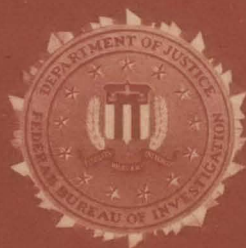


• *Restricted to the Use of Law Enforcement Officials*

# FBI

## *Law Enforcement*

# BULLETIN



1951

SEPTEMBER

Vol. 20 No. 9

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

# FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 1951

Vol. 20 No. 9

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The *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* is issued monthly to law-enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Much of the data appearing herein is of a confidential nature and its circulation should be restricted to law enforcement officers; therefore, material contained in this Bulletin may not be reprinted without prior authorization by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.







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

September 1, 1951

TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS:

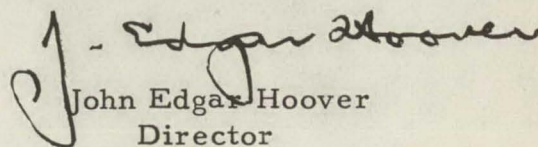
In this period of concerted mobilization of our national resources, the significance of fires and explosions, such as those which marked increased industrial production in World War II, must be immediately determined.

When such disasters are of unusual or unexplained origin, and affect any phase of the National Defense Program, they should be reported immediately and directly to the FBI. The Federal Bureau of Investigation considers that its responsibilities in internal security matters include none more vitally important to our country's welfare than those relating to sabotage. The saboteur who cripples our nation's defense effort seeks the destruction of property with wanton disregard for human life.

In discharging its duties with respect to sabotage violations the FBI relies heavily upon cooperation from all law enforcement agencies through prompt referral to this Bureau of information indicating sabotage activity. Continued assistance of this type will insure that appropriate action may be speedily taken.

Coordination of law enforcement effort has historically proved to be our most effective means of combating criminal and subversive elements. Municipal, county and state law enforcement officers are in a unique position to discourage hysteria and the circulation of ill-founded rumors, and at the same time render valuable service by channeling to the FBI reports of suspected sabotage.

Very truly yours,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director





## FEATURE ARTICLE

### **A Profession**

The profession of law enforcement must keep step with the developments of the "Atomic Age" and shoulder increasing responsibilities along with other professions seeking to achieve a better life for those whom they serve. Law enforcement in this country has progressed steadily during recent years, and we can look back with justifiable pride to our accomplishments. The task has not been an easy one. The progress enjoyed by our profession has to a great extent resulted from vision and courage of the type exhibited by J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

As a profession, we cannot afford to rest upon past achievements nor do we dare to become complacent. We must be constantly mindful of the



**Walter F. Anderson, Director, North Carolina Prison Department.**

## **Professional Standards in Law Enforcement**

*by* WALTER F. ANDERSON, *former Director, State Bureau of Investigation, Raleigh, N. C., now Director, North Carolina Prison Department*

need for strict adherence to requirements of conduct and performance which will command the respect of the members of our communities.

### **Selection of Personnel**

The selection of law enforcement personnel is one of the most important phases of law enforcement administration.

We must not only maintain the highest educational standards possible, but the most rigid investigation into the character of each individual is essential.

A searching and thorough inquiry must be made of an officer applicant covering his entire lifetime.

Mental alertness and physical fitness are, of course, further necessary qualifications for officer personnel.

### **Training**

An applicant who is accepted as having met these rigid standards must undergo a thorough period of training. In addition to basic training, the recruit's schooling should include courses which will condition him for any dangerous or difficult assignments he may encounter in his work.

Periodic retraining courses should also be provided for every member of the department including supervisory personnel. The value of thorough and continuing training has been frequently demonstrated as an important means of combating the forces of crime. The conscientious law-enforcement administrator is anxious to provide maximum training benefits to the officers under his command. Thorough schooling in effective law-enforcement procedures pays invaluable dividends, measured in terms of effective public service.

### **Personal Conduct**

Law-enforcement officers, like other individuals, are judged by their personal conduct. This holds



true in their role of enforcers of the law and in their private lives as well. The entire profession suffers when one of us is involved in misconduct. An officer who is disloyal to his oath of office becomes a tool in the hands of the criminal element, and brings reproach upon his fellow officers and his community. The law-enforcement officer has the tremendous responsibility of serving as a symbol of right and justice, and of setting an example for his fellow citizens.

### ***Efficiency***

We are also judged by the efficiency with which we perform our duties as guardians of the community in the protection of life and property and preserving the public peace.

Law enforcement is a challenging task. It is more than a professional calling, it is the high privilege of serving the people. We are failing them, as well as ourselves, when we do not render the best service possible. In order to assist in keeping our democracy strong we must keep law enforcement on the local level effective and respected.

### ***Moral Conscience***

We must not only perform our duties to the letter of the law, but adhere to the maximum standards rather than the minimum standards of our profession. There may be times and circumstances when action can be taken without violating the letter of the law, but at the same time such action is morally wrong.

Our standards must be so high that our moral conscience will not permit anything less than performance of duty in accordance with the strictest definitions of right and wrong.

Here, it seems to me, is an opportunity for law enforcement to display a type of leadership which is so greatly needed in every walk of life and in every level of our society. Our consciences have been shocked and our emotions stirred by charges that certain members of the law-enforcement profession have submitted to influences exerted by those who seek to circumvent the laws by obtaining concessions. Officers who yield to such influences must be removed from our ranks, and we must rededicate ourselves to the goal of enforcing the letter and spirit of laws provided for the benefit of all.

### ***Cooperation***

Every effort should be made to establish and maintain effective cooperation among law enforcement agencies on the local and Federal level. Each agency has its own jurisdiction and responsibilities. None should infringe upon another. Progress of law enforcement in this country, however, has in part resulted from the willingness of officers to furnish wholehearted cooperation to others in meeting the problems which they have in common. There are certain obligations which should be respected, in affording cooperation of this sort. Records sent from one department to another should be safeguarded to the same extent that the requesting agency would have its own records safeguarded. Above all, care should be taken to insure that police and identification records are utilized only for official purposes, and are otherwise treated in strict confidence.

### ***Crime Prevention***

The conscientious officer realizes the necessity for preventing crime at every possible opportunity. When the members of the community realize that their law enforcement body is fearlessly striving to enforce the law for the best interests of all concerned, public cooperation will be forthcoming. Public support will also be more readily furnished in connection with programs designed to prevent the occurrence of criminal activity at its source.

As officers we have the additional responsibility of seeking the elimination of influences which foster crime among juveniles. It is to the credit of law enforcement that in numerous localities our profession has taken the lead in providing wholesome, supervised activities for youth who might otherwise fall prey to evil forces. The boy or girl who early in life learns to respect and honor the forces of law and order is best equipped to meet the responsibilities of adult citizenship.

### ***Conclusion***

These observations and convictions have resulted from years of experience dedicated to law enforcement work. They are offered with the utmost confidence that the law enforcement profession will meet effectively its duties and responsibilities as a vital influence in the preservation of our democratic freedoms.





# SCIENTIFIC AIDS

## *Toxicological Examination*

Toxicology is the study of poisons, their nature, effects, methods of detecting them, and the treatment of the effects produced by them.<sup>1</sup> As related to law-enforcement work, toxicology is concerned mainly with the analysis of the organs of deceased persons after autopsy of the body, although in some instances it involves the examination of food or other substances suspected of containing poisons.

By its very nature poisoning is a crime of stealth. Even when poison is self-administered, in suicide cases, the act is most often done in secret and since few if any external indications of poisoning may result, the need for a toxicological examination is not at first apparent to the investigator. Consequently, many authorities believe that a large proportion of homicidal poisonings pass undetected and are often mistaken for natural death. For this reason the importance of proper post mortems with a subsequent laboratory examination should never be overlooked. The purpose of this article is to familiarize the investigator with the work of the analytical toxicologist and to indicate what should be done to obtain the maximum information from the toxicological laboratory.

## *Autopsy*

The first step in the investigation of a death by poisoning or a suspected death from poisoning is an autopsy by a competent medical doctor, preferably by a pathologist who has had some experience in this type of work. There is no substitute for a complete and thorough post mortem. It is important for a number of reasons, not all of

<sup>1</sup> The following definition of poisons is believed to be sufficiently precise to meet most scientific criticism and statutory interpretation: "A poison is a substance which absorbed into the blood is capable of seriously affecting health or of destroying life, and this is its usual effect upon the healthy body." From *Legal Medicine and Toxicology* by Peterson, Haines and Webster (1923), vol. 12, p. 18.

# *Medicolegal Examinations For Poisons*

which are necessarily related to the toxicological examination which may follow the post mortem.

First, the medical examiner will dictate at this time detailed notes concerning the deceased which are more accurate than impressions later recalled from memory by a layman. Also, photographic records of wounds, identifying scars, deformities and other features which shortly are lost forever may be made if desirable. These and other details recorded during autopsy may be important in establishing identity or settling moot or disputed points at a later date. At autopsy, natural causes of death may be ruled out, or, on the other hand, may be definitely established.

## *Valuable Leads*

Finally and most important, many valuable leads indicating the presence and kind of poison may be observed during the autopsy. While these leads are not always conclusive evidence of poisoning, they are of valuable assistance to the toxicologist in directing the course of his examination. In this connection, only chemical analysis offers conclusive proof of the presence of poison. This analysis is accomplished by separation, purification and identification of the microscopic quantities of the poison which have been absorbed into the body's tissue and fluids. For this examination, certain body organs and body fluids are required. Normally they are best obtained at the time of autopsy. An easy rule of thumb to remember is that those organs which are ordinarily considered to be the vital organs of the body are necessary for a complete toxicological examination. These include the stomach and its contents, the liver, kidneys, heart, brain, all urine found in the bladder, an adequate sample of blood, and, in certain instances, sections of the intestines and the lungs.

## *Handling of Specimens*

Each organ or specimen should be placed separately in a clean, all-glass container, sealed and identified with the name of the victim, specimen enclosed, names of investigator and the autopsy



physician. No chemicals or other preservative such as embalming fluids should be added to the specimens since such materials often interfere with or prevent various reactions and tests used for identification purposes by the analyst. Steps must be taken, however, to preserve the tissue and halt the normal processes of putrefaction and decomposition which the body undergoes after death. This is best done by refrigeration with dry ice if the specimens must be shipped any distance. In this connection fluids such as urine and blood should be wrapped and protected from close contact with the dry ice to prevent them from freezing. Otherwise, the glass containers may burst and the contents will be lost by leakage. If, however, the specimens are not to be shipped, but are to be examined locally, they should be placed under refrigeration and so kept until they are analyzed. Natural ice is unsatisfactory for packing and shipping since it melts rapidly and, of course, leaves the shipping container and packing materials water-soaked. Dry ice, on the other hand, disappears as a gas, leaving no residue and the packing materials and container are unaffected.

### ***Use of Dry Ice***

A word of caution is necessary here against placing dry ice in tightly covered glass vessels or similar air-tight containers. The gas evolved from the dry ice will build up tremendous pressures when confined in a small jar, creating a miniature bomb, and the container will eventually shatter with explosive violence. There is no danger, however, in using dry ice in cartons, boxes, or similar containers if they are not air-tight since the gas from the dry ice has an opportunity to escape.

### ***Delivery to Laboratory***

At the same time the specimens are obtained and readied for delivery to the laboratory, all records and other data relating to the case should be gathered together and made available to the toxicologist. If the deceased was attended by a physician at his death or received medical or other treatment, the signs and symptoms observed by witnesses or attendants may furnish hints as to the poison which caused the death. Thus, vomiting, convulsions, narcosis, dilation or contraction of the pupils, rate of respiration and similar manifestations of physiological disturbances are valu-

able leads which indicate in a general way the possibility of certain poisons being present. All such facts should be collected in written form for the use of the toxicologist.

### ***Medical Examiner's Report***

The medical examiner's report should also be included with these data since post mortem appearances and abnormalities will often yield additional clues which suggest the line of investigation to be pursued by the analyst. For example, staining, charring, or corrosion of the tissues, discoloration of the skin, nails, and blood, unusual and characteristic odors emitted from the body cavities provide leads which may reveal the correct line of investigation. As was pointed out earlier in this article, none of these various symptoms and appearances offer certain diagnosis of poisoning since many of these changes are also a result of disease. Only chemical analysis provides a sure means of detecting the presence of poison after death.

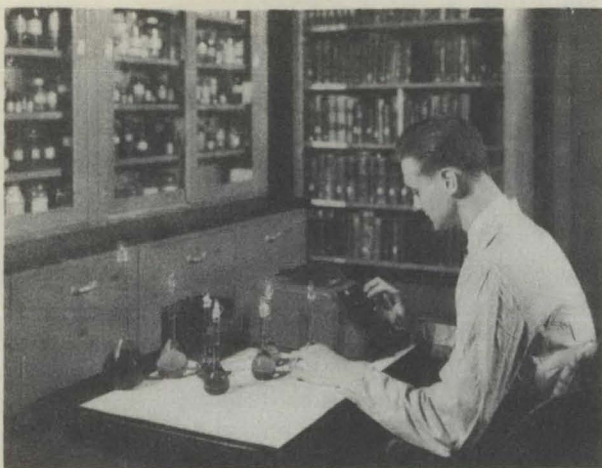
### ***Chemical Examinations***

The chemical examination is accomplished by submitting the organs to certain procedures designed to separate the poisons from the body tissue. These procedures are based on various chemical and physical properties of the poisons which enable such separations to be made. The classical procedures for toxicological analysis divide poisons into the following groups: Poisons volatile in steam which are generally organic compounds; (2) nonvolatile organic compounds such as the alkaloids, barbiturates, and other drug products which are soluble to a greater or lesser extent in alcohol; (3) metallic poisons; and (4) poisons which do not belong in any of the preceding classifications.

In every instance the tissue is first minced or otherwise finely subdivided. A portion of the minced tissue is then made acid, placed in a suitable flask, and a current of steam passed through the flask. The vapors leaving the flask are led through a condenser, cooled, and the liquid is analyzed for poisons such as cyanide, the alcohols, ethers, chloroform, chloral hydrate, and many others which if present will be found in the liquid distilled from the tissues.

Another portion of tissue is placed in a separate flask and extracted several times with alcohol.





**Figure 1.—Using the electrophotometer in identifying unknown substances from organs of poisoned victims.**

The solutions of alcohol are filtered, pooled together and carefully purified in order to separate the poison from the normal tissue components which are extracted with the drug by the solvent action of the alcohol. When the poison is finally obtained in a satisfactorily pure condition, the poison is then identified by appropriate qualitative tests. This is a task which requires considerable skill and experience. The large number and diversified nature of the pharmaceutical products available today, together with the microscopic quantity of drug or poison isolated in the usual case, make this problem extremely difficult.

### ***Amount of Material***

The toxicologist must identify the poison with the expenditure of a minimum amount of the material which he has extracted from the organ. Otherwise the unknown drug or poison may be consumed in exploratory tests before final identification is made. At this point in the examination particular attention is given to any clues obtained from the clinical history or autopsy report since they help to eliminate the random tests which the toxicologist is otherwise forced to make.

### ***Pharmaceuticals***

Due to the wide scope of the field a practical scheme of analysis has yet to be devised embracing the multitude of modern pharmaceuticals which in many instances are possible poisons. The older methods of analysis used for the classical poisons are totally inadequate for the analytical problems which confront today's toxicologist. Conse-

quently, the importance of the medical examiner's findings and other investigative clues cannot be overemphasized or mentioned too often. They are more than desirable—they are almost indispensable.

### ***Modern Instruments***

On the other hand, some of the newer physical instruments are extremely useful in identifying unknown drugs. For example, substances obtained in crystal form may be identified by the characteristic patterns obtained when the specimens are analyzed on the X-ray spectrometer. This instrument is particularly useful in identifying such substances as the barbiturates which are closely related chemically and may be identified only by differences in their physical properties. Where colored derivatives can be prepared for identification tests, the electrophotometer and the recording spectrophotometer are also used to advantage. Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the use of the electrophotometer and micro melting point apparatus, respectively, in identifying unknown substances isolated from the organs of poisoned victims. The effective use of these and other modern instruments as scientific aids is a constant challenge to the analytical toxicologist in his efforts to devise new techniques of examinations.

### ***Metallic Poisons***

Metallic poisons such as lead, arsenic, and others are identified by destruction of the organic components of the tissue and analysis of the residues



**Figure 2.—Micro melting point apparatus assists in identifying unknown substances isolated from organs of poisoned victims.**



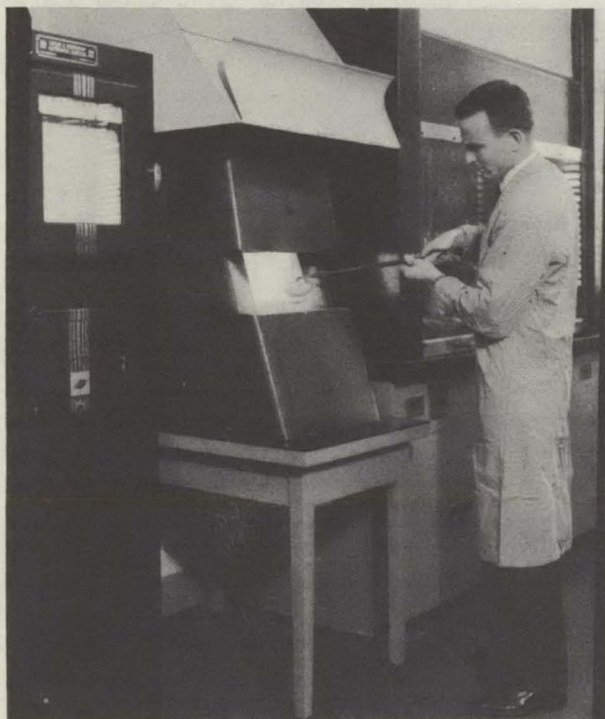
of inorganic matter which remain. The tissue may be destroyed by the action of acids and strong oxidizing chemicals or it may be ashed at a high temperature in the electric furnace as shown in figure 3.

### ***Spectrograph***

In either case the analysis of inorganic metallic components is most conveniently made by the use of the spectrograph. This instrument utilizes the principle that all chemical elements when excited in the flame of an electric arc emit characteristic light waves. These light waves are analyzed by an appropriate optical system and photographed on a sensitive plate. Each metallic element present in the sample is characterized by lines which always appear in the same relative position on the plate even though they occur in the sample only in trace amounts. Figure 4 is an illustration of the densitometer, an instrument used in interpreting the photographic plate obtained in a spectrographic analysis.

### ***Permanent Record***

Spectrographic analysis is rapid, accurate, and has the further advantage that the photographic



**Figure 3.—The tissue may be ashed in the electric furnace.**



**Figure 4.—The densitometer interprets the photographic plate obtained in a spectrographic analysis.**

plate is a permanent record of the analysis. Metallic elements present in unusual amounts or those not ordinarily found in normal tissue may then be determined by chemical tests or the amount measured by quantitative chemical analysis.

### ***General Group***

Certain other poisons such as the fluorides most commonly found in roach powders, cantharides, popularly believed to be an aphrodisiac, ergot, often used as an abortifacient, and many others are not isolated and detected by the methods of examination applicable to the three main groups of poisons discussed to this point. Discussion of these poisons individually is beyond the scope of this material since generally each of them requires special treatment and methods of analysis. However, one point noted previously is particularly applicable where poisons not found in the three main groups are suspected.

Since a routine examination cannot be made for all poisons, particularly those in the fourth or general group, unless the toxicologist has reason to suspect the presence of an unusual poison, it is possible that it will remain undetected. First, because the analyst is limited by the quantity of

*(Continued on page 22)*



# MISCELLANEOUS

## Disaster Plan

Dr. John R. Rodger of Bellaire, Mich., has submitted to State and Federal civilian defense officials a plan for conversion of school busses into emergency ambulances.

According to Dr. Rodger, any one of the 90,000 standard school busses in use in the United States can be converted quickly and cheaply into an ambulance for either stretcher or "sit-up" casualties in the event of a large scale civilian disaster.

He points out that a large number of these busses are within a 100-mile radius of urban industrial centers throughout the country. The doctor states that in Michigan, for example, there are 500 school busses within a 50-mile radius of Detroit, and 1,000 within a 90-mile radius.

## Cost

Dr. Rodger estimated that the cost of such conversions would amount to \$15 for a large bus, and approximately \$10 for each of the smaller type, computed on retail lumber prices then in effect in Michigan. Additional materials necessary will increase the cost, unless they are available on a loan basis.



Figure 1.

## Emergency Use of School Busses as Ambulances



Figure 2.

The plan calls for bus-to-ambulance conversion by either of two methods, depending upon the materials at hand.

One method requires the placing of boards across the tops of seat backs in the school bus, as supports for single-size mattresses.

The other method requires the use of Army field litters, placed across the seat back tops.

## Boards and Mattresses

In figure 1 there is illustrated the use of boards placed across seat backs to support the single-size mattresses.

Four 1- by 6-inch by 12-foot boards to a side in the 48- and 54-passenger busses, are necessary to form the foundation for the mattresses. In the larger 60-passenger busses extra boards 6 feet in length are required. When boards 6 inches in width are not available, three 8-inch boards can be used.

Imitation rubber floor covering in 6- by 6-inch squares may be tacked onto the boards at contact points with the seat backs to prevent slipping. Experience has shown that except in very long runs, newspapers folded over the seat backs will prevent friction wear from the boards.

Figure 2 shows how the standard single mattresses come just to the aisle when laid across the





Figure 3.

boards. There are two to a side on the smaller sized busses while the larger busses will accommodate three to a side. Mattresses may be secured as loans from homes for emergency use, eliminating the necessity for stockpiling. If insufficient mattresses are available from home sources, cheap single mattresses may be purchased and perhaps later used in emergency hospitals if needed. Where mattresses are loaned the owner should place his name and address on the mattress and provide some sort of waterproof protective covering for it. Blankets or pillows should also be stockpiled or arrangements made for loans from homes. There should be at least one blanket per mattress in warm weather and two in cold. Pillows will be necessary if long trips are planned.

If busses so equipped are to be used for "sit-up" cases, instead of stretcher cases, the boards may be placed in the aisle and the mattresses stacked in the back quarter of the bus, leaving seats available in at least three-quarters of the bus.

### ***Army Field Litters***

Figure 3 shows the Army field litter installed across the tops of the seats. The litter feet fit between the backs and prevent the litter from sliding. The patient should be loaded well to the head of the litter. If this is done even a tall patient will not find the middle seat back uncomfortable. Where long trips are involved, blankets or their equivalent may be folded over the backs of the upper and lower supporting seats to increase the comfort of the patient.

Although the illustration depicts a registered

nurse, the attendant could be a practical nurse, an ex-corpsman, or someone trained in home nursing.

### ***Stretcher Loading***

Figure 4 illustrates a method of loading a stretcher on a bus having an emergency door in the rear.

Under these circumstances the only bus change necessary would be to remove the two back seats. The patient should be placed well to the head of the litter and lifted in head first. A five-man team is fastest for loading but a team of three could do it. With a three-man team there should be one man at the foot of the litter and two at the head. The two at the head should lift their end to the level of the bus floor and rest it there until the litter can be placed in position inside the bus.

### ***General Considerations***

Dr. Rodger set forth numerous points for general consideration in connection with his plan for the conversion of school busses to emergency ambulance use in case of large-scale civilian disaster.

1. This conversion plan points to the large numbers of school busses, easily inventoried in advance and situated in a decentralized area just outside the target cities where they would not likely be hit. They are always available and would provide a valuable addition to the other means of transportation of injured citizens already planned.

2. The organization of the bus system could, if necessary, be set up through a State department of public instruction or equivalent organization, thus requiring no new organization and materially decreasing the work of civil defense transportation committees. The bus plan should of course



Figure 4.



be a part of the plan of such transportation committees.

3. In the event of atomic bombing, school busses could be used for all three phases of patient transportation required: (a) from aid station to temporary hospital; (b) from temporary hospital to regional hospital; and (c) in removing to their homes or outlying hospitals the patients who were in hospitals before the bombing and whose bed space is needed for the injured.

4. School busses operated by trained drivers and equipped with first-aid kits and fire extinguishers are ideally suited as a basis for emergency transportation of wounded victims.

5. Distinctively marked school busses are easily identified on the highway, making traffic direction simpler.

6. The use of school names and numbers on school busses provide a means of keeping records of patients in the event of mass transportation.

7. On crowded, slow-speed highways, a bus takes up but little more space than an ambulance and can carry from two to three times the stretcher load.

8. Busses can be heated in cold weather or ventilated in hot weather and can be well lighted at all times. Relatively easy organizational set-up, rapid availability and heating facilities of the school busses make them a valuable addition to the transportation system.

9. The materials necessary to convert school busses to ambulances may be found in each community where the busses are located and would reduce the expenditure of additional State and Federal funds.

10. In event of a bombing disaster, gasoline can be expected to be at a premium. Where schools maintain their own gasoline storage tanks they would be able to supply fuel for the ambulance-busses.

11. The official guide Health Services and Special Weapons Defense<sup>1</sup> suggests approximately 100 aid-stations ringed around a typical atom-blast area, with each station having a minimum of two 4-stretcher ambulances, and with a pool of 40 more held in reserve. Five hundred school busses within a 50-mile radius of Detroit, for example, could thus supply the ambulance resources for two atom blast areas in Detroit.

<sup>1</sup> Federal Civil Defense Administration Publication AG-11-1, for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 60 cents per copy.

12. The bus-to-ambulance conversion plan would also be of value in any type of large-scale civilian disaster of nonatomic origin; i. e., disasters such as that at Texas City, Tex., train wrecks, etc.

★ ★ ★

## ***Crime Deterrent, Minneapolis***

The Minneapolis, Minn., Police Department, in an effort to educate the public to the confidence-man hazard, has prepared and distributed in that city a poster narrating the details of a typical confidence game.

Entitled "Confidence Men . . . Their Methods," the 11- by 14-inch cardboard poster bears the word "Warning" in 2-inch-high black letters. In a brief, concise fashion the poster warns against approaches used by con men in seeking prospective victims.

Various ruses utilized in introducing the victim to a swindler's accomplice or accomplices are described.

Also mentioned are typical schemes advanced by con men in prevailing upon the victim to place his life savings in the swindlers' hands.

The warning poster concludes with the following: "Confidence men swindle their victims out of sums which have sometimes exceeded \$100,000, but your bank roll will also interest them. Most victims lose their entire fortunes and money borrowed of relatives and friends. Some lose their minds and their lives.

"If approached by strangers who appear to be confidence men, please call, without delay, at the Detective Office, Minneapolis Police Department (Telephone: Main 1361), giving details of your experience, if possible, without the knowledge of the confidence men.—Thomas R. Jones, *Superintendent of Police.*"

★ ★ ★

## **Bulletin Reprints**

Articles carried in the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* are listed in a cumulative index in the December issue each year. All major articles having a permanent value are reprinted. These are available for distribution to law enforcement officers desiring such copies.

**FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN**



# ***Homicide Unit of Cleveland Police Department***

## ***Organized in 1926***

Although it will give the victims no comfort, it's a well-established fact that killers find it extremely difficult to "get away with murder" in Cleveland, Ohio. The accomplishments of the homicide unit, headed by Detective Captain David E. Kerr and staffed by a sergeant and 19 detectives, speak for themselves. Eighty-two of eighty-seven homicides in 1948 were solved; 85 of 88 in 1949; and in 1950, all but 3 of 80 homicides committed in that year were solved as of July 6, 1951. Captain Kerr is the fifth officer to command the homicide unit, which has been in continuous operation since its organization in 1926.

Cleveland Safety Director Alvin J. Sutton, Jr., is proud of the homicide unit's record. To a considerable degree he attributes its success to the sound administration and operational procedures instituted by Captain Kerr. Well-trained and alert personnel play an important part in the unit's accomplishments. Around-the-clock investigations, teamwork, and persistence are other reasons advanced for its success. Captain Kerr emphasizes the fundamentals of police work; the willingness of his staff to wear out shoe leather, and the constant use of the aids which scientific crime detection procedures have made available. Homicide unit members give much credit for their achievements to the generous and tireless assistance afforded them by members of other divisions, particularly the uniformed police officers.

The unit has instituted the policy of seeking FBI assistance under the Federal statute prohibiting unlawful flight to avoid prosecution when the facts warrant.

## ***Work of the Unit***

Operating on a 24-hour, three-shift basis, unit members know their main job is to apprehend killers. This necessitates investigations of all shootings, stabbings, aggravated cases of assault and battery, and, in fact, all types of cases which might result in death at a later date. The unit is proud of another phase of work which they

consider is highly important to the community health and welfare. As official investigators for the coroner's office, the staff of the homicide unit investigates every death in which there is no physician in attendance. This means that homicide officers are often able to call to the attention of proper authorities such matters as outbreaks of contagious diseases, misuse of certain medicines, and improper installation of household appliances.

## ***Head of the Unit***

Captain Kerr has served over 16 years in the Cleveland Police Department, working in all divisions. He has done much work in the police phase of identification of deceased persons. His special training includes sessions at the Harvard School of Legal Medicine, training courses conducted by the FBI and courses presented by the Ohio and United States Coroners Associations, among others.

Captain Kerr believes in training not only for top police personnel but also for the rank and file of his unit, and he has provided opportunities for members of the homicide unit to obtain such training. In this connection there are held regular and frequent seminars during which the latest available material on modern crime detection methods are reviewed.

In 1948 the homicide unit received a national prize named for a fictional detective married couple popularized on a radio program. The unit also won the Cleveland Plain Dealer Service Award for outstanding police work in the period from January 1, 1947, to March 1, 1948.



***Capt. David E. Kerr.***



# IDENTIFICATION

## Ridge Counting in Fingerprint Classification

### Introduction

The delta and core, two focal points in a loop-type pattern, were discussed in the July and August 1951 issues, respectively, of the *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*. In this issue, the ultimate reason for locating the core and the delta, namely the ridge count, will be discussed.

### Reticule

In order to obtain an accurate ridge count, a Henry reticule is utilized to examine the fingerprint pattern. This is a separate and removable part of a fingerprint magnifier and fits into grooves at the bottom of the magnifier. It is circular in shape and is made of a clear substance such as glass or plastic. A straight red line is drawn through the center dividing it exactly in half, as shown in figure 1.

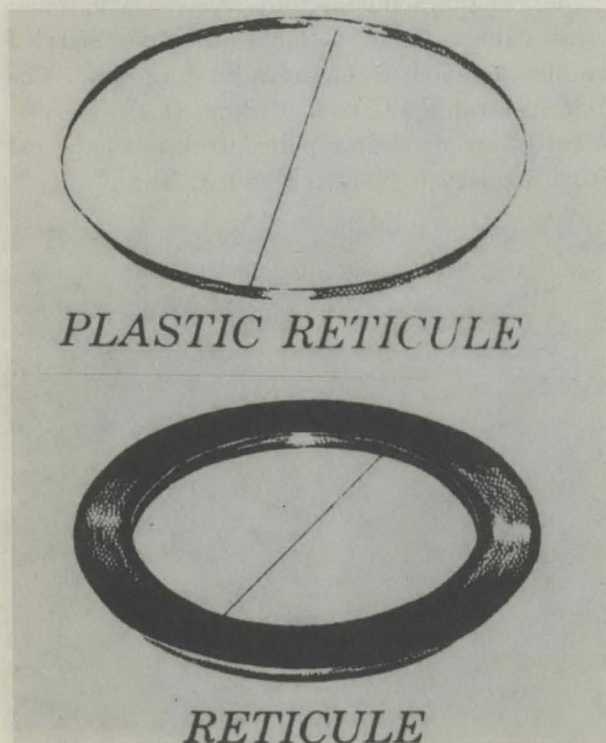


Figure 1.

### Use of Red Line

The red line on the reticule should be adjusted into such a position on the fingerprint pattern as to connect the core and delta. After these focal points have been "lined up" all ridges that are cut or touched by the red line should be taken into consideration in obtaining the ridge count. Figure 2 illustrates a fingerprint loop pattern having a fairly high ridge count. The red line cuts or touches 35 ridges between the delta and the core. In this and all subsequent illustrations in this article the core will be designated by the letter "C" and the delta by the letter "D".



Figure 2.

Ridges that come close to or almost touch the red line are not counted. Neither the delta nor the core is counted. Figure 3 shows a 20-count loop. Ridges A and B are not counted. These two ridges come close to the red line but are not actually cut or touched by it.

### Dots

Ridges do not have to be of any particular length in order to be counted. Dots are counted if they are as thick as the surrounding ridges. Figure 4



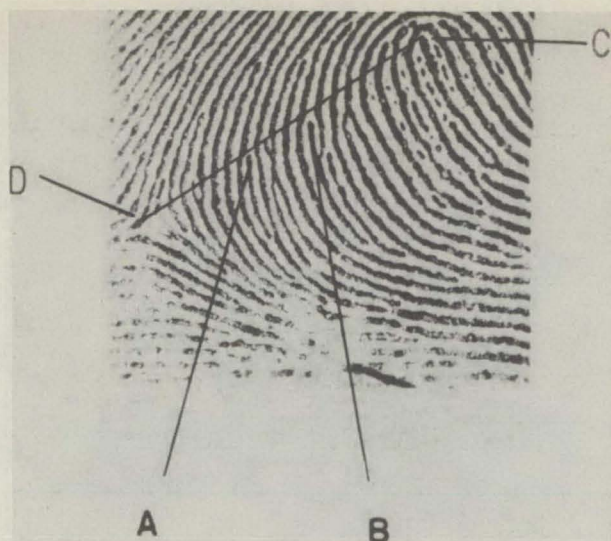


Figure 3.

illustrates an 18-count loop. The ridge in this illustration marked "dot" must be considered and counted because it is as thick as the surrounding ridges.

### Fragments

Fragmentary ridges are not counted. They are readily distinguished from regular ridges because of their fragmentary nature and they lack the thickness of the surrounding ridges. Sometimes ingrained dirt will give the appearance of fragmentary ridges. However, there are instances when there is doubt in the classifier's mind as to

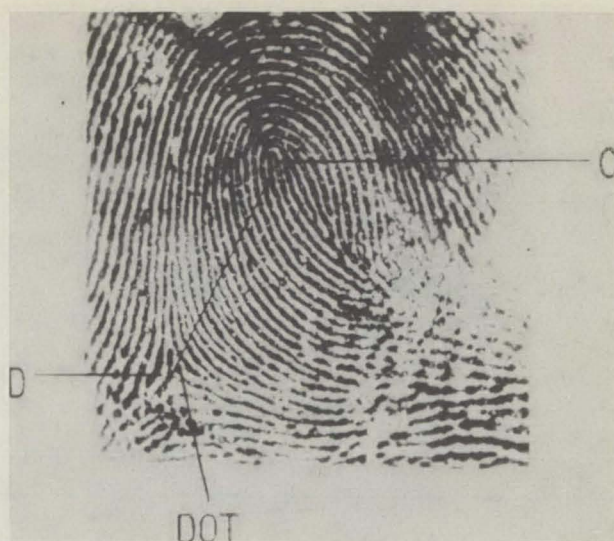


Figure 4.

whether a ridge is fragmentary or not. In these cases the preferred classification should be given and the necessary reference classification indicated. In figure 5 the loop contains 26 ridge counts. Ridges X, Y, and Z, and the other fragments in this pattern, are not counted because they are portions of ridges and are not as thick as the surrounding ridges.

Another point to bear in mind in ridge counting is that there must be white space between the delta and the first ridge in front of the delta. If no white space is apparent the first ridge is ignored and the ridge count begins with the second ridge from the delta.

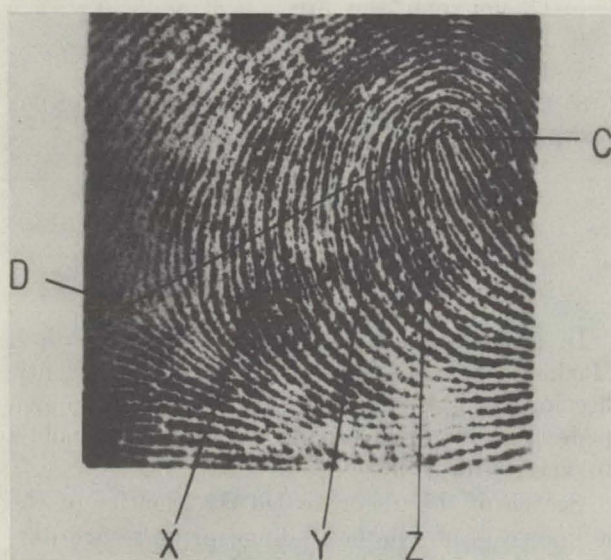


Figure 5.

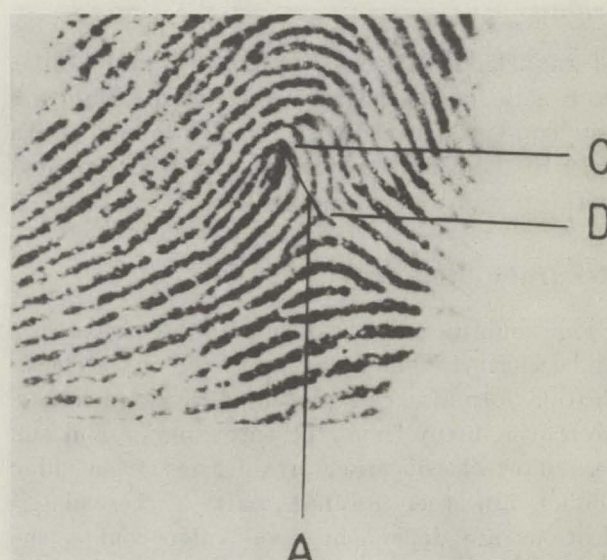


Figure 6.





Figure 7.

It is obvious that the red line in figure 6 crosses two ridges. However, this pattern is classified as a one-count loop. Ridge A cannot be considered as a ridge count since there is no clearly defined white space between this ridge and the delta.

### ***Bifurcations***

If a bifurcation is crossed by the red line at the exact point of bifurcation two ridges are counted. Figure 7 is a loop with nine ridge counts. In this illustration the red line crosses two bifurcations (points A and B) at the exact point of bifurcation; therefore two ridges are counted in both instances.

### ***Islands***

If an "island" is crossed by the red reticule line, both sides of the island are counted. Figure 8 is a loop-type pattern with 12 ridge counts. Both sides of the islands marked A and B are counted in this instance as ridges.

### ***Accuracy Required***

Ridge counting must be done with the utmost care and accuracy. The "final" and "key" in the classification formula are represented by ridge counts. Moreover, many times the entire major and sub secondary classifications are derived from ridge counts. In other instances, parts of these classifications are dependent upon ridge counts, the remaining portions being obtained from whorl

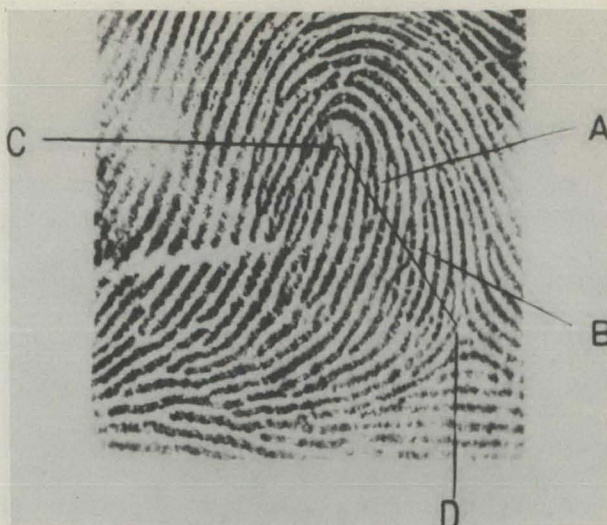


Figure 8.

tracings. In addition, in many of the larger "primaries" the super extensions, which are necessary for a large filing system, are obtained from ridge counts. From the foregoing it is thus apparent that accurate ridge counting is a most important factor in the classification of fingerprints. As a summary, the following rules are set forth as guides to proper ridge counting:

1. Count all ridges which the red line of the reticule cuts or touches.
2. Count as two ridges when the red line cuts a bifurcation at the point of bifurcation.
3. Count both sides of an island when the red line runs through it.
4. Do not count the first ridge in front of the delta if no white space is apparent.
5. Do not count the core.
6. Do not count the delta.
7. Do not count fragmentary ridges.
8. Do not count the ridges that come close to or just miss, the red line on the reticule.

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## **Auto Victim**

In a recent case, the Bergen County Police, Hackensack, N. J., transmitted to the FBI Identification Division the fingerprints of an unknown pedestrian who had been killed by an automobile in Teterboro, N. J.

Search of the files revealed the identity of the unknown dead who had a fingerprint record dating back to January 1937.



## POLICE PERSONALITIES

### *Colorful Career*

Although he has served a relatively short time as sheriff of Dallas County, Tex., James Eric (Bill) Decker is one of the most widely known and highly respected officers in the State. He is one of the most colorful figures in Texas law enforcement.

For 14 years, Decker was chief deputy sheriff in Dallas, and during that period his effectiveness as an officer spread his name and fame throughout the Southwest.

### *Cooperation*

Among law enforcement agencies in this area, Bill is known principally for his enthusiastic and unstinting cooperation with other departments. To the underworld, Bill Decker has the reputation of meaning exactly what he says and saying exactly what he means.

To the men who work closely with him, Sheriff Decker is a tireless and enthusiastic worker, and to all who know him, he is an honest, straightforward man with a big heart, a warm and winning personality, and high ideals.

### *Legend*

Circulating in law enforcement circles throughout the Southwest are many stories of Bill Decker. One such story reveals his colorful personality and indicates why he has already become a legend in this region.

A serious crime of violence occurred in a South Texas city when Sheriff Decker was attending a peace officers' convention. There were indications that a Dallas hoodlum had committed the crime. Investigating officers decided to talk it over with Bill, who listened to the story of how the crime was committed, and noted the description given by witnesses concerning the fugitive.

"That's one of mine all right," he said, reaching for a telephone. He put through a long-distance call to Dallas and got the fugitive on the line.

## **Sheriff Bill Decker of Dallas County**

"Go down and get in the county jail," Bill ordered, "You are wanted here, and a couple of men will be up there tomorrow to get you."

When the South Texas officers arrived in Dallas the next day, the subject was in the county jail.

### *Administrator*

Within a matter of weeks after he took the oath of office, Bill had completely reorganized the sheriff's office. No other desk in the courthouse is more accessible to the public than that of Sheriff Decker.



*Sheriff Bill Decker.*



As sheriff of Dallas County, Bill Decker has actively participated in the FBI's uniform crime reporting program. He pioneered in furnishing his deputies with county-owned police cars to use on official business, in perfecting arrangements for fingerprinting every prisoner received at the county jail, in having a thoroughgoing and completely cross-indexed *modus operandi* file, in setting up a modern records and reports division, and in using a complete photographic laboratory for making pictures of prisoners.

Another important "first" of interest is that Bill Decker, while still in his first term as sheriff, became the first vice president of the Texas State Sheriffs' Association.

### **Native Son**

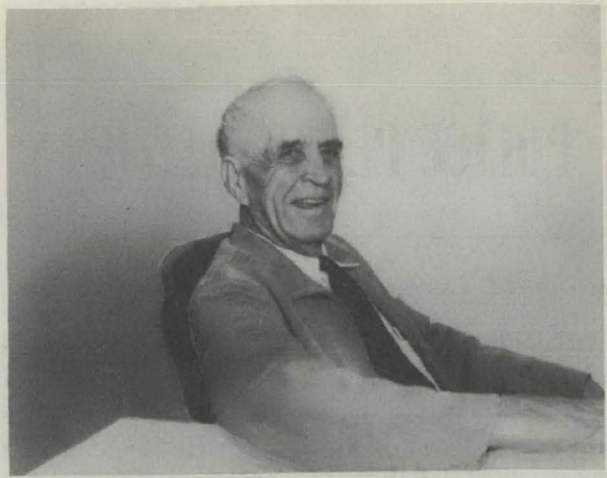
Bill Decker, who has become somewhat of an institution in his county, is strictly a Dallas product, born within the city limits on August 31, 1898. He has spent his entire life in this community.

At his birth, he was christened James Eric. For some reason lost to history and memory, neither he nor his parents ever particularly cared for either one of these Christian names. Consequently, since boyhood, he has been known as "Bill," and that remained his unofficial nickname until 1948, when he decided to run for the office of sheriff. Before he announced his candidacy, he went into court and had his name legally changed to include "Bill" as an official part of it.

## **Forty Years in Law Enforcement**

William R. "Bill" Martin, in January of 1951, completed 40 years of law enforcement in Montana. "Bill" presently is a justice of the peace in Flathead County at Kalispell, Mont., and is well known throughout western Montana.

"Bill" Martin first entered law enforcement in January 1911, as a deputy sheriff of Flathead County. At that time Flathead County included an area approximately 100 miles square. He served as a deputy until 1918, when he was elected to the office of sheriff. He served two terms of 2 years each and did not run for the office in 1922.



*William R. "Bill" Martin, justice of the peace, Flathead County, Kalispell, Mont.*

In 1922, he took a job with the special agents department of the Great Northern Railroad and served law enforcement in that capacity until 1925, when he was again appointed to the Flathead County sheriff's office as undersheriff following the accidental death of the sheriff. He served out the unexpired term on that occasion and has continued to work in some law-enforcement capacity in Flathead County. When not working as justice of the peace, he serves as a night jailer for the present sheriff, R. P. Walsh, a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

"Bill" recalls that during his term as sheriff of Flathead County he handled probably the best-known murder case in western Montana. On September 16, 1921, a local man brutally murdered his wife and fled into the densely wooded hills. From the date of the crime until October 5, "Bill" and a posse trailed the man through the woods. On October 5, the man was surprised and cornered in his hideout and was shot and killed in the ensuing gun battle when he refused to surrender. In the gun battle one deputy was shot and severely wounded, while a bullet cut through "Bill's" coat between his arm and his body.

"Bill" Martin was born in Kansas on October 25, 1873, and claims he is going to outlive his father, who died about a year and a half ago at the age of 101 years. "Bill" recently suffered a heart attack, but the doctor could keep him in bed only about 2 weeks and he is now as active as ever. He attributes his remarkable physical condition to the fact that he spends all his spare time fishing. It might also be attributed to his career as a prize fighter. In 1893-94 he fought professionally



throughout South Dakota under the name of "Billy the Kid." When asked about his record, Bill says, "It was about 50-50; I got licked a few times, but I licked some pretty good men too."

Every law-enforcement officer in western Montana considers "Bill" Martin his friend and he is frequently consulted for advice and guidance.

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## Tennessee Chief Honored

Arthur L. Lively, Chief of Police, Alcoa, Blount County, Tenn., was honored on March 25, 1951, upon completion of his twenty-fifth year with the Alcoa police force.

Present and former city officials presented the city service pin to Chief Lively at an informal meeting in the Alcoa city office, along with a 25-year service certificate.

Chief Lively was born in Anderson County, Tenn., on May 26, 1887. He moved to Alcoa, Blount County, Tenn., in 1919, and was appointed chief of police on March 15, 1926. Trained as a military policeman in World War I, he foresaw the rapid increase in population which would accompany industrial progress in his city. With the

cooperation of the citizens of Alcoa, he set out to build the efficient, protective force which was to be later credited with keeping crimes in that area at a minimum.

Chief Lively's modern police cruisers and motorcycles have the latest police short-wave radio equipment, and an up-to-date record system is maintained by the department.

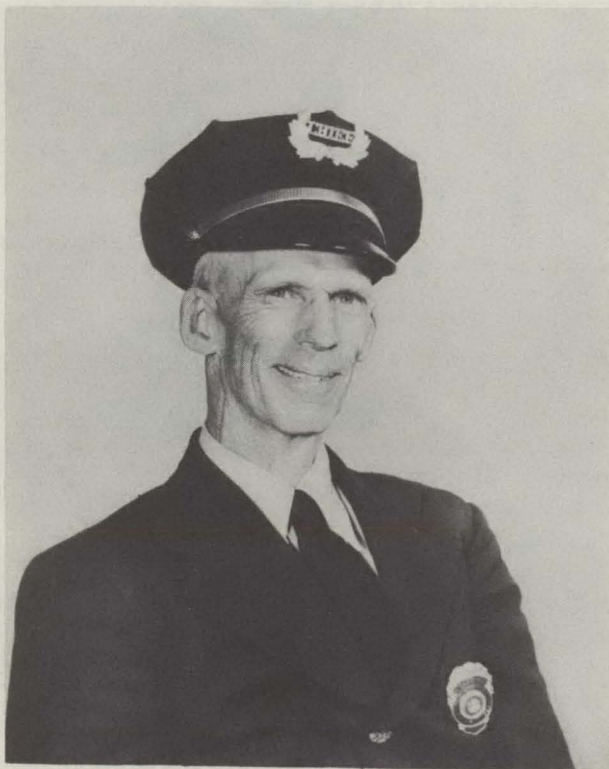
His many friends throughout East Tennessee respect the efforts of Chief Lively to provide efficient law enforcement for the members of the community he has served so long.

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## Lewiston Chief

Chief of Police Roland C. Amnott, Lewiston, Maine, is rounding out his second year in that office and his fourteenth year with the Lewiston Police Department.

During his 14 years of service with the department Chief Amnott has risen through the ranks, holding the positions of route patrolman, cruiser car officer, and a specialist in fingerprints, and police photography. In 1944, with the encouragement of his chief, Mr. Amnott organized an



*Chief of Police Arthur L. Lively, Alcoa, Tenn.*



*Chief Roland C. Amnott.*



investigation unit in the department. In 1945, Chief Amnott successfully completed a course at the FBI National Academy and returned to Lewiston to supervise the newly established detective bureau.

On August 13, 1945, in recognition of Mr. Amnott's accomplishments, the Maine Legislature created within the Lewiston Police Department the rank of captain of detectives and Mr. Amnott was appointed to that office. Early in 1950, the Police Commission of Lewiston unanimously voted to appoint Amnott to the office of chief of police, a selection which met with the approval of the local press and members of the community.

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## **Fingerprint Pioneer**

Harry Howard Caldwell is referred to by Chief of Police Lester J. Divine and members of the Oakland, Calif., Police Department as the father of their identification bureau.

Caldwell, who was born in Omaha, Nebr., in 1872, went to Oakland as a young man. In 1906 he had occasion to visit the United State Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kans. Fingerprinting, as a method of identification, fascinated him. At that time the Oakland Police Department, like the majority of other police departments in the United States, was utilizing the Bertillon method of personal identification.

As an experiment, Caldwell took fingerprints of his friends and associates and filed the exhibits in photograph albums. In 1908 he purchased his own typewriter and equipment and started the Oakland Fingerprint Bureau. His first break came when he took extra sets of fingerprints while fingerprinting a "bunco" man in the belief that the swindler had been operating in other cities. These were forwarded to several of the larger cities which had fingerprint bureaus. New York City answered with an identification and a transcript of a considerable record involving the same type of crime.

This incident started Harry Caldwell thinking in terms of some form of fingerprint exchange. In 1915, when the World's Fair was held at San Francisco, letters were sent to the heads of bureaus throughout the United States inviting identification officers to meet in San Francisco for the purpose of forming an organization of identification officers.

Twenty-five men gathered for the meeting at which the International Association for Identification was formed. Harry Caldwell was elected the first president of the organization and he has consistently been an active participant.

Harry Caldwell was instrumental in starting an exchange of fingerprints among cities on the west coast. This was of considerable benefit and was very active until the FBI Fingerprint Division was inaugurated in 1924, providing a national clearing house available to all police departments.

## **Still Active**

Harry Caldwell remained in charge of the Oakland Fingerprint Bureau until he retired from the department in 1932. He has, however, continued to be very active in identification organizations and activities. During the recent war he held a full-time job with the United States Army at Camp Kohler, where as the friendly civilian officer on guard, and a member of the jeep patrol, he was known as "Pop" to the soldiers.



*Harry Howard Caldwell.*



# CRIME PREVENTION

## ***PAL Program Serves Youth in Bayonne, N. J.***

### ***Organization***

The Police Athletic League (PAL) of Bayonne was organized in June 1947, upon Chief of Police Robert O'Connor's recommendation to the police department, as a means of combating juvenile delinquency. The plan was presented to the membership of the local Patrolmen's Benevolent Association at an open meeting. The association voted its wholehearted support and sponsorship. It further aided the plan by voting to provide a loan of \$2,000, to be paid back by the PAL when its finances permitted.

### ***Headquarters***

Among the chief problems of PAL was the obtaining of a suitable building from which to operate. Many obstacles were encountered. Finally, with the aid of the local board of education, an abandoned gymnasium building was obtained by the PAL as its headquarters. The building was in a state of disrepair, but with the help of those members of the police department who were former members of the various building trades, the building was made tenable. Had the building repairs been let out to contractors, it was estimated that the cost would have been \$25,000. The PAL actually spent \$6,000 during 3 years for improvement and repairs.

The work included installation of a new heating plant, flooring the gymnasium, replacing old windows with new steel casing and glass brick, new plumbing, repair of the roof, and many other improvements. All of the work was done by police officers on their own time and without compensation.

The Bayonne PAL believes that its headquarters is one of the finest in the metropolitan area.

The PAL building houses one of the finest gymnasiums in the city. There is a large sitting room equipped with a giant television set, a boxing room equipped with regulation boxing ring and all equipment for training, a shuffleboard room, a

ping-pong room with three tables, a billiard and poolroom, and a large room set aside for the use of an amateur "ham" radio station.

### ***Membership Drive***

In organizing the PAL, the city was divided into 12 districts and captained by police officers. Each district conducted its own membership drive and distributed applications. The response was so great that the PAL was deluged with requests for membership. Membership was confined to boys between the ages of 10 and 16 years. Membership cards and pins were distributed.

One month after it was organized, the PAL had enrolled 1,500 members and a comprehensive athletic program was under way. Contributions from public-spirited citizens and groups went toward payment for athletic equipment. Merchants donated other sports and recreational equipment. A boxing tournament in the city park stadium in August of 1947 was attended by some 5,000 persons and brought in \$6,800 for the PAL.

On February 2, 1948, the PAL officially opened its headquarters at Twenty-fourth Street and Avenue A in Bayonne, as 3,000 visitors were ushered through the halls by Patrolman Edward Joyce, and his fellow PAL officers.



***Bayonne's new PAL Headquarters.***



## Activities

Firm believers in the oft quoted adage, "The devil finds work for idle hands," the Bayonne PAL has provided its 4,000-odd youthful members with diversified activities which leave little time for "idle hands."

In addition to an exhaustive year-round athletic program consisting of baseball, softball, swimming, boxing, and basketball, the PAL has also provided its members with a varied recreational schedule. The schedule has included annual boat excursions to Rockaway Beach and Rye Beach on Long Island, N. Y., accommodating 3,300 boys at no expense to the members. Refreshments are included and the boys are chaperoned by members of the department and are protected by doctors, nurses, and police at the beach resorts.

Attendance at baseball games in New York City and Jersey City is provided for the youths during the summer months.

The PAL has two boxing instructors who teach a class of over 50 boys in the art of self-defense. They sponsor periodic amateur boxing contests in the PAL building in its regulation boxing ring. As a means of aiding the PAL program, a boxing carnival is sponsored annually at the Bayonne City Park Stadium, with the strong support of the residents of Bayonne. The average amount of revenue derived annually from this carnival is \$4,000.

### Swimming

Swimming classes are conducted each summer season at the local Bayonne Junior College swim-



*Trophies being presented to outstanding PAL members by PAL President Edward Joyce.*



*One of many fishing trips sponsored by the Bayonne PAL.*

ming pool. The PAL is proud of the fact that over 4,000 boys are taught to swim annually. The climax of the swimming season is topped off with a swimming carnival at which winning contestants are presented with medals. Recently, the PAL sent 30 of its members, whose families were in dire financial straits, to a summer camp in Long Island, N. Y., at no cost to the boys or their families.

### Roller Skating

During the course of the year there are several roller skating parties at the spacious indoor skating arena in Bayonne. During the fall and winter seasons the PAL has 36 basketball teams competing among themselves for the city PAL championship.

### Halloween

In order to discourage the usual pranks played by youngsters during the Halloween season, a special Halloween party is presented for them. Outstanding talent from the world of sports, radio, stage, and screen entertain. There have been no reports of damage or vandalism by Halloween pranksters in the city since these parties were begun.

### Bowling and Rodeos

Bowling classes for all PAL members are conducted at social and fraternal clubs which donate the use of their bowling alley facilities.

The PAL has had over 3,500 of its members as guests at rodeos in Bayonne and Jersey City, N. J.





*Robert O'Connor, Chief of Police (fifth from left) and Patrolman Edward Joyce, president of PAL (extreme left), view portion of gifts assembled for annual PAL Christmas party.*

### **Christmas Party**

At Christmas time a huge party is given for PAL members at a theater which accommodates over 2,800 youngsters. The party is held early on Christmas Eve, at which time the kids are presented with boxes of candy. Presentations of valuable gifts are made to PAL members who have done outstanding deeds throughout the year. They are selected from the police blotter and, for the most part, are awarded for honesty in returning lost property.

### **Field Day**

Annually a field day is held for all members, and gifts are presented to outstanding winners in all classes for the past year. This is one of the major events of the year in the PAL program.

### **Radio Operators**

The PAL amateur radio station first went into operation in March of 1949. The PAL radio station's call letters are W2ZKS, and 18 licensed amateur radio operators assist in the instruction of youngsters in radio.

### **Bugle and Drum Corps**

The busiest and most popular activity of the PAL in Bayonne is the bugle and drum corps, which was formed in 1948 by two Bayonne Police Department patrolmen. This smart musical aggregation of 65 boys, and 15 girls as a color guard, has made around 60 public appearances at exhibitions and parades in New Jersey and New York. It has been awarded top prizes as the most impressive and best-trained corps in the Metropolitan area, at a number of parades.

### **Choral Group**

The PAL has also formed a PAL choral group of 50 boys who sing at major events and during the holiday seasons, much to the delight of the local citizens. This group is outfitted with colorful capes and overseas caps.

### **Safety Patrol**

The PAL sponsors and equips the Junior Safety School Patrol. This patrol is composed of 150 boys who assist policemen at traffic posts in the 19 public and parochial schools in Bayonne. They have been of valuable assistance to the patrolmen assigned to duty on and near school property.

### **Finances**

The finances of the PAL are derived from benefit shows presented throughout the year, and from an annual drive for funds. The PAL follows a policy of opening its ledgers to persons interested in the use made of organization funds.

Patrolman John Hurley, attached to the Traffic Safety Bureau, serves as treasurer of the PAL and has kept a detailed financial record since the organization was established with the \$2,000 loan from the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, a loan since repaid.

In Bayonne, a highly industrialized city of approximately 90,000 population, lying across New York Bay from metropolitan New York City, the results of the PAL have been gratifying to all concerned.

After 4 years of existence, the PAL could find no complaint of juvenile delinquency nor one act of destruction on the part of a member during this entire time. This even held true on Halloween.

According to Officer Charles Reuter, supervisor



of the Juvenile Aid Bureau of the Bayonne Police Department, the PAL program has coincided with a 50-percent reduction in juvenile delinquency in the city.

Typical youthful offenses, such as breaking windows and damaging property, have been cut to a minimum. There has also been a sharp reduction in the more serious types of offenses formerly committed by juveniles who had no respect for law and order. Thefts of ornaments and parts from automobiles, as well as other heavy pilferings are committed with far less frequency than during the period before the PAL was organized in Bayonne.

Says Chief O'Connor, "What better proof do we need of the soundness and efficiency of the plan. We feel that we have squarely accepted the responsibility of the police in the guidance of youths in our community and our results have won the praise of our citizens. It takes earnest endeavor and willingness but the benefits accrued are tremendous." As Bayonne PAL president, Edward Joyce, is wont to point out frequently, "Give any youngster something worth while to do and you have built yourself a better citizen for tomorrow."

## **Medicolegal Examinations**

*(Continued from page 7)*

poison distributed in the tissue, and, secondly, before specific or selective tests can be made for even all ordinary poisons, the tissue at the examiner's disposal may be exhausted. Once the tissue from the organs is consumed in tests, it is obvious that any further examination will be impossible. These are additional and compelling reasons why a careful post mortem and investigation should be made before the case is submitted to the toxicologist for his examination.

### **FBI Laboratory**

Toxicological examinations are among the many scientific services which are available in the FBI Laboratory to law enforcement agencies. Of course, no charge is made for these examinations. Organs to be examined for poisons should be packed and shipped with dry ice as described earlier. Shipment by air express is suggested unless the organs are being forwarded from points close to Washington, D. C. As with other evidence coming to the Laboratory, the package should be addressed to the Director, FBI, Washington 25, D. C., Attention: FBI Laboratory.

# **Alhambra Agencies Cooperate for Youth Guidance**

## **Introduction**

On September 8, 1943, former Chief A. F. Cherry of the Alhambra, Calif., Police Department assigned R. J. Buhman to the juvenile division. Captain Buhman was instructed to develop a program of closer cooperation with agencies interested in youth welfare.

With the encouragement, guidance, and cooperation of the chief, a program leading to a basis for cooperation was created. As officers became better acquainted with the various agency representatives, better understanding developed. A most cordial relationship now exists. Police, schools, probation department, California Youth Authority, Red Cross, and various group work agencies are now functioning in cooperation for the common good.

## **Objectives**

One of the first objectives was to build mutual confidence. The deputy probation officer for the area, the parole officer, principals and boys' and girls' vice principals from the two high schools, officers from neighboring police departments, social workers from public and private agencies, and medical social workers were invited to a luncheon. The procedures and policies of each organization were discussed thoroughly.

It was discovered that each agency had many problems in common and it was concluded that these could be worked out best by mutual cooperation.

It was decided that a monthly luncheon should be held in order that problem cases and procedures could be discussed. When the major problem was financial, it was agreed, primary responsibility would be assumed by a welfare agency with the other agencies cooperating, if called upon, in matters pertaining to their own fields of endeavor, such as health, psychiatric services, etc. This, it was believed, would be a more efficient way of dealing with the problems that arose and would also eliminate any chance of the clients playing one agency against the other, as it was found some "agency-wise" individuals had been doing.



## **Public Relations**

The second step was toward improved public relations with lay citizens. This meant both individuals and members of groups such as churches, P. T. A.'s, and service clubs. Each member is expected to be able to talk to any interested group about the function of the juvenile division, its relation to other community agencies, and any broad or specific topic coming under the general heading of prevention or treatment aspects of delinquency among minors.

Methods of informing young people of the laws concerning them and a study of those laws most often violated were the subjects of one luncheon discussion. The result was that as part of the public relations program a juvenile officer is assigned each year to meet with every high-school civics class and explain the laws. An effective technique is utilized in this connection. On the day before the session with the "guest teacher" the class is given an examination. This consists of approximately 25 true and false and multiple choice questions. The papers are not graded. The sole purpose of the test is to stimulate interest and lively discussion by pointing up the many questions the students cannot answer.

Frequently the class period is too short to allow all of the discussion the students wish and many come to the bureau as individuals to get further information. It is the policy to encourage such visits to the juvenile division, not only because it leads to better understanding, but also because it aids in keeping juveniles entering the police department from being pointed out as offenders and being held up to ridicule. An additional protection in this regard is the fact that a working agreement has been made with the local newspaper to the effect that no juvenile offender's or victim's name will be given publicity.

In addition to the individual young people, groups from various character-building agencies are encouraged to tour the department. Often a speaker from the department attends a regular meeting of the group for discussion of questions stimulated by this visit. This has proved to be an effective follow-up.

The relationship developed between the juvenile bureau and existing agencies organized for the benefit of youth has been a most satisfying product of the program.

Chief of Police J. I. Condie of the Alhambra Police Department insists that all of the divisions

within the police department support and assist the juvenile program. Chief Condie considers that integration of the Juvenile Bureau with the rest of the police department is essential to the smooth operation of the entire organization.

## **Record System**

Records are an integral part of juvenile procedure, just as they are in all police work. A juvenile recidivist is handled more effectively on the basis of records showing a prior pattern of delinquency. To reflect such a behavior pattern the Alhambra Police Department has devised a record system which gives factors relating to the crime, including disposition as well as family and other background of the offender.

## **Improved Methods**

All members of the Alhambra Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau are active in the Juvenile Officers Association of Southern California. Chief Condie strives to acquaint his department with a thorough knowledge of improved methods applicable to handling the problem of juvenile crime.

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## **Notice**

The fifty-eighth Annual Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police will meet from October 28, 1951, through November 1, 1951, in Miami, Fla. The convention will hold its principal business meetings at Convention Hall and the headquarters of the convention will be the McAllister Hotel.

Officers of the International Association of Chiefs of Police include Walter F. Anderson, Raleigh, N. C., president; Emile E. Bugnon, Wood-Ridge, N. J., first vice president; Charles J. Tierney, St. Paul, Minn., second vice president; Cyrille Leblanc, Gardner, Mass., third vice president; Carl F. Hansson, Dallas, Tex., fourth vice president; (the office of fifth vice president is now vacant); I. B. Bruce, Colorado Springs, Colo., sixth vice president; John F. Murray, Perth Amboy, N. J., secretary; L. J. Benson, Chicago, Ill., treasurer; and John D. Holstrom, Berkeley, Calif., sergeant at arms.



# **Delinquency**

## **Curbs Emphasized in Decatur, Ill.**

W. Glenn Kerwin, Chief of Police of the Decatur, Ill., Police Department, began his career with the department on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1928. Chief Kerwin rose through the ranks, being promoted to sergeant in October of 1936, and to the rank of lieutenant in February 1943. He was subsequently made acting chief of police and in 1946 was appointed chief of police.

### **Organization**

The Decatur, Ill., Police Department has 54 members, including a police matron. The police department operates on three 8-hour shifts. Each member of the department has every eighth day off and every 8 weeks has both a Saturday and Sunday free. Each is provided a 14-day annual vacation with pay and in addition is entitled to 14 days' sick leave each year.

Situated on the ground floor of one of Decatur's newest and most modern buildings in the heart of the downtown section of the city, the police department consists of three divisions—Traffic Division, the Detective Division, and the Records and Identification Bureau—all supervised by lieutenants.

### **Juvenile Problem**

When Chief Kerwin assumed his duties in 1946 juvenile delinquency presented a serious problem. Youngsters up to 16 years of age were being



*Chief of Police W. Glenn Kerwin, Decatur, Ill.,  
Police Department.*

brought to the attention of the department for numerous types of violations. Chief Kerwin began a program for the purpose of controlling juvenile delinquents, which has proved extremely effective.

### **Recreational System**

Decatur, Ill., is fortunate in having an excellent park and recreation system. It is conducted under close supervision, and has been utilized in combating juvenile delinquency. As soon as a juvenile is brought into the police department, the delinquent and his parents are thoroughly interviewed regarding the family background and activities of the delinquent. Following the interview, a recreation and training program as well as a religious training program is recommended for him. This includes his participation in the various activities of the Recreation Department Association where he is under close supervision. These are in progress during the winter and summer months, and the supervisors observe and report the progress of the youths. If the young offender does not receive appropriate supervision at home, following his initial offense, the authorities seek to provide a program of supervision as an alternative.

### **Local Businessmen Contribute**

The businessmen of Decatur helped immeasurably in the development of this program by the contribution of various types of athletic equipment. They also instituted various clubs in the Decatur area, including the Roy Rogers Club, sponsored by a theater owner, which permits the youngsters to attend the theater free of charge on Saturdays. Each is also permitted free admission on his birthday.

Every year the youngsters put on a Halloween program which includes a children's parade through the city of Decatur. Prizes are offered for the outstanding costumes and entertainment is provided for the children. This program has resulted in effectively curbing vandalism on Halloween.

As a result of the close cooperation among the police department, the county, the juvenile probation officer, the clergy, the directors of the recreation system and officers of the public schools, effective progress has been made in curbing juvenile delinquency in this community.



## WANTED BY THE FBI

**SIDNEY STEELE McLAIN, with aliases: Robert Burns, Ward L. Cahill, F. S. Douglas, Russell C. Kerr, Dean McLain, S. S. McLaughlin, B. H. Slavens, Robert Horace Slavens, Peter Leroy Traynor, W. H. Wagner, and others.**

### *Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property*



*Sidney Steele McLain.*

Sidney Steele McLain has been convicted in the past for impersonating a Federal officer, forgery, and interstate transportation of a stolen automobile. More recently, McLain has made a career of passing bad checks.

The subject often utilizes the same general method. He secures a position as an industrial engineer (or work in a similar capacity), gains the confidence of fellow workers and associates, and fleeces as many as possible before moving on. During a period when he was employed in Springfield, Ill., he sold worthless stock to fellow employees, borrowed considerable sums of money on false representations, and passed worthless checks. Very often he steals blank checks from the company employing him. On numerous occasions he has stolen the identification papers and bank books of associates, and utilized them later in passing checks. In one instance he mortgaged his furniture for a substantial sum of money, then promptly moved the furniture out of the State and allegedly disposed of it without paying the mortgage.

McLain was hired as an industrial engineer by a Phoenix, Ariz., company on November 24, 1948.

On December 15, 1948, he disappeared after renting a U-Drive-It automobile. On the same date a large number of blank checks for a factory payroll account disappeared, together with nine plant account blank checks, and one rubber stamp bearing the name of a plant official authorized to sign checks. Within a brief time McLain had cashed five of the checks in Tucson and Douglas, Ariz., Fort Worth and Dallas, Tex.

**McLAIN IS REPORTED TO BE ARMED AND DANGEROUS.**

The subject is described as follows:

Age-----	45, born August 2, 1906, Kansas City, Kans.
Height-----	5 feet 6½ inches.
Weight-----	150 pounds.
Build-----	Medium slender.
Hair-----	Brown.
Eyes-----	Brown, wears glasses.
Complexion-----	Medium.
Race-----	White.
Nationality-----	American.
Occupations-----	Clerk, bookkeeper, cost accountant, industrial engineer.
Scars and marks--	½ inch vertical white pigmentary cut scar below left wing of nose; ¾ inch vertical cut scar on left side of upper lip; small circular cut scar on right knee.
Remarks-----	Has false teeth, suffers from stomach disorder, has deep voice, blinks eyes continually, has habit of pulling his upper lip down over teeth when smiling and sometimes wears mustache. This individual was born Robert Horace Slavens but has used the name of Sidney Steele McLain for several years.
FBI No.-----	144,920.
Fingerprint classification-----	19 M 1 R 011 15 L 1 R 001

### **Notify FBI**

On December 27, 1948, a complaint was filed before a United States Commissioner at Phoenix, Ariz., charging this person with violating title 18, United States Code, section 2314. He is also charged with additional violations of title 18, United States Code, section 2314.

Any person having information which may assist in locating this individual is requested to notify immediately the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C., or the Special Agent in Charge of the Division of the FBI nearest his city.





At first glance, this pattern may give the impression of being a double loop.

According to the definition, a pattern must possess two separate loop formations to be classified as a double loop. Therefore, the S-shaped type core (A) cannot be considered separate. In the Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, this pattern is classified as a plain whorl with a "meeting" tracing.