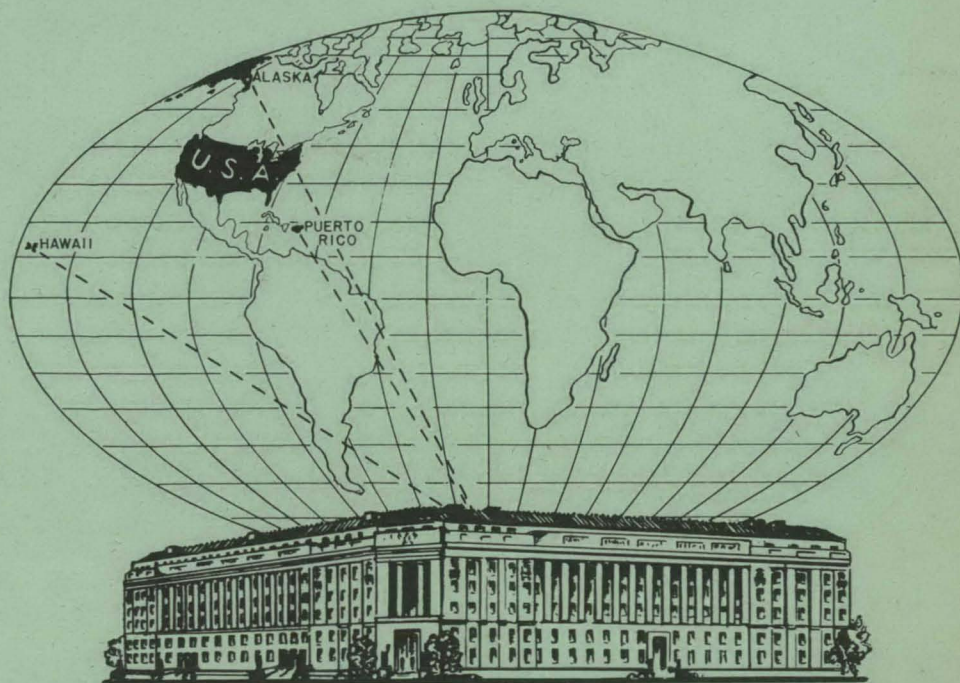


FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN



1946

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE FBI,
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

No. 9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
J. Edgar Hoover, Director



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



September 1, 1946

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

The ability to write is common to the majority of people in the United States. Almost all of us use the English language as our common means of expression. The pens and pencils we use are very similar. Yet our handwriting is as distinct and individual to each of us as our countenance, voice and mannerisms.

For this reason handwriting, in addition to other types of document examination, is assuming a steadily growing importance in the field of crime detection. Law enforcement, once considered a strong-arm job, is now a career profession. With this change, the investigation of a crime has become an impersonal scientific problem. A specimen of handwriting or an aged piece of paper may be the item which breaks a case. That item may send a man to prison or it may release him. One of two participants in a brutal murder case in Virginia, in which robbery was the motive, denied all knowledge of the crime. Yet FBI Laboratory technicians, examining the torn pieces of a note, proved his connection with the murder. Scientific examination revealed that the questioned note was written by the suspect. Confronted with the findings of the experts, the man confessed his guilt. He was sentenced to serve from eighteen to twenty years in prison.

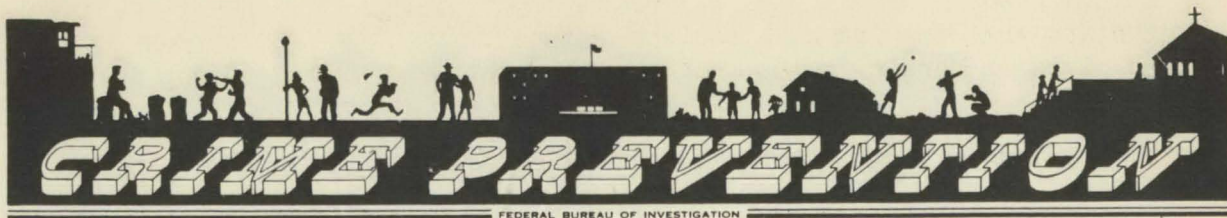
In another case, a man convicted of concealing and having in his possession a certain check in violation of the Postal Laws was sentenced to serve a year and a day in a Federal Penitentiary. Subsequently an ex-convict confessed to stealing and forging the check. A careful analysis of the handwriting of the persons involved in the case determined the validity of the confession. On the basis of this report, and other confirmatory evidence, the man who had been convicted of the crime was granted a full and unconditional pardon by the President.

Widespread knowledge among law enforcement officers of the value of documentary evidence will be a definite handicap to those who break the law. To this end we of the FBI were pleased to publish a detailed discussion of the subject, "Some Scientific Aspects of Document Examination," in the last three issues of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. We hope that it will prove to be beneficial to all law enforcement in our common campaign against crime.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Edgar Hoover". The signature is stylized, with a large "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Edgar Hoover
Director



THE JUVENILE BUREAU OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

By

Major Harvey G. Callahan, Superintendent*

The Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D. C., established a Juvenile Bureau on June 1, 1944. It has made such great strides in crime prevention activities and in the handling of offenses involving youngsters that we are well pleased.

The Juvenile Bureau is under the command of Lieutenant William T. Murphy, an experienced officer with years of practical police work behind him. He is assisted by seven patrolmen. Information in connection with arrests of juveniles by members of the Police Department is forwarded to the Juvenile Bureau. It is screened, studied, indexed, and made available to the Juvenile Court on a form provided by that agency. This system makes it possible for the Juvenile Bureau to be kept informed of all police matters involving children, and screen out those cases offering the greatest opportunities for helpful treatment.



MAJOR HARVEY G. CALLAHAN CONFERRING
WITH A GROUP OF POLICE CLUB BOYS

In some instances Lieutenant Murphy addresses a form letter to the parents of the offending juvenile requesting them to be present at a police inquiry concerning their child's actions. In all matters pertaining to children of tender years soft wording is used. A copy of the parental notice is reproduced in this article so that the carefully chosen language may be noted.

When Lieutenant Murphy presides over hearings he does not pull his punches. Great pains are taken to see that juveniles and parents alike

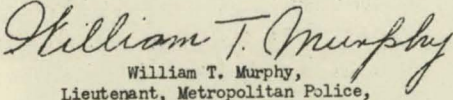
*Major Callahan is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

understand what the law and society expect from them. Follow-up work on these cases is done by members of the Juvenile Bureau if the facts developed at the hearing warrant it. Juvenile officers go into the homes of the children and make every effort to work things out so that the parents and the child live as harmoniously as possible under existing social conditions. Close liaison exists with the schools, churches, social agencies, recreational departments and other units of the city established for the welfare of children.

JUVENILE BUREAU
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

You are hereby requested to be present at the Juvenile Bureau, Room 2061, New Municipal Center, 3rd and Indiana Avenue, N. W., on the _____ day of _____, 19____, at _____ A.M.-P.M., and to bring with you _____

at which time an inquiry will be made into the complaint placed against the above named juvenile.


 William T. Murphy,
Lieutenant, Metropolitan Police,
Director - Juvenile Bureau.

PARENTAL NOTICE REQUESTING PRESENCE AT POLICE INQUIRY

with the attendance division of the public school system so that truancy is discouraged as much as possible. Officers endeavor to gain an insight into the backgrounds of chronic delinquents under the belief that these lads will be among the troublemakers of the future.

The Juvenile Bureau operates under the precept that crime prevention work and special handling of young offenders are integral parts of any successful police department. It is axiomatic, in Washington, that crime prevention is a primary function of law enforcement. The full force and facilities of the Juvenile Bureau are directed against the roots of incipient criminality.

We exercise the utmost care in selecting personnel for assignment to the Juvenile Bureau. Our problems are the same as those faced by

other police departments and we know from personal experience that good, qualified, eager, and enthusiastic officers capable of handling children are difficult to get. Every effort is made to obtain them, however, for the success of any Juvenile Bureau is dependent upon the qualifications of its

Places normally attractive to children which in time become "hangouts," such as pool rooms, bowling alleys, pinball "joints" and similar establishments are patrolled by juvenile officers. These men work closely



LT. WILLIAM T. MURPHY HOLDING A HEARING IN THE JUVENILE BUREAU OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

staff.

Officers selected for juvenile work enter the field with their eyes open. They are taught that the "pay off" in the youth field is generally not manifested in promotions or glory. Juvenile officers expect long hours of tedious work under all sorts of conditions, day and night. Prejudices come from every quarter. A successful juvenile officer must have a natural way with youth and his principal reward comes from the inward satisfaction of preventing crime. The men of our Juvenile Bureau are guided by these thoughts and the sincere desire to help youngsters.

Lieutenant Murphy, Director of the Juvenile Bureau, is responsible solely to me in the administration of his unit. In its administration, the Juvenile Bureau works with the officer on the beat. His duties are not infringed upon. Respect is given to his opinions and suggestions.

The uniformed officer who first meets the juvenile may file charges and prepare a form which will be referred to the Juvenile Court. If the situation is such that he believes the Juvenile Bureau can help the child, he notifies Lieutenant Murphy whose assistants step in. The form prepared by the arresting officer contains only the barest essential information and is routed through precinct officers to the Juvenile Bureau.

Arrest forms are supervised by the Juvenile Bureau. Checks are made to see that the facts constitute a cause of action and that the forms uphold traditions of neatness, completeness, and other established policies. The Juvenile Bureau must ascertain that parents are promptly notified of the arrests of children.

In our department the Juvenile Bureau is a "quiet" agency. It operates without pretense and without publicity. It encourages wholesome youth activities, the Metropolitan Police Boys' Club* and all neighborhood agencies to do everything possible in the fight against crime. Our department has done its best to correct an erroneous thought trend that police should have as little to do with juveniles as possible. We believe that the contrary is true. Toward that end report writing is de-emphasized. Employees concentrate on spending their time with people.

The Juvenile Bureau is supported by the Women's Bureau, directed by Captain Rhoda J. Milliken. The work of Captain Milliken's division has been developed along three lines: (1) the supervision of commercial recreation and investigation of neighborhood conditions hazardous to youth; (2) the investigation of complaints from parents, relatives, and other citizens regarding adverse adult action against children, or problems which children are presenting; (3) participation on both the neighborhood and city-wide levels in community planning to meet the needs of children. An officer is assigned to work with each of the neighborhood councils organized in Washington under the sponsorship of the Council of Social Agencies. These Councils are made up of school teachers, nurses, social workers, police and

*See FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, February, 1939

other citizens living in a particular neighborhood. It is their objective to devise ways and means of developing activities and services for the benefit of young people. It is the responsibility of the Women's Bureau, and this is a point often overlooked in police work, to select from groups of women arrested those whose ages make them juveniles. Captain Milliken has often found young females who would escape the benefits of juvenile treatment unless investigation had brought the true facts to light.

With regard to the sponsoring of youth organizations the Metropolitan Police Department has in addition to its Boys' Club, a Junior Police and Citizens Corps. The Junior Police and Citizens Corps numbers approximately ten thousand members and is under the supervision of Patrolman Oliver A. Cowan* who is assigned to the Juvenile Bureau. Lieutenant Murphy and Patrolman Cowan felt that a great deal of good work could be done by actually organizing the youngsters to help prevent crime.

As in many cities our department has been concerned by the expressions of misguided or unguided youngsters to the effect that they "hate cops." Such sentiments plus a wave of juvenile offenses ranging from broken street lights through burglaries, mob battles, and juvenile gang riots led to the formation of the Junior Police and Citizens Corps of Washington, D. C. Patrolman Cowan observed in the rough and tough area where he was assigned that most boys can be converted into good citizens if sprinkled thoroughly with the milk of human kindness.

It is the purpose of the Junior Police and Citizens Corps to teach every youth to make the most of his latent abilities. Adult supervision is provided, but without preaching. A flexible program keeps the youngsters in their own neighborhoods, doing what they want to do, as long as it comes within the law. Moral discipline, religion, health and responsibility are the keys to the organization.

The Junior Police came into being when Patrolman Cowan seized four young boys caught in the act of breaking street lights. He did what they least expected. Instead of leading them to the police station, he talked with them like a big brother. Their confidence was obtained, a friendship was formed, and the Junior Police and Citizens Corps was born. From

*Private Cowan recently was presented an award by the Corrections Division of the Council of Social Agencies for his work in preventing juvenile delinquency.



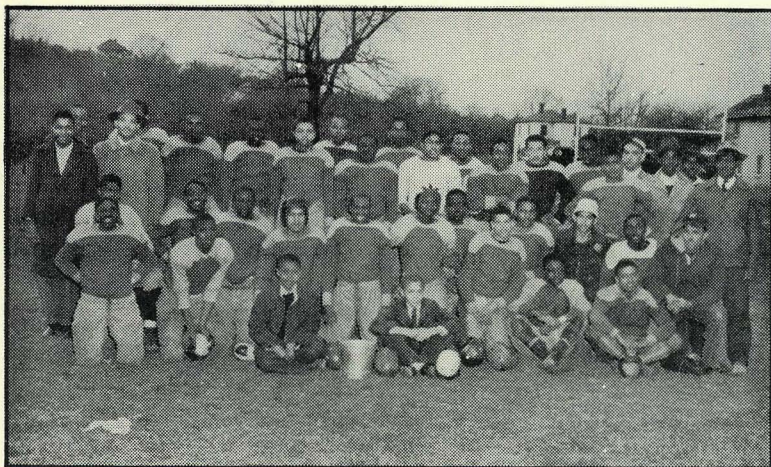
JUNIOR POLICE DESIGN AND BUILD
PLAY BENCHES FOR THE COMMUNITY

the original four members, enrollment has swelled to the ten-thousand figure.

One of the most heartening accomplishments of the unit is its transformation from a "wise guy" attitude to expressions of respect for members of the law enforcement profession. Several juvenile gangs have been taken into the Junior Police and Citizens Corps in toto. Juvenile delinquents signed up, predelinquents and hundreds of youngsters who came from high-class families rallied to the cause. Persons with special axes to grind were kept out. The Junior Police does not compete with any organization. There is plenty of room in youth work for all. It aims to supplement the contributions of other legitimate youth-serving agencies.

Each member must subscribe to the following pledge: "I promise to keep myself out of trouble, and I promise to keep my friends out of trouble at all times."

There are many units of the Junior Police and Citizens Corps. Each neighborhood has one or more. Each unit has its captain, lieutenants, sergeants, and administrative officers. The entire organization is presided over by a youth who is elected mayor.



A TYPICAL GROUP OF YOUNGSTERS WHO JOINED THE JUNIOR POLICE AND CITIZENS CORPS FOOTBALL LEAGUE. (Officer Cowan 2nd person, 3rd row)

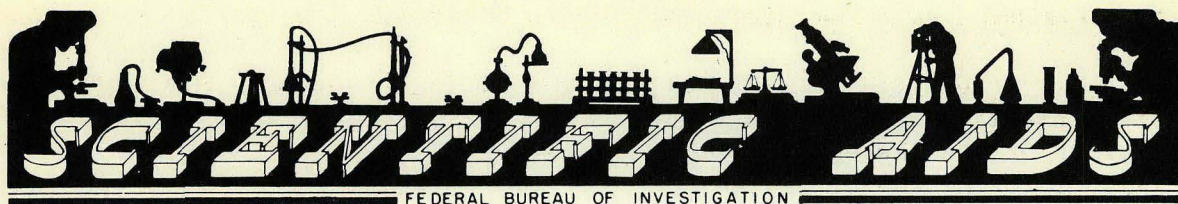
Athletic teams representing the organization are among the best in the city. Members participate in baseball, basketball and football. Youngsters of sedentary habits may specialize in the work of the camera club, the sewing club, choral singing, model building, or help prepare "Youthtown News," the "mouthpiece" of the Corps.

a definite purpose. Minds are stimulated, bodies developed, and the community bettered.

Dozens of appealing activities are available. They are constructive. Each is provided for

No youth is kept out of the Junior Police and Citizens Corps because of lack of money. Youngsters who need food or clothes will be given help if they contact the Corps, and adults associated with the organization help find jobs for members in bad financial circumstances.

A First Lady of the Land, highly-placed Governmental executives, Congressmen, and judges who are in a position to know the need for youth
(Continued on Page 18)



BLOOD ANALYSIS IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

In the successful investigation and prosecution of criminal cases, one of the most valuable types of physical evidence to be obtained by the investigator consists of bloodstained evidence. In crimes of violence such as murder, rape, assault and battery, et cetera, where injury and bleeding of the victim are apt to occur, it is probable that the assailant's clothing will become stained with the victim's blood because of the close contact existing at the time of the crime. Such bloodstains are a very important and sometimes the only available evidence linking the criminal and his crime.

It is a common occurrence when a suspect is being interrogated in connection with a crime, for him to claim that bloodstains present on his clothing are either of animal origin or his own blood resulting from a nosebleed or injury to himself. The falsity of such alibis has often been established in the FBI Laboratory by blood tests which will (1) prove conclusively that the blood is of human origin, and (2) determine that the blood on the suspect's clothing is of a group other than his own blood group.

By similar tests in the Laboratory the suspect's claims, if they are valid, can be substantiated. In cases where several suspects are involved, blood group comparisons made of the victim's blood and bloodstains on the suspect's clothing may result in elimination of innocent persons. At the same time such grouping tests may establish that the blood on the suspect's clothing is of the same group as that of the victim's blood. Such tests are also applicable to bloodstained articles found in the possession of the suspect such as knives, razors, tools, clubs, and other weapons.

Oftentimes it is difficult to establish the exact location at which a crime was committed. Here, again, the bloodstains found at such places as in an automobile, in a room or even on the ground may assist considerably in fixing this location. Occasionally a cunning criminal may be able to successfully conceal the body of his victim and the only clues upon which a successful investigation can be initiated are minute bloodstains left at the scene of the crime. Actually in some instances the presence of bloodstains may be the only indication that a crime has occurred.

Experience of the FBI Laboratory has shown that any value which may be derived from examination of bloodstained evidence, either as an investigative lead or as prosecutive evidence, depends entirely upon the officer's using proper methods in identifying, preserving and submitting the

specimens to the laboratory for analysis. Evidence found by an investigating officer should be marked immediately by him so that he can positively identify it at any subsequent time. If it is feasible, the preferred method is for the officer to place his initials directly on the evidence in an inconspicuous place. It is also desirable for the officer to attach a tag bearing information concerning the nature of the article, ownership, place and time found, and the names of the finder and the investigator handling the matter. Such data can then be supplemented by recording the information in even greater detail in the investigating officer's notes. The method of initialing directly on the evidence article is not only applicable to clothing but also metallic objects such as axes, knives, hammers, crowbars, and pieces of wood. In the case of metallic objects the identifying initials may be permanently scratched on the specimen with a sharp instrument.

When clothing is being submitted to the FBI Laboratory for blood examination it is desirable that the entire garment be transmitted in order that a complete analysis may be made. The stained area may be removed for forwarding if a bloodstain is present on a large object such as a rug or drape, the size of which makes it impractical for transmission in its entirety to the Laboratory. For control testing, it is necessary to have, in addition to the stained area, some of the unstained material taken from around the bloodstain. When bloodstains are found on wood, such as a piece of flooring, it is necessary to submit a portion of the unstained wood as well as the stained portion. Stains on a porous surface such as a rough plaster wall can be removed by careful scraping with a clean knife. The particles may then be placed in a pillbox. Proper identification data may be placed directly on the box. In instances where bloodstains are found on other materials such as glass and paper, it is preferable to send the entire article or a portion of it bearing the stains rather than trying to remove them.

When bloodstained clothing of both the victim and suspect is being submitted to the Laboratory for blood grouping comparisons, in order to avoid instances in which there is an insufficient quantity of the blood on the victim's clothing for grouping and to avoid claims by the suspect that the stains are his own blood, it is desirable that liquid blood samples be obtained from both the victim and suspect. Sterile test tubes or vacuum tubes such as Shepherd tubes are the best possible containers for use in forwarding the three or four cubic centimeters of blood necessary for analysis. These blood samples should be taken under medical supervision.



FBI LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
PREPARING FRESH BLOOD
SAMPLES FOR SHIPMENT

In forwarding such evidence as clothing to the Laboratory each specimen should be separately wrapped in clean wrapping paper. Thin wrapping paper such as newspaper or tissue paper is not desirable because of the possibility of tearing and subsequent loss of evidence. When clothing of both the victim and suspect is being wrapped for forwarding, it is obviously necessary to keep the clothing of each separate. The construction of a box the approximate size of the specimen and securing it within by means of wires or cleats is the most effective method to use in transmitting such articles as axes, long-bladed knives and iron rods or bars.

It has frequently been found that bloodstained clothing is putrefied and moldy when it is received in the FBI Laboratory. This condition results from the garment's not being thoroughly dry at the time it is wrapped for shipment. In order to avoid this undesirable condition it is necessary that all damp fabrics be thoroughly dried by exposure to the atmosphere. This drying process should never be accompanied by exposure to artificial heat or direct sunlight.

Special precautions in wrapping and forwarding should always be given to liquid blood samples. The tubes containing the blood should be wrapped in cotton and then placed preferably in a cylindrical cardboard carton or mailing tube of the type which is available in most hospitals and doctors' offices. If such a container is not available the tubes may be wrapped in cotton and placed in a small box. In order that liquid blood samples may reach the Laboratory in as near their normal condition as possible, such samples should always be forwarded by air mail special delivery.

All specimens completely and properly wrapped should be addressed to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington, D. C., for the attention of the FBI Laboratory.

* * * * *

POLICE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE LARGE PERCENTAGE OF SUPPLIES

The program of the Defense Supplies Corporation for making fire-arms and ammunition available to police departments, industrial plants and certain other organizations during the war, ended on May 31, 1946. The final report of that organization shows that the following was distributed:

.38 calibre revolvers	116,000
.22 calibre revolvers	1,500
semi-automatic rifles	1,800
sub-machine guns	500
shotguns and high power rifles	1,700
ammunition	approximately 3 billion rounds

While it is not possible to ascertain exactly how much of this equipment went to police and how much went to non-law enforcement agencies, a representative of the Defense Supplies Corporation has stated that by far the greater percentage of revolvers, semi-automatic rifles and sub-machine guns went to police departments.

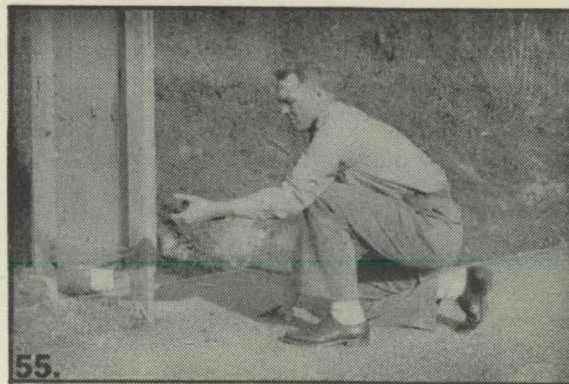
THE FBI PRACTICAL PISTOL COURSE

(Continued from August, 1946, issue)

54. SHOOTER FIRES FIVE ROUNDS.



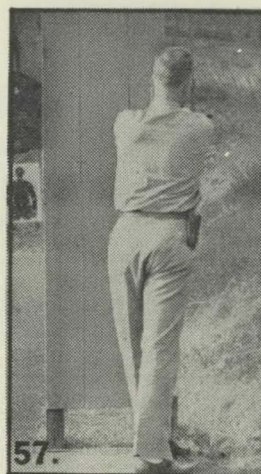
55. SHOOTER EJECTS SHELLS AS HE MOVES BEHIND BARRICADE.



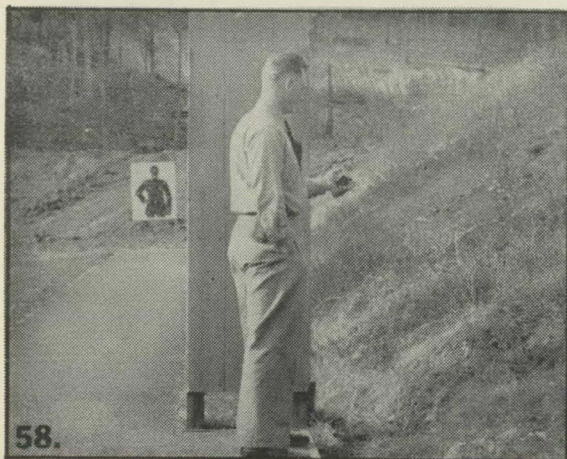
56. HE RELOADS GUN BEHIND BARRICADE.



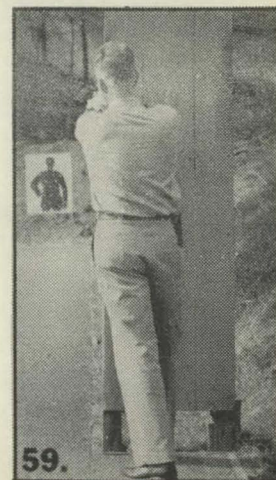
57. SHOOTER FIRES FIVE ROUNDS WITH EACH HAND FROM BEHIND BARRICADE. HERE HE UTILIZES STRONG HAND FIRST.



58. EMPTY CARTRIDGES ARE EJECTED AS SHOOTER REACHES FOR LAST FIVE ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION.



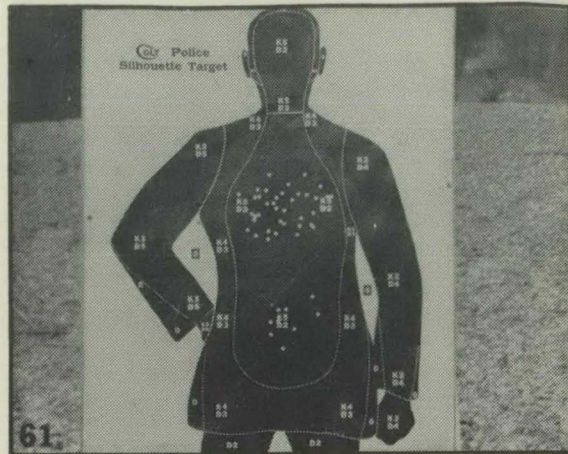
59. SHOOTER HAS RELOADED AND IS FIRING LAST FIVE ROUNDS OF THE COURSE WITH HIS LEFT HAND.



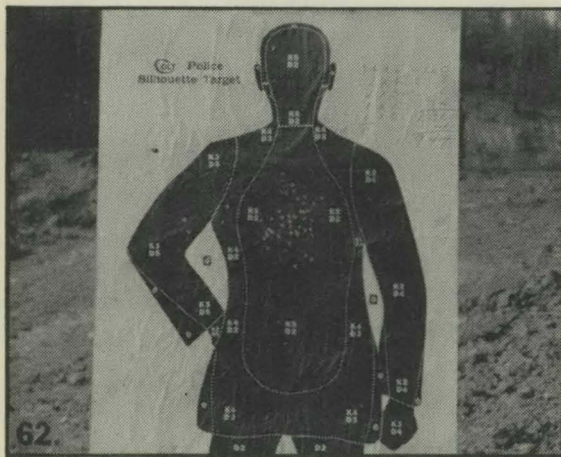
60. SHOOTER HAS FINISHED FIRING THE COURSE. GUN UNLOADED AND HOLSTERED, HE IS WAITING FOR THE INSTRUCTOR TO CLEAR THE LINE.



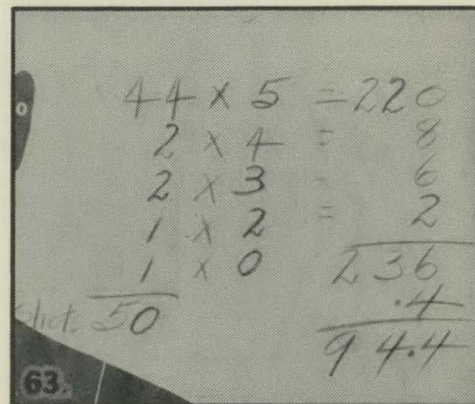
61. A POSSIBLE TARGET. FIFTY SHOTS ARE WITHIN THE K5 RING.



62. HOW TO SCORE - COUNT ALL 5'S AND TOTAL. DO THE SAME WITH 4'S, 3'S AND 2'S. ADD TOTAL AND MULTIPLY BY .4.

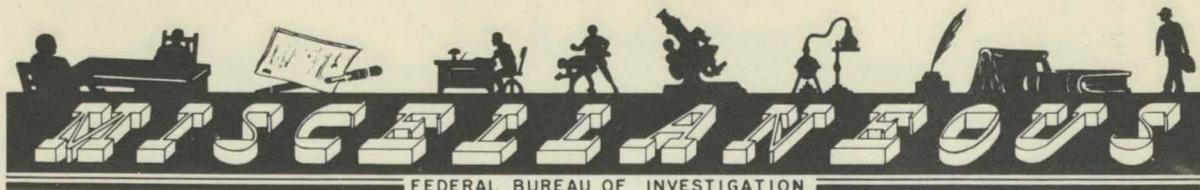


63. SCORE.



FBI ACADEMY, QUANTICO, VIRGINIA

THIS IS THE LAST IN A SERIES OF THREE INSTALLMENTS ON "THE FBI PRACTICAL PISTOL COURSE." REPRINTS OF THE ENTIRE ARTICLE IN PAMPHLET FORM WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.



THEFT FROM INTERSTATE SHIPMENT

"It's a good load, see? Jewelry and furs. We'll clean up plenty."

"I don't like it, though. I drive the truck. Anybody gets wise, I gotta do the talking."

"Stick to the story and they won't get wise. Keep your mouth shut and you'll keep clean."

"We can't pull it alone, Izzie."

"I got help. Plenty. Just don't try to chicken out, Tony."

There was a post-midnight lull on the north side of 103rd Street. It was the early morning of September first but remnants of August heat choked the narrow alleys.

A bustle of activity stirred the silence of the darkened parking lot between 1st and 2nd Avenue. Two men worked with furtive haste unloading bales of goods from an express truck. A car pulled up to the curb, stopped a little beyond the lot. One of the three occupants stepped out, spoke briefly to the two men and reentered. The car drove off, halted at 23rd and Second Avenue. The three men entered a tenement approximately a block and a half from the parked car and quickly and quietly proceeded with their work.

"Hook the wire over that gas pipe. Tight enough, Tony?"

"Yeah. I wanta get outta here in fifteen-twenty minutes."

"Right. We gotta hurry if we get rid of the stuff before daylight."

"Stick the gag in loose. I don't wanta choke."

Two of the men left. Tony, the driver of the express truck, was left loosely trussed under the stairway in the tenement hall. After sufficient time had passed he began to struggle.....

* * * * *

Another haul in one of the several hijacking areas. Goods with a declared valuation of \$30,000 - an actual value of \$70,000 - were stolen. But the hijackers didn't get away with it. FBI Agents arrested four men who engaged in the actual theft (the fifth is presently serving a sentence for an independent attempted hijacking) and one as a receiver.

* * * * *

Shortages and scarcity of certain articles make them the focal point of interest for hijackers, black marketers and petty pilferers. It takes a group to complete a successful hijacking. As a result gangs mushroom into being.

Once formed, a gang entrenches, then extends its power. As it expands financially it becomes more difficult to overthrow.

The FBI's most effective weapon to combat this type of crime is the Theft from Interstate Shipment Statute. The theft of freight, express, goods, chattels, shipments, or baggage which are a part of an interstate or foreign shipment or which are moving in interstate or foreign commerce is a violation of this statute. The maximum penalty for such violation is ten years in a penitentiary and a \$5,000 fine, or both.

Effective investigation of violations of this statute depends in a large part upon prompt action. The keynote to the prompt solution of such thefts is the within the hour reporting of the case by the carrier. In addition, the within the hour investigation of the report and a speedy circularization of the descriptions of the stolen merchandise are most essential if a maximum amount of the loot is to be recovered and if the thieves are to be apprehended.

The Theft from Interstate Shipment Statute is broad. It covers stealing, unlawfully taking, unlawfully carrying away, unlawfully concealing, and obtaining by fraud and deception. One section covers buying, receiving, and possessing if combined with knowledge that the goods were previously stolen. Knowledge of the interstate character of the articles by the fence is immaterial.

The fact that a theft occurs from a shipment which is intrastate does not automatically exclude FBI interest. Very often Federal laws other than the Theft from Interstate Shipment Statute are violated. The most common are Theft of Government Property, Federal Kidnaping Act, National Motor Vehicle Theft Act and National Stolen Property Act.

Recoveries in connection with violations of the Theft from Interstate Shipment Statute include whiskey, piece goods, rayon, cotton, wool, nylon, tobaccos and clothing. In one instance a truck load of woolen cloth worth \$30,000 was recovered.

A thousand cases of whiskey in one theft and five hundred cases in another, were returned to their rightful owners. One investigation resulted in the recovery of \$23,000 worth of merchandise stolen from a New York pier. Six thousand dollars worth of tennis balls, hundreds of boxes of cigars and cases of cigarettes have been recovered.

Petty pilferage rings and unbridled and continued small thefts take a terrific toll of merchandise yearly. One transportation company was drained so steadily by this type of crime that no profit was realized until the ring - composed of employees - was broken up by the FBI. The monthly loss of \$3,000 by pilferage ceased.

Local law enforcement officers have given the FBI invaluable assistance by transmitting information to Federal officials with the greatest dispatch. As indicated, the keynote to minimizing carrier thefts, and thereby reducing the threat of a return to the gang era, is speed. This means speed in reporting the theft, speed in investigating the theft, prompt interrogation of suspects - and, as a result, a speedy apprehension of the thieves.



"PARIES PALMATUS"*

It was an unusually sensational trial, and the court was crowded to capacity. There appeared to be little doubt of the blind boy's guilt. Step by step, the prosecution had built up a chain of incriminating evidence until the death verdict was expected as a matter of course. No one else (so they contended) could have committed the murder. As a matter of fact, the suspect's knife had been found still imbedded in the body of the victim, the defendant's own father. And if additional proof were wanting, there were the fingerprints - bloody fingerprints! - stretching along the walls from the scene of the crime to the son's sleeping quarters. True, the marks were somewhat lacking in evidential value, since they were so badly smeared that no legible ridge patterns could be recognized. Nevertheless, their size, at least, agreed convincingly with the defendant's hands, which seemed ample indication under the circumstances.

Chief witness for the prosecution, the son's grief-stricken stepmother had been loud in her condemnation, telling how she awakened in the early hours before dawn, to find her husband silent in death at her side, slain by an assassin. The sympathetic listeners were moved by her testimony.

However, despite the strong forces of accusation arrayed against him, the prisoner had at least one assurance, since he could have found none more competent to protect his interests than his present defender. In view of this man's high reputation and legal standing, curious speculation could only surmise why so famous an attorney had volunteered to aid the accused youth. It was agreed that the very utmost any lawyer could hope to do in behalf of such a client would be to enter a plea of insanity, and beg for lenience. The blind boy's case seemed hopeless indeed; but miracles had been known to happen, even in a court of law.

All the opposing witnesses had testified; now the prosecution rested, and the attorney for the defense was about to be heard. The clarion challenge of his familiar voice was known to many, as was the rhetorical style which he always chose to affect in his court delivery. This was the awaited moment. An expectant silence fell as the blind boy's counselor arose.

*Submitted by B. C. Bridges, Superintendent, Bureau of Identification, Alameda Police Department, Alameda, California.

"Citizens assembled," he began, "you have heard the accusations against this youth, who stands before you unjustly charged with the slaying of his father. I here proclaim this blind boy innocent! -- and I am well-prepared to prove his vindication! You have heard the wife of the deceased testify, as plaintiff in the case, that she awakened at early morning to find her husband slain. I now request that this woman be recalled for cross-examination."

There was subdued murmur throughout the court as the plaintiff came forward with notable confidence.

"When first you found your husband dead," the attorney asked, after the stepmother had taken the stand, "what did you then?"

"I was overcome with grief," she answered, "I knew not what to do -- but presently I ran to the room of my stepson."

"You went to your stepson to tell him of his father's death?"

"Yes," she replied, "and though I ran, screaming as I went, I found him seemingly asleep! With much shouting and shaking, I awakened him -- For one who usually starts or wakens at the slightest noise, I dare say he was feigning slumber."

The lawyer eyed her quizzically.

"After finally arousing your stepson, what did you then?" he asked.

"I returned to my room with my stepson," she said, "and we bemoaned our common loss."

"Knowing your husband dead," he asked, after a brief pause, "did you then suspect who might have committed this terrible deed?"

"At first I had no suspicion," she replied, "but when daylight came into the room, I began to see more clearly."

"What," he questioned, "did the light of day reveal?"

"I saw the weapon," she answered in a lowered tone, "I saw the weapon with which my beloved husband had been killed -- It was the dagger of my stepson!"

"How did you know it was your stepson's knife?" he asked sharply.

"I knew it by the hilt," she asserted, "it has a curious form."

The attorney again paused for a moment.

"The weapon's hilt was clearly visible when first you saw it in the early morning light?" he asked presently.

"Yes," she said with assurance, "I could see it plainly!"

"There was no blood or stain of any kind to mar your vision?" he questioned.

"No!" she declared, "the hilt was clean -- without a trace of blood!"

"And was this knife the only evidence to prove your stepson's guilt?" he asked.

"No!" she said emphatically, "there were his fingerprints in blood upon the walls!"

"These fingerprints you tell us were upon the walls," he suggested, "perhaps they were imprinted there at some other time, and possibly through some casual accident. Were the impressions made from left hand or from right?"

"No!" she protested, "they were left there by the murderer! And it was plain that both hands had touched the walls on either side --

the left hand and the right!"

"The imprints of both palms were plainly visible," he asked, "and all the prints were made in blood?"

"Yes," she agreed, "the palm and fingers of both hands were clearly indicated."

"And all the fingerprints upon the walls extend from your bed-chamber to that of your stepson's?"

"Yes, that is true," she said.

"Is their direction well defined? How far apart are the blood-stained fingerprints separated?" he asked.

"They are quite closely placed," she assured, "with no more than twice a hand's breadth between the marks."

"And are the fingerprints near to your stepson's door still sharp and clear?" he asked. "Perhaps the traces in reality lead to some other place."

"No! No!" she protested vehemently, "they lead most surely to his sleeping-room where the marks are just as deeply dyed as in the room where my husband was murdered!"

"Is it then some distance from your bed-chamber to your stepson's room?" he ventured.

"Yes," she said, "perhaps thrice a score of strides -- the full length of our dwelling."

"And from these facts," he concluded, "you are convinced that it was your stepson who caused your husband's death?"

"Yes! Yes!" she cried, "I know it was he who killed him -- and I pray that he be punished!"

The attorney's level gaze held the woman for several seconds; then he turned to his audience.

"From this incontestable evidence," he said, "it seems reasonable to conclude that the bloody fingerprints were made by the hands of guilt. We will question the woman no further. I now desire to examine the blind boy."

When the defendant had been recalled to the stand, his attorney addressed him: "Young man, you are the stepson of the woman who accuses you of this crime?"

"Yes," the boy replied, "I am."

"And the murdered man was your father?"

"Yes," the lad answered.

"Your father was dear to you, was he not?" the attorney inquired gently.

"Yes," said the youth simply, "I loved him."

The attorney paused.

"It is said that you cannot see," the lawyer asserted presently, "is that also true?"

"Yes," said the boy in a low voice, "I am blind."

"Through what misfortune did you lose your sight?" the attorney asked.

"Some time since, there was a fire within our dwelling," the boy related. "My father, overcome by smoke, could not escape unaided, and I carried him to safety. When I returned, attempting to bring forth my mother also, I was blinded by the flames, and my mother perished."

"When both parents were imperiled," the lawyer assumed, "you chose to save your father?"

"Yes," the boy agreed.

Again the lawyer hesitated briefly while his eyes swept the court.

"When later your father took a second wife," the counselor asked, "was it with your approval?"

"I urged him to remarry," the boy assented. "He needed someone to care for him -- one who could see."

The lawyer paused once more.

"Did you hear sounds of a struggle or any uncommon noise within your home at the time your father was slain?" he asked after a moment.

"No," the boy declared, "although I am a light sleeper, I heard nothing until my stepmother came screaming to my bed-chamber."

"You were asleep until her screams awakened you?" the lawyer conjectured.

"Yes," the youth agreed.

"What did you do when you heard the screams of your stepmother?" the attorney asked.

"I arose from my bed as quickly as I could," the boy explained, "and met her at the door of my room."

"And you had no sooner reached the door when your stepmother entered," said the lawyer, "is that true?"

"Yes," the boy affirmed, "that is true."

"The dagger with which your father was slain," the attorney inquired, "the weapon was in truth your own?"

"Alas, it was," the boy admitted, "but it has not been in my hands for three years or more since I lost my sight -- What need has a blind man for a dagger?"

"It is recorded that your father was possessed of considerable estate," the lawyer declared, "is that also true?"

"Yes," the youth agreed, "my father was a man of moderate wealth."

"And according to the laws and customs of our country, a large portion of this estate becomes vested in his wife with the advent of your father's death?" the attorney speculated.

"Yes," said the boy, "I understand that this is true."

"It is recorded that your father was an honest man, and a law-abiding citizen," the lawyer stated. "Know you of any enemies who might have so cruelly taken his life?"

"My father had no enemies," the youth assured, "he was a friend to everyone."

The boy's emotion was obvious, and tears were on his cheeks. His attorney drew a protecting arm about the lad's shoulders the while he again scanned the silently attentive faces of the court, regarding last the plaintiff, where she sat nearby. Under his scrutiny, the woman lowered her eyes, and the knuckles of her clenched hands were white. For a little space he stood thus without speaking, then turned to the defendant.

"That will be all, my boy," he said quietly, "I will question you no more."

When the youth had left the stand, the attorney's demeanor changed. To those who knew him, it was plain that he was done with fenc-

ing, and was now moving in for the kill.

"Citizens," he said, "in this case there has been offered certain evidence tending to prove this blind boy's guilt. I now propose to consider this evidence more carefully. With malice and intent, a kind and honest man has been smitten dead within his home. My worthy opponent, the prosecutor, asserts that after this dire deed, the heartless culprit touched the walls to find his way, and thus left those fingerprints that blazon forth their infamy. I freely grant these dark contentions plausible. It is true that one bereft of sight, having committed such a cruel and wanton act, might touch the walls in making his escape; but here the evidence itself disproves the charges of the prosecution. It is a fact well known that blood exposed to air dries rapidly; and thus the prints, by nature, would grow fainter as they left their place of origin; but such is not the nature of these fingerprints, which show the same deep hue throughout their lengthy course. And even though a blind man might have stained his fingers more profusely, the blood would dry upon his hands as soon as on the hands of one who still could see!"

Pausing a moment to allow the force of this disclosure to have its effect, he continued: "Observe now this sightless youth -- Mark how he weeps! No thought had he to slay the father whom he loved! Citizens, this young man's innocence I once again proclaim, and for the proof, I summarize the evidence! 'Tis true the blind boy's knife was left within the wound; but any murderer who planned his crime would use some weapon other than his own, and never leave it thus to guide his seekers. Also, consider this -- A single blow was struck, and that most craftily, which caused the victim's death. No blind man's act was this -- Directing eyes were there to guide that lethal stroke, which found a vital spot with quick precision. Where two were sleeping side by side, a man without his sight could not have singled out and smote his prey without the other's waking, else had he slain them both, that none might live to testify against him!"

Again the lawyer hesitated momentarily, then spoke once more: "'Tis plain indeed the murderer had eyes to weigh each salient fact and circumstance which stood to expedite the evil enterprise. And this we know -- the killer struck but once, and left the dagger buried as it was. From such a wound, obstructed by the blade, scant blood would flow. And this, too, I point out -- In grasping the weapon for the fatal thrust, the haft was firmly held within the hand, and thus no blood could touch the palm! And furthermore, when treading through the passageway, though even pressing haste, small need had this lad to touch familiar walls, whose every friendly turn he knew from early childhood -- And yet those bloody fingerprints, from both hands, left and right, were made in over-plentiful profusion! If any blind man's touch had spread those clues, the traces would appear in hand-dragged trails, and not as palm prints neatly measured side by side! And mark you this -- as I have said -- the hand that clasped that dagger's hilt was left unstained! By her own testimony the woman proves the weapon's hilt was clean and free of blemish!

The plaintiff had risen to her feet as if to protest, but instead stood motionless, staring at the attorney in fearful fascination. Seeming to ignore her, he went on speaking.

"But none the less," he continued, "the hand which struck that coward's blow was also that which forged those baneful fingerprints, seek-

ing to trap this blind and helpless youth! But lust for gold and malice here o'er-balanced caution, for those grim marks are far too many and too well-defined, in all their scarlet falsity, to have been left there through mere accident! The hands were small, I grant -- the fingers of a youth -- or of a woman! And so intentionally bedrenched were they that any traces of their skin design was indiscernible. And yet those crimson tongues cry out a stern incrimination! They impute one -- and only one -- who could have done this harsh, unnatural deed! -- And now -- before the searching light of justice, observe her! -- trembling and afraid! -- condemned by her own guilty fingerprints! -- Citizens, behold! -- There stands the murderess!"

With a piercing cry, the woman covered her face with her hands, sobbing and hysterical.

"Yes! Yes! -- " she screamed, "I killed him -- take me away! -- Oh, take me away!"

And thus the trial was ended.

Aside from the somewhat curious and stilted style of speech, there at first appears to be little of the unusual in the foregoing episode, which could have occurred in any modern court room, or have been taken from the pages of any current crime-story publication. However, such is not the fact, since this bit of life-drama was enacted in the ancient city of Rome nearly two thousand years ago!

Many are of the opinion that the use of fingerprints, especially in criminal cases, has existed for a comparatively short time only; but in reality the study of skin patterns is one of the oldest sciences, having been practiced for thousands of years, as well attested by this early court trial.

The eloquent speaker, who exonerated the unfortunate blind boy, was Marcus Fabius Quintilianus, born in the year 35 A.D. He was an outstanding figure in history, and was distinguished not only for his legal ability, but also as a rhetorician, teacher, and author, whose works are cited even today as standards of excellence. Among his collected writings appears the account of this case (Quint. Decl. I, II), in much the same form as we have read it here, which he recorded long ago under the Latin title "Paries Palmatus," "The Hand-Prints on the Wall."

(Continued from Page 5)

work have met with the Junior Police and endorsed the organization.

Early training for citizenship has done it. Keeping the gangs together but properly directing their energies along constructive lines has been a prime factor in success. Juvenile crime is at a minimum in their areas and Junior Policemen have tried to beautify their neighborhoods. In so doing they have beautified themselves in the eyes of God and men - for who can measure statistically lives saved, talent developed, and hearts filled with good citizenship?

The following excerpts are from a letter written by Mr. Charles D. Cooper, Supervisor, State Education Department (formerly Director of Training, State Normal School), The University of the State of New York.

"On March 29, 1946, Mr. Leon Mosher graduated from the FBI National Academy. As the Director of the Training School of the now State Teachers College I watched Mr. Mosher grow up into the outstanding Deputy Sheriff of this County.....When Mr. Mosher was selected and approved as a candidate for the 1946 class at the Academy I was very happy.....

"Mr. Mosher threw himself into the atmosphere of the National Academy with the fervor of a new convert. A tremendous adjustment for one of his maturity. He did more than the curriculum or his teachers required. His enthusiasm convinces me he was a leader while in Washington.....

"I am happy to testify to the efficacy of your instructional methods but more than that I want to commend the National Academy for its inspirational force and its ability to inculcate the deep feeling of loyalty and cooperation all along the line. I want to pass on the high regard this student has for the Chief. By all measures the FBI National Academy, its officers and men, have won my high regard as a worthwhile medium in our government. Mr. Mosher was a good police officer before he came to you. He is a great police officer because of your interest....."



LEON R. MOSHER WEIGHING
CHEMICALS IN THE FBI LABO-
RATORY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTICE

The International Association of Chiefs of Police will hold its 53rd Annual Conference in Mexico City September 23 to 27, inclusive. All of the conference general sessions, as well as the meetings of the IACP State and Provincial Section, will be held in Mexico City's Palace of Fine Arts. Registration of delegates also will take place at the Palace of Fine Arts rather than at a hotel.

TEXAS POLICE SEEK IDENTITY OF SLAIN WOMAN

On June 28, 1946, Jacksonville, Texas, police recovered the battered body shown below from a drift three hundred yards south of the Neuches River bridge. The body had been in the water approximately thirty-six hours - probably having been placed there on the night of June 26, 1946. There was no water in the lungs. Face, head, arms and legs were badly bruised. There were indications of severe blows on the forehead, behind and below the left ear, and one each on the right and left front of the skull in the edge of the hair.

The victim is described as twenty-five to twenty-seven years of age; one hundred forty to one hundred fifty pounds in weight; five feet and four inches in height. She has light brown hair, blue-gray eyes, fair complexion and a round face with pugged nose. Her teeth are without crowns or bridge-work. An old break in the right arm between elbow and wrist has caused her arm to be crooked. She has a small scar in the left eyebrow.

When found the body was clad in a green-flowered white dress with a crocheted back yoke inset and crocheted pockets. It bore an original March Lee creation label and a T.E.B. or T.C.B. laundry mark. In addition, the victim wore size six and one-half, low-heeled white oxfords, KAWOOLEN brand, number 45438-671-6029, a Star-Dust brand brassiere, a pair of step-ins and anklets.

Any information in connection with this case should be referred immediately to Chief of Police Sam Bollinger, Jacksonville, Texas.



INTERESTING FINGERPRINT PATTERNS

The patterns shown here illustrate the appendage rule in loops.

For the purpose of locating the core, the innermost sufficient recurve is found. That recurve must be free of any appendage abutting upon the outside of it at a right angle.

EXAMPLE # 1



Example #1 has an appendage at a right angle to the recurve; therefore, that recurve is not used. Rather the next recurve is considered the innermost sufficient recurve and the core is placed on the end of the appendage (C) as in a loop with a single rod. The ridge count therefore is 11.

EXAMPLE # 2



Example #2 also has an appendage on the innermost recurve; however, it joins smoothly rather than at a right angle and has no effect upon the recurve. The core is placed upon the end of the rod (C) inside the recurve. The ridge count is 13.

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