the children.

Experience in Bremerton leads to some advice for other police departments wishing to set up such a program. Careful preparation is necessary for at least 1 month before the event, including news items in the local newspapers, radio talks, and personal appearances at each of the schools in the city. Some of the best help comes from the schoolteachers with whom Morken has correspondence and visits prior to the big event.

Materials must be made ready well in advance. Among these are programs with a safety code or pledge printed on each copy. The pledge is read and repeated in unison by all who attend.

Various methods of advertising can be used and different groups should be incorporated into the program. In Bremerton each school is given a part. This provides such entertainment as tumbling exhibitions, drill teams, and band music. The fire department always puts on a humorous show with an educational motive. The mayor and other officials sponsoring the program give short speeches on safety. Beginning at 8 p. m., the entire program occupies from 1½ to 2 hours.

Assistant Chief Arthur N. Morken advises that he will gladly correspond with any law-enforcement agency wishing further particulars on the Bremerton plan for peace and quiet during the Halloween season.

## THE MENTALLY DERANGED

(Continued from page 8)

the county or probate court, or orders relating to the appointment of a committee or guardian.

Plan your route carefully so as to avoid unnecessary delay in travel. If an overnight or long stopoff is necessary, see that necessary arrangements are made in advance for the patient to receive any necessary medical care en route.

Check the patient's valuables, listing them in duplicate, and have both copies witnessed. Turn one copy over to the receiving hospital and have them receipt for any valuables, as later the patient may allege falsely that he had certain property lost in transit.

It is often helpful to notify the superintendent of the hospital to which you are going, by telegram in advance of your departure, as to the expected time of arrival if you are traveling by airplane or train, since they may be able to meet you with a hospital conveyance and assist you in transporting the patient the remainder of the distance to the hospital. If this is not possible, then the police officials in the community to which you are going will undoubtedly render you the necessary courtesies for transportation.

*When in transit* the major precaution is never to leave your patient alone at any time. Be on the alert for any unusual activities such as suicidal or homicidal gestures. If the patient is untidy, take measures to keep him clean and be certain that his linen and person are clean and presentable upon arrival at the destination. With a disturbed patient it will be necessary that he be served his meals in the compartment or drawing room. No extra charge should be made for this by the dining car steward. The exercise of vigilance, good judgment, and common sense will be more valuable than any specific rules relative to the procedure for the care of a mentally ill patient. Under no circumstances should undue force be used in restraining a patient. Brutality exhibited toward a mentally ill patient is as culpable as brutality exhibited toward any individual in an officer's custody and should never be justified solely on the grounds of the patient's alleged violent behavior.

I have one final word of caution: if you do not believe you are able to transport a mentally ill person without undue anxiety, you should not hesitate to ask to be excused. Otherwise you or the patient may be involved in a personal tragedy.



## OTHER TOPICS

The employment of policewomen began as far back as 1893, but not until after 1915, when the National Association of Policewomen was formed, was there any well-defined plan for the inclusion of women police in law enforcement organizations.

From the very beginning, it was understood that policewomen were naturally adapted to the work of protecting women and children and of dealing with female delinquents, and that their functions must logically be somewhat different from those of male officers. As law enforcement groups developed a greater awareness of the social problems involved in police work, they turned to women for help in setting up programs to deal with women and children who were either offenders against the law or were the victims of offenses committed by others.

As the years have advanced, this broader concept of the part women can play in police activities has threatened to endanger the fundamental understanding of the policewoman's role in law enforcement. She must first of all be an enforcement officer, and after that a social worker. The truth is that in all larger cities, women officers of the law have practically the same duties, standing, and responsibility as male officers, and their pay scale is usually the same. That is the program as laid down. In actual practice the policewoman must perform many services of ministering to the needs of the unfortunate; she must do a considerable amount of guidance work, and must make the health and welfare of women and children one of her deepest concerns.

In some police organizations the qualifications of policewomen include training in an accredited school of social service; hence the erroneous impression that policewomen are social workers and case workers, which has led to some confusion concerning their primary functions.

Perhaps if the recommendations of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in their convention of 1922 are still to be accepted the situation can be clarified, for in the 30 years since they

## ***Policewomen Are an Important Factor in Law Enforcement***

by **NORMA B. CARSON**, *Chief Policewoman,  
Philadelphia Police Department*

have continued to define on broad lines the work of policewomen:

Crime by and against females, irrespective of age, and boys up to the age of 12, should be the special responsibility of policewomen. They should discover, investigate and correct antisocial circumstances and conditions in individual cases, and in the community; deal socially and legally with all delinquent women and children; give or secure social treatment calculated to result in reform, and supplement the work of the policeman in securing evidence and convictions in special cases that will aid in correcting evil conditions.

In the course of time women have proved themselves able detectives; there are innumerable instances of their courage and daring in apprehending dangerous criminals. Of such exploits they are naturally very proud. They cherish the memory of the commendations earned, but to most



**Norma B. Carson**, *Chief Policewoman, Philadelphia.*



policewomen the love they have for their careers, the performances they hold most dearly in memory, center in the girls and women they have saved from ignominy and shame; the children they have rescued from evildoers; the fresh incentives they have given for living better lives; the new concepts of behavior and womanly fulfillment they have been able to offer as substitutes for weakness in character, carelessness in thought and deed, and that so-easy drifting that can lead readily to wasted lives and lost souls.

### ***Crime Prevention***

Around 1932, when juvenile crime showed alarming increases, the techniques of crime prevention began to be talked about in hopeful terms and soon they were showing an effect on the policies of law enforcement. It became apparent from the beginning that in "crime prevention" the policewoman was to have a significant part.

That was the year in which the Crime Prevention Association in Philadelphia was organized to handle the problems of the older boy, then constituting the principal offender in crimes of many kinds. The Philadelphia Police Department entered into cooperation with the association and, in 1936, the first five policewomen were appointed to take up the work with girls and boys under 16, to which were added shortly girls from 16 to 21.

### ***The Second World War***

While prevention of delinquency among girls and women was occupying many policewomen, of whom there were a few over 1,000 doing full-time policewomen's work in the United States in 1940,



*The policewomen of Philadelphia.*

there was developing a new need for the "woman touch" in police circles everywhere.

In Philadelphia, the small group of policewomen attached to the crime-prevention division of the police department were finding new recreational facilities for younger boys and girls; gainful employment for older girls; were bringing into the theater of prosecution owners and managers of disorderly luncheonettes and taprooms; were salvaging young shoplifters, correcting truancy, dealing with boys engaged in street trades to bring them into line with the law—in general they were working with youngsters to make of them assets in the community instead of the liabilities they were or were threatening to become.

This was the program to develop better citizens in times of a great depression. Then war clouds began to gather. Boys were called into the armed services; hasty marriages were made; sweethearts were torn from each other. In the larger cities, and especially those into whose ports were arriving ships being readied for use, appeared the girl fascinated by the uniform and the boy who wanted a girl.

In the days just before Pearl Harbor the policewoman was needed for work in a new field. In Philadelphia, policewomen were sent out to find the venereal disease contacts named by service boys and men found to be infected. The meeting places for most of those who became involved were brothels; in fact, the waterfront dive in most large cities became the rendezvous from which went forth those who risked health, threw away self-respect, and gave themselves to immoral indulgence with sorry result.

In Philadelphia, policewomen gathered evidence, rounded up witnesses, testified day after day in court, to aid in closing a group of dives mentioned over and over as the meeting places of those named as "contacts" by the Army and Navy authorities.

Those places were closed; a number of prostitutes were rescued; then came the tremendous task of entertaining servicemen with the hope of keeping many of them from temptations that might well lead to disaster.

Philadelphia took the initiative in setting up an unofficial curfew. And in the years that ensued, the policewomen proved themselves courageous, earnest, and tremendously patient in patrolling the areas in which girls and boys met for entertainment and relaxation. With a force of 5, the policewomen in less than 2½ years talked to more



than 6,000 girls, many of whom spent night after night in and around the central city USO Labor Plaza—probably the greatest entertainment center for servicemen in any city of the United States.

### ***Increase in Girl Delinquency***

In those war years the increase in girl delinquency became a fresh challenge to the women in the police departments of all cities and many smaller units of population. Policewomen working on a full-time basis obtained new experience in the approach to the girl on the loose; to the girl unfortunately involved in sex experiments. In the community, the policewoman became a source of help to those who needed and wanted help, and provided warning to those who were afraid of the law but were ready to evade, even to flaunt it if they felt that they could get away with it.

Not too rapid a growth in the number of policewomen took place in those centers where they had become an established and an integral part of police activities. Probably the deep-rooted objections of male members of police organizations—particularly among the higher ranking officials—had something to do with this. Frankly, while men have accepted and used the aid of women in law-enforcement agencies, they have done so very slowly and too often obviously against their personal wishes and convictions. But after World War II many men in police circles decided that women could be very useful and could relieve them of many burdens arising out of situations involving girls and women. Moreover, they found policewomen coming into their departments well-equipped to do report writing, to take statements, and to prepare those statements in efficient fashion for court use. One weak spot in the employment of a policewoman in a small department lies in the fact that too easily she may become merely a clerk or a secretary. In this way the community is deprived of her ability to do protective work among girls, and to help eliminate local "bad spots" that contribute to the delinquency of girls, with boys often entering into the picture.

### ***Requirements for Policewomen***

Today the requirements for policewomen in all larger localities and in most smaller places include a high-school education, with at least a year's

experience in a related area—nursing, teaching, social service, or detective or investigative work in connection with private industry or public agency enterprises. In a few cities a college degree is required.

In most organizations—this is true again of all large cities—policewomen must qualify through civil service or other examinations. Usually these consist of a written examination, an oral interview, and a complete physical checkup. The last is highly important because physical weaknesses not detected in the original examination may later cause crippling absenteeism and even result in unexpected incapacitation.

Regarding the age of policewomen candidates: In New York City, a woman can become a policewoman if 21 years of age and not over 29; in Detroit and Los Angeles she must be at least 23 years old and not over 30. In Philadelphia the minimum age requirement has been 25, and not over 35.

It is becoming more and more the practice to look into the background, home life and activities, habits and associates of candidates for policewomen's jobs. Care in this respect may avoid complications and embarrassments at a later date.

The question of married women in policewomen's outfits is, generally speaking, taken care of in the rule that does not disbar a married woman from becoming a candidate or a single policewoman from getting married. Rules regarding maternity leave differ in different organizations. In Philadelphia, vacation, sick leave, and leaves of absence without pay are made to cover the neces-

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## **Women in Crime**

There were 8 men arrested for each female taken into custody in the 232 cities included in these tabulations but there are significant differences in the criminal tendencies of males and females which are revealed when a study is made of an average group of 1,000 men arrested in comparison with an average group of 1,000 arrested women. For example, such a comparison reveals more women than men charged with murder, aggravated assault and liquor law violations while the criminal male leans more toward robbery, burglary, auto theft, and driving while intoxicated.—*Uniform Crime Reports, 1952.*

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*Policewomen Geraldine A. Kelley (standing) and Margaret A. Powers (left, sitting) make an inquiry concerning a young traveler. Pennsylvania Railroad officer James Aylmer is ready to assist.*

sary maternity leave; in Detroit a policewoman must resign at a certain point in her pregnancy. Within 2 years she may request reinstatement.

### **Training Courses**

Up to the present time few training opportunities in schools or colleges are afforded prospective or newly appointed policewomen. The University of Southern California is now offering a course that may be regarded as a start in the field. Some years ago, a course was offered at Syracuse University, but it was held for a brief period only, and for those who were already engaged in policewomen's work or probation work.

In the big cities where policewomen's organizations are already large, training is usually given through the regular police college or academy. In some places there is a probationary period established, and full appointment follows only after training is completed satisfactorily.

Police training not being available to women in the Philadelphia Police Academy up to the present time, the training of individual appointees or small groups of appointees is left in the hands of the chief policewoman. The subjects taken up by her deal with fundamentals of policewoman's functions; techniques of crime prevention; and methods of handling complaints and investigations of questionable situations or places involving girls and women; police rules and regulations, procedures in arrest. Compilation of evidence and presentation of testimony in court are naturally a part of this course. Study of supervision of near-delinquent or delinquent girls to bring

about better behavior or adjustments, in home or school, is included.

Experts in those fields which touch the areas of police work are called in to lecture. These include representatives from the various squads of the detective division—narcotics, pickpocket, and others; the identification and fingerprinting division of the police department who gave demonstrations in their headquarters; the departments of public health, welfare and assistance; various social agencies, such as the Society to Protect Children From Cruelty, Family Service, Inc., Youth Services, Inc., and others; and the board of public education—medical service, special education, home economics and pupil personnel and counseling, which includes the attendance department.

Talks have been given by the director of probation of the municipal court, by representatives of the FBI and the United States Secret Service.

Visits are made to various institutions—the house of detention for juveniles, Sleighton Farm School for Girls, the house of correction, and the new recruits spend some time in the juvenile court and the women's misdemeanants division of the municipal court.

All women must have had a course or take one in self-defense—judo and jiu jitsu.

In New York, Los Angeles, and Detroit policewomen must carry guns and engage regularly in target practice. In Philadelphia, policewomen have not yet been required to have or carry guns; no doubt the time is not far distant when they will be.

Practical training in the work of investigation and patrol is obtained under the direction of the experienced women in the policewomen's unit, in whose charge the newcomers are placed for coaching in patrol and street work.

In most policewomen's groups inservice training courses and refresher courses are given during the course of each year—all personnel being obliged to take these courses.

### **Duties of Policewomen**

In Philadelphia all policewomen are assigned to the juvenile aid bureau, formerly the crime prevention division of the department of police. This is not true in other cities, where, as in Detroit, Los Angeles, and New York, the policewomen's units are large enough to have the women distributed into plainclothes and uniformed groups; into juvenile police groups; or units charged with



various specific functions—the care of prisoners, the handling of young boys, lost and dependent children, patrol squads and others.

Where a force is not sufficiently large to be divided into such groups—although it is understood that policewomen in any city learn how to perform all duties that may belong to the general program—the policewomen's unit must cover many and various assignments, some of them routine, others falling into the category of the unusual and unexpected.

The first duty of any policewoman is to know when and how to act in any circumstances that may arise. Usually a section of the whole group is assigned to part-day duty and part-night duty. In Philadelphia, 1 policewoman is assigned to the detective division and 3 to the morals squad. There is 1 supervisor of policewomen, who is assistant to the chief policewoman. The remaining 19 are divided into a day squad and a night squad.

The day squad works from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., getting their orders in the headquarters, and the other half works in 2 shifts—5 p. m. to 1 a. m. and from midnight to 8 a. m. Each week the 2 sections alternate, so that unless on special assignments, the women work 1 week day work and the next week night work. Coverage is provided so that the service is on a 24-hour basis.

Complaints are received from parents, school authorities, other police, neighbors or relatives, and various social agencies. Usually the subjects of these complaints are truants, runaways, incorrigibles, and girls guilty of disorderly conduct. In more recent years morals complaints have increased in alarming numbers. In the Juvenile Aid Bureau of Philadelphia a morals squad has been set up to handle these cases.

In connection with schools and homes, many complaints are received on girls who have become pregnant. In these cases, an investigation is made; a statement is taken from the girl in each case, and if the responsible male can be identified he is arrested by officers of the morals squad and the case is taken into court. The policewomen in many instances take the necessary statements; they later testify in the juvenile or misdemeanors divisions of the municipal court, or in the quarter sessions court in cases of rape, contributing to the delinquency of minors, attempts to ravish and rape, sodomy, and similar serious charges.

In instances where girls have run away from home, policewomen follow up any available clues



*Policewomen Sylvia Volpe (left) and Evelyn Ruth Carter identify the occupants of a parked automobile.*

to locate them. If a runaway girl is picked up by the district police, a policewoman is requisitioned to question the girl, try to establish her identity, and arrest her if no contact can be made with her home, or keep her in protective custody until some member of her family arrives to take charge of her.

Policewomen handle many young girl shoplifters. In these cases the merchandise stolen has been recovered before the girl has gotten away with it. The store involved does not care to prosecute; the policewomen's unit takes the girl under supervision and for a period varying from a month to 2 or 3 months keeps in touch with the offender and usually makes an adjustment that ends her shoplifting experiments. In the case of a second or third offender, an arrest is made.

The day squad, working out of headquarters, investigates any complaint that can be handled in the daytime. Policewomen visit homes to obtain facts about conditions that may explain a girl's misconduct; they visit schools where girls have engaged in fights; often they prevent a threatened fight from occurring. They interview either in the school or in a nearby police district outside of school hours all the participants in a fight and in most cases are able to settle the matter and prevent further happenings of the same kind.

Policewomen aid district police where a demented or mentally ill woman is concerned. Often a woman can handle such a person when male officers find it difficult.

Vagrant women, girls referred to or seeking help from the Traveler's Aid Society are turned over to policewomen when it becomes necessary to take them into custody for their own protection, or until families can be reached.



Policewomen are called upon to accompany detectives to institutions to bring women or girl prisoners into court as witnesses; they are called upon to travel to other cities to bring back runaway girls.

A recent development of situations involving children has brought in many cases of women who have abandoned their children, or who have left them unattended while they spend their time in taprooms drinking or in some other pursuits more questionable. Often children so reported have to be washed, and clothes found to put on them before the policewoman can take them for examination. When certified by a physician as being free from contagious diseases the children are turned over to the shelter for children. The mother is located and often arrested.

The women who work during the day investigate many luncheonettes in school areas, which are reported as hangouts. They visit the moving picture theaters to find truants or runaways, they go on truant patrols in the center of the city where movies or shopping expeditions are the temptations that keep children from school.

In Philadelphia and in Washington, D. C., a policewoman is called in if a girl of juvenile age is to be arrested. Only after the policewoman has interviewed and questioned the girl, and has agreed that arrest is necessary is the girl slated.

Philadelphia policewomen must accompany girls under 16—who have been slated—to the house of detention, or if over 16 but under 18, to the women's misdemeanants division of the municipal court.

Petty larcenies in schools or homes; breaking and entering jobs done by girls or in which girls have participated; fires set by girls; young girls picked up on the streets or in the parks riding in motor cars with boys or men—all these figure in the complaints that must be investigated by policewomen.

While Philadelphia has 15 matrons attached in 8-hour shifts to 4 police stations in which female prisoners are received and held, policewomen are often called on to search women brought in as numbers suspects, or who are believed to be carrying concealed on their persons, stolen money, narcotics, or weapons.

Incidentally, policewomen do some matron work. In most cities policewomen function as matrons; in smaller towns, the policewoman is sometimes matron as well as policewoman.

## *Night Tours of Duty*

On the night tours of duty policewomen usually work in pairs. They handle complaints that cannot be done in the hours between 9 and 5, and those received after 5 p. m. These complaints may take them all over the city, since often they come in so fast that they must be given to the first policewoman who connects with the headquarters. Where fights have occurred during the day, and parents have not been within reach, aggressors and victims, with their parents, are called in for interviews in the juvenile aid bureau substation—open all night—or in a police district. These interviews serve to make many adjustments and are very effective in settling disputes.

Policewomen must be available to any police official or unit, whenever the services of a woman are required. They must be able to take statements; to apprehend juveniles found together or with older people in hotel rooms, or in houses where there is no adult supervision; they are often required to go on raids with male officers. These raids are usually on disorderly houses or on taprooms alleged to be serving minors.

Patrol work is an integral and important part of the night tours. The members of the policewomen's unit inspect taprooms, luncheonettes, motion-picture theaters open all night; bowling alleys, skating rinks, dancehalls, and parks and open spaces. During the summer months this last phase of patrol work nets many cases of girls out late without the consent of their parents; girls picking up service boys or being picked up by boys and men. Too often these mild flirtations develop into something more serious and dangerous.

Girls found on the streets or in amusement places at late hours are often taken home by the policewomen and their mothers interviewed; in some instances, mothers are sent for to come and get their daughters; if girls are sent home by themselves their homes are visited the next day.

Patrol work turns up some very interesting and profitable cases; it ferrets out community delinquency spots that need curbing; it reveals many types of law evasion which if corrected can lead to big improvements in community conditions.

## *Avoiding Arrests*

While arrests by policewomen in Philadelphia have shown a substantial increase during the past



3 years, the basic idea of avoiding arrests is always kept in mind. If a job in prevention is to be done, if the policewoman is to be protection and a course of help and guidance to wayward girls, she must know how to gain the confidence and goodwill of the girls she approaches. It may require skill and adroitness to ward off resentment and "freshness," but the policewoman is schooled in using both. If a girl can be influenced in the right direction before she has gone too far along the wrong way, a result is accomplished that is well worth while. Girls are showing an ever-growing independence of thought and action. Policewomen must handle that sort of thing with sympathy and understanding. Many girls designated as problems are found to have problems—very serious ones—of their own. Mothers sometimes call for as much supervision and guidance as their daughters. But here too the results can be gratifying.

Nothing can give greater satisfaction to a conscientious policewoman than the return of a former girl client after some years have passed. The girl is married; she brings her children to show them off with pride; she has made for herself a happy life—all this after an experience in her earlier years that called for policewoman action and help. It is much better to have avoided arrest; to have escaped the shame of being taken before a judge—women in the police department have made that possible in many cases.

### ***Policewoman's Job Exciting***

It has been said with truth that policewomen have few dull moments. Whatever their assignment, it is likely to be filled with human interest; it may test courage, call for alertness, cleverness and subtlety; it is likely to have action. Time is of the essence—one assignment follows another quickly, inexorably. A policewoman must be ready—she may be running into a dangerous stabbing episode; she may be called on to take a detail to help run to earth an abortion ring; she may be requisitioned to engage in a narcotics raid. Philadelphia policewomen have been trained not to wait for things to happen; they go out to look for things—and they find them.

### ***Agency Cooperation***

In the overall picture of policewomen's work one detail must be given careful consideration. That is the usefulness of other agencies through referrals to accomplish desired results. A police-



***Policewomen Myrtle Kitchenman (left) and Alice V. O'Brien bring abandoned children to the city shelter.***

woman must be familiar with all the resources of her community and know how to use them. She must know when to stop on a case because she has reached the point when perhaps someone else or some other group has better facilities than she or her police department has.

When greater recreational opportunities are needed she can call on the Boy and Girl Scouts, or her local recreation leaders and their program; if she encounters a home problem she usually has a family society or some form of Society to Protect Children from Cruelty; she may want a foster-home placement and so she can call on the juvenile court which in turn has working programs with a number of social service agencies; a situation may call for the care of a mother and her children—there is the department of public welfare. The Red Cross and the Salvation Army have nation-wide resources; in most communities there is a child guidance clinic; the local hospitals furnish clinical treatment where health may be a cause of delinquency.

There are the churches, with their youth activities—these resources are not used enough. But to do her job well a policewoman must know where to turn for help when she reaches the limits of her own service potentials.

### ***School Guards***

Women are coming to be used more and more as school guards. Usually they are not given policewoman status, but in Pittsburgh, where there are



some 200, in Philadelphia, where there are almost 400, and in many smaller towns and cities, where there are small groups, these women have done a splendid piece of work.

From among these guards should come police-woman recruits; certain basic elements of training may well furnish material for the more extensive and professional job.

In describing the work of policewomen, Philadelphia's group has been used as an example. While smaller in numbers than policewomen's units in other large cities, the Philadelphia policewomen cover practically all types of activity engaged in by any group, large or small.

In fact, Philadelphia has taken the lead in developing some outstanding techniques for policewomen. She pioneered in crime prevention; her policewomen were among the first to undertake a program dealing with female venereal disease contacts in cooperation with the Department of Public Health and the Armed Forces. Perhaps nowhere in the United States is there so close a relationship, so complete a cooperation between the schools and the police as there is in Philadelphia.

For the first 7 years of the existence of a women's force in Philadelphia's Police Department there were only 4—1 chief and 3 policewomen. Yet year by year the program grew, the field widened, until it became clear that women in law enforcement were proving their value, and when the opportu-

nity came the force was augmented and every possibility developed that could be.

It is not necessary to have in smaller towns, and cities of moderate-sized population, more than a small group of policewomen. In many places there are 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, or up to 15. All over the map might be pinpointed the small localities in which an experiment with policewomen has been made—and with a few exceptions the experiments have met with success and public approbation.

It may be suggested that 1 policewoman working alone can be of great value, but 2 women working alternate day and night shifts are likely to accomplish more.

Where one policewoman has the help and cooperation of the men in her department, she can blaze a trail that may lead to outstanding achievement. There are a number of places in which such a situation exists.

For the value she has shown; for the dignity she has added to policework, it would seem that the policewoman has earned the right to be a part of every law-enforcement group. In days when more modern methods must prevail in dealing with the juvenile delinquent, when juvenile delinquency has become everybody's problem, and its prevention and control must of necessity become a part of every community's program, the policewoman gives a mother touch, a womanly addition, to the handling of the young.

It may be considered old-fashioned to say that the prime requisite of the woman in law enforcement is a missionary spirit. A conscientious woman, with love for human beings in her heart, with understanding of human frailties and a deep sympathy on which to draw for help-giving, can accomplish fine things in any organization to which she belongs.

A woman with religious faith, on which she may draw for strength; with a gracious attitude toward people of all colors and creeds, who has an honest desire to serve the unfortunate and give fresh incentive to better conduct and practices to those who are bewildered, confused, and erring—this type of woman, ready to accept training, and willing to devote herself unselfishly to a comparatively new profession, is excellent material for the policewoman of both the present and the future.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The photographs illustrating typical tasks of Philadelphia's policewomen in checking on young people were specially posed and do not represent actual cases.

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## Youth in Crime

Of the 1,110,675 arrests reported by the 232 cities over 25,000 in population represented in this study, 86,128 or 7.8 percent were of persons who had not yet reached their 18th birthday while 13.3 percent were under 21 and 23.1 percent were under 25 years of age.

As an indication of the participation of youth in crimes against property it is observed that while only 7.8 percent of all persons arrested were 17 years of age or less, this group accounted for 19.4 percent of the arrests for robbery, 36.9 percent of the arrests for larceny, 47.8 percent of the arrests for burglary, and 52.6 percent of all auto theft arrests.

Nearly half (48 percent) of all persons arrested for crimes against property involved people who had not yet reached their 21st birthday.—*Uniform Crime Reports, 1952.*

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## Science Breaks an Alibi

Officers called to a night club in Las Vegas, Nev., in answer to a report that a man had been shot and killed, found the victim had been shot seven times and had been beaten repeatedly over the head with a pistol. However, the suspect claimed he shot in self-defense after the victim had slashed him with a knife. To corroborate his story, he exhibited to officers cut places on the front of his shirt and tie which he said were made by a knife in the victim's hands. A Boy Scout knife, with the large blade open, was found on the floor near the dead man's hand and identified by the suspect as the knife used by the victim.

Because the officers doubted the suspect's story and believed that the offense was a murder, they submitted to the FBI Laboratory for examination the cut shirt and tie, the Boy Scout knife, and the suspect's own pocket knife. A microscopic examination of the suspect's knife revealed the presence of a number of silk, rayon, and wool fibers on the blade and down inside the blade pocket. These were similar in color, size, and other microscopic markings to the silk fibers composing the cut tie and the rayon and wool fibers composing the cut shirt. One of the fibers found was an unusual silk fiber, being very wide, ribbon-like in shape, and exhibiting a number of striations running parallel with the fiber. These same characteristics were present in the silk fibers composing the tie.

An examination of the Boy Scout knife found beside the body failed to reveal rayon or silk fibers similar to those in the shirt and tie, tending to bear out the investigating officers' theory that the suspect, after beating and shooting the victim, had taken his own knife from his pocket, grasped his shirt and tie with bloody fingers, pulled the garments away from his body, and slashed them in order to establish a self-defense alibi.

Inasmuch as the witnesses stated the hands of both the suspect and the victim were covered with blood, both knives were further examined for the presence of blood. With the exception of one faint stain on the handle, no blood was found on the Boy Scout knife. Several bloodstains were found on the handle and near the thumb catch of one blade of the suspect's knife.

An examination of the blood on the shirt showed two places where it appeared to have been smudged or smeared into the garment. These smudges appeared near the bottom and also at

the top of the shirt adjacent to the buttons and resembled fingerprint smudges.

Bullets and cartridge cases found at the scene of the shooting were identified by laboratory technicians as having been fired from the suspect's pistol. A considerable quantity of human blood was also found on the pistol.

On the basis of the testimony of FBI Laboratory technicians at the trial, the State contended there was no self-defense involved. The subject was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

## Mortar and Brick Dust

During the night of March 9, 1953, burglars tunneled through the wall of a loan office in Norfolk, Va., and got away with approximately \$1,200 worth of clothing and jewelry. The method of entering the loan office led Norfolk police to suspect several persons whom they picked up the following morning at a nearby tavern. Almost the entire lot of stolen goods was found either on their persons or cached near the tavern.

The clothing of the suspects together with specimens of brick and mortar from around the hole in the loan office wall was sent to the FBI Laboratory for examination and comparison. The laboratory examination of the clothing disclosed the presence of a quantity of brick and mortar particles similar to the brick and mortar from around the hole in the loan office.

During the trial the testimony of the laboratory technician helped to place two of the suspects at the crime scene. As a result, they were found guilty of larceny and burglary, while the third suspect was found guilty of receiving stolen property.

## FAIR WARNING

When a subject to be arrested is either known or reported to carry firearms or other weapons this information should be immediately transmitted to all officers working on the case. The same is true of threats or suicidal tendencies on the part of the subject or any person with him.

## RANGE OF FIREARMS

The .38 caliber revolver has a maximum range of approximately 1,800 yards and an estimated effective range of 75 yards.



## *Questionable Pattern*

# FINGERPRINTS



This pattern is a tented arch which requires a reference to a loop. Ridge "A" forms a recurve, but since no ridge count can be obtained the pattern cannot be given the preferred classification of a loop.