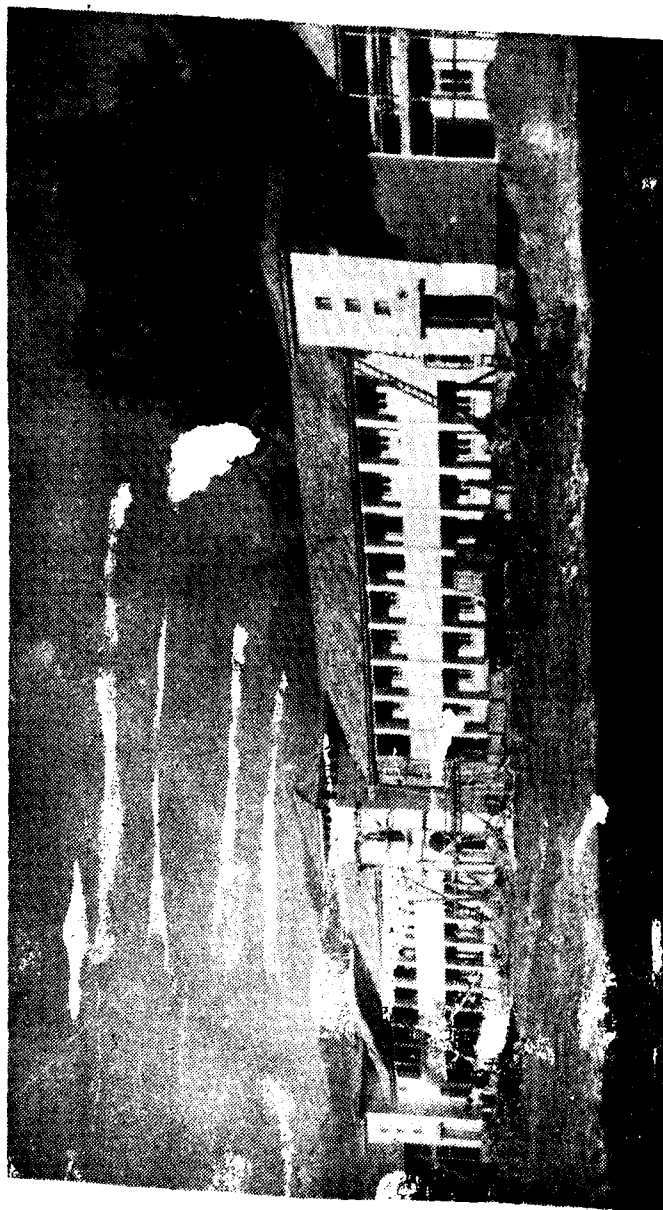
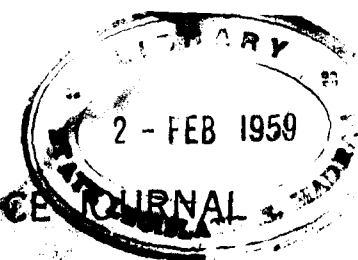




New Lines under construction in Srinagar, Kashmir, to accommodate 1,000 policemen.



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The Indian Police Journal is issued quarterly in the first week of January, April, July and October.

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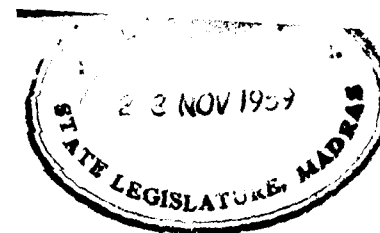
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EDITORIAL

Not many years ago, persons settled in a profession would rarely welcome a request for joining a course for higher training. Presenting oneself for a regular course or to join in discussions in a Seminar to put across ideas that might mean sometimes admission of inadequate knowledge, were avoided as unbecoming.

This attitude has changed. There is a general willingness even on the part of senior members of the professions to join in discussions or to go out for study with other units. Knowledge is widened and one gets the benefit of others' experience. Medical men, engineers, and teachers of technical subjects collect often and all over the world these days for this purpose.

It is now realised that Police work has to be learnt and practised as a profession as much as medicine or engineering has to be. A good deal of principles and technique are to be mastered and developed by further experiments to be able to do one's job properly. Police work touches a large number of subjects like psychology, road engineering, cause and effect of matters dealt with in Physics, Chemistry and Biology. This is in addition to the usually known subjects of public relations, art of interrogation, art of collection of intelligence, etc. 'Police Science' as an expression has therefore come into use. Chronology and Forensic Science have been brought to

serve Police work in the widest possible manner. Public opinion and judicial views do respect use of sciences in proving the guilt or otherwise of a person. Researches by the members of the profession and by the teachers on these subjects have thrown a good deal of light on the immense possibilities of studying police work in relation to these subjects.

The establishment of a Central Detective Training School has opened up opportunities for professional studies and research by people in service with a reasonable experience of field-work in various parts of India. The first set of officers who have joined the School at Calcutta will pool each others' experience and undertake research and studies under the guidance of the directing staff.

We wish them and the School a successful start.

Editor

A Dacoity in Bhagalpur

R.S. Roy

C.I.D., Bihar.

IN the early hours of February 28, 1952, the family priest of a private temple in Bhagalpur briskly trudged towards his landlady's house to obtain the key of the temple for performing morning puja (prayers). The landlady's house adjoined the temple and every morning when the priest knocked, the landlady, a pious old woman, used to hand over the key through a small window. On that day the priest was surprised when he failed to get any response to his repeated knocks or calls. The communicating window which usually remained closed was found open and through it he saw the lady lying motionless on a wooden bench in the verandah of the house, the usual place of her rest. This aroused the priest's suspicion and he hastened to the Town Police Station to inform the Police. The Police set off immediately for the house and on reaching it found the entrance door bolted from the inside. Looking through the window they could make out that the old lady was dead. But they were not in a position to know whether death was natural or whether any crime had been committed. They inspected the surroundings as well as the house itself and found that the outside wall of the house showed marks of scaling over the roof which indicated that some persons had entered the house by that means. Their suspicion aroused, the police sent a man down the roof by the same process to get the entrance door opened. They trooped in as soon as the door was opened and found the body of the lady with deep marks on her neck indicating that she had been throttled to death. The rooms in the house were locked from outside and the bunch of keys which used to remain with the landlady was missing.

Enquiries in the neighbourhood indicated that the old woman named Soorthi Devi was a rich widow. She owned considerable property in the form of ready cash and several houses. She had a son named Moorti Saraf, who was a gambler, fond of racing in Calcutta and addicted to drugs. Deeply disappointed by his attitude and tired of his ways, Soorthi Devi led a secluded life, spending her days in prayer. The son depended for his livelihood on the rentals of the houses inherited by him from his father. His mother carefully preserved the vast family property left by her husband of which apparently the son did not have as yet any share. It was not known whether the son had any grievance over this. The property consisted of numerous

precious jewels and included a large amount of old coins of Queen Victoria and George V's time. It was rumoured that the mother and the son had differences between them.

The Police learnt that the son had gone to Calcutta to attend a marriage leaving his mother alone in the house. The other member of the house, a servant, had also accompanied him. The Police decided not to inspect the rooms in the absence of her son. A telegram was despatched to Calcutta directing him to return immediately. It was considered safe to leave the house as it was till his return so that they could inspect it in his presence without letting anything disturbed. A constable was left to watch the house. The police continued to make inquiries of the people in the locality but could not obtain more information about the crime. Even during their brief inspection of the courtyard where the body lay, they could not get any clue except to note the absence of her bunch of keys. There were no marks of violence on the locks or on the door and they were unable to decide whether the house was forced open or not. However, they registered a murder case.

Some neighbours told the police of the possibility of robbery being a motive for the crime in view of the immense wealth that the lady was known to have possessed. At first the police suspected her son in view of the quarrels which had developed between him and his mother. But there was no clinching evidence against Saraf apart from the reports of the neighbours. The police felt that it was also possible that outsiders or criminals might have taken away the wealth by taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the son's absence.

It was obvious that some one must have been on visiting terms with the lady and known to her. The possibility of any unknown criminal having taken part was also ruled out by the fact that the house was within the "beat" in that lane for hanging discs by the night police patrolling party. Enquiry revealed that the discs were all hung and checked in the usual manner by the police who however did not see any sign of the criminals visiting the area. They then concentrated their attention on the neighbours and thought that some one living nearby in the lane having full knowledge of the hours of visits by the police to the place for their night rounds and hanging discs might have planned the commission of the crime. They noticed a room locked from the outside, just beside the temple opposite the house. It was found to have been in the occupation of a merchant who was reported to be working in a local cloth firm. He was absent. Details of his whereabouts given by the firm were unsatisfactory and this roused police suspicion. Further enquiries disclosed that he was a person of doubtful antecedents and that he was a visitor to the prostitutes spending more than his income. The Police kept a constable in plain clothes to watch the house in the hope of getting him there

and another constable was detailed to watch the prostitute area to locate him there. For the first three days Surya, as this was his name, could not be traced either in his room or in the cloth shop or in the prostitute area, his room remaining locked. Never before was he absent from the room for so long and this only intensified the suspicion. The Police decided to take more concerted action to find him.

In the meantime Saraf arrived from Calcutta with his servant on the second day of the occurrence, greatly perturbed. His grief seemed genuine and he gave all help in getting the rooms opened for inspection which was carried out in his presence. The iron safe containing jewels was found broken open, with its big lock removed and the articles scattered in the room. All other rooms were undisturbed. This indicated intimate knowledge of the interior of the house on the part of the culprits. Copper coins to the value of Rs. 500/- were found lying on the floor in the same room untouched by the culprits. The son's visit to Calcutta for a marriage ceremony was found to be true and the Police came to the conclusion that he was not responsible for the crime.

On a careful inspection of the interior of the strong room a piece of woollen cloth, apparently part of a pair of trousers, was noticed sticking to a broken peg of the iron safe. The Police seized it eagerly for they hoped that it would help them in unravelling the case. They took the piece with them and made inquiries among the dealers in woollen cloth of the town. They came to know that the pattern of cloth was of Lalimli Mills (Private) make. A reference was made to the Lalimli Mills with the hope of locating the dealer in Bhagalpur to whom supply of such cloth was made. The Lalimli Mills Management very promptly mentioned the name of the Bhagalpur firm which had made a bulk purchase of such a pattern of woollen cloth. An inspection of the various cash memos of the concerned firm helped the police to locate the purchaser of such cloth. Inquiries about the purchaser revealed him to be a man named Mahabir Gindiwala who was later traced as a criminal of the town. The Police learnt that on the date in question, several criminals had taken part in a feast at his house in the evening and all of them numbering about nine, had set out after the feast about 11 p.m. towards Bhagalpur railway station. The scene of the crime was only a few hundred yards away from the station.

On the fourth day of the occurrence, Surya Marwari was arrested by our plain clothes men in the house of a prostitute. Currency notes worth Rs. 800/- were found in his pockets. A search of his room revealed a small wooden box containing keys of various designs. He claimed that he was a lock repairer. A big lock suspected to be the one removed from the iron safe in the widow's house was found in his house and was seized. This was identified by Saraf

and his servant and was one of the items believed to have been stolen, a mention of which had been made in the F.I.R.

Surya Marwari was questioned and he made a confessional statement detailing how and with whom he had committed the crime. According to him it had been planned a long time before as he had access to the house often and enjoyed the confidence of the lady. He implicated eight other known criminals of the town including Mahabir Gindiwala, a piece of whose trousers was found stuck to the nail of the iron safe. Basua Dhanuk and Bhola Gope, the other notorious criminals, were also mentioned among them. Efforts were made to arrest all the nine accused persons concerned in this case, but they were not seen in the town. Every possible haunt of the local criminals was searched and after a series of raids in several houses which were carried out secretly on information, they were arrested. Excepting a few old silver coins with typical vermilion marks on them—a common Marwari custom—and some costly jewels, which were recovered from the house of Bhola Gope, nothing more could be recovered from the house searches of the other criminals.

While the police efforts continued for the arrest of the suspected persons, three of the important criminals, namely Basua Dhanuk, Bhola Gope and another, were arrested in a nearby village, while they were disposing of stolen ornaments. A golden watch of old design, mention of which was already there in the F.I.R. was seized from them. The remaining suspects whose names were mentioned in the confessional statement were arrested gradually in various parts of the town.

The confessional statement was later retracted by Surya Marwari when produced before a Magistrate. The Police were faced with the task of proving that his confessional statement was true and for that purpose they tried to collect circumstantial evidence to corroborate the statement. They made enquiries about his associates. Gradually witnesses, several of whom were shop-keepers and Tumtumwallas, were traced to prove the purchase of cigarettes, betels, soda and liquor, which the culprits had made prior to setting out on their nefarious mission on the night of occurrence. Some empty soda bottles, a liquor bottle, together with several burnt pieces of biris and cigarettes, and chewed betels were noticed and taken charge of from the nearby metre gauge railway platform of Bhagalpur Station which generally has a deserted appearance after the passing of the last train at 8 p. m. Witnesses who had seen them drinking on that night were traced and their evidence obtained. There were also some Tumtumwallas who had seen these criminals going in and coming out of a lane near the railway station that leads to the place of occurrence. They identified Mahabir Gindiwala, the accused whose trouser-piece was found at the scene of crime. Later a house search of this accused led to the

recovery of the trousers in question with a portion cut which was shown as part of evidence in the court.

The recovery of the golden watch with its distinct marks and number from the three accused persons about five miles away from the town by the villagers went to prove the statement made by the accused. Although no other ornaments or jewels recovered were identified in the test identification parade, the recovery of the old silver coins of Queen Victoria and King Edward V's time, with distinctive vermilion marks used by the Marwaris on auspicious occasions, from the house of Bhola Gope went to corroborate the fact that materially the confessional statement, though retracted could be trusted. The recovery of the piece of woollen cloth from the pair of trousers of one of the accused, a valuable piece of circumstantial evidence, the corroboration of evidence regarding assemblage prior to the crime on the night in question again established the fact that Surya's confessional statement could be relied upon. The evidence collected was considered enough to submit a charge-sheet against the accused persons. A charge-sheet was therefore submitted against all the nine accused persons concerned in this case under Section 396 I.P.C. and all the accused persons were sentenced to transportation for life except one who was sentenced to death for strangulating the lady.

The convictions were upheld by the High Court on appeal.

For wherever a man's place is, whether the place he has chosen, or that in which he has been placed by a Commander, there he ought to remain in the hour of danger; he should not think of death or of anything but of disgrace.

—Dialogues of Plato

BLOOD STAINS

Dr. K.V. Venkatraman, M.D.

Serologist & Chemical Examiner to the Government of India, Calcutta.

VIOLENT crime often involves the shedding of blood and a careful, thorough and detailed examination of blood stains found in connection with a reported crime can be of considerable assistance in the reconstruction of the crime and in providing evidence of great value in the subsequent trial of the accused.

The gross appearance of blood stains varies depending on the nature of the material on which the stains are found and the age of the stains. Fresh blood stains, especially on a clean object are red or brownish red, but soon they take on darker shades to a colour nearly black. The rate at which the change occurs depends on the thickness of the stain and on the conditions to which it has been exposed. It is not possible to be precise about the nature or age of the stain from its colour alone. The colour of certain vegetable juices, fruit juices, paint, coffee and some dyes may look very much like that of a blood stain in some circumstances, and it is always necessary to have a laboratory confirmation before deciding that a given stain is caused by blood. Certain technical methods have been described for the determination of the probable age of blood stains by comparison of the colour and the solubility of the stain but the errors involved are so many that it is not possible to be precise about the age of a blood stain. But one should always note when visiting the scene of a crime whether the effused blood has coagulated, the extent of coagulation and whether the spots of blood are dry or not. Depending on the size of the spots and the atmospheric conditions of the place and the nature of the material on which the stains are found, one can judge roughly whether the blood has been shed very recently or several hours had elapsed. It may some times be apparent that attempts had been made to remove blood stains by washing or by rubbing them off with rags, cloth or straw or anything handy. Partial soaking of a blood stained cloth causes the stain to diffuse over a wider area and if the attempt had not been very thorough and while the stain was quite fresh sufficient quantities of blood will remain for its presence to be determined by laboratory tests. If it appears that blood stains on a non-absorbent or polished surface had been attempted to be wiped away by a rag or something like that, a careful search should be made for such articles likely to have been hidden or thrown away. In addition to the appearance, the feel of the stained material

should be noted. Blood stain on a cloth **makes** it stiff and the fibres have a glossy appearance by reflected light, particularly when turned around and looked at from different angles of incident light.

The size and shape of the stains depend on several factors. A pool of blood obviously results from the severance of a large blood vessel and subsequent profuse bleeding. Stains caused by slow oozing of blood or sprays or squirts have certain general features that are characteristic. When blood drops fall perpendicularly the stains are circular with crenated edges. When it falls obliquely they take on the form of exclamation marks. Drops of blood falling from a moving person take on a pear shape and by examining a number of stains from a moving object, an idea may be obtained of the direction taken by such an object. By careful observation of the disposition and shape of blood stains, one can obtain much useful information of the relative position of the victim and the assailant, whether there had been any struggle or not and the movements of the assailant, if he himself had been injured during the course of the struggle. The search for blood stains should be thorough and take into account all spots which are likely to have been missed in any attempt to remove the traces by washing or wiping away. Crevices in the floor or on walls, on furniture, hidden portions of furniture, door posts, door knobs and hangings about the room should all receive particular attention.

In examining the victim, when the body is left behind as happens in many cases occurring in this country, the blood stains found on the person of the victim, on the clothes worn by him and on surrounding objects should be carefully studied in relation to the wounds inflicted on the victim. The manner in which the stains pass over the wrinkles in the clothing and penetrate from one layer to another shows the way in which the clothing was adjusted at the time of the injury and immediately afterwards. It can also be ascertained whether the blood stain on the cloth is from outside or inside by observing the difference in size on the two sides and presence of any small clots or superficial spots. The possibility that some of the stains are derived from an injured assailant should be considered.

The examination of the suspected assailant has to be just as thorough as the circumstances will permit. Very often one has to depend largely on the stains present on the clothing worn by the suspect or other objects in his possession. There may have been attempts to remove the stains by washing or wiping. One must also be prepared to deal with pleas commonly put forward to explain the presence of blood stains innocently produced. In a recent case which came to our notice there were extensive blood stains on the bare limbs of an accused who was caught red-handed immediately after committing a murder. He was scantily clothed and the lower portion of his thighs, the knees, a large part of the legs and his feet and hands were covered with dried blood and there were no recent wounds on his person.

It happened that his blood group, determined from a blood sample obtained from him, was the same as that of the stains found on him and that of the victim, determined by a specimen of blood obtained at post-mortem. If an accurate record of the extent and disposition of the stains on his person had not been made at the time he could easily have inflicted a small injury on himself and pleaded that any blood stains found on his clothes were derived from that injury. The clothes worn by the assailant at the time of committing the crime are likely to have been hidden away especially if they were grossly stained with blood and are generally recovered only subsequently. When examining these, attention should be paid to the position of any stains, found on them, their number, size and shape. In the case of shaped garments like a coat or a shirt or trousers, it must also be noted whether they are on the outside or inside of the garments. Special attention should also be given to parts which may conceal small traces of blood, such as the edges of the cuff, button holes, inside lining of the pockets, flaps of trousers, laces of foot wear, etc. Similarly in the case of any weapons seized, traces of blood should be looked for not only on the blades which are likely to have been cleaned, but in joints and depressions where they may still be present. If the weapon has simply been thrown away, the place in which it had fallen should also be examined for traces of blood and any straw, grass, etc. on which it rests when discovered should also be included in the materials sent for examination.

It is not usual in this country for the investigating police officer to be accompanied by a trained laboratory worker when he visits the scene of crime, except perhaps in one or two large cities where the laboratories are situated. The size of the country, poor communication facilities and the relatively small number of laboratories engaged in this type of work are some of the reasons which make such team work difficult to establish. Some improvement in the situation may be expected when forensic science laboratories are established in all the States but it will take time. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the investigating officer should invariably make a thorough and systematic search for the blood stains, intelligently canvassing all possibilities in relation to the circumstances of the crime. Before removing the stains for analysis, he should make a detailed record indicating exactly where they were found, their relative positions and their shape, size and relation to surrounding objects in a sketch or a photograph. The collection of the material objects containing blood stains and their preparation, packing and despatch to the laboratory should be his special responsibility. Very often a satisfactory analysis of the blood stains in the laboratory becomes difficult or impossible if the initial handling and preparation are defective. As a general rule all conveniently movable objects on which stains are found, such as clothing, blankets, sheets, weapons, etc., should

be sent intact to the laboratory. It is useful to remember in this connection that where these articles had already been subjected to washing and the stains are feeble or unrecognisable to the naked eye under daylight, they can still be rendered visible or recognized under ultra-violet light or photography on infra-red sensitive plates in the laboratory. Therefore all articles likely to contain blood stains should also be sent to the laboratory for further examination.

Certain laboratory examinations such as microscopic examination for the morphology of the cells, and serologic examination for the determination of blood groups, would be greatly facilitated if the stains are quite fresh. But as this is not always possible, it is useful to know that blood stains allowed to dry completely before the articles are packed for transmission to the laboratory remain satisfactory for long periods when protected from the effect of direct sunlight and extreme heat. If adequate precautions are not taken at this stage, putrefaction may set in or the stains may become so altered as to render serologic examination for the determination of the origin of blood difficult or impossible.

Clothes, weapons and other movable articles containing blood stains should first be allowed to dry and then carefully and separately wrapped in clean paper. Stains on weapons and other hard surfaces should be protected by placing a piece of cotton, wool and clean paper over the stained area or over the entire article if the staining is general to prevent loss of material by frictional contact and peeling. Blood stains on immovable objects such as doors, doorposts, etc., or on bulky articles of heavy furniture, if not of considerable value are best removed by chiselling or sawing out a piece bearing the dried stain and including surrounding area of unstained material. Alternatively in the case of stains on expensive decoration the stains may be transferred to clean filter paper by applying a small piece of it wetted previously with water or salt solution over the stain and allowing the stain to soak into it after which it is removed and dried. A small piece of unstained filter paper should also be sent as a control. Where the stains are of considerable thickness or are on smooth surfaces, they may be scraped on to a piece of clean paper using a clean razor blade. As a general rule it should be packed separately interlaying a piece of white paper to protect the stain. Transference of a portion of a stain from one article to another should be carefully prevented.

Unstained controls are required in serologic tests, especially when the blood groups have to be determined. When the entire article is sent, the analyst will select suitable portions for this purpose. In cases where only the stains are removed from bulky articles, the investigating officer should collect at the same time a portion of the unstained material from the neighbourhood of the stain, in the same manner, and by cutting or scraping to the same depth as in the case of the stained portion.

A Black-Marketeer's Case

K.G. Narayanaswamy

Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Madras.

GENERALLY in a case of black-marketing there is an aggrieved party who has paid more than the usual price for the particular commodity. He is the complainant who initiates proceedings and gives positive evidence. There was no such complainant in this case. The offence of black-marketing had to be proved from the accused's own books of account.

Three hundred bags of sugar had arrived from a factory at Nellikuppam. The licensed wholesaler named Seth Abhaichand Vendra-van took possession of the consignment and kept it on behalf of the Government. It was to be released for consumption by an order of the Collector. Someone informed the District Collector that the 'stuff' had been sold in the market. The Collector ordered his Tahsildar to check the stock. The Tahsildar found that there was no stock of this controlled sugar on that date. Accounts had been written up for the sale of 200 bags but in the same place he found account books, vouchers etc., for the sale of what is called 'free' sugar in the name of one of the partners of the firm. The C.I.D. were asked to take over the case after some preliminary investigation by the local police.

The Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act is an omnibus Act that could be applied to any commodity. Under the rule-making powers of this Act, the Central Government had framed the Sugar and Gur Control Order, which gave powers to fix prices and of inspection to certain officers of the Central and State Governments. The Madras Sugar Dealers' Licensing Order was in extension of the rule-making provisions of the Sugar and Gur Control Order of the Central Government. This had been issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. Therefore, in this case there was delegation and sub-delegation of powers, from the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, to the Sugar and Gur Control Order and from the latter to the Madras Sugar Dealers' Licensing Order.

The control applied only to sugar produced under the vacuum-pan process. What are the other processes of manufacture, is the question—for the case would fail if the defence established that the concerned sugar was not produced under the vacuum-pan process. How does the Collector of a District derive powers to fix the prices of

sugar which are called by the names of their producing centres Bara Chakiya, Nizam, Vuyyur, Mandya, Pugalur and Nellikuppam, scattered in the different states of India? How can a contravention of the licence, attract the punitive section of the parent Act, by passing the Sugar and Gur Control Order? If a firm is the licensee, can the partners in their individual capacity deal in free sugar? Is partnership a body corporate so that Director or a Manager or Clerk, etc., becomes liable for the misdemeanour of their servants and lastly how to prove the offence of black-marketing when nobody had come forward to depose to its occurrence? These were the questions the answers to which the police had to seek in order to tighten up the case of black-marketing against the businessman.

The first clue to the illegal dealings came to be discovered unobtrusively in the form of a gate pass, a trifling thing which could have been easily overlooked. It came about like this. The shop where the money was paid was about a mile from the godown. Both places were mentioned in the licence. In the case of controlled sugar, a bill-book in duplicate with consecutive numbers was maintained. One of the counterfoils was given to the party purchasing sugar who was also issued with a gate pass. Armed with these two slips, the purchaser had to go to the godown and take delivery of the bags after handing over the gate pass.

In the case of free sugar the bill-book was in triplicate. On the middle foil was printed the words "Gate Pass". Two foils are handed over to the parties, who take delivery of the sugar bags at the godown after giving the middle foil there. When the police took up the case they started to examine all the papers and account books of the firm. During a very careful search they found in the stock book for controlled sugar, a gate pass-cum-bill for the sale of 10 bags of Nizam sugar. On the reverse of this bill was an entry made by one of the clerks in the shop instructing the godown keeper to issue to the bearer 10 bags of Nizam sugar. The godown keeper had delivered 10 bags of Nizam sugar and taken an acknowledgement in writing for the receipt of the sugar. This sale with the bill number had been noted in the controlled sugar book but then struck off, obviously because the bill related to free sugar. Another remarkable discovery was the fact that the price noted in this bill was in excess of the controlled price of Nizam sugar. A second piece of paper was a list of deliveries of Bara Chakiya sugar in lots of 10, 20 and 50 bags to several names, underneath which the godown keeper had requested the head office to supply the bill numbers and gate numbers. It could be written up properly only with these particulars so that the correct stock position could be ascertained from day to day. From this slip of paper it was apparent that deliveries of sugar used to take place in lots to outsiders and subsequently accounts were written up to comply with the conditions of the licence. Thus these two slips of paper, which were nestling amidst

the pages of the stock book suddenly came to occupy the stage and proved the turning point in the case.

Free sugar, by which is meant dealing in sugar whose price is not controlled, was an innovation by the Government who allowed the factories a certain percentage of their production to be dealt with by them as they liked, after meeting the entire needs of procurement. The Government had laid down the rule that licensed wholesalers should not deal in free sugar. This objection was sought to be met in this case by stating that one of the partners, the fourth accused named Ramaniklal Kapoorchand, did this business separately in his individual capacity and that it had the implied sanction of the Commercial Tax Officer who was also the licensing authority for the controlled sugar, because he had assessed Sales Tax for the free sugar dealings as well without pointing out that it was irregular. It was a case of the left hand not knowing what the right hand was giving.

Legally, the Police have no concern with the sale of free sugar because it is not regulated by a licence. But in this case, the places of sale and storage for both kinds of sugar denoted that the specific injunction that licensees should not sell free sugar had been violated. But this had to be established beyond any reasonable doubt, before the investigation could proceed any further in order that both kinds of accounts could be audited simultaneously with reference to bill books, gate passes, cash books, etc., and the bogus nature of some of the entries brought out. So the investigation started by finding out the registration of the firm three decades back and the latest position with regard to the partners and how they divided their profits. This involved tremendous labour and called for patience, diligence and mental alertness. A chart explaining all this was drawn up. This was followed up by ascertaining the individual responsibility of the partners of the firm and deployment of finances to purchase free sugar. The cash book maintained separately for this variety of sugar showed that for each and every transaction, cheques to the last anna, had been issued by the licensee firm to the fourth accused and even cart hire and cooly charges had been debited to the accounts of the firm. The third point was that the same clerks of the parent firm attended to this business also, and no additional emoluments were being paid to them. This could be proved by their maintenance of accounts of both the businesses, the cash being received at the end of the day by one or the other of the partners and also by the Pay disbursement registers. Fourthly, it was found that one of the reputed Cement Firms in South India which was running a Co-operative Stores and a canteen had purchased sugar, "free" as well as controlled from the fourth accused and the firm, but they had made no differentiation in the identities of the personnel. It could be proved from their books that though bills had been issued by the fourth accused, the parent firm

had been noted as the supplier in some cases. To crown it all, it was discovered that all the cheques issued in favour of the fourth accused found their way ultimately to the accounts of the firm in the State Bank at Coimbatore.

Having conclusively established that the licensee firm was in reality doing the business in free sugar also against the conditions of the licence, the question of sale of 10 bags of Nizam sugar was taken up. One important factor was that the free sugar stock book did not show the receipt of Nizam sugar by the fourth accused. But that could be explained by stating that he was not bound to note all his receipts in the book and though he may be committing an offence under the Sales Tax Act or the Income Tax Act by suppressing such items he had not committed any criminal offence. So the whole correspondence relating to the supply of Nizam sugar had to be gone through by the police to find out how the supply had been effected and how far the accused were cognizant of the transactions. There had been some little delay in the despatch of this sugar from the factory at Shakkarnagar in the former Hyderabad State and there had been a number of triangular communications between the firm, the factory and the Collector, for expediting these despatches. All these had been signed by one or other of the partners, including the fourth accused. One of the clever assistants of the investigating officer was sent to Shakkarnagar, as the latter had a "hunch" that Nizam sugar had been sent out only as controlled sugar and that no "free" sugar from that factory had been put on the market. This was found to be quite correct by the assistant who examined the Sales Manager, accountants and clerks of the Shakkarnagar factory. The police also established with the help of factory account books that the Nizam sugar had been distributed in the Madras market only as controlled sugar and that the "free" variety was never sent out at all. This evidence coupled with that of the store-keeper, who delivered the ten bags established beyond doubt that controlled sugar had been diverted to the free market for obtaining better prices and though the purchaser could not be traced, the books of the accused themselves proved the offence of black-marketing.

Again, while going through the accounts relating to the controlled as well as free sugar it was discovered that at a time when Nellikuppam free sugar was not available in the market, the fourth accused had sold 20 bags of it, to a party at a price higher than the controlled price. Only controlled sugar was available in the godown then and the godown keeper spoke to its delivery to an unknown party and taking the latter's acknowledgement. This also could not be rebutted by the defence but the magnitude of the task involved to discover these violations can be assessed from the fact that about 10,000 bags of sugar worth about Rs. 9 lakhs had been accounted for during a period of six months and each entry had to be compared

with the bill books, gate pass books, cash chitta book and regular cash book to gauge the genuineness of the entries. It was regular auditing and accounting without the help of the experts in the line but the police with their patient work and ability to meet the situation successfully unearthed the evidence that tightened up the case against the businessman.

Having established the offence of black-marketing, the contention of the accused that there was a falling market in sugar, could easily have been disproved by the police. But here the accused were strongly supported by a Government Circular to all the District Collectors, which they had come to know, wherein it had been stated that in some districts the retailers and Co-operative Stores had not lifted their quotas of sugar periodically from the wholesalers obviously because there was no public demand, as free sugar was being sold at lesser prices and so controlled sugar could be sold without restriction. In the same circular it had also been noted that the price restriction would continue but the defence was only harping on the fact that "without restriction" meant "without the shackles of Governmental interference", thereby supporting their action in selling the last consignment without the orders of the Collector or instructions from the Taluk Supply Officer. The unwillingness of the retailers to lift their quotas would be explained by the fact that the profit from normal trading in sugar was very much less than that in the sale of other controlled commodities. A lot of care is necessary in maintaining it in good condition and in packing it and the retailers did not like to invest a large amount of money in this business where the return was small. These facts had not been properly appreciated by the District authorities and the investigating officer had to go into the economics of demand and supply to refute this incorrect presumption that controlled sugar could be sold without Government interference. Moreover conclusively proved by the Manager of the Co-operative Stores who had already complained against the firm and also from the books of the firm itself, where free market sugar had always been sold at higher prices than controlled sugar, the difference ranging between Rs. 5/- and Rs. 10/- per bag. The accused contended that free sugar was superior to controlled sugar on the strength of the opinion of the Depot Manager of a big European firm and tried to justify the higher price at which they sold bags of sugar. But this was effectively countered by scientific evidence from the Nizam Sugar Factory that sugar is classified according to the size of the crystals and that the chemical composition is the same and that there can be no gradation as inferior or superior in sugar produced in one and the same factory.

This was not all. The police had to consider thoroughly the legal aspect also. The District Collector's powers to fix prices were traced through the several orders as well as the powers of the Taluk

A BLACK-MARKETEER'S CASE

Supply Officer to allot sugar to retailers and to give instructions to wholesalers. The publication of the controlled prices for the different varieties was proved by the production of the Government Gazettes in which they had been notified. Thus compilation of evidence was completed to fence in the businessman. Then the stage was set for the trial. A Special Public Prosecutor was appointed by the Government to conduct the prosecution. Two employees of the firm stood by the prosecution in spite of the fact that their jobs were in jeopardy and laid bare the whole system of business. They were a tower of strength to the investigating officer.

The investigation of this case was an all-round education but it made the investigating officer and his assistants go through the mill. But in that process, they got to know different methods of production of sugar, the grading of it, the forces affecting the market and prices, and the methods adopted in the nation-wide distribution of a particular commodity. They also came to grips with problems of accountancy, auditing, book-keeping, sales tax, income tax and company laws. It is needless to mention that a thorough grinding in the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act was of the utmost importance. That is why it is again reiterated that a good investigator should be thoroughly conversant with all aspects of life, and has to be receptive to the motivating forces existing in the world.

The accused persons including Seth Vendrayan, Ramaniklal and Krishna Chettiar, head clerk of the firm, were defended by an Ex-High Court Judge supported by an Ex-Public Prosecutor and a galaxy of junior talent. But the evidence collected in this case was so un rebuttable that the important accused were convicted in all to a fine of about Rs. 25,000/-, under Section 7 of Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, Section 8 of the Sugar and Gur Control Order and the Madras Sugar Dealers' Licensing Order read with Section 120-B I.P.C.

If we believe absurdities, we shall commit atrocities.

—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

27th Session of the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organisation

Sardar Gurdial Singh, I.P.

THE 27th Session of the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organisation was held in London from the 15th to the 20th September, 1958. Of the fifty-nine countries, forty-eight had sent delegations for attending the session. There were three new applications from Ghana, Ethiopia and Panama for membership of the Organisation and all the three were unanimously elected as members.

Inaugurating the session, Mr. R.A. Butler, Home Secretary of the U.K., referred to the advance in the material well-being of the people and progress of science during the post-war period and pointed out that they had been accompanied by an increase in crime and had placed better resources at the disposal of criminals. He emphasised the need and importance of international cooperation in combating this situation. He also stated that the policeman of today must not only be well-equipped; but he must also be well trained in his day-to-day duties and in the use of the resources at his disposal.

The following were the important subjects on the agenda for the session :

1. Progress report and programme of activities.
2. Financial Report.
3. Draft financial regulations.
4. The use of television by the criminal police.
5. Illicit gold traffic.
6. Illicit drug traffic.
7. The International catalogue of articles.
8. Women police: principles underlying their recruitment.
9. International police cooperation regarding artistic and industrial counterfeiting.
10. Homosexuality-comparison of penal law.
11. Inter-digital aid in fingerprint classifying.
12. Radio communications (Alteration of the international police radio-communications regulations and suggested cipher code).

The report of the Secretary General was divided into two parts. Part I dealt with the last year's activities of the organisation. It mentioned that the new constitution and financial regulations had strengthened the position of the ICPO with the governments of the

member countries and the complex political developments in some parts of the world had not in any way interfered with their relations with the ICPO. It also pointed out that the National Central Bureaux of the member countries, which continued to exchange information on a regular basis and helped in the investigation of cases, had developed into a well-organised and effective network for combating crime and criminals. The second part of the report stated that the criminals would take advantage of fast mobility provided by the jet aircraft to escape faster and further away from the scenes of crime and there was, therefore, need for still closer police cooperation between the member countries. The report envisaged, that during the next year, the ICPO would pursue work on theoretical subjects and bring out circulars on possibilities of extradition, attend international meetings of interest, expand the radio net, complete the code of abbreviations and the cipher code, hold an international seminar on illicit drug traffic next spring and make arrangements to organise a regional conference on illicit drug traffic in S.E. Asia. At the end of his report, the Secy. General appealed to the member countries to extend greater cooperation to the General Secretariat and to discourage the practice, which had shown a tendency to grow up during the last few months of N.C. Bureaux having recourse to direct correspondence with each other.

The financial statement disclosed that the actual income during 1957 was considerably in excess of the estimates given in the budget. This was due to special contributions having been made by some interested member countries to improve the wireless net. The expenditure was also slightly in excess of the provision made. There was a balance of 3,38,108 francs at the end of 1957 as against the balance of 2,08,757 francs at the end of 1956. The Secy. General however expected that, as a result of the new financial arrangements, the income by the end of 1958 would leave a sizable margin over expenditure. The budget for the year 1959 provided for an income of 6,68,000 francs as against the expenditure of 6,65,000.

The Netherlands delegation showed a film prepared by them on 'Police and television' at the Scotland Yard, which showed how essential information relating to a case of kidnapping of a young girl had been passed on to the police and the public and how the police officers working on the case were kept in touch with the progress in its investigation by transmitting fresh information to them at fixed intervals by means of television. This subject was also discussed by a committee which felt that the criminals would also take advantage of such broadcasts and that it would enable them to destroy evidence and to evade the police. The General Assembly accordingly passed a resolution asking the General Secretariat to further study the technical possibilities of television broadcasts.

At the instance of India, the subject of illicit traffic in gold and



Sardar Gurdial Singh, I.P. (second from right) and Shri S. M. Dutt, I.P. (extreme left), Indian Delegates to the I.C.P.O. Conference held in London, are seen chatting with delegates from other countries.

—By courtesy The Star, London.

currency had been placed on the agenda. That subject evoked a good deal of interest in the General Assembly. The Indian delegate emphasised the special aspects of this type of international crime which was affecting the process of building up the new economy of an under-developed country like India. It was pointed out by the Indian delegate that this illicit traffic was in the hands of organised international gangs and that India was hampered in its drive against this crime particularly because of lack of full information regarding persons engaged and methods used in such illicit traffic. In view of the different laws and procedures prevalent in different countries regarding export and import of gold and currency, it was not found feasible to suggest any uniform legal action against the traffickers. It was, however, agreed that all member countries should send to the Secy. General for circulation all relevant information about persons engaged in and methods used in such illicit traffic.

There was a very comprehensive discussion about drug traffic. A committee was formed to discuss the subject in detail. During the course of discussions, the Indian delegate explained the policy and programme of the Government of India regarding narcotic drugs and pointed out that the use of opium was going to be banned in India except for medicinal purposes with effect from April, 1959. It was further emphasised by the Indian delegate that illicit smuggled opium was still finding its way to India in spite of preventive vigilance on the Indian border and was tending to disrupt the programme adopted by the Government of India. The committee endorsed the suggestions of the General Sectt. on the following two points:

- (i) that any member country coming across any documents in code or cipher in cases of drug trafficking should send photostatic copies of the same to the General Sectt. so that they could be analysed there to see if they could furnish leads to any international connections among drug traffickers.
- (ii) that a regional meeting of officers concerned with the suppression of drug traffic in the South-East Asian countries should be convened to devise means to bring about better control and closer cooperation between the enforcement services of that area.

The General Assembly accepted the two resolutions proposed by the committee and the Secy. General undertook to take further action on them. It was also confirmed that the General Sectt. would hold the international seminar on drug traffic in Paris next spring.

In regard to the catalogue of articles, the Secy. General recalled that the police of the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland had proposed the adoption of a catalogue of articles which it considered would be useful in connection with communications between different countries.

The consensus of views was that it would be preferable to wait and see the result of experiment in Switzerland before the system was tried anywhere else. As regards women police, the delegates explained the position in regard to recruitment and working of women police in their countries. The position in India was also explained by the Indian delegate. No further action was considered necessary on the subject. In regard to international cooperation relating to artistic and industrial counterfeiting, the Indian delegate explained the law and the arrangements for dealing with such offences in India. It was explained that the subject of copyrights and patents was dealt with by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry and that, within the present framework of law, there was very little that the police could do about it. Other delegates also pointed out that the violation of copyrights and patents was a civil offence in their countries. In view of this, the Secy. General suggested that the General Assembly should leave it to the Sectt. to establish liaison between national police forces in order to combat the counterfeiting of trade marks, etc., according to their own laws.

There was a very brief discussion on homosexuality. The French delegate read out a long note on the subject and made out that the prevalence of this vice gave rise to a lot of crime. It was decided to publish this note in International Criminal Police Review.

The inter-digital aid in finger print classifying was discussed briefly. The Secy. General suggested that the report submitted by the Australian delegate would be sent to N.C. Bureaux so that they could have it examined further by their experts.

In addition to the items on the agenda, the Secy. General pointed out that arrangements had been finalised with a British company for producing a set of television films on police subjects; but the company in question was stated to be having difficulties of a commercial nature about the use of word 'Interpol'. He added that the word 'Interpol' was an integral part of the title of ICPO and it should not be permitted to be used without their authority. A resolution was passed by the General Assembly asking the member states to take such action as they deemed appropriate to protect the name 'Interpol' for exclusive use in relation to the ICPO.

Mr. Iqbal, the First Secretary of the Pakistan High Commission in London invited the General Assembly to hold its 1959 session in Pakistan. The invitation was accepted by the General Assembly and it was decided that its next session would be held at Lahore during November, 1959.

Bulandshahr Hold-Up

Attar Singh

Inspector, Uttar Pradesh Police.

ON 2-4-1953 about noon a sensational dacoity was committed on Aligarh-Anupshahr Road in which Rs. 70,000/- and a gun of Imperial Bank, Aligarh were looted. The crime shook the morale of the residents of Bulandshahr, Aligarh and other neighbouring districts by its audacity and swiftness and created a state of alarm.

In brief, the details of crime were as follows:

The Imperial Bank at Aligarh had a pay office at Dibai, a town in Bulandshahr district, 25 miles away. After every two or three days large sums of money were transported in a public bus from the Bank at Aligarh to its pay office at Dibai. The criminals evidently had known this. On the day of the occurrence, the bank's Cashier and the Bank Guard armed with a gun started from the Bank premises at Aligarh, at 11 a.m. with a treasure chest containing currency notes worth Rs. 70,000/- for the bus stand which was quite near. The treasure chest was tied by a chain to the seat in the lower class of the bus which was to start for Dibai. The Bank-Guard with the gun in his hand sat near the treasure chest while the Cashier occupied a seat in the upper class near the driver. Four passengers boarded the bus at Aligarh, three of them sat in the lower class near the Bank Guard and one in the upper class. The bus left Aligarh at 11.30 a.m. for Dibai and reached a place between the 16th and 17th mile-stones near Chhatari village where a lando-body car of green colour was seen parked to the left of the road under a Shisham tree. The passenger sitting just behind the driver asked the driver to stop the bus as he wanted to get off there. The bus slowed down and the passenger made to jump out. Immediately dramatic events took place. Six men armed with revolvers and one with a rifle leapt out of the green car and dashed towards the bus. The man with the rifle fired two shots at the front wheel of the bus and burst it. The bus was surrounded by the dacoits. Three dacoits who were sitting in the lower class of the bus pretending to be passengers suddenly became violently active and grabbed the Bank-Guard and his gun. A revolver shot was fired at the Bank-Guard seriously injuring him in the right arm and his gun was snatched by them. Quick as lightning the dacoits broke the seat, pulled the treasure chest out of the bus and threw it into their car. All the occupants of the bus sat stock-

still in a state of fear. The dacoits including the four who had travelled in the bus, fled away in the green car towards Dibai at breakneck speed, leaving behind the half portion of the handle with which the seat was broken and the two fired cartridges of the rifle.

Immediately after the hold-up the conductor of the bus carrying the treasure chest ran nine miles to the Police Station in Pahasu to lodge a report. The Cashier hurriedly took the injured Guard to Aligarh for medical aid. He also rang up the Superintendent of Police and told him about the hold-up near Chhatari by 10 dacoits, loss of Rs. 70,000 and a gun and the injury to the Guard. The police of the adjoining districts were immediately alerted and all the traffic points in Aligarh, Bulandshahr and other districts were asked to detain and search a lando-body car of green colour used in the hold-up.

The Police followed the wheel marks of the car up to Narainpur village on the Aligarh-Dibai Road three miles from the scene, where it was learnt that the green car had gone on the tube-well road towards Muradpur. Enquiry at Muradpur revealed that the occupants of the green car burnt a box near a culvert in the jungle and went away towards Ahmedgarh. The remnants of the burnt chest such as locks, iron chain, iron screws, etc., were recovered from there. Enquiry at Ahmedgarh, twelve miles from the scene, indicated that the green car with eight or ten occupants had gone towards Shikarpur. The car was seen near Shikarpur with only one occupant. Enquiry at Shikarpur could not reveal the further direction of the car.

A picked band of officers and men working round-the-clock were exclusively detailed to search for the green car and the criminals. In spite of intensive search the car used in the hold-up could not be traced and the identity of the dacoits continued to be a mystery. Some felt that the crime might have been the result of inside information given by an employee of the Imperial Bank, Aligarh or Dibai. The Bank Cashier too was not free from suspicion. Even the driver and the conductor of the lorry were suspected by the people to have been in the know of the conspiracy.

Police officers scrutinised every scrap of information available about the crime and considered various theories and looked up the records of known criminals but no useful clue emerged. The case was handed over to the C.I.D. and I was asked to investigate it.

The investigating officers analysing the various aspects of the case came to the conclusion that only pedestrians or vehicles travelling along the routes taken by the car could give any information about it. It was next to impossible to find out who were the pedestrians who had seen the car. They decided to question all the drivers of lorries and other vehicles who were known to have travelled in that area.

On the third day, a valuable clue regarding the car used in the hold-up dropped unexpectedly from the blue. It was learnt from one of the drivers of the lorries at the bus stand that he had seen a lando-body green car bearing No. DLH 7054 travelling at a high speed from Shikarpur at about 4 p.m. on 2-4-1953. The driver was the only occupant in the car. It was nearly involved in what would have been a serious accident with a cyclist. The car did not stop but was slowed down to avoid the accident and raced away towards Siana. Further enquiry indicated that the car went to Tatarpur, a small village four miles off Bulandshahr. Enquiries there revealed that one Babu Ram of this village who lived at 89 Circular Road, New Delhi, with his brother Kishan Lal, and used to drive a car there had brought a lando-body green car on the evening of 2-4-1953 and immediately went away leaving the car in the village. He returned on the evening of 3-4-1953 and took away the car on the morning of 4-4-1953 to Delhi. It was a priceless clue because from the police records it was discovered that Babu Ram had been previously arrested in an Agra hold-up case and had been acquitted.

The police rushed to Delhi immediately and an intensive search was made of 89 Circular Road, New Delhi and other places but neither the car nor Babu Ram nor his brother Kishan Lal was found. After persistent efforts on 5-4-1953 the police succeeded in tracing the car in the Expert Garage, Connaught Circus, New Delhi, where it was given by Babu Ram for repairs on 4-4-1953. The car was taken into police possession. Various places were continuously raided in search of Babu Ram and Kishan Lal but with no result.

At last on the evening of 6-4-1953 the police achieved success when they traced Kishan Lal. On careful interrogation he disclosed that his brother Babu Ram used to drive the car No. DLH 7054. The car was taken out of Delhi by Babu Ram on 29-3-1953 and was brought back on 4-4-1953 when it was taken by him for repairs to Expert Garage. Three or four days earlier Babu Ram told him that Ratan Lal, a Motor-cycle Dak Despatch-rider in the Office of the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, had asked him to take out the car for a marriage. Kishan Lal allowed him to take the car on 29-3-1953 and received a telegram from Babu Ram from Bulandshahr that he was busy in the marriage function. Kishan Lal also disclosed that Ratan Lal and Babu Ram were intimate friends and Ratan Lal had gone with Babu Ram in the car. Consequently a search was made for Ratan Lal but he was not found. The house of Ratan Lal was searched on 7-4-1953 and a postal receipt regarding deposit of Rs. 570/- on 4-4-1953 in the Post Office and a money order receipt of Rs. 200/- sent on 6-4-1953 just after the dacoity probably out of the looted money, were recovered.

Ratan Lal was arrested on 8-4-1953 while he was coming from the Chief Commissioner's Office. He was tactfully interrogated.

Realising that the game was up Ratan Lal confessed and gave details of the crime. Prem Singh, Shiam Singh, Ganpat, Babu Ram, Prem Pal Singh, Bhupendra Singh and Purshottam Deo Gautam were named as his accomplices in the crime. He further disclosed that the looted money was in the possession of Purshottam Deo Gautam and Prem Singh who were absconding since the commission of the crime.

Prem Singh and Shiam Singh were arrested by the police in dramatic circumstances near the Khurja Railway Station in Bulandshahr district on 10-4-1953. Information was received by the police that Prem Singh and Shiam Singh who had gone towards Etah or Etawah would return on that date by train via Khurja. The police secretly guarded the Khurja Railway Station. Both were located outside the Railway Station about 8.20 p.m. and were arrested. A rifle used in the hold-up, 43 live cartridges of the rifle and currency notes worth Rs. 500/- obviously part of the looted money were recovered from Prem Singh. The rifle which was in working order was examined by an Arms Expert and found to be a .351 bore weapon of the Lyon and Lyon make. Two fired cartridges left behind by the culprits on the scene were after examination found to have been fired by this rifle.

On 12-4-1953 Babu Ram, driver of the car used in the dacoity, was arrested. He vividly narrated the story of the hold-up. At his instance the false number plates fixed on his car which was used in the commission of crime and pieces of tin and paint with which the false number plates were prepared, were recovered. He admitted to have participated in the dacoity which he said was planned by Prem Singh and Bhupendra Singh and was put in operation by Purshottam Deo Gautam, a proclaimed offender in two cases of serious crime. Through him several persons were traced and large sums of money were recovered in consequence. He pointed out various places where he along with his accomplices collected, conspired and had got shelter before and after the commission of the crime. His confession was recorded in jail on 18-4-1953 by a Magistrate. On further information given by Babu Ram, one Janak Singh who used to live with Ratan Lal was traced out and he handed over currency notes worth Rs. 3,000/- which was found to be identifiable money having marking slips of the Bank. They were given to him for safe custody by Ratan Lal who was identified as one of the dacoits.

After the arrest of Babu Ram, Ratan Lal, Prem Singh, Shiam Singh, Prem Pal Singh, and Ganpat, efforts to get Purshottam Deo Gautam were intensified as the major portion of looted property was taken by him. Police records showed that Purshottam Deo Gautam was a man with a chequered career. In 1942 he was in jail as a political prisoner. In 1949 he was a cadet in the Social Service Camp at Faizabad and in 1950 he was under training as Sub-Inspector in the Police Training College, Moradabad. In 1950 he had claimed

to have been elected as Legal Adviser of the Indian National Trade Union Congress of Uttar Pradesh. In 1951 he took part in a Satyagraha movement launched by the Praja Socialist Party in Agra. In 1952 he took part in a labour movement in Jain Glass Works, Hiranau, Agra. In this movement he was arrested and prosecuted under Section 395/148/149 I.P.C. When this case was under trial in court at Agra, he escaped from police custody and absconded from 26-8-1952. A reward of Rs. 500/- was proclaimed for his arrest. Later he became associated with Bhupendra Singh and Prem Pal Singh, students of Aligarh, who used to stay in a room in the ground floor of a Communist Office there. He committed dacoity near Bulandshahr on 2-4-1953 along with Bhupendra Singh, Prem Pal Singh, Prem Singh and others. The arrest of Purshottam Deo Gautam on 20-1-1954 by Station Officer Hathras in a small village Bonai, twelve miles off Hathras, about noon under dramatic circumstances was a rousing climax to this sensational dacoity case.

On 20-1-1954 the Transport Minister, Uttar Pradesh visited Hathras where he was invited to tea by one Raj Kumar Bajpai. While dressed in spotless white khaddar Raj Kumar was entertaining the Minister to tea, the Superintendent of Police, Aligarh, got information that Raj Kumar Bajpai was none other than Purshottam Deo Gautam who was wanted in Bulandshahr Hold-up Case. Raj Kumar Bajpai left Hathras along with the Minister for Bonai village where a meeting was to be addressed by him in connection with Bhudan movement. The Superintendent of Police after consulting the police records and fully satisfying himself that the man posing as Raj Kumar Bajpai was Purshottam Deo Gautam rushed to village Bonai. Gautam was arrested by the Station Officer of Hathras while making a desperate bid to escape.

All the accused were sent up under Section 120-B/395/397 I.P.C. to stand their trial. Babu Ram was made an approver and his evidence describing in detail every stage of the conspiracy and the crime made the case very strong against the accused. Purshottam Deo Gautam was found guilty and sentenced to 10 years R.I. u/s 395/397 I.P.C. Prem Singh and Shiam Singh got a term of 10 years R.I. u/s 395/397 I.P.C. and 4 years R.I. u/s 120-B I.P.C. While Ratan Lal and Ganpat were sentenced to 8 years R.I. u/s 395/397 I.P.C. and 4 years R.I. u/s 120-B I.P.C. Prem Pal Singh accused was convicted u/s 395 I.P.C. to 8 years R.I.

All the accused appealed against their conviction in the High Court, Allahabad. Their appeals came up for hearing in December 1957 and were dismissed by Justice Desai.

SETTLEMENT OF KANJARS IN MADHYA PRADESH

J.C. Dikshit, I.P.S.

KANJARS are a criminal tribe operating mostly in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, U.P. and Bombay State. They also visit places in the Punjab and Andhra. Those in the South are known as Dakshini Kanjars. The word Kanjar is probably derived from the Sanskrit word 'Kananchar' which means wanderer in forest (Kanane charanti te kanancharah).

Kanjars and Sansis are reported to be camp followers and guerillas of medieval chieftains who when they found that warring was no longer a paying pastime with the advent of British regime took to a nomadic way of life.

The Kanjars of Malwa in Madhya Pradesh are reported to have migrated here from Mewar along with Gujars about the time of famine in the year 1899 and lived mostly on begging. They also called themselves Mangtas of Gujars. The females used to go about begging and showing physical feats accompanied by their males who played on drum. They had no land in Mewar. Malwa being a fertile tract they did not return to Mewar after the famine. Being wanderers without homes and land and being heavy drunkards and given to thieving they became a nuisance to the peasants as they pilfered their crops and committed burglaries and cattle thefts while their cattle freely damaged the crops of the peasants.

They are also known by different names as Bijoria Nats, Kabutari Nats, Bhanmatas and Banchchadas in different parts of the country.

Basing their mode of life on thieving and pilfering the Kanjars became hard and bold, sure of eye and swift in striking and getting away. The traditions handed down through generations hardened them and they began to commit offences of more serious nature. They began terrorising country folks by robbing their crop and goats. They assaulted villagers returning to their homes from market towns and robbed them of their belongings and snatched ornaments from the women and children.

Kanjars in India may be roughly classified in two groups (1) those who have some fixed abode or are settled in Government settlements but who periodically proceed on raids often to great distances and live on their ill-gotten wealth and (2) those who still continue their vagrant gypsy-like life.

The main type of offences committed by Kanjars are (1) dacoity, (2) highway robbery, (3) house-breaking and (4) thefts including cattle thefts. In Kanjar dacoities, the *modus operandi* is mostly uniform. Before starting for a raid they usually get complete information about the topography of the village they propose to raid through their informers. Then they visit their priest and consult him regarding the most auspicious time for the commission of the offence. After offering the sacrifice of a fowl to the diety they get heavily drunk and start for the exertion, armed with lathis, farsas and fire-arms. Their women do not accompany the raiding party. The selection of the day is also important. It is usually 2-3 days after the full moon. They usually reach the village at dusk time, catch hold of an innocent villager and compel him to show the house they have to raid. On reaching the place they fire a few shots in the air and throw stones along the streets by means of slings. Thus after scaring away the villagers they start looting. While looting they do not leave even small things. They are very fond of eatables. They also soil the ground at the spot. They believe that by doing so, they will not be caught.

After committing the offence they leave for their abode. On the way they commit as many dacoities and robberies as they can. The time is so adjusted that they get the advantage of moonlight during their escape. On reaching their abodes they hand over the property to their women-folk. On return from a campaign there is usually big feasting and heavy drinking.

The road dacoities and robberies are usually committed on bazar days at dusk time when persons returning from markets are deprived of their belongings and cash. They usually start on their campaigns after Dasahra when crops are standing in fields providing them good hiding places.

They commit house-breaking by means of Bagli and Khan nakabs. Some of them have also taken to gimlet, window-bar-wrenching and roof cutting. They slip their hands through the small openings left in doors, windows, etc., and are also skilful in sliding off the locks and chains. They are experts in removing ornaments from the person of sleeping women and children. When moving with their camp during the day they enter a village in the afternoon and break up into small groups. Some members of the gang keep the villagers occupied with a display of acrobatic feats while the remaining members of the gang enter the houses by breaking lock and remove cash and jewellery. Their favourite instrument used in house-breaking is a 'Khanta' which is like a scythe. This is conveniently used by them for cutting also.

Theft is a kind of sport and pastime for the Kanjars. Even their women and children commit thefts. The boys are trained in committing thefts from an early age. The boys are given training

in cattle thefts by asking them to lift small stray goats. A thorn is pierced in the tongue of the goat to prevent it from bleating.

They are heavy drunkards and very fond of meat. They freely commit cattle thefts. They are very adept in stealing stray animals from grazing grounds. Stolen sheep or goats are immediately killed and consumed while bigger animals are sold at distant markets.

Kanjars are very swift in their movements. After committing a series of offences in quick succession they immediately move on. They are rapid travellers and when pressed cover as much as 40 miles in one night.

Their women play a very important role in the disposal of stolen property. The property is usually buried in the jungles away from their camp. Only the women know the spot. According to their requirement the property is dug out and passed on to the receivers in whom they have implicit faith. In case of arrest of male members the women engage lawyers and fight the cases.

In each camp the head of it is a woman known as "Patelan" who directs their activities and looks after their interests when they are in jail or absconding.

Kanjar is a specially hardened criminal. When arrested he is never easily broken. Even third degree methods have little effect on them. For this they are trained from early boyhood. The father would often beat a son mercilessly and keep him tied and without food for days, just to toughen and harden him.

Their language is a queer mixture of Marwadi and Gujrathi. They speak Hindi with a peculiar Rajasthani accent. The men are tough and wild looking. They have a Marwadi countenance, a good physique and a fair complexion. Their costume consists of Safa, Kurta and a Dhoti. Some of them have started wearing khaki shorts and shirts while committing dacoities and robberies. The women are good-looking but very dirty. Their dress consists of pyjama, kurta and an odhni. They are tattooed on the nose, chin, temples and arms. They are very quarrelsome and often indulge in grossly abusive language.

Kanjars are Hindus by religion and are of Rajput stock. They consider themselves to be descendants of 'Manguru' whom they worship as their God. They are akin to Sansis and intermarry with Bedias.

Kanjar problem of Madhya Pradesh is not of recent growth. Criminal tendencies have deep root in their social traditions. They have been carrying on criminal activities since time immemorial. To prevent free depredations of these lawless looters the Criminal Tribes Act was enacted. For years, this act was a great aid to the Police administration. Under this act, they were compelled to stay in criminal settlements where a strict watch was kept on their movements and activities. The settlements however did not bring about any

reformation in their habits and they continued to live on crime by sneaking away from the settlements whenever they got an opportunity. Although one of the objects of these settlements was to reform them, the object could not be achieved due to half-hearted measures taken at that time and because of their traditional instinct towards a life of crime inherited through generations. With the attainment of independence and the passing of Indian Constitution the discriminatory treatment given to criminal tribes could not continue. There was a general out-cry for the abolition of all discriminatory laws, as a result of which the Criminal Tribes Act was abrogated.

The abolition of the Act, although it was with the pious idea of bringing them to the level of other citizens of India, instead of improving their status gave them a free license to commit depredations. The repeal of the Act followed by abolition of all criminal settlements without any effort on the part of the Government to rehabilitate them, only vivified the old instinct of crime which they committed with redoubled vigour. It has been observed that during the last few years they systematically started their depredations with such vehemence that all the labour put in by the criminal tribes settlements appeared to have been a waste.

Strict measures were taken against the criminal tribes in the pre-independence period. A large number of these Kanjars and Sansis were settled in criminal settlements and brought under severe watch. Most of them escaped from these settlements and began to live on the borders of different States. They also bribed local unscrupulous officials to secure their connivance and started living entirely on crime. It has come to notice that a number of small chieftains and unscrupulous officers actually provided them with arms and encouraged them to commit dacoities and robberies. The Sunars, Kalals and petty merchants helped them in the disposal of the stolen property. The result was that they became very formidable. Thus emboldened and encouraged they began to raid the neighbouring states and started committing dacoities and robberies on a large scale.

In Madhya Pradesh the field of their operations extended mainly to Dewas, Ratlam, Ujjain, Mandsaur, Shajapur, Rajgarh, Sehore and Indore districts. They also penetrated into far away districts in the south and committed many offences. In Dewas district alone out of 588 property offences committed in 1955, 228 were suspected to have been committed by Kanjars. Similarly in 1956, of the 618 property offences, 359 were committed by Kanjars. A large number of dacoities, robberies and murders were also assigned to them. In 1952 a big dacoity was committed by the gang of Hazari and Rugga Kanjars at village Hasalpur, Indore district in which considerable property was removed. In 1954 a gang of Kanjars led by Sardaria and Bhuria fired at the sentry in the P.S. Betma (Dis-

trict Indore) and after overpowering the guard removed all the arms and ammunition. After this they committed a dacoity in the house of a local goldsmith and absconded with considerable amount of property consisting of ornaments and cash. It was felt that in more than 50 per cent of the offences committed in some of these districts Kanjars alone were concerned.

Alarmed at this sudden outburst of criminal activities of Kanjars, the Government decided to take strong and firm action against them. A conference of all District Superintendents of Police whose districts were affected by depredations of Kanjars was held under the presidentship of Shri B. A. Sharma, D.I.G., Ujjain in 1955 and it was decided to take strong measures against the Kanjar gangs. As a result of this a number of raids were organised against them in Dewas, Shajapur, Ujjain and Ratlam districts. As a number of Kanjars operating in this area were also coming from Jhalawar-Chitor districts of Rajasthan a similar conference was arranged at Udaipur with D.I.G., Udaipur and raids were also organised in Rajasthan area. As a result of these raids a number of Kanjar gangs were captured while some of them left the area. In 1957 the raids were continued, gangs were constantly chased, intensive combing out operations and patrolling followed, large scale raids on all places of halting and hideouts were organised together with systematic watch on their harbourers. Kanjars became desperate. They were being constantly chased. They lost contacts with their families. Some of them fled to distant places away from their homes. Even under these conditions they did not lose an opportunity to strike whenever they found police vigilance slackened.

A stage was reached when it had to be decided whether there was any other way to wean away this hardy tribe from the path of violence and crime. Modern Penology holds that man is a product of his environment and that nobody is born a criminal. If a person or a tribe has criminal propensities, the cases of such mental aberration should be properly analysed and rectified before penal action is decided upon against them. Such a course would need a complete change in the outlook of the persons who were dealing with the problem. It would also need the cooperation of various other departments of the Government like the Revenue, Tribal welfare and the social welfare.

It was, therefore, decided to make a new approach to this problem. It was decided to persuade them to settle down to peaceful way of life to make them realise the futility of the kind of life they were leading and to reform them economically, socially and culturally so that they could live as good responsible citizens.

Although several attempts were made in the past to settle them they had not met with any measure of success, firstly due to half-hearted measures taken by the authorities and lack of sincerity

on the part of some officers and secondly due to the fact that Kanjars themselves did not desire to settle down. Pursued and cornered from all sides they realised that they could not continue for long under the present conditions and the only way to escape total annihilation was to reform themselves by changing their mode of life. Attempts were, therefore, made through informers and officers of Social Welfare Department to contact the members of absconding Kanjar gangs and to persuade them to surrender. As a result of these efforts on 8-4-57 at Ratlam information was received that some Kanjars who had been absconding since 1954 and were wanted by the Police in connection with Betma dacoity of Indore district in which the P.S. was looted and some other dacoity cases of district Ujjain, Shajapur, Mandsaur and Ratlam were prepared to surrender. It was said that they wanted certain assurances before their surrender and that they were prepared to discuss the terms if I went to P.S. Tal, District Ratlam along with the District Superintendent of Police and the informers and met them. I discussed the question of surrender with them and gave them the following assurances:

- (1) That the persons who surrendered and would be taken into custody will not be ill-treated while in custody.
- (2) The relatives of those who surrender will not be harassed or ill-treated by the Police for recovery of property etc.
- (3) Their relations will be given full facilities to meet them while they are in custody.
- (4) They would be given all legal help to defend themselves and as far as possible they would not be moved from place to place for the purpose of investigation.

I also promised them that after their release, they would be given all facilities to settle down to peaceful ways of life.

After getting these assurances eight Kanjars led by Sardaria and Bhuria surrendered themselves at Tonk Kala, district Dewas, at a special function attended by the Governor, M.P. They were formally arrested and brought to Indore. The Kanjars promised that if they were given proper treatment the other Kanjars who were absconding for a long time and were wanted in connection with other offences in the area would also be willing to surrender.

The officers in charge of the investigation of the cases were strictly warned to see that the arrested Kanjars were not kept in chains and that all the promises given to them were to be fully and properly respected.

During the investigation of the cases against these Kanjars it was found that the evidence collected was not so strong as would lead to certain conviction. In most of the cases no property or other weapons could be recovered from the surrendered Kanjars. Since these persons were absconding for a number of years the identification



Shri B. R. Mandloi, Minister for Revenue, Madhya Pradesh, declaring open the house constructed at Tonk-Kala near Dewas, for settling the Kanjars.

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parades also produced poor results. Other evidence collected against them was also not very strong. A decision was, therefore, taken to drop all the cases against them and release them after getting them bound over u/s 110 Cr. P.C. for one year.

Efforts were also made in cooperation with the Revenue and Tribal Welfare departments to allot them land and settle them to peaceful ways.

The action taken against these Kanjars after their surrender had a very salutary effect on them. Satisfied with the treatment they received at the hands of the Police, a batch of 10 absconding Kanjars of district Dewas and Shajapur led by the notorious Haraji and Pancham surrendered themselves unconditionally on 13-10-57 at Tonk Kala, at a special function attended by the Chief Minister, M.P. Soon after another batch of 10 absconding Kanjars of Shajapur also surrendered unconditionally before the D.S.P., Shajapur.

These surrenders had unprecedented effect on the crime situation in these districts and the criminal activities of Kanjars were almost completely stopped in the area. Not a single dacoity, murder, robbery or other heinous offence has been committed by Kanjars in these districts after their surrender. There was considerable fall in the total number of house-breakings and not with one of them could Kanjars be connected. Before their surrender, the Kanjars were a serious menace in this State. Thousands of rupees were wasted every year on the raids apart from waste of time and energy. The police force had also been considerably demoralised by their depredations. Their surrender combined with the humane treatment given to them and efforts made by the Government to resettle them had a magic-like effect on these hard and tough criminals, who now appear to have decided to lead a peaceful life like other law-abiding citizens.

The efforts made to rehabilitate and settle them may be enumerated as follows:

(1) Fertile land up to 70-80 Bighas has been given to each family together with a pair of bullocks and agricultural implements; Takabi loans have also been given for building houses and digging wells.

(2) Children of Kanjars have been given facilities for free education and boarding. A number of scholarships have been given to the children and some of them have been admitted in public schools like Scindhia School, Daly College and Malhar-Ashram. Adult education classes have also been started at several places.

(3) A number of centres of social, cultural and economic uplift have been started in Dewas, Ratlam and Shajapur districts, where adult members along with their children are given vocational training. Allowances are given to them for their work with a view to educating them in handicraft and home industries.

(4) Kanjar Panchayats have been organised where members

lected from the community decide disputes of their community and take various other measures for improving their economic and social conditions and making them good citizens.

(5) A number of co-operative societies have also been opened to look after their economic welfare.

(6) Common-rooms, Akhadas, Recreation rooms etc., have been provided at various centres equipped with musical instruments and radio-sets.

All these measures have greatly facilitated the work of the Police and the Kanjars are definitely showing a trend to peaceful way of life. It will however be incorrect to expect a miraculous change at this stage. The traditions and conventions of centuries are not overcome easily. It is possible that tendencies to relapse into occasional criminal activities may still persist and there may be occasional lapses on their part. They will have to be dealt with with patience, sympathy and forbearance and efforts to reform them should be continued with religious and missionary zeal. It may take even a generation or two to reform them completely and to convert them into peaceful and law-abiding citizens.

If the efforts are continued in a proper manner it is certain that in course of time they will give up their criminal tendencies and resort to peaceful ways. What is necessary in this respect is to bring about a psychological change in their outlook which can be achieved by sympathetic treatment and education. It has been observed that the villagers where Kanjars are settled, are still suspicious of them and do not take to them kindly. They still refuse to give them employment. They would rather allow their fields to go unattended than allow a Kanjar to work for them. Confidence in Kanjars has to be established, at the same time constant efforts made to educate the Kanjars with a view to developing civic sense and sense of responsibility in them.

My goal is friendship with the world, and I can combine the greatest love with the greatest opposition to wrong.

—M. K. Gandhi

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH AN ACTIVE SECURITY DEPARTMENT

H.J. Moll

Amsterdam Municipal Security Division.

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THE Amsterdam Security Division is unique in Holland in possessing a special "trackers" branch composed of ten teams of two men, responsible to a police officer.

This branch has been in existence for a good many years. The task of the trackers is to catch thieves on the scene of the crime and then to see that those they catch red-handed are brought to justice. They are free to carry out their task as they think best, but this freedom entails arduous duties because of the circumstances of each case and because of the competitive spirit existing, naturally enough, among the different teams.

It has been estimated that from 300 to 400 suspects were arrested in Amsterdam by the "trackers" during the years before the last war. At least 150 of them were caught red-handed and these arrests led to the others. Consequently, during that period, the one thing criminals feared was to fall into our nets. The trackers formed the one element of surprise in the police force.

Trackers do not always follow their suspects; on certain occasions they wait, either inside a building or out of doors, so that they can catch their "victim" in the act. These tactics can be compared to those of the spider sitting in its net and waiting for its prey, and they are used particularly in places where bicycles are often stolen, around Post Offices, hospitals, and libraries, etc.

The two inspectors work together perfectly as a team, whether following their suspects on foot, on bicycles, in cars or in trucks. As a rule they wear ordinary clothes and do not often disguise themselves or use masks. They have, however, been known on very rare occasions, generally at dawn or at dusk, to disguise themselves as women.

Here is an account of a case they were able to bring to a satisfactory conclusion.

Four inspectors of the Security division had spent their evening and nights watching the villas in the southern part of Amsterdam, either from cars or from bicycles for the past few months, as a considerable number of thefts had been reported in this area. On one or two occasions they felt that they had achieved some small measure of

success, but the thefts would soon begin again and would recur at regular intervals. The inspectors' task was not made any easier by the ingenious methods used by the thieves. The latter would pick on what seemed the most difficult buildings or houses to break into, but once inside, would lock or barricade the entry so that, even if the inhabitants returned unexpectedly, they would not be caught unawares.

A journalist, writing in one of the country's popular daily papers nicknamed one of these burglars "the Flea"—in view, no doubt, of his success at scaling seemingly impossible heights—and we promptly began to call him by the same name.

The thefts, on which we could shed no light but which must have been the work of the "Flea" and of his friends continued. From time to time, one of my colleagues or the head of our division would (with the best intentions in the world) ask the four inspectors on the case whether they had arrested the "Flea" yet. These solicitous inquiries hurt their pride and made them all the more ready to sacrifice family life and, indeed, all forms of relaxation, to their task.

One of them finally discovered a young man named Frans who, it seemed, might really turn out to be the "Flea". By means of careful and systematic watching, they had managed to discover where he lived. He had found a good hide-out in a small hotel with two exits, one leading into the street and the other at the back of the building. Little by little, they discovered more about Frans. His accomplice it appeared was another young man of 20, called Goof, who lived in the western part of the town and was already slightly known to the police. In his hotel, Frans was living with a woman of 37, called Amalia, who kept a cafe and who might almost have been his mother—indeed her own eldest son was 13 years old.

Frans, Goof and Amalia seemed relatively well-off. They frequently spent large sums of money on luxury articles. In addition, they often took taxis or hired cars. Frans and Goof were bad drivers (neither of them had a licence) and it seems miraculous that they were never involved in an accident during any of their trips through the town.

Before taking you to the "Royal" cinema, dear reader, to see the film "Bitter Rice" which is now showing, there are a few further details I should add. First, follow me towards the hotel in which Frans and Amalia are living, at about 7 o'clock on a certain evening. From our hiding place we can see—without being seen—the car our two friends have hired. An hour's wait, and then Frans and Goof emerge from the hotel and get into the car. After a few unsuccessful attempts, they manage to start the engine and drive off to the western part of the town where they park and take a good look at their surroundings. After a certain time, Frans and Goof leave the car and begin groping along the wall of a house, trying to open the shutters of an air-shaft. Their

attempt must have been vain, for they return to the car empty-handed and, so far, innocent of any offence.

The car starts up again and we follow them down several different streets, stopping finally in front of a building, the entrance of which is at the top of a flight of stone steps. Our two boys climb these steps and are hidden from our sight for a few seconds. When they re-appear, they get into the car and start off again. Much later on, we discovered that they had tried to break into the house. They had torn out the hinges of the glass window above the door but had not succeeded in forcing open the door itself which was securely bolted.

We set off behind our friends again—this time towards the centre of the town. They parked beside a bridge and walked towards a street which, as it happened to be a Saturday night, was full of crowds. Alas! at this point, we lost sight of them and decided to retrace our steps, back to where their car was parked. After an hour we saw them return. There was nothing suspicious in their behaviour; they drove back to the hotel, unaware that we were still following them. Another wait of about an hour, and then Goof emerged, hailed a taxi and was driven home.

On the next day, Sunday, we found out what Frans and Goof had been doing in that crowded street the night before. They had made their way down a narrow alley beside the "Royal" cinema and, from there, had climbed on to its roof. Once on top of the cinema, they tied a rope to the cornice irons and slid down it into a building 30 feet below where they stole about 2,000 guilders in cash.

What were we to do next? We felt that our best plan would be to wait for another opportunity to catch them red-handed. We decided to mark time.

Two more inspectors were added to the team, and the game began once more. We soon found that our suspects were spending a great deal of money again—probably the profits of their last adventure. We watched and followed their movement patiently.

A few days later, we noticed Frans and Amalia going to the "Royal" to see "Bitter Rice", a film containing any amount of crime, passion and theft. On the following night, we were amazed to see that Frans went to the cinema again, this time with Goof. The film had already been showing for half an hour when they went in. They had spent some time beforehand contemplating a restaurant further down the road, separated from the cinema by about five buildings. We kept our eyes glued to the cinema exit. The two accomplices and Amalia came out, one after the other, and made their way back to the hotel, separately.

We took council at once: could they have entered the building next to the cinema as they did the week before? No time to lose! As soon as the film began again, we went into the "Royal" and, by dint of climbing up narrow staircases and sliding through ventilator

shafts, we reached the roof. Up there we found ourselves in a howling storm, without our overcoats. What is more, we were in constant danger of slipping off the wet tiles. And, what if the neighbours should take us for thieves? This danger was a real one, as we found shortly! Before we could set to work, we saw two men on the roof of one of the nearby buildings. They were shouting; "Police! Stop, or we'll shoot!"

What had happened? The owner of the restaurant we mentioned had been warned by neighbours, who knew that the family was away, that lights were on in the top floors of his house. He rushed home and found that burglars had been in. As quickly as possible, he informed the nearest police station. A detective was sent and it was he, who, with the owner of the restaurant, was threatening us from the roof. By shouting very loudly we managed to convince them of the reasons for our presence and the misunderstanding, very natural in the circumstances, was cleared up.

Without wasting a moment, we rushed to the hotel.

Fourteen hundred guilders, which the owner of the restaurant had borrowed to pay for his licence, had been stolen. Frans, Goof and Amalia had to be apprehended as soon as possible.

Easier said than done! For the two inspectors who had been detailed to guard the hotel had disappeared. Could this mean that, in the meantime, the two thieves had also left? In cases like this, when inspectors are working in a group and when, for some unforeseen reason, the various teams are not longer in contact, they are advised to telephone to the head of the Security department, at the central police station, and to inform him of all that has occurred. We followed this advice and learnt that our two colleagues were in a certain road in the centre of the town.

There we found them and there, much later in the evening, we were able to arrest the trio. We took them by surprise, and, after a rapid search (they might have been carrying arms), they were taken separately to the police station. The whole operation was carried out so smoothly that passers-by did not even realise what was happening. Amalia and the two boys, however, had the surprise of their lives. At the police station, it transpired that Frans and Goof, between them, had a thousand guilders and that Amalia had four hundred on her.

We might add that, during their first theft, from the building beside the cinema, they had set off a burglar alarm which started the siren blowing. They had taken to their heels at once and had mingled in the crowd, watching the police at work with great interest!

During subsequent interrogations, they admitted that they had carried out eighteen thefts of this type and had unsuccessfully attempted several others.

ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC IN INDIA—II

M.B. Chande

Bombay Police.

Source of Opium:

Under a District Opium Officer there is one Inspector, assisted by one peon, who is generally called the Preventive Patwari to collect intelligence and prevent embezzlement of opium by the licensed cultivators. His job is mainly to find out if more area, other than that specified in the license granted by the District Opium Officer under section eight of the Opium Act of India, 1857, has been cultivated and all the opium obtained from capsules is sold by the cultivators to Government. The staff of a District Opium Officer is inadequate. The main source of supply of opium to smugglers is the cultivators of all the opium growing areas in India, who, however honest they may be, do sell opium to smugglers at almost the double rate offered by Government while purchasing opium from them. (The Government rate of the purchase of opium varies from Rs. 33 to Rs. 37.) These cultivators arrange to keep back some opium for selling to smugglers at the time of the "lanceting operations" as it is physically impossible for the District Opium Officer and his assistants, however much they may try, to supervise the "lanceting operations" at all the places and at all the times. Another reason why proper control is not feasible is that at the time of the assessment and weighing of opium they have to take into consideration the climatic vagaries affecting good yield of opium, and they have, thus, no other alternative but to purchase whatever opium is brought voluntarily by the farmers to sell to Government.

To ward off the danger of embezzlement of opium, the Opium Department used to give rewards to those cultivators who brought for sale six seers or above per bigah of opium to Government. The reward was a bonus of Rs. 5/- per seer of opium. As this did not give the desired effect in stopping embezzlement of opium and it was an additional drain on the finance of the Opium Department, Government have stopped this practice since 1952.

Unlicensed cultivation is not a common offence that is being committed and the only possibility is of cultivation of slightly more land than what has been licensed. Therefore, the scope

of embezzlement and illegal disposal of opium continued to exist and if this is stopped, smuggling can be arrested and even rooted out.

The arrangement of security at the opium factories is so adequate that it is not possible to misappropriate opium and sell it in the black market. Therefore, the opium factories are not a source of opium to the smugglers. A secondary channel of supply of opium to the illicit market can be through the diversion of the "Excise" opium drawn from the Central Government Opium Factories by the State Governments for legal sale to consumers in India through licensed opium vendors for quasi-medicinal purposes.

The rules governing the sale of opium are not uniform in the States. From what is found in Simla, Ujjain, Delhi and other places, it is possible for a person to purchase opium at one time from any quantity up to one tola and no sales of opium are entered in the registers by opium vendors, who only show the opening and the closing balances with them. It is also not possible to enter all the sales in the registers by opium vendors. This defective system permits the purchase or sale of opium by or to any individual customer in any quantity on various occasions. In spite of this loophole in the preventive system, the excise opium does not go very much into the hands of smugglers on account of its prohibitive prices. That is for one seer of opium one has to pay Rs. 400/- or thereabout by purchasing it from a licensed vendor (this will vary from State to State) whereas if he were to purchase it from opium cultivators or from smugglers, he would have to pay from Rs. 60/- to Rs. 100/- in the opium-growing tracts.

Traffic in opium:

With the total or partial prohibition of opium in some of the States of India, and the annual cut of 10 per cent which has been consistently applied to the supply of excise opium to the States since 1949, the illicit price of opium in the internal market has increased, and is so nearly equal to the price offered by the overseas buyers that the traffickers have no great incentive left to seek export markets. In Assam and Bombay, where there is total prohibition of opium, the demand is the greatest. The trafficking of opium is both of an internal and international nature. The internal traffic is to supply opium to:—

(1) The States of Assam and Bombay, (2) Addicts of various other States. The international traffic is to supply opium to foreign countries through custom posts and across the frontiers. The trend of illicit traffic in opium can be analysed under the following heads:—

- (1) Supplying centres.
- (2) Dumping centres.

(1) Supplying centres:—Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

The supplying centres are: Ujjain, Shamgarh, Mahidpur, Jhalawan Road, Mahidpur Road, Ramganj Mandi, Jaura, Mamdam, Chittorgarh Road, Ratlam Agar, Gerath, Neemuch and Dewas. Particularly in Ujjain and Ratlam, smuggling of opium is the greatest in this area. From Ujjain opium is smuggled to Bombay, Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and many other places in India. All ingenious methods to carry opium are adopted. The most commonly known are: false bottoms or secret chambers of trunks or bags screwed with the side strings of the trunk or bags in such a way that even a clever observer cannot detect this device before unscrewing the strings, false bottoms or secret chambers of buckets, cars, hollow frames of furniture, radio, excavated cavities in bulky books, etc. Some times women carriers are employed. These women wear "Ghagra" or loose skirts and tie about six to eight seers of opium around their waists underneath their skirts. Smuggling is carried by railway, road, etc. While smuggling opium through railway, opium is concealed between various layers of commodities contained in the parcels. In Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the most favourite method of smuggling opium is by privately owned cars which are invariably registered under different names, and the occupants, who are well dressed, use false numbers to escape detection. The routes taken by them are: Bombay-Agra Road; Kotah-Delhi-Ajmer Road; Indore-Dhulia-Bombay Road and Ajmer-Jaipur-Delhi Road. The rail routes are: Ratlam, Ujjain, Indore, Mhow, Khandwa, Bhopal, Bina, Kotah, Bharatpur, Chittorgarh, Ajmer and Marwar junctions. Sometimes the fashionably dressed fellow travelling in upper class by railway carries the dope with him in his baggage. In fact, there is no saying that a particular modus operandi or a particular community would be involved in smuggling, and the smugglers adopt all possible but ingenious ruses. As the smuggling is done by dignified looking persons, a constable or even a head constable on road barrier, railway train or railway station or customs barrier duty may not ordinarily summon courage to question and search the smugglers unless he has definite information about smuggling.

The dumping centres are: Ujjain, Agra, Jaura, Indore, Mahidpur, Ratlam, Dewas and Shamgarh. Opium is generally stored in a cavity in walls, and to ward off the strong smell of opium the contraband is packed in oil cloth, and papers, and perfumes or naphthalene balls are used. The cavity of wall is plastered ingeniously to escape detection.

Punjab:—Patiala, Surmur, Sangrur and Samma Mandi in Pepsu, and Ludhiana, Ambala, Jullundur, Simla and Amritsar

in Punjab are the places from where opium is suspected to have been smuggled out of India. Smuggling here is not as intensive as in Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan.

Uttar Pradesh:—It is also a base for smuggling opium to Punjab, West Bengal and Assam. The places are: Rampur, Bareilly and Jhalabad. The smugglers are also known to operate from Banaras, Ghazipur, Azamgarh and Balia. The opium is generally smuggled through railway trains by carriers travelling in upper classes in a dignified manner. At times the rivers and canals are also used.

Himachal Pradesh:—It supplies opium to smugglers from Rajgarh, Rainka, Rampur, Rahru and Katkhai.

Of all these smuggling centres Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are the most important for the obvious reasons that this tract is rich in opium and not only centrally situated in India, but also very well connected both by rail and road to all the important States and cities in India where opium is demanded by addicts at any cost. The smugglers have invariably some ostensible business to cover smuggling of opium and a good financial backing.

(2) **Dumping Centres:**—

The technique of the gangs is to exploit the weakness in the preventive machinery of the States, which are centrally situated and which they choose to use as dumping centres. From these dumping centres opium is supplied to various places. The cities of Delhi, Hyderabad and Mysore are generally used as dumping centres for both internal and international gangs. From Delhi opium is sent to Calcutta (even planes are used), Assam, Madras and Hyderabad in parcels by rail. The opium is concealed in various goods and packed in the containers. Hyderabad is an important dumping centre where crude opium brought from Malwa is supplied to various gangs operating in Vijayawada, Rajahmundry, Visakhapatnam, Madras, etc.

International smuggling:—

No regular rackets in international smuggling have come to notice. At the ports of Bombay and Calcutta a few cases of opium smuggling by sailors from the Far Eastern countries like Malaya, China, etc., were detected by the Port Customs Authorities. Price of opium in foreign countries ranges from Rs. 1,000/- to Rs. 1,200/- per seer and it is suspected that a small quantity of opium is smuggled by sailors, mostly to U.S.A., U.K., Persian Gulf countries, Africa, Australia, Malaya, Singapore, Penang and Burma. This is also a bartered trade and no foreign agent in India has come to notice.

Illegal import into India is sometimes from the Kachin tracts and the Shan States of Burma. This is very rare and is localised to Assam only, where it is smuggled across the Ledo border. A number

of cases of smuggling of opium from Pakistan to India through land borders have however come to notice in the past two years.

Profits:—The illicit price in opium during 1957 ranged from Rs. 400/- to Rs. 1,000/- per seer in wholesale and from Rs. 400/- to Rs. 1,280/- in retail. This would give an idea about the enormous profits, which the smugglers are making. They generally purchase opium from the cultivators at a rate between Rs. 60/- to Rs. 100/- per seer, and sell it at a rate between Rs. 400/- to Rs. 1,000/- per seer.

Illicit traffic in Cannabis

The three forms of cannabis known in India are:

1. Bhang, i.e., the leaves and small stalks of the hemp plant (*cannabis sativa* L),
2. Ganja, which is the flowering or fruiting tops of the same plants, and
3. Charas, i.e., the resin secreted by or obtained from the cannabis plant, which has not been submitted to any manipulations.

Of these, the consumption of charas is totally prohibited in India. Ganja is cultivated in certain States under Government supervision and sold to consumers in areas in which its consumption has not so far been prohibited through licensed shops. Bhang is also sold through licensed shops. Every State has fixed limits upto which these drugs, i.e., ganja and bhang may be possessed by an individual.

Exports of Indian cannabis to other countries are practically unknown. Likewise there are no imports of bhang which grows wild in some parts of the Indian sub-continent.

Manufactured drugs:

The two principal drugs which find their way into the illicit traffic in India are Morphine and its salts and Cocaine. Morphine is manufactured in the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur, while Cocaine is imported from foreign countries.

International illicit traffic in cocaine which at one time had assumed serious proportions is thinning. Its imports, even for medical and scientific purposes have steadily declined because with the discovery of a number of alternative synthetic drugs, its use in quite a large number of diseases has become obsolete. The diversion of this drug into illicit channels takes place from Registered Medical Practitioners and prescriptions are issued by some unscrupulous medical practitioners in return for a monetary consideration received directly from the addicts or traffickers or from the licensed chemists who manage to divert the stocks so saved into illicit channels.

In this illicit racket, the activities of certain firms of Delhi and Punjab attracted a good deal of attention and were made the subject of specific references by the Narcotics Intelligence Bureau to the Delhi and Punjab Governments. Enquiries made in Delhi have established that there existed a regular racket in the matter of cocaine smuggling in Delhi which has since been effectively curbed. As a result of this enquiry, the Delhi State have taken a number of important decisions on their future policy regarding the possession and allotment, etc., of cocaine hydro-chloride.

In the Punjab also suitable action has been initiated by the Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Punjab and the licenses held by the offending firms have been cancelled.

Eleven cases of illicit possession of cocaine involving a quantity of 1 seer 11 tolas and 22 gms. (1.06 kgms) were detected during 1957.

Morphine and its salts, as already stated, are manufactured by the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur which supplies them to licensed chemists on the strength of permits issued by the State Excise authorities. The security arrangements made by the Works are very nearly foolproof and there is little possibility of any diversion into illicit channels taking place from there. The potential sources of leakage are (i) licensed chemists and registered medical practitioners, and (ii) manufacturing premises, i.e., firms licensed to convert the drug into tablets and ampoules, etc. During 1956 a good deal of attention came to be paid to the illicit traffic in morphine prevailing in the State of Punjab where a number of medical practitioners were found to be prescribing morphine for addicts.

Nine cases involving a quantity of 19 tolas and 81 gms. (.226 kgms.) and 163 ampoules were detected during 1957.

POLICE HOUSING

Whichever way you look at it, you will come to the conclusion that efficient police work depends to an appreciable extent on adequate housing. If there are enough quarters for the staff, there is less of indiscipline or discontent, less trouble and worry to find accommodation on transfer. There is more efficiency because the staff can be collected quickly, can move to duty early, can live a healthy life, and participate in games and find healthy relaxation.

NARSING RAO DIKSHIT,
Deputy Minister, Home,
Madhya Pradesh.

A PROMPT CHARGE-SHEET

D. D. Narain

Vice-Principal, Central Detective Training School, Calcutta.

ONE evening, complainant from a distant village came and reported that his son aged about 8-9 years was missing from the village. He had been seen in the village till about 12 or 1 p.m. The matter was entered in the Station Diary and the complainant, who was agitated and nervous, was pacified with sweet words and told of the various possibilities and asked to wait for the night and report again, if he did not return or was not traced. Meanwhile, instructions were issued to the village Police to look out for the missing boy.

The next day, at about 10 a.m., the complainant presented himself again at the Police Station and reported that his son had not yet been traced nor any clue obtained. He also disclosed that he had some dispute with his agnate and, therefore, suspected that the boy might have met with some serious mishap, as the person with whom he was last seen belonged to the family of his agnate with whom he had dispute. Some premonition guided me not to dismiss his report and I thought of instituting a case of murder, since he said that he was now hundred per cent sure that his son must have been killed. I accordingly instituted a case under S. 302 I.P.C.

When I proceeded about a mile off the Police Station, I saw a person coming towards me from the opposite direction, who asked me to stop. He handed me a chit which was from a respectable person of the village whom I knew. The chit stated that he suspected a dead body floating in a well. The premonition was thus proving true.

Reaching the village, I hurried with the complainant, the village chowkidar and some respectable persons to the well. This was a well, situated in a field away from the residential part of the village and was meant solely for watering the sugar cane field. The sugar cane crop all around it concealed this well from view apart from its being at a secluded place. The dead body was definitely of the boy and due to its being in water, the skin was peeling off at places which one could easily mistake for abrasions. The body was also slightly swollen and was floating face downwards like a tortoise, the back being visible from the above. The water in the well was very nearly filling the well, leaving hardly 4-5 feet from the top.

The corpse was taken out and the inquest held. Signs of drowning were not at all present. What was the cause of death? Nothing could have been known till post-mortem was held, had not something

happened which will be disclosed in its proper place. The complainant and others however, pointed out that his gold Tabiz was missing from his neck. This could not have fallen out unless somebody had taken it out.

Evidence came up that the boy was seen with his cousin, a robust lad aged about 18 years. This boy in question (Baidyanath Singh) admitted that the deceased boy was with him but had left his company and gone towards his home. He pointed out the place where he had parted. This was in the residential side of the village. But the demeanour of this lad was suspicious.

Practically all persons were questioned about the movement of these two persons. Ultimately in about a couple of hours, a witness was found who proved that this lad's statement was false as he had seen him going away from that place and towards the sugar cane field with the deceased boy when he (witness) was coming on a bullock cart. He also narrated and showed the place where he had actually seen them and stated how he had asked the suspect to put the yoke on his bullock which had thrown it away and which the suspect did. This place was farther away from the place which the suspect had shown as the place where he had parted company with the boy and was towards the field where the dead body was found.

Meanwhile it transpired that recently, once, while a drama was going on in the village, a little boy sitting by the side of the suspect was later discovered in the morning to have been deprived of his gold Tabiz. Another boy had also lost his Tabiz for which also this suspect was being suspected. This information came to me confidentially then and there. The missing of the gold Tabiz from the person of the deceased which could not have fallen or come out from his neck unless taken out, provided reasonable grounds for arresting him, keeping in view also that he was the last person seen with the deceased.

By 3 o'clock in the evening, in the presence of the villagers and his parents, I got a statement from the suspect as to how he had taken the boy (deceased) to the sugar cane field and there cut away his Tabiz from his neck and by his napkin, strangled the boy and when he was dead, had pushed him into the well. He delivered to me the gold Tabiz not only of this boy but also of the other two boys mentioned of which has already been made earlier in this narrative. These had been concealed by him and kept in the wall of his house in two separate earthen pots which are generally kept embedded in the wall for putting some valuables. Nor was this all! The cut threads of this Tabiz had been buried by him under the root of the sugar cane plant in the field near the well. The napkin had been thrown by him into the thicker part in the interior of the sugar cane field. All these were pointed out by him and delivered to me by about 3-30 p.m. The threads of the portion still with the Tabiz and those that were buried under the root of the sugar cane plant near the well exactly tallied

in colour, numbers and the cut edges. No identification parade was necessary as the description exactly tallied and the complainant and other boys of the village identified it. The dead body had been despatched on a bullock cart to the Headquarters which was at a distance of about 22 miles, but the earliest that the body could reach the morgue would be about midnight.

Immediately after I found that the accused was confessing and that the investigation and recovery was nearly complete, I despatched a special messenger to the Superintendent of Police telling him that the case had been successfully detected and was a fit one in which immediate charge-sheet could be submitted if he could come and finish the supervision.

The Superintendent of Police arrived at the scene early next morning and did the supervision. He agreed that it was a fit case for submission of immediate charge-sheet. The post-mortem report by the Civil Surgeon showed that the death had been due to strangulation. The accused was produced with a charge-sheet on the same day for enquiry and trial. The Magistrate held the commitment proceedings on the same day and by the evening the accused was committed to the Sessions for trial. While being examined by the Magistrate he confessed his crime giving all details as stated to us.

He was tried in Sessions under Sections 379 and 302 I.P.C. The former was triable by Jurors and the latter by Assessors. It being a trial for murder, the accused was defended by a lawyer engaged by the Crown. It needs no mention that he retracted his confession. At the end the Jurors gave an unanimous verdict of 'Guilty' under Section 379 I.P.C., but the same body of persons as Assessors, gave a verdict of 'Not Guilty' under Section 302 I.P.C. qualifying their verdict with a statement that since there was no eye witness, they were constrained to give such a verdict.

Disagreeing with the verdict of the Assessors though unanimous, the Additional Sessions Judge imposed the maximum penalty of death on the accused. The sentence was confirmed by the High Court of Patna and the appeal of the accused was dismissed. The case was no doubt entirely of circumstantial evidence but the evidence of "Last seen with the deceased" and the principle of presumption under Section 114 Evidence Act "Recent and unexplained possession of the stolen property, while it would be presumptive evidence against the prisoner of robbery would similarly be evidence against him on the charge of Murder"—guided the decisions of the Trial and Appellate Courts, as early as 1936, although the principle of such presumption has been clearly laid down during the last few years.

Another aspect which deserves notice is the elimination of the need for recording confession under Section 164/364 Cr.P.C. The submission of immediate charge-sheet, production of witnesses and their examination, followed by the examination of the accused under

Section 209 Cr. P.C. and the statement of the offence from him under Section 209 Cr. P.C. bridged the gulf created by the absence of eye witnesses. The elaborate procedure and the inducement, threat and promise which are generally being imputed to throw suspicion on confessions, could not be brought into play by the defending counsel.

The mercy petitions of the condemned prisoner met with the same fate and he was ultimately hanged within four months of the commission of the offence—a rare case of such heinous crime meeting with such speedy investigation, enquiry, trial and execution of sentence.



The Home Minister, Shri Govind Ballabh Pant is seeing a pictorial account of the dacoity problem in Madhya Pradesh with Shri Narsingh Rao Dikshit, Deputy Minister (Home, M.P.) at the Police Exhibition held at Gwalior.

The work of the Police Department is more important than that of any other Department. Trade and development cannot flourish, and people cannot go about their usual avocations unless they feel secure and law and order is maintained. The police is indispensable, for unless there is a feeling of security, nothing can be achieved.

—G. B. PANT

Police Commission In Bihar

The Government of Bihar have decided to appoint a Commission to enquire into the various aspects of the Police administration in the State and make recommendations for improvement. The members of the Commission will be as follows:—

(1) Shri B.P. Jamuar, Retired High Court Judge	Chairman
(2) Shri S.K. Bage, M.L.A.	Member
(3) Shri Basawan Singh, M.L.A.	Member
(4) Shri Badri Nath Verma, M.L.A.	Member
(5) Shri L.N. Sudhanshu, M.L.A.	Member
(6) Shri Nirapada Mukherji, M.L.A.	Member
(7) Shri Brij Nandan Prasad, M.L.A.	Member
(8) Shri Lal Narain Sinha, Government Advocate, Bihar	Member
(9) Shri M.K. Sinha, I.P., Inspector-General on Special Duty	Member
(10) Shri A.K.P. Sinha, Retired Deputy Inspector-General	Member
(11) Shri T.P. Singh, I.C.S., Commissioner	Member

Shri M.K. Sinha, I.P., Inspector-General on Special Duty, will act as Secretary to the Commission.

The Commission will enquire and report on the following:—

(i) Whether the strength of the Police force, in the technical and non-technical branches, both armed and unarmed, is adequate; whether revised yardsticks, if any, need be fixed in respect of the strength of different ranks of the police force, their territorial areas of jurisdiction and what definition of powers and duties of the different ranks is necessary to make the force suited to modern needs; and whether the pattern of staffing of police offices is also adequate and any changes are essential; and also the financial aspects of the present force and yardsticks proposed;

(ii) The changes that are necessary in regard to recruitment, training, disciplinary control and other conditions of service with a

view to making the force more effective in the task of prevention and detection of crime and the prosecution of cases;

(iii) Whether the rural Police as constituted at present is effective in the performance of police duties in the rural areas; whether any change is necessary in the strength, organisation, training and conditions of service of the rural police; and how in the context of the new decentralised administrative set-up with the Gram Panchayats functioning all over the State the efforts of the district and the rural police and those of the Gram Panchayats can be integrated in tackling crime;

(iv) Whether the general supervision exercised by the magistracy over the police, particularly in view of the separation of the executive and the judiciary, and the control of superior police officers, including Circle Inspectors, over the investigation of crime and other police duties are adequate and on the right lines; what improvements, if any, have to be effected in this control and supervision.

(v) Whether corruption is prevalent among the various ranks of the police force and, if so, the extent of it and the measures to be adopted to remove corruption.

(vi) Whether the form of statistical returns now adopted is satisfactory or capable of improvement and whether the use to which such returns are put as tests of police working is appropriate; whether also any improvements are necessary in the registers and other records maintained in the police stations and other police offices, for compiling the data regarding crimes and criminals;

(vii) The measures to be adopted so that the police may evoke the willing cooperation and respect from the people in carrying out their duties.

The Commission may also analyse and report upon any other important problem which comes to their notice in the course of their enquiries on the matters mentioned above and make their own recommendation on such problem.

It is our less conscious thoughts and our less conscious actions which mainly mould our lives and the lives of those who spring from us.

—Samuel Butler

As Others See Us

We publish below two comments which appeared in the press:

Roughly three months ago the Bihar Government decided to set up a police commission. When it first met on November 15, it gave members a month to gain detailed knowledge of police organisation; serious business will begin next Saturday. There are already indications that the proceedings should be interesting. There seems, for instance, to be a departmental scheme for a Patna Metropolitan Police Force, which will be laid before it. A Ministerial spokesman indicated last month in the Assembly existence of general plans for reorganization, without additional cost. The commission will itself draw up a questionnaire which it hopes may elicit further bright ideas.

The terms of the original news item, suggesting that the commission would merely "probe into shortcomings," were unfortunate. As Dr. S. K. Sinha said at the annual conference of the Bihar Police Association in September, no human organisation has ever been without faults. He seemed a little hard on the Press when suggesting that these were unduly "played up". If the wrong man is kept in jail for months through lack of proper care in identification (as has happened more than once of late in West Bengal) the Press is in duty bound to report magisterial strictures; if a policeman acts bravely or intelligently, this newspaper at least is only too pleased to report that also when we hear of such things. But Dr. Sinha is certainly right in advocating a sense of proportion about police defects — though nobody, least of all the police, denies that these exist.

Despite the black sheep and the black spots, we are firmly convinced that the average policeman is an honest and hard-working man; though his lot is traditionally "not a happy one", he sometimes bears it with a patience and courage beyond the call of duty. Yet even the most painstaking professional may be hampered by obsolete organization, equipment and regulations. Even major police stations are sometimes so antiquated as to provide insufficient room for staff, let alone records for visitors. Mountains of tattered files are still the rule, where overseas forces long ago employed mechanical indexing systems (already now being superseded by electronic machines). Remedying such defects would cost money, a generally unwelcome prospect especially to Home Ministers, accustomed to political trouble over the police vote. Yet the problem will have to be faced sooner or later, together with that of pay and service conditions. The education and training of constables, for instance,

are still too often appropriate to the pre-railway era. Specialist services—forensic laboratory work springs to mind—are meagre and sometimes inconceivably dilatory.

Bihar's circumstances are not exceptional. If a Metropolitan Police Force is deemed appropriate to Patna, how much more to the Greater Calcutta area, the collective problems of which have so long gone by default? There are indications that many officers in West Bengal would welcome a similar commission, followed by root-and-branch recommendations. Even the policing of India's capital, though it inherited an area of convenient size from Delhi State and has perhaps exceptional resources, gives scope for improvement. Nor should rural problems be neglected. The countryside, with its village chowkidars and rather bucolic apparatus even at the level next above, may so far have got on well enough. But times are changing rapidly.

—The Statesman.

POLICE—A NECESSARY WING OF PRESENT SOCIETY

Chief Minister Explains Its Role In Free India

Hazaribagh, December 17, 1958. Dr. Sri Krishna Sinha, Chief Minister of Bihar, said here yesterday he did not know how long it would take for the building of a human society where there won't be any need for the police and the magistracy. The police were a necessary wing of the society as it was today, he said.

Dr. Sinha was addressing police cadets at the annual prize distribution ceremony of the Hazaribagh Police Training College. He said the police had to play a significant role in a free India struggling for progress. Their role, however, had changed. They should no longer be a terror to the people nor be an instrument for keeping the people under subjection. They were custodians of peace and order, which was essential for enabling the people to work for the development of the country in an atmosphere of calm.

Dr. Sinha said every policeman should be zealous in protecting the people from the hands of looters and criminals. He said with the advancement of scientific knowledge, the criminals were also taking advantage of it for their unlawful activities. The police also would have to be equipped with better knowledge of science, therefore, for tackling them effectively.

The Chief Minister said now that free India's flag was considered by the people of the world, including those of America and Russia, as a flag of peace, the police force of the country had to prove it by their behaviour and action that it was so.

—The Indian Nation.

Results of Police Photography Contest—1958

WE take pleasure in announcing the results of the Police Photography Contest organized by us in 1958, in this issue. There was a satisfactory response and a good number of entries were received, all of which was highly encouraging. The Judges, who scrutinized all the entries, warmly praised the excellence of the standard of the photographs received for the competition. Our aim was to encourage photography-mindedness among Policemen in this country and judging by the response we had, we feel that our aim has been more than fulfilled and there is every indication that there is a wide awareness of the importance of photography in police work. We thank the numerous competitors who sent their entries and who showed keen interest in the competition. The following are the prize-winners:

Black and White Division

Prize	Name of Competitor	Entries
I	Shri S. Akhaury, I.P., Bihar	Close up & Portrait.
II	Shri P.N. Mehra, Inspector, U.P.	Sweet Talks.
III	Shri Hamir Singh, I.P.S., Rajasthan	Freedom Lover

The following entries were also highly commended.

Shri S. Akhaury, I.P. for his entries 'Police Dog', 'Rain Drops', 'Water', and 'Knitting'.

Shri P. N. Mehra for his entry 'Sweet Toes', and Shri R. Krishnamoorthy, S.B., C.I.D. Photographer, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh for his entry 'Long Jump Winner'.

Colour Division

Shri P.N. Mehra was awarded First Prize for his entry 'Procession' in the colour division.

We congratulate the Prize-winners on their success and hope that this competition would be an incentive to further development of their skill and success in the field.

The English Channel

B.N. Pathak

Bihar Police.

THE English Channel from Dover to Calais (France) is only 22 miles separating the British Isles from the continent of Europe but it has for years presented a unique challenge to the marathon swimmers of the world. Swimming the English Channel is considered one of the greatest feats of human endurance, and the doctors of the British Medical Association have understandably described it as easily "the toughest sport of the world" on account of the uncertainties, risks and the hazards a swimmer has to encounter in his attempt.

But so indomitable has been man's will for conquest and so strong his determination not to let any impediment retard his progress or dishearten him in any way that failures have only egged him on to final victory. In fact the hazards inherent in the venture only whetted his eagerness rather than discouraged him and many swimmers took up the challenge because of the risks involved and not in spite of them. Repeated attempts led to an accumulation of experience and the learning of many a trick which helped them forward to victory.

Fifty persons have crossed the Channel so far from France to England of which ten have done this year. From England to France only 11 have swum in the last hundred years, Mihir Sen being the eleventh. A few Asians have crossed the Channel but all from France to England. In the year 1953 it was crossed by Toupick Bleick of Lebanon, Murad Guller of Turkey in 1954 and Mohammed El



Mihir Sen

(Courtesy the Indian Express, Delhi.)

Souzie of Syria in 1955. The last Asian to cross the Channel from France to England was Brojen Das of Pakistan in 1958.

Mihir Sen, a young Calcutta lawyer, was the first Asian to cross the Channel by the harder route from England to France. His timing of 14 hours and 45 minutes was the fourth fastest. Mihir Sen's achievement was all the more creditable because he did not let earlier failures to dishearten him or persuade him to give up the attempt as beyond him. He attempted the crossing seven times and tasted success only in the seventh attempt. His failures were due not so much to his lack of preparation or any defect on his part but hazards, uncertainty of weather and sheer bad luck frustrated him in his earlier attempts.

One of the hazards that a swimmer has to face in the Channel is the different sets of tides, currents and undercurrents which impede his movement, take much of his energy and prolong the swim. Sometimes the current is extremely fast and dangerous. Unpredictable weather is another hurdle and the wind there is so fantastic and changes so quickly that nowhere have the weather forecasts proved so unreliable as in the English Channel. Generally it is calculated that only six days in a month are fit for undertaking the feat when there is a flow of neap tides—(slack tides)—in the Channel. The risks of swimming in darkness at night, the existence of sharks and other creatures in the sea, the obstruction to vision due to fogs and the risk of being crushed by a passing vessel, are some of the other difficulties which every Channel swimmer has to face.

The toughest of all is the severe cold. For a man of average stamina, it may take only four to five hours for his blood circulation to stop when he is in the Channel. This was established in a research by the British Medical Association in 1955 conducted on the causes of the deaths of more than 60,000 people who perished in the Channel in the last War after being shot down or torpedoed by enemy aircraft or vessels. It was found however that although the war victims could not withstand the cold of the Channel waters for more than four hours, the swimmers had stayed alive in the same waters for 20 to 27 hours. The research findings established that resistance to cold was in inverse ratio to caloric consumption. In other words, the lower the caloric consumption, the greater the susceptibility of the human body to cold. A normal human body needs 2500 to 3000 calories per day. The Channel swimmer, for a single attempt, needs at least 10,000 calories to withstand the cold and physical agony from the buffeting waters. Before slipping into the water the swimmer has to be medically examined. Mihir Sen weighed 210 lbs. when he stepped into the Channel at Shakespeare Beach, Dover. By the time he reached the French Coast he had dropped about 14 lbs. This meant he lost one pound per hour roughly. How extraordinary could the exertion be on a Channel swimmer may be imagined from these facts.

There are two routes for crossing the Channel, one from France to England and the other from England to France. The latter is the harder route and how great is the difference can be verified from the fact that Commander C.G. Forsberg crossed the Channel from England to France in 13 hours and 33 minutes which is the world record. But from France to England the world record is 10 hours and 50 minutes held by Abdel El Rahim (Egypt, 1950). Moreover the French coast is very rocky and also very rough. Many swimmers crossing from England to France have met with bad luck near this coast unable to fight the raging waves.

The idea of swimming the Channel first occurred to Mihir Sen when he went to England in 1951. He was then a student with no swimming background. The earlier feats of crossing the Channel had inspired him and the fact that no Asian had attempted to swim by the harder route persuaded him to undertake it.

But there were many obstacles. He did not have enough funds for the venture, to start with. He, however, wrote to the Prime Minister of India who was the first to come to his help. Among others who helped him were Prof. Humayun Kabir, Minister for Cultural Affairs, Government of India, Shri P.C. Sen, Minister, West Bengal, and Capt. Bijoy Patnaik, an industrialist of Orissa. Encouraged by their support he made attempts in 1955, 1956 and 1957 and many a time he was within sight of victory but sheer bad luck in the shape of uncertain weather and other mishaps robbed him of success. But the failures only strengthened his determination.

In 1958 he made two unsuccessful attempts. His attempt on the 6th of September, lasted for two hours and a half after which the Channel grew furious although excellent weather was forecast by the Air Ministry. On the 9th of the same month the weather changed and he took up another swim starting at 11 in the night from St. Margaret's Bay on the English Coast. It was a dark night and the weather was favourable. While everything was going well, the rudder of the escorting motor suddenly broke. It took two hours to repair it and all the time he had to keep swimming around the vessel. Thus two hours were completely wasted when every minute was valuable in this venture. However, he fought against the waves the whole night and after twelve hours of intensive and hard swimming he approached the French coast hoping to touch the world record in spite of the two hours' wastage. But unluckily for him the tides suddenly got stronger and Mihir Sen was washed away from the French coast. He fought furiously for about six hours within sight of the coast (he was only two miles from it) but he was forced to abandon the attempt. It was enough to break the heart of even brave men but Sen was made of sterner stuff.

He firmly resolved to conquer the Channel whatever the risks.

But it was the end of Autumn and the nights were longer and colder and swimming the channel would be more risky and tough than at other times.

The next period of neap tides was between 20th and 24th September 1958 but the weather conditions were unfavourable. He became worried and restive, but suddenly on the 26th September the skies cleared and the weather forecasts predicted a calm and windless time of 15 hours, although the tides were stronger than during the neap tides. At about 1 p.m. he was heavily greased and the swim started. This time he had engaged his first pilot H. Read, one of the ablest who had escorted him in 1955, and the swim was officially observed by Mr. J.C. Wood, the Hon. General Secretary of the Channel Swimming Association.

As the sun was setting, the chill started. The tides were stronger and he had to swim harder than usual. For four hours he did not either eat or drink anything. At 5 p.m. he had some hot tea with glucose to warm and refresh him. The sun had set by this time and it was dark. The air was chilly and it was essential to keep himself warm with coffee and tea every hour. But as the night advanced, he was intensely affected by the piercing cold.

With a clear and windless sky, he was lucky with the weather this time. At midnight when he was only three miles away from the French Coast he felt extremely cold. But the welcome sight of the French coast put new heart into him and he swam on determinedly despite the freezing cold. Fortune seemed to be on his side although a fast current still lay between him and the coast. The calculations of the pilot however proved to be correct and he got inside the French Coast off Calais. The big escorting vessel could not proceed further about 500 yards from the shore. Therefore, a small boat with the Assistant Pilot led the way up to the rocky coast where the boat was unfortunately smashed but without any casualties.

Mihir Sen had succeeded at last. No better example can there be to show how failures should never deter a man from final conquest but should only inspire him forward till success is achieved at last.

As a solid rock is not shaken by the wind, so the wise are not moved by blame or praise.

—Dhammapada.

The Sixth All-India Police Duty Meet

Sardar Balbir Singh, I.P.

THE VI All-India Police Duty Meet was held at Jaipur, in Rajasthan, from the 4th to the 7th of November, 1958. The Meet consisted of the usual five sections in which competitions have been conducted every year, namely (a) Rifle Shooting, (b) Revolver Shooting, (c) First Aid & Ambulance Drill, (d) Police Wireless, and (e) Scientific Aids to Investigation. The scope of the last competition was, however, further enlarged this year by introducing a test in Police Photography for amateurs. The following tests now comprise this competition:—

(i) Medico-Legal test, (ii) Finger Prints, (iii) Foot Prints, (iv) Police Portraits, (v) Observation, (vi) Photography.

The Meet this year was different from those held previously in this respect that for the first time, the Prime Minister's Police Medal for life saving, which was instituted this year, was awarded to eight Policemen from all over India in recognition of the outstanding work done by them in saving human life. This award has been a source of great encouragement to the Force.

Rifle Shooting Competition:

This competition drew the maximum number of entries. All the States and the Union territories of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Tripura and the C.R.P. Neemuch took part in this competition.

The standard service .303 rifle was used by all the competitors who brought their own arms and ammunition from their States. The standard of firing was higher than that exhibited last year in all the four practices. In two practices, out of a possible 100 points, 98, 96 and 94 were scored by competitors.

Revolver Shooting Competition:

All the States and Units which participated in the Rifle Shooting Competition also took part in this competition.

The weapon used by the competitors was the standard .380 service revolver.

Competitors from Andhra Pradesh secured two first prizes and a third prize. The first prizes in the remaining two practices went to Bihar and Kerala. Competitors from Delhi secured two second prizes. Competitors from U. P. secured one second prize and a third prize. A

competitor from J. & K. was a popular winner of a second prize, while the remaining third prizes were obtained by competitors from Orissa and C.R.P. The medal for the Best Revolver Shot was won by Reserve Inspector Mohammed Ashique Khan of Uttar Pradesh. The competitors achieved a very high standard of shooting.

First Aid & Ambulance Drill Competition:

As usual, this competition was organised by the St. John Ambulance Association, with the assistance of the Director, Medical and Health Services, Rajasthan, and his staff. It is a team competition. The following States were represented by their teams in this competition:—

(1) Andhra Pradesh; (2) Bihar; (3) Bombay; (4) Delhi; (5) Madras; (6) Punjab; (7) U.P. & (8) West Bengal.

The Hardinge Police Ambulance Challenge Shield awarded to the winners of this competition went to the team from Andhra Pradesh. The runners-up trophy of the Straight Ambulance Challenge Cup was won by the Uttar Pradesh team. The team from Bihar stood third. According to the Secretary General of the Red Cross who attended on the final day, there had been a big improvement in the standards exhibited at the competition.

Wireless Transmission, Receiving & Mechanics Competition:

The response to this competition from the States was particularly good this year. All the States and other centrally administered areas of Delhi and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, competed in this section. The winners shield was annexed by the team from Rajasthan. The West Bengal team emerged as the runners-up, while the team from Madras came third. This competition was organised by the Directorate of Central Police Wireless of Home Ministry.

Scientific Aids to Investigation Competition:

On account of the inclusion of the test in Police Photography in this competition, the rules regarding the composition of the teams had to be revised. Accordingly, each team for this competition consisted of one Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, one A.S.I. or H.C. and one constable. The test in Police Photography was compulsory for the two Sub-Inspectors and optional for the Police Inspector. These officers were also required to take part in Medico-legal, Finger-print and Foot-print tests, while the A.S.I. or H.C. and the constable were eligible for the remaining two tests. Ten States and the Union territory of Delhi participated in this competition. J. & K. had sent a team of observers to watch this competition.

This competition was organised and judged by officers from the Central Forensic Institutes, assisted by two officials of the Intelligence Bureau and one from the C.P.T.C., Abu. The problems set for the competitors were very interesting and required detective ability and skill of a high order to solve them.

The shield for the team securing the highest marks in the aggregate was won by West Bengal. The shield for the runners-up team was won by Bihar. The challenge shields in four individual tests were won by Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Delhi and Rajasthan. The shields in the remaining two tests were secured by the competitors from Bihar.

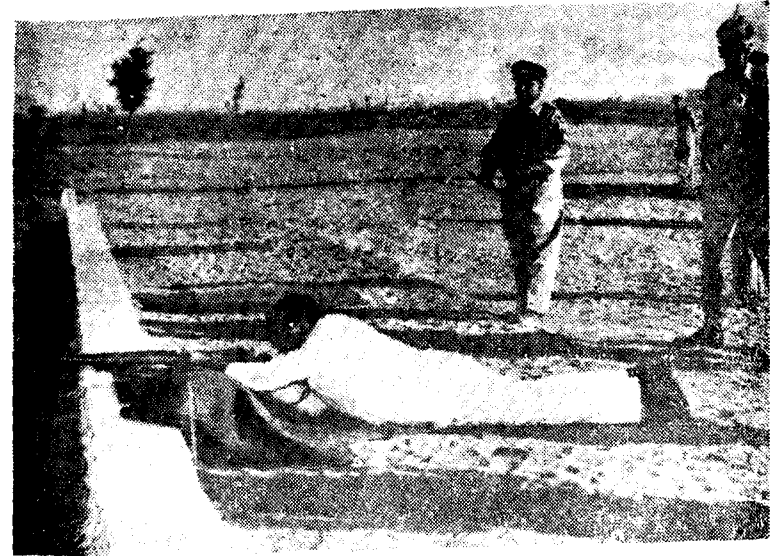
Miscellaneous :

Teams consisting of over 500 officers and other ranks from all the States and Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the C.R.P., Neemuch, attended this Meet. All the teams were accommodated in barracks in the Reserve Police Lines at Jaipur. The Rajasthan Police had also put up tents for the use of J.C.Os. The judges and gazetted officers were housed in the officers' quarters adjoining the Police Lines and in the local Circuit House and a Hotel. Three messes were run, one for the gazetted officers, one for the J.C.Os and another for O.Rs. The arrangements made in the camp for the boarding and lodging of all ranks were very good and sanitation and medical facilities in the camp were excellent. All the teams had been provided with adequate transport for their use and Rajasthan went all the way to look after all their guests in the best traditions of hospitality.

The Meet was inaugurated on the morning of 4th November, 1958 by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan by firing the first rifle shot on the 61st Cavalry Range where the shooting competitions were conducted. The Rifle Shooting competition commenced after that and the other competitions were also started at the site adjoining the General Camp in the Reserve Police Lines. Officers and men of the Sikh Light Infantry and 61st Cavalry supervised the arrangements at the 'butta' and in the statistical office at the Range and did a fine job.

On the 6th November, 1958, the Chief Minister and the Home Minister of Rajasthan went round the Duty Meet Camp and witnessed various competitions that were in progress.

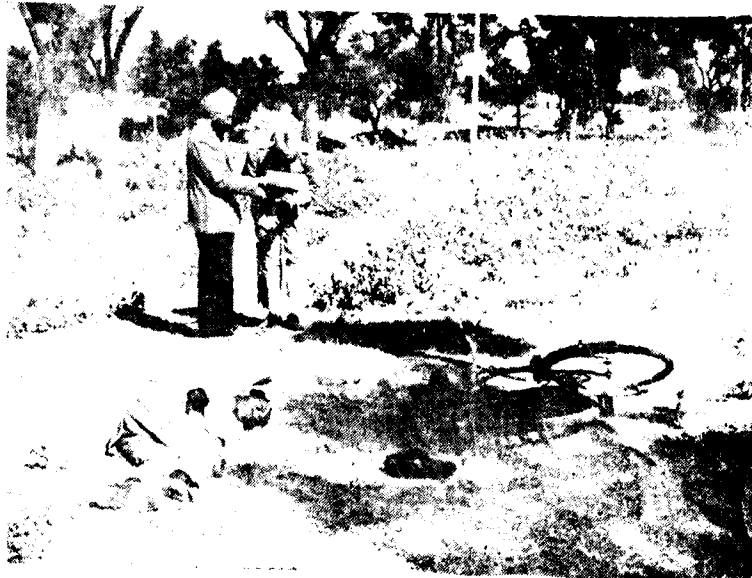
On the opening day of the Meet, the Governor of Rajasthan gave an "At Home" at the Raj Bhavan, in the evening, to the visiting teams. On the 5th November, 1958, in the evening, the Chief Minister was "At Home" at the Circuit House. This year the Rajasthan Police held the customary 'Bara Khana' at night on the 7th November, 1958. This function was attended by the Home Minister of Rajasthan.



Shri Mohan Lal Sukhadia, Chief Minister, Rajasthan, inaugurating the Meet by firing the first shot.



Revolver Shooting Competition in progress.



A competitor photographing a scene of crime.



The Governor of Rajasthan addressing the teams at the close of the Meet.

The closing ceremony was held on the evening of the 7th November at the Maharaja College Grounds, Jaipur. The Governor of Rajasthan presided over this function and gave away the prizes. After the prize distribution, the Governor of Rajasthan declared the Meet closed. A massed band display by the Rajasthan Police followed by the sounding of the retreat brought the function to an end. Later, the Rajasthan Police entertained the competitors and visitors to tea and the Rajasthan Armed Constabulary then put up a most effective and spectacular display of mass P. T. and "camel Sowars" by flood light.

The Rajasthan Police had arranged cultural performances by local artists as well as by policemen in the Duty Meet Camp in the evenings after the day's competitions had come to an end. These cultural performances were greatly appreciated. Rajasthan handicrafts and other items were displayed at the Camp with the assistance of the local Handicraft Board.

The Press and the All-India Radio gave a very good coverage to the Meet.

The scope of the Scientific Aids Competition would be further increased next year and the possibility of bringing in the Frontier Protection Police to take part in the Meet is being examined.

RESULTS OF RIFLE SHOOTING COMPETITION

Practice No. 1—Application—100 Yds.—Standing position

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—100
I	H.C. Man Bahadur Pradhan	West Bengal	76 (65)
II	P.C. Assainar	Kerala	76 (63)
III	H.C. Akkidos John	A. Pradesh	74 (63)

Practice No. 2—Application—200 Yds.—Kneeling position

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—100
I	F.C. Jodh Singh	Punjab	94/92 (92)
II	Jamadar Shaaban	Orissa	94/88 (92)
III	Inspr. Venner	West Bengal	92 (90)

Practice No. 3—Application—300 Yds.—Prone Position

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max Pts.—100
I	C.C. A.A. Khan	M. Pradesh	98 (94)
II	Sgt. Bennet	West Bengal	96 (90)
III	N/K. Nasiruddin	Madras	92 (88)

Practice No. 4—300 Yds.—Snap Shooting.

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—15
I	H.C. Brij Lal	C.R.P., Nectmuch	15 (15)
II	Jem. B.K. Mahanty	Orissa	12/15 (12)
III	N/K. K. Menon	Kerala	12/12 (9)

RESULTS OF REVOLVER SHOOTING COMPETITION**Practice No. 1—Application 25 Yds.**

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—120
I	Sh. N.D. Reddy, Dy. S.P.	A. Pradesh	94 (95)
II	R.I. Mohammed A. Khan	U. Pradesh	93 (94)
III	Sh. L.J. Hall, Dy. S.P.	C.R.P., Nectmuch	88 (93)

Practice No. 2—Attack 30 Yds.

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—30
I	R.I. P.J. Cussack	A. Pradesh	27 (24)
II	S.I. Rachan Singh	Delhi	25/12 (32)
III	Sergeant Major Rautrai	Orissa	25/4 (20)

Practice No. 3—Rapid fire—15 Yds.

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—60
I	Sub. H.K. Rana	Bihar	45 (41)
II	A.S.I. Rashid Khan	J. & K.	42 (41)
III	H.C. Mohammed Ishaque	U. Pradesh	40 (40)

Practice No. 4—Application 50 Yds.

Rank	Name of Competitor	Name of State	Max. Pts.—60
I	S.I. Onnoony	Kerala	60 (60)
II	S.I. Mohan Singh	Delhi	58 (60)
III	R.I. P.J. Cussack	A. Pradesh	56/54 (58)

BEST SHOT (Revolver)

R.I. Mohammed Ashique Khan—U. Pradesh 204 out of 270..

Prime Minister's Police Medal For Life Saving

The Prime Minister's Police Medal for life saving which was instituted for the first time this year was awarded to eight Policemen from different States at the VI All-India Police Duty Meet held at Jaipur.

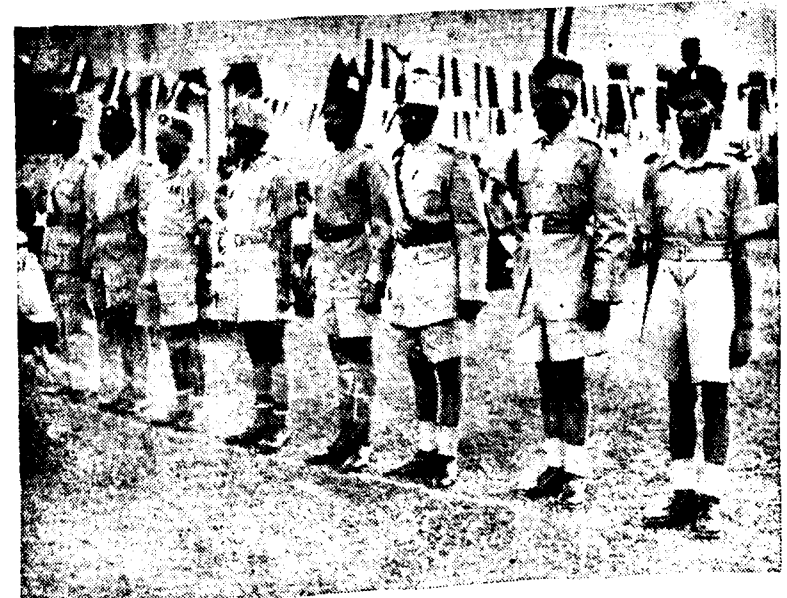
The medals were presented to the recipients by Shri Gurmukh Nihal Singh, Governor of Rajasthan, at the prize distribution ceremony held on the 7th November. In fact, the winners of this award were the first persons to be honoured that day.

The Secretary of the All-India Police Duty Meet Organisation read out the citations and the Medals were pinned on to the chest of the recipients by the Governor.

Citations

Shri P. Subramanyam, Sub-Inspector of Police, Andhra Pradesh.

On receipt of information that a house in Rotapalli village had caught fire the Sub-Inspector after informing the Fire Service Station



Recipients of the Prime Minister's Medal for Life Saving.

at Nellore rushed with three constables to the village. While doing rescue operations he heard that a servant named P. Venkataswami had been trapped inside and had fainted. Regardless of the risks involved, Sub-Inspector Subramanyam went inside the house and rescued the servant in the midst of blazing rafters falling apart, suffocating smoke and leaping tongues of flame. Thus by his exceptional courage and devotion to duty he saved a life.

Shri Hitlal Singh, Havildar, Bihar Military Police.

During a visit to the bathing ghats at Monghyr on 18-5-58, Shri Singh saw a woman suddenly carried away by a strong current of the river. At once he jumped into the river and swam about 250 yards to reach the woman. She gratefully clung to his neck. For a moment both seemed to submerge but the Havildar extricated himself and the woman lost her hold. However he gathered courage and again grasped her hand firmly and brought her to the shore after a considerable struggle. With medical aid the woman regained consciousness the next day.

Shri Mahendra Prasad Singh, Sub-Inspector, Uttar Pradesh.

On 14th of July, 1958, Sub-Inspector Mahendra Prasad Singh was on duty at the annual fair at Karchhuli Mahadeo on the banks of river Sai, which was then in floods. There were only four boats available for the pilgrims to cross the river. A boat containing 14 passengers went out of control in the swift current of the river and hit against another boat. The women passengers got panicky and tried to jump into the other boat. In the confusion two women and a child fell into the river and were drowning. On seeing this, the Sub-Inspector jumped into the river and rescued them skillfully.

Shri Anwar Singh, Constable, Uttar Pradesh.

While on traffic duty at Kachhura Ghat on the Jamuna river on 1-11-1957, Anwar Singh heard of a fire breaking out in the village and immediately organised fire fighting operations. There he heard the shrieks of a woman who was trapped in a burning house. Finding no entry inside, he made a hole in the rear wall with villagers' help, entered through it and rescued the helpless Shiv Rani and her baby, both of whom had become unconscious due to smoke and heat.

Shri Kundan Singh, Constable, 8th Bn. Provincial Armed Constabulary, Uttar Pradesh.

When fire broke out accidentally in the house of Shri Ram Sarup Lodh in Barkhera village on the 9th of February, 1958, the men of a detachment of Provincial Armed Constabulary who were camping nearby saw the flames and rushed to the scene of the fire

PRIME MINISTER'S POLICE MEDAL FOR LIFE SAVING 67

which had spread to 25 houses. A six-month-old baby was caught inside a blazing house. Constable Kundan Singh courageously went into the house at great risk and rescued the child. He also took a leading part in fire-fighting and cut down the flaming branches of a peepal tree in order to prevent the spread of the fire and saved nearby houses.

Shri Nand Singh, L-Nk. 5th Bn. Central Reserve Police.

A disastrous fire broke out on 4-6-1958 in Malipura village close to the headquarters of the 5th Battalion of the Central Reserve Police when all the villagers were out in the fields. Men of the C.R.P. rushed out to extinguish the fire. L-Nk. Nand Singh who heard the shrieks of Shrimati Pauli to save her two minor children trapped inside her burning house, rushed through the flames and succeeded in bringing out the two children to safety.

Shri Sheo Charan, Constable, Madhya Pradesh.

On the 26th of June, 1958, a five-year-old child accidentally fell into a well near the Power House at Khergone. Constable Sheo Charan heard the cries of the parents of the child and jumped into the well despite the fact that it was 40 feet deep and that there was an electric motor fitted inside the well causing serious obstruction. The child was safely brought out by him and restored to his parents.

Shri Ramakrishnan, Constable, Madras State.

On 2-1-1958 at about 6.15 p.m., Shrimati Shakuntala Achi who was sitting on the parapet wall of a well drawing water accidentally fell into it. An alarm was raised and a crowd gathered but no one dared to rescue her. Constable Ramakrishnan heard the alarm and without losing time jumped into the well with his uniform and lifted the drowning woman above the water. The woman was unconscious and the well had no steps. He shouted for a rope which was lowered. He tied the woman to the rope and she was lifted out. After artificial respiration the woman recovered.

—o—
Let me remember when I find myself inclined to pity a criminal, that there is likewise a pity due to the country.

—Hale.

Police Notes

The Art of Command

Morale and discipline lie especially within the province of a commander. Both call for his unremitting personal attention. Morale stems from confidence—the confidence men have in themselves, in their own skill and courage, and their confidence in their leaders. If confidence is lacking the leaders must instil it by making good deficiencies in organisation, equipment and training, and setting the example in enthusiasm and energy. A commander must satisfy himself that the tasks he sets are within the capacity of those called upon to perform them. Before calling for a supreme effort he must be sure that the situation demands it, remembering that repeated exhortations soon cease to have any significance.

It is a commonplace to say that a good general must be a lucky one. The truth of the matter is that he must have good judgement, he must be able to hold the balance between cool calculation and instinct. He must be prepared to take risks, big risks, but as a practised clear-headed gambler, not on the “chuck and chance it” basis. “Nothing succeeds like success” is a slogan every commander will do well to remember. British troops and policemen are better than most at “taking it on the chin” and still “keeping their peckers up” but even their indomitable spirit cannot be maintained indefinitely on failure.

The objects of discipline are two-fold—to enable men to put their duty before their safety, and to make them immediately and unquestionably responsive to the will of their leader. I have never been fond of the expression “man-management” though it is now-a-days used to cover all that is necessary to maintain morale and contentment and that in that sense it demands close and constant attention. But a good soldier and a good policeman should be a man who can “manage” himself, in the narrower sense of the word, and the same applies to discipline. The standard of discipline to aim at is self-discipline. Unfortunately that is beyond most of us so every commander must be a good disciplinarian in the best sense of the word. Lord Nelson, our greatest sailor, and Sir John Moore, the founder of the Light Infantry, are my ideals as disciplinarians, and curiously enough the methods adopted by both men have been described by the same author—Sir Arthur Bryant.

—Field Marshal Lord Harding.

—The Police College Magazine (U.K.)

Special Correspondence

One of the greatest changes that has taken place in all Government Departments during the last 40 years has been the enormous increase in correspondence. The change has been so gradual that only the oldest officers now remember the days when ‘bumph’ was a minor part of their work. Today dealing with correspondence takes up most, if not all, of the time; indeed, many officers take files home with them to work on after dinner. The really frightening thing is that this is now accepted as normal. This complete pre-occupation with day to day routine papers leaves no time for quiet thinking about general policy and future planning. No one can see the wood for the trees. We all agree that this is wrong, doubtless steps have been taken to attempt to reduce the volume of correspondence and yet year by year this monster is gaining momentum, and is now about to overwhelm us, unless, indeed, it has not already done so.

It is a curious fact that many of the mechanical aids produced to help us, short-hand, typewriters, dictaphones and now tape recorders have indeed speeded up the writing of letters, but alas, from the mere ease of writing, have increased production to such an extent, that we are far worse off than before.

Only twenty years ago, District Officers in Africa spent two-thirds of their time on tour doing invaluable work settling most problems on the spot and getting to know their district and its inhabitants. Today they are lucky if they manage one week out in a month, and even this short absence means piles of correspondence awaiting them on their return. But the long intervals between visits now force their subordinates to write in, and so the vicious circle is complete. I know an Administrator in a West Indian Island. He works hard, possibly somewhat slowly, and is so bogged down by correspondence that during his first year he spent only two days visiting his village.

During my service I have noticed another significant change which I think has a sinister bearing on the flow of paper. Before 1914 very junior officers took decisions on their own. I can only speak of personal experience in the Army at this period, but I have no reason to suppose that other services were any different. We were encouraged to make decisions, occasionally they were wrong and the senior officers picked up the brick, but generally we were right and no correspondence at all went up to a higher level. Frequently there are two possible solutions to a problem, either of which will work. The obvious course is for the man on the spot to decide and carry through his decision. But the modern method is endless, time wasting discussions on paper, and when a decision is at last made, at a high level, it may be so late as to be useless. The modern game of passing the buck needs no elaboration.

—Brigadier P.J.T. Pickthall, M.C.
Hong Kong Police Magazine

Bank Robbers Caught By Camera

Mr. Frank Storey, Chief of Police of Cleveland, Ohio, and his son Thomas, Superintendent of the same Force, have explained their method of catching bank robbers by a camera to senior officers at Scotland Yard, who may consider its use. Fifteen months ago, as an experiment, a secret camera was installed in a Cleveland bank which, when an alarm button was pressed, automatically set an electrically-driven motion camera in operation. The success of this idea was proved when the bank was, in fact, raided and pictures of the thieves, one man and two women, were immediately shown on television. The man saw himself on the TV screen and gave himself up and the two women were identified by other viewers and captured within 48 hours. There have been no bank robberies in Cleveland since.

—Garda Review.

Analysis of Accidents

The annual statistical analysis of road accidents in the Metropolitan Police District reveals that in 1957 more than one person in every thousand of the London population was seriously injured as the result of a road accident. The total number of casualties during the year was 55,136. This was an increase of 1.8 per cent compared with 1956. There were 669 deaths—a decrease of 2 per cent compared with the previous year. Casualties to motor-cyclists rose by 12.8 per cent to 12,428. It is interesting to note that there were 4,347 fewer accidents in 1957 than in 1938 in spite of greatly increased number of vehicles now on the road.

—Notes on Current Topics.
Police Review (U.K.)

Investigating Hit-And-Run Cases

After rendering first aid to the injured, primary emphasis should be placed on securing the identification of the driver and vehicle concerned. The best possible description should be obtained and immediately broadcast to all who can aid in locating the responsible operator and car.

Further evidence should then be sought by careful examination of the scene. Damage to objects, or injury to persons struck should be carefully noted for indications of the probable damage to the wanted vehicle and for traces of foreign matter such as blood, hair, fabrics, paint, wood or stone which may be found on it. Parts which may have broken off the vehicle should also be looked for, as these may aid in directing the search and identification of a suspected car.

In looking for evidence, the search should be planned so that every part of the scene is thoroughly covered. Cross-searching will provide a double-check to insure that nothing is overlooked. Occasionally it may be advisable to search a large section of the highway since it is possible that evidence may have been carried far. The same organized procedure should be followed in protecting and safeguarding the accident scene and in carefully searching for evidence. Cases often depend upon the finding of a single fragmentary bit of evidence left by the criminal.

The most specific and distinctive description of the car and the driver that it is possible to obtain should be sought from witnesses. If none are at the scene, a check in the vicinity may locate persons who did not see the accident but saw the vehicle fleeing the scene and can describe it.

As a follow-up several additional methods may be employed. General publicity will sometimes encourage additional information from persons having knowledge of the incident. Notices to repair shops, and parts dealers should not be overlooked. If the make of the vehicle is known, a check on all such vehicles in the area may lead to locating the wanted one. An immediate canvass of garages in the vicinity is often productive.

Stolen automobile reports which have been submitted immediately following such hit-and-run incidents should be carefully investigated, bearing in mind that in some instances motorists involved have falsely reported that their automobiles were stolen prior to the time of the accident.

When a suspected car is located, it should be impounded and searched for evidence. All exterior parts should be carefully examined, especially protruding parts where hair or fibres may have been caught. All damaged parts should be noted and inspected for traces of blood or signs of contact with other objects, and no foreign material should be eliminated until its source is definitely determined. In addition to recent damage, evidence of repairs, new paint or washing should be carefully noted, and if damaged parts have been replaced the original parts should be obtained. The car should be placed on a rack and the undercarriage inspected for parts which appear to have been brushed by any object.

These are only a few of the common methods used. Circumstances in each case will suggest others.

It should also be borne in mind that various technical and laboratory aids are of assistance to such investigations. These include facilities for the comparison, identification of metals, rubber, glass, fabrics, paint, hair and other substances, chemical tests for intoxication, and polygraph (lie-detector) tests, as well as photography, speed determination from skid marks, and brake testing.

—The Citizen (Pakistan.)

Crime In India—1957

Survey of Crime:

During the year 1957, 581,371 cognizable cases were reported to the Police.

The cognizable crime reported every year since 1948 was as follows:—

1948	625,909
1949	654,019
1950	635,508
1951	649,728
1952	612,010
1953	601,964
1954	556,912
1955	535,236
1956	585,217
1957	581,371

Thus, in 1957 crime remained practically stationary compared to 1956.

Crime under different heads:

The table below shows the number of cases reported during the year 1957 under the more important heads of crime and their variations from the corresponding figures of 1956:—

Sl. No.	Head	1957	1956	Percentage change
1.	Total Cognizable Crime	581,371	585,217	—0.66
2.	Murder	10,419	10,025	+3.9
3.	Kidnapping and Abduction	5,821	5,905	—1.4
4.	Dacoity	5,560	5,397	+3.1
5.	Robbery	7,408	7,618	—2.8
6.	House Breaking	129,632	134,556	—3.70
7.	Theft { Cattle	20,340	19,924	+2.1
	{ Ordinary	212,899	216,290	—1.6
8.	Rioting	23,750	24,700	—3.8
9.	Criminal Breach of Trust	15,362	15,466	—0.67
10.	Cheating	9,388	9,519	—1.4
11.	Counterfeiting	629	596	+5.5
12.	Miscellaneous	140,163	135,221	+3.7

Increases under the heads Murder (3.9), Dacoity (3.0), Counterfeiting (5.5), and Miscellaneous (3.7) were more than off set by the decreases under the heads Robbery (2.8), House Breaking (3.7) and Cheating (1.4).

The States where noticeable increase occurred compared to 1956 were Kerala (+3385 i.e. 38.8%), centrally administered territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura (+746 i.e. 23.1%), Delhi (+1,940 i.e. 24.9%), Bihar (+5,866 i.e. 10.3%), Mysore (+1,558 i.e. 6.9%) and Andhra Pradesh (+1,181 i.e. 3.2%).

Noticeable decreases occurred in Bombay (—8,927 i.e. 7.7%), Madras (—2,711 i.e. 4.9%), Madhya Pradesh (—3,034 i.e. 4.5%) and Uttar Pradesh (—2,836 i.e. 4.2%).

The incidence of urban crime (in cities with over one million population) was much higher than that in rural areas. West Bengal however, showed a peculiar phenomenon. The incidence of crime in Calcutta City was actually lower than in the rest of West Bengal. Possibly this is due to different methods of reporting which are followed in Calcutta and the rest of West Bengal.

Reasons for variation in Crime:

Kerala has ascribed the increase to better reporting and widespread political and labour agitations. Bihar has ascribed the increase to acute economic conditions caused by early rains and subsequent continued drought. Delhi ascribes the increase in figures to improved facilities for registration of petty offences as a result of establishment of three flying squads, the establishment of a number of new police stations, the growth of several new colonies, the rapid increase in the population and the presence of a large floating population. Amongst the other centrally administered territories in Tripura the increase is ascribed to better reporting and to the activities of foreign criminals over a long frontier. Manipur has ascribed the increase to failure of crops and influx of Naga criminals and Andaman and Nicobar Islands to serious labour unrest and unemployment. The small increases in Andhra and Mysore do not call for any comments.

No special reasons have been given for the noticeable decreases in urban crime in Kanpur or Madras cities or the increase in Hyderabad City.

MURDER

During the year under report 10,419 cases as against 10,025 in 1956 were reported; there was an increase of 3.9 per cent over the year 1956, this being the second consecutive year which registered an increase.

No specific reasons have been given by any State to explain the marked variation in this form of crime. Majority of cases were said to be due to family disputes, party feuds, sexual intrigues and revenge and not for purposes of gain. In Punjab, however, a professional murderer with 30 murders to his credit was ultimately tracked down by sustained police efforts. All these murders were for gain and lust for killing.

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The volume of crime per 100,000 of population was more than three in Andaman and Nicobar Islands (9.7), Madhya Pradesh (4.5), Bombay (4.2), Assam (3.8), Punjab (3.7), Mysore and Manipur (3.3) each, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Tripura (3.1) each. In Bombay city it was (4.4).

16,571 cases were available for disposal in the year. Out of these 6,798 were sent to the courts for trial. 3,098 cases ended in conviction, 3,686 ended in acquittal or discharge and 14 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to the total true cases investigated was 33.2 per cent against 34.6 of 1956; the percentage of conviction to the number of cases tried was 45.7 as against 47.9 of the year 1956.

19,725 persons arrested for the offence of murder were tried. 6,418 persons were convicted, 13,296 acquitted or discharged and cases against 11 persons were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction was 32.6 as against 35.5 of the preceding year.

KIDNAPPING AND ABDUCTION

The continuous rise year after year, from 1952 under this head was arrested this year, showing a drop of 1.4 per cent. Noticeable increases occurred in Manipur (+62 i.e. 117%), Hyderabad City (+22 i.e. 95.7%), Delhi (+58 i.e. 54.2%), Kerala (+8 i.e. 19.5%), Mysore (+26 i.e. 14.9%), and Calcutta (+16 i.e. 15%).

The States which recorded more than 400 cases were Bombay (792), Uttar Pradesh (780), West Bengal (713), Madhya Pradesh (563), Rajasthan (479), Madras (445) and Punjab (401).

West Bengal and Calcutta ascribed the large incidence of this form of crime to the absence of wholesome corrective influence, exhibition of films and increase in the circulation of undesirable literature, the victims mainly being refugee girls who could not be sheltered in good environments. Delhi ascribed the increase in figures to the fact that a wholetime Squad was set up to investigate these cases with the result that several persons made use of these facilities and reported a large number of cases which were later found untrue and as many as 37 per cent were cancelled under the orders of magistrates. In Manipur, more than 62.6 per cent of the cases were reported to be cases of elopement reported as kidnapping by the guardians for using the police machinery. Assam has mentioned the suspected kidnapping of children for 'U Thelm' worship. In Orissa State certain kidnappings took place for marriage.

The newly enacted Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act brought into force now, it is hoped, would bring down the incidence of this form of crime substantially, in the next year.

In 2,549 cases charge-sheets were laid in the courts. Out of these 1,013 were convicted, 1,486 were discharged or acquitted and 50 cases

were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 26.2 (27.1 in 1956) and percentage of conviction to cases tried was 40.5 (41.8 in 1956).

6,768 persons were sent up for trial of whom 1,830 were convicted 4,829 acquitted or discharged and cases against 109 were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to the persons tried was 27.5 (28.3 in 1956). The percentage of conviction in the seven cities was 33.9 (29.7 in 1956).

DACOITY

For the second year in succession dacoity has shown an upward trend showing a 3% increase compared to 1956. Large increases occurred in Bihar (+611 i.e. 48.3 per cent), Mysore (+30 i.e. 32.6 per cent), Kerala (+5 i.e. 29.4 per cent), Jammu and Kashmir (+8 i.e. 15.1 per cent). In the Union Territory of Manipur the numerical increase was (+24); in the cities of Madras and Hyderabad it was (+2) and (+3) respectively.

Decreases were registered in the dacoity infested areas of Madhya Pradesh (-90 i.e. 14.5), Rajasthan (-30 i.e. 33 per cent) and Uttar Pradesh (-25 i.e. 2.7 per cent). Other noticeable decreases were in Delhi (-2 i.e. 66.7 per cent), Punjab (-5 i.e. 37.5 per cent), Bombay State (-299 i.e. 23.2 per cent), Bombay City (-280 i.e. 94.9 per cent) and Calcutta (-4 i.e. 50 per cent).

The volume of crime was more than 1.5 (all-India index) in the Naga Hills and Tuensang Area (11.1), Tripura (5.5), Manipur (5.0), Bihar (4.8), Assam (3.6), Madhya Pradesh (2.0), West Bengal (1.9) and Bombay (1.6).

Bihar ascribed the increase to acute economic conditions. In Assam and Manipur, Naga hostiles were responsible for several cases. In Manipur Naga hostiles were responsible for 20 of the reported 29 cases. The redeeming feature of the situation was the marked drop in the dacoity infested areas of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan which was due to systematic and coordinated action against various organised gangs and their gradual liquidation. West Bengal ascribed the decrease to better preventive measures and the work of village defence forces.

Charge-sheets were sent up in 2,367 cases; 1,038 ended in conviction, 1,319 in acquittal or discharge and 10 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of cases convicted to true cases investigated was 21.0 (22.4 in 1956) and percentage of conviction to cases tried was 44.0 (48.8 in 1956).

Out of 15,124 persons charge-sheeted, 4,593 were convicted, 10,451 acquitted or discharged and cases against 80 persons were withdrawn. The percentage of persons convicted to those tried was 30.5 (33.5 of 1956).

ROBBERY

The States which recorded more than 500 cases were Bombay

(2,460), Bihar (974), West Bengal (810), Madhya Pradesh (691) and Uttar Pradesh (517).

The volume of crime was more than 2.0 in the States and Union Territories of Bombay (5.1), Tripura (3.6), Delhi (3.3), Himachal Pradesh (3.2), West Bengal (3.1), Naga Hills (3.0) Madhya Pradesh (2.7), Bihar (2.5), Assam (2.3) and Rajasthan (2.2).

The incidence of this crime which had shown an increase of 13.5 per cent in 1956 showed a decrease of 2.8 per cent over the figures of 1956.

Delhi ascribed the increase to the growth of a large number of new colonies on the outskirts of the urban area. In Tripura the increase was due to better reporting. In Bombay State (excluding Greater Bombay) the increase was due to the registration of technical offences due to disputes arising out of the Tenancy Act. In Bihar the increase was ascribed to acute economic distress and inadequacy of police force. Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir have not given any reasons for the increase. The sharp decline noticed in Bombay city was due to the fact that in the year 1956 the language disturbances were responsible for the tremendous increase.

In 2,979 cases charge-sheets were sent to courts; of these 1,300 cases ended in conviction, 1,556 in acquittal or discharge and 123 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 21.7 (22.1 in 1956) and to cases tried was 45.5 (47.3 in 1956).

6,386 persons were sent up for trial, of these 2,283 were convicted, 3,843 acquitted or discharged and cases against 260 persons were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction was 37.3 (38.6 in 1956).

HOUSE-BREAKING

129,632 cases i.e. 22.3 per cent of the total crime were recorded against 134,556 in 1956 showing a decrease of 3.7 per cent.

The States which recorded more than 10,000 cases were Bihar (23,013), Bombay (19,128), Uttar Pradesh (17,975), Madhya Pradesh (15,149) and West Bengal (12,250). The volume of crime was above 50 in the States and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (109.7), Tripura (88.3), Delhi (78.7), Bihar (59.3), Madhya Pradesh (58.1) and Assam (51.2). Amongst the large cities Bangalore recorded (96.9), Hyderabad (94.1) and Greater Bombay (59.4).

In Delhi the increase was due to improved facilities available to the public for reporting cases as a result of the establishment of three flying squads and the growth of new colonies on the outskirts of the urban area. Andaman and Nicobar Islands ascribed the increase to unemployment; Kerala and the city of Bangalore have not given any reason for the increase. The increase in Tripura was attributed to better reporting, import of labourers with unknown antecedents

by the contractors from outside Tripura and activities of foreign criminals. Himachal Pradesh ascribed the increase to better reporting.

Out of 159,634 cases available for disposal, charge-sheets were sent in 33,207 cases; 22,525 cases ended in conviction, 9,054 cases in discharge or acquittal and 1,628 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 18.6 (18.7 in 1956) and that to cases tried was 71.4 (72.5 in 1956).

30,503 persons were convicted, 19,236 were acquitted or discharged and cases against 3,473 persons were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to persons tried was 61.3 (61.2 in 1956).

THEFT

The cattle thefts increased by (+2.1 per cent) whereas there was a decrease of (—1.6 per cent) in ordinary thefts. Decreases in both types of thefts were recorded in the States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. In cattle thefts the decrease ranged from 6.6% in Madhya Pradesh to 1.8% in Madras; in ordinary thefts it ranged from 6.8% in Madras to 0.7 in the Punjab.

The States which recorded the largest number of cattle thefts were Uttar Pradesh (3,303), Bombay (3,105), Madhya Pradesh (2,921), Madras (2,784), Rajasthan (1,880) and Andhra Pradesh (1,797). The States which recorded more than 20,000 cases of ordinary thefts were Bombay (43,076), West Bengal (28,673), Madhya Pradesh (25,475), Uttar Pradesh (22,135) and Madras (21,178).

The volume of crime in cattle theft cases was the highest in Rajasthan (11.8), Madhya Pradesh (11.2), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (9.7) and Madras (9.3). In the ordinary thefts it was more than 75 in Delhi (316.5), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (180.8), West Bengal (109.0), Madhya Pradesh (97.7) and Bombay (89.3).

The increase in cattle thefts in Andhra Pradesh was attributed to the increase in demand for skin and meat. In Tripura the high prices paid for the cattle in Pakistan was the main reason. Orissa ascribed the increase to the cattle being left scattered due to drought.

10,565 cases of cattle thefts and 72,069 cases of ordinary thefts were sent up for trial. 6,693 cattle theft cases and 50,188 ordinary theft cases ended in conviction; 2,297 cattle theft cases and 14,362 ordinary theft cases were acquitted or discharged and 1,575 cases of cattle thefts and 7,519 of ordinary thefts were compounded or withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated in the cattle theft was 36.9 (35.2 in 1956), and to cases tried, it was 74.4 (71.8 in 1956). The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried was 67.4 (61.5 in 1956).

The percentage of ordinary thefts cases convicted to cases investigated was 27.9 (27.3 of 1956) and to cases tried 77.8 (77.3 of 1956). The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried was 69.2 (66.9 of 1956).

The increase in ordinary thefts in West Bengal was due to prevailing economic conditions in the State, soaring prices of food stuffs and other essential commodities, continued influx of refugees and their unsettled conditions, growth of new towns and development of industries. Delhi ascribed the increase in the number of ordinary thefts to a rapid increase in the population, and building activities and the resulting presence of a large floating population. In Tripura and Himachal Pradesh the increase is attributed to adverse economic conditions and better reporting. Jammu and Kashmir ascribed the increase to the activities of foreign criminals in bordering villages. Bihar ascribed the increase to acute economic difficulties. Kerala and Mysore have not given any definite reason.

RIOTS

23,750 cases were reported during the year under review as compared to 24,700 in 1956. The rising trend in riots ever since 1953 was arrested during this year registering a decrease of (-3.8 per cent) over the 1956 figure. The largest increase under the head was in Kerala (+396 i.e. 83.5 per cent), followed by Tripura (+34 i.e. 40 per cent), Manipur (+10 i.e. 35.7 per cent) and Punjab (+87 i.e. 32.3 per cent). The noticeable decreases were in Bombay city (-222 i.e. 69.6 per cent), Madras City (-13 i.e. 46.4 per cent), Kanpur City (-5 i.e. 41.7 per cent) and Bombay State (-1393 i.e. 40.9 per cent).

The States that recorded more than 1,500 cases were West Bengal (3,988), Bihar (3,922), Uttar Pradesh (3,002), Madras (2,047), Andhra Pradesh (2,034) and Bombay (2,014).

The volume of crime was more than seven in Tripura (18.6), West Bengal (15.2), Assam (11.7), Bihar (10.1) and Naga Hills (8.4).

In Tripura the increase was due to land disputes amongst the refugees and the absence of a proper survey which have made land disputes a persisting feature. Manipur ascribes the increase to land disputes. Punjab attributed the increase to Hindi Raksha Agitation and the Patwaris' agitation. In Kerala widespread political and labour agitations contributed to the increase in crime under this head.

In Bombay City the decrease was due to the absence of any language riots.

13,165 cases were sent up for trial, 3,724 cases were convicted, 7,839 were acquitted or discharged and 1,602 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 22.2 (26.4 of 1956) and to cases tried 32.2 (38.8 of 1956).

112,745 persons were tried, out of whom 28,915 were convicted, 70,373 acquitted or discharged and cases against the 13,457 were withdrawn. The percentage of persons convicted to cases tried was 29.1 (38.8 of 1956).

CRIMINAL BREACH OF TRUST

The crime under this head showed a negligible decrease of 0.67 per cent over the 1956 figure.

The States which recorded more than 1,000 cases were Bombay (3,231), Uttar Pradesh (2,323), Madras (1,959), West Bengal (1,520) and Madhya Pradesh (1,230).

The volume of crime was highest in Greater Bombay (33.1) followed by Madras City (26.8), Kanpur (25.4), Bangalore (25.2), Hyderabad (19.0), Delhi (15.7), A. & N. Islands (12.9) and Calcutta (10.4).

8,059 cases were sent up for trial of which 4,605 were convicted, 2,375 were acquitted or discharged and 1,079 were compounded or withdrawn. The percentage of cases convicted to cases investigated was 37.7 (38.6 of 1956) and to cases tried 66.0 (65.9 of 1956).

9,491 persons were sent up for trial; of these 4,995 were convicted, 3,272 acquitted or discharged and cases against 1,224 compounded or withdrawn.

CHEATING

Cheating cases decreased by (-1.4%). Large increases were noticed in Calcutta (+126 i.e. 45.8 %), Bangalore City (+29 i.e. 43.3 %), Manipur (+18 i.e. 41.9 %), Assam (+56 i.e. 34.1 %), Mysore (+70 i.e. 28.8 %), Delhi (+85 i.e. 28.5 %) and Jammu & Kashmir (+7 i.e. 25 %). Decreases occurred in Kanpur City (-27 i.e. 42.2 %), Rajasthan (-185 i.e. 35.3 %), Tripura (-3 i.e. 29.6 %), Punjab (-158 i.e. 26.5 %) and Himachal Pradesh (-8 i.e. 25.8 %).

Bombay (2,167), West Bengal (1,249) and Madhya Pradesh (1,045) registered the largest number of cases. The volume of crime was highest in Bombay City (29.7) followed by Delhi (22.0), Madras (16.6), Hyderabad (13.5), Bangalore (12.3) and Manipur (10.6).

4,851 cases were sent up on charge-sheet; 2,491 were convicted, 1,486 acquitted or discharged and 874 were compounded or withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 31.0 (32.5 in 1956) and to cases tried 62.6 (62.1 in 1956).

7,114 persons were sent up for trial, 3,244 were convicted, 2,630 acquitted or discharged and cases against 1,240 persons were compounded or withdrawn.

The percentage of conviction was 55.2 (53.9 in 1956).

COUNTERFEITING

There was an increase of (+5.5 per cent) under this category of crime in 1957 over the corresponding figure of 1956.

The States which recorded more than 50 cases were Bihar (146), Madhya Pradesh (82), West Bengal (72), Assam (63), Orissa (58) and Uttar Pradesh (53).

During the year out of 316 cases sent up for trial 183 resulted in conviction, 128 in acquittal or discharge and 5 cases were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was 36.0 (40.5 of 1956) and to the cases tried 59.8 (65.2 in 1956).

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Out of 505 persons sent up for trial 259 were convicted, 229 were discharged or acquitted and cases against 17 were withdrawn. The percentage of conviction to persons tried was 53.1 (60.6 in 1956).

RESULT OF INVESTIGATION

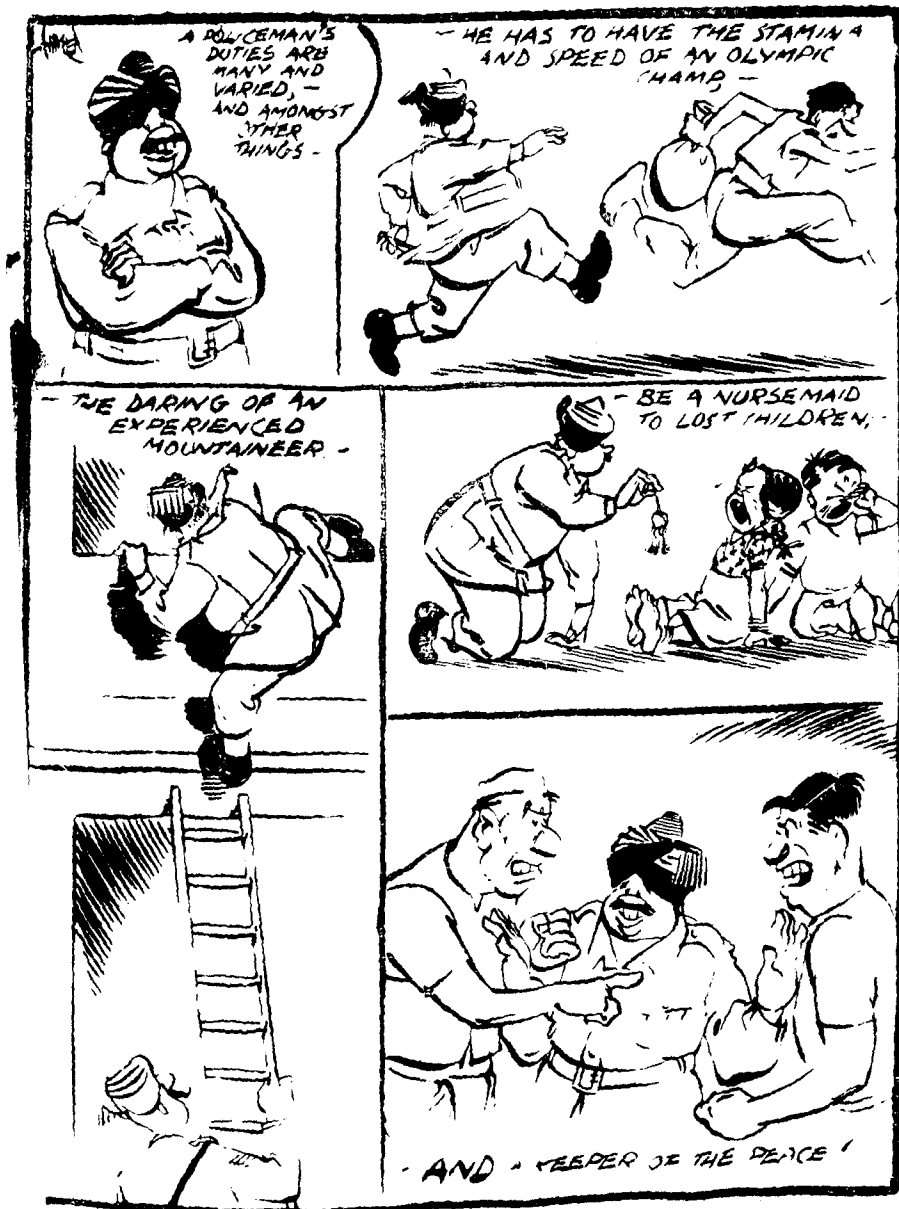
At the close of 1956, 140,252 cases were pending disposal in the courts and 53,806 were pending investigation with the police. During the year 1957, 581,371 cases were registered with the Police. In 533,335 cases investigation was refused, or they were declared to be false, or were due to mistake of fact, or law or non-cognisable; or cases which abated on account of death of accused, or the accused was declared insane, or which remained not detected, at the close of 1957. Thus investigation was completed in 493,570 cases; out of these 251,476 (51 per cent) remained undetected as compared to 52.46 per cent in 1956. 129,577 (26.3 per cent) against (26.5 in 1956) ended in conviction and 75,251 (15.24 per cent) were acquitted or discharged (against 14.83 in 1956).

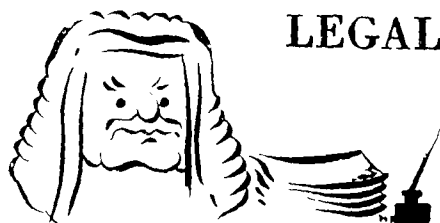
The percentage of conviction to true cases investigated was above the all India figure of 26.3 in Madras (45.4), Himachal Pradesh (45.1), Mysore (41.5), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (41.4), Andhra Pradesh (36.6) and Punjab (36.5). In the larger cities it was Bangalore (56.2), Madras (49.7), and Kanpur (38.6).

At the close of 1956, cases against 344,643 persons were pending trial in courts and cases against 37,943 were pending investigation. During the year 626,915 persons were arrested. Cases against 513,736 persons were completed either by trial or investigation. Out of these 206,335 persons were convicted, 223,949 were acquitted or discharged and the cases against 83,452 persons were compounded or withdrawn. The percentage of persons convicted to those tried was 48.0 (49.8 in 1956). The percentage of conviction was appreciably higher than the All India figure in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (71.8), Madras (61.7), Madhya Pradesh (60.2), Naga Hills and Tuensang Area (57.1) and Punjab (54.2). In the larger cities it was (84.3) in Madras, (81.6) in Bangalore, (73.2) in Kanpur and (70.7) in Hyderabad.

CASUALTIES AMONG THE POLICE

Sixty-seven police officers and men were killed and 1192 were injured during the year in the performance of their duty. The highest number killed was in Naga Hills and Tuensang Area 16, Uttar Pradesh 12, Bihar 7, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan 5 each. Among the injured Bombay including Bombay City contributed 459. Rajasthan 214, West Bengal including Calcutta 117, Bihar 107 and Madras 70.





LEGAL NOTES

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Criminal Misconduct :

The offence of criminal misconduct punishable under Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act is not identical in essence, import and content with an offence under Section 409 I.P.C. The offence of criminal misconduct is a new offence created by that enactment and it does not repeal by implication or abrogate Section 409 I.P.C. There can be no objection to a trial and conviction under Section 409 I.P.C. even if the accused has been acquitted of an offence under Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act (1957 Cr.L.J. 892).

Injury :

Although the medical evidence does not say that any one of the injuries on the body of the deceased was sufficient to cause death in the ordinary course of nature, it is open to the court to look into the nature of the injuries found on the body of the deceased and infer from them that the assailants intended to cause death of the deceased.

Even if none of the injuries by themselves was sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause the death of the deceased, cumulatively they may be sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause his death (1957 Cr. L.J. 591).

Provocation :

Under Exception 1 of Section 300 I.P.C. the provocation must be grave and sudden and must have by its gravity and suddenness deprived the accused of the power of self-control. It ought to be distinctly shown not only that the act was done under the influence of some feeling which took away from the person doing it all control of his action but that the feeling had an adequate cause. In the absence of such proof the atrocity of the offence will not be mitigated and the offender will not be able to escape the legal consequences of

his act. The test is that on the effect of the provocation on a reasonable man, so that an usually excitable or pugnacious individual is not entitled to rely on provocation which would not have led an ordinary man to act as he did. In applying the test it is of particular importance to consider whether sufficient interval has elapsed since the provocation to allow a reasonable man time to cool, and to take into account the instrument with which the homicide was effected, for to retard in the heat of passion induced by provocation by a simple blow is a very different thing from making use of a deadly instrument like a sharp and large knife.

Again, if it appears that he meditated upon his revenge or used any trick or circumvention to effect it, it would show deliberation, which would be inconsistent with the excuse of sudden passion and would be the strongest evidence of malice. The length of time intervening between the alleged affront and the retaliation is evidence in itself of deliberation. It must not, however, be understood that any trivial provocation which in point of law amounts to an assault or even a blow will reduce the crime of the party killing to culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

(Held that in the circumstances of the case the provocation, if any, was neither grave nor sudden and the offence would not be reduced to one of culpable homicide not amounting to murder (1957 Cr. L.J. 617).)

Dr. Johnson was unbending himself with a few friends in the most playful and frolicsome manner. Suddenly he stopped, "My boy," he said "let us be grave: here comes a fool".

—James Boswell
The life of Samuel Johnson

BOOKS



Daily Training Bulletin—Los Angeles Police Department—by W.H. Parker, Chief of Police—Published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois (U.S.A.).

The book is a compilation of the training bulletins issued to the members of the Los Angeles Police force as a part of its Roll-call Training Programme. Through this an attempt was made to pool the knowledge, wisdom and experience of the department personnel for the benefit of the entire force.

The bulletins cover all aspects of police work, regarding policies, rules, techniques and procedures. They lay down clearly the action to be taken by Police officials in normally conceivable contingencies including aircraft accidents and atomic attack. The facilities available at Police Headquarters' record and reference sections and the procedure for making the best use of them are also given.

The bulletins are, of course, based on the local laws and regulations governing the conduct of the Police in Los Angeles, but they provide the foundation on which a very useful training programme can be drawn up for any other Police force. —R.S.

John Benton, Rookie Police—by Sgt. Thomas P. Connors & Lt. Paul Glaser. Published by Dodd, Mead & Co. New York.

This is a "career" book, obviously one of the many published by the same American firm, written by two officers of the New York City Police Department. It traces the events in the life of a police recruit in New York from the moment he enters the Police training institute to the time when, as a full-fledged patrol man he covers his "beat" in the company of another recruit.

The book apparently satisfies the aim with which it is written which is, to quote the Police Commissioner of New York in his introduction, "to give readers some idea of the training and experiences a patrol man undergoes" and to "inspire many more men to enter this vital field." To an average Indian reader this book would not be of much interest. To policeman in India however it may provide an insight into the working of a similar Department in the U.S. It would give him an opportunity to compare the type of training, the requirements of the profession, the type of crime and the general attitude to his work of a policeman in New York, with those in our country. —K.R.

Awards For Gallantry

A. President's Police and Fire Services Medal

Shri Balu Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Rajasthan.

Shri Balu Singh showed exemplary courage and devotion to duty of a high order during an encounter with a gang of dacoits. He was a member of a police party which raided the hideouts of the gang of two notorious dacoits, Bhanwar Singh and Jagmal Singh, on the morning of August 25, 1957. This gang was responsible for various murders and also of the kidnapping of many persons including police officials.

The dacoits opened fire on the Police when they found themselves surrounded. When the gang was on the point of being liquidated, the police party was suddenly fired upon at very close range by another gang of dacoits. Bhanwar Singh and two of his associates were shot dead in the encounter. Shri Balu Singh and some other members of the police party, who had been injured were, however, brought to safety.

B. Police Medal

Sri Tane Rao, Head Constable, Rajasthan.

Head Constable Tane Rao who was with the police raiding party led by Sri Balu Singh showed exceptional courage and devotion to duty of a very high order.

AWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Police Medal

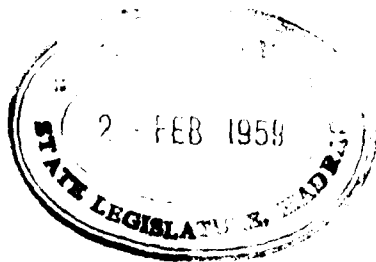
1. Shree D. Sen, Deputy Inspector General, Special Police Establishment.
2. Shree S. M. Ray, Officiating Deputy Superintendent, Special Police Establishment, Calcutta.
3. Shree G. S. Jog, Inspector, Special Police Establishment, Bombay.
4. Shree V. S. Wani, Inspector, Special Police Establishment, Bombay.
5. Shree Kishen Lal, Inspector, Special Police Establishment, C. I. A.), New Delhi.
6. Shree T. Raghawan, Inspector, Special Police Establishment, Madras.

All-India Statement of Crime

Name of State	Total Cognizable Crime	Rioting	Offences relating to		Murder	Culpable Homicide N/A to Murder	Administering of Poisoning Drugs	Kidnapping and abduction
			Coins	Currency and Bank Notes				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	7,604	481	1	2	221	40	4	38
Assam	4,365	282	1	22	70	25	...	77
Bihar	13,370	616	7	23	249	55	14	76
Bombay	26,476	448	4	2	545	105	9	211
Jammu & Kashmir	1200	67	...	...	29	4	1	25
Kerala	3,762	269	3	...	98	16	2	14
Madhya Pradesh	14,769	398	6	12	320	10	15	197
Madras	12,431	466	2	...	187	84	18	121
Mysore	5,574	168	1	...	153	26	2	34
Orissa	5,981	168	...	...	67	28	4	28
Punjab	5,459	55	...	...	180	73	2	92
Rajasthan	5,055	273	...	...	130	20	4	132
Uttar Pradesh	15,642	770	4	...	470	368	24	229
West Bengal	17,680	1,199	3	16	144	109	8	206
Union Territories.								
A. & N. Islands	59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delhi	2,712	20	1	...	27	2	10	59
Himachal Pradesh	295	10	...	...	5	...	2	9
Manipur	207	6	...	...	4	...	...	21
Tripura	659	57	...	...	2	7	...	9
Pondicherry	614	1	...	...	2	...	1	...
Naga Hills and Tuensang Area	67	...	...	1	2	1	...	...
Total	143,952	5,763	33	78	2,896	973	120	1,573

For the Quarter Ending 30th June, 1958

Dacoity and Preparation and Assembly for Dacoity	Robbery	House-Breaking	Cheating	Criminal Breach of Trust	Copper wire	THEFT						
						Cattle	Cycles	Motor Vehicles and Accessories	Fire-arms	Explosives	Other Types	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	54	1,451	158	214	92	467	261	44	...	1	2,387	
50	55	936	46	35	12	101	68	45	5	2	936	
374	192	4,094	75	105	116	286	394	5	9	3	2,892	
137	587	4,145	482	914	168	870	529	104	7	...	9,350	
26	18	313	8	41	3	46	8	2	14	2	165	
4	15	554	25	56	9	49	16	5	...	2	638	
124	222	3,655	270	352	69	1,289	313	32	21	...	5,841	
9	73	1,716	214	311	82	588	217	17	3	6	4,242	
23	40	795	78	184	30	285	136	26	6	...	1,650	
19	44	995	57	125	78	251	110	...	2	...	1,439	
6	25	1,063	112	118	25	151	170	8	6	2	1,002	
20	193	1,142	76	77	2	506	130	2	9	...	825	
206	239	3,346	246	535	76	927	681	5	60	3	4,119	
147	204	2,607	361	413	150	394	631	149	7	4	7,047	
..		5	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	11	
...	10	437	91	86	6	20	453	8	1	...	982	
3	4	50	8	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	80	
4	1	24	13	7	...	15	18	...	...	...	26	
5	12	221	...	5	...	29	5	...	...	...	131	
...	1	34	4	3	...	5	7	...	...	...	95	
1	3	19	2	1		1	...	3	...	...	7	
1,180	1,902	27,602	2,327	3,619	918	6,282	4,147	455	150	25	43,885	



ROLL OF HONOUR

**Shri Jagir Singh, Sub-Inspector, Roberts
Road Police Station, Delhi.**



Shri Singh was on patrol checking duty on the night between 23/24-8-1958. At about 1.30 a.m. while he was making entries in the Beat Book of a Foot Constable in beat No. 2, South Avenue, New Delhi, car No. DLE 200 which was driven by Mr. Eric Engzell, who was coming from the direction of Rashtrapati Bhawan, dashed against the Sub-Inspector. The car was driven at a high speed and dragged the S.I. along with his cycle for a considerable distance. The Sub-Inspector was admitted in the Willingdon Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries on the same day at 9.15 a.m.

DELINQUENTS' VARIETY SHOW AT RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

JUVENILE DELINQUENTS FROM THE JUVENILE JAIL, BAREILLY, WHO EARNED THE PRIME MINISTER'S APPRECIATION EARLY THIS YEAR, GAVE A DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE AT RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN, DELHI, ON NOV. 13.

ABOUT ONE HUNDRED BOYS FROM THE JAIL, EQUIPPED WITH THEIR BAND AND DRAMA COSTUMES, TOOK PART IN THE PERFORMANCE WHICH WAS HIGHLY COMMENDED. THEY ALSO JOINED THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION ON NOVEMBER 14.

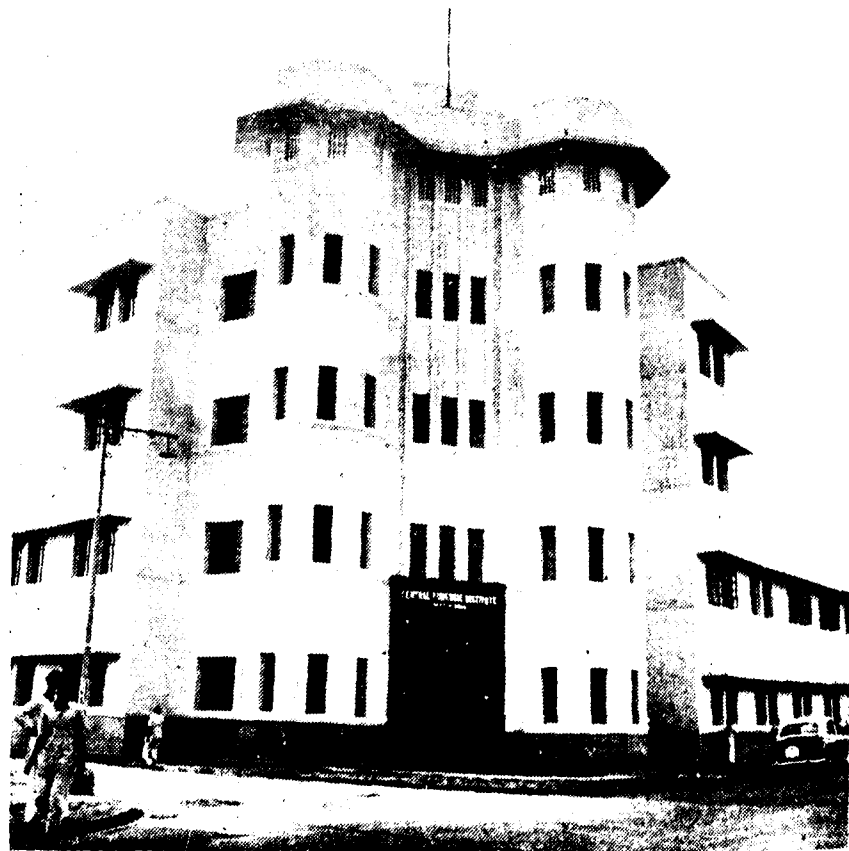
BOYS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN, WHO ARE SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT EXCEEDING ONE YEAR FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES ARE KEPT IN THE BAREILLY JUVENILE JAIL.



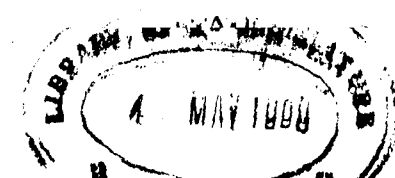
Policeman rendering First Aid to a victim of a traffic accident.—Punjab.

THE INDIAN POLICE JOURNAL

APRIL 1959



The Central Forensic Institutes building.



THE INDIAN POLICE JOURNAL

Vol. V No. 4

April, 1959

EDITORIAL

Crime in the midst of plenty, is a strange phenomenon in the advanced western countries of to-day. Human behaviour is recording strange facts and figures. While the countries are advancing in comforts of life and prosperity, their human material still shows social perversities.

The dynamic changes in social life in India deserve to be studied in the perspective of their impact on human mind and behaviour. The environments and beliefs are fast changing owing to rural areas developing into townships, rural economy developing into industrial economy. In these new environments, social behaviour and outlook are bound to change.

The social problems to-day tend more and more to centre on human behaviour in individual capacities, the causes and effects of that on social relations and the measures needed to remedy perversities. The United Nations Organisation which has in many spheres shown commendable grasp of problems that may affect posterity has already picked up one in the sphere of the social sciences with particular reference to Criminology and the Forensic Science.

Criminology is no longer viewed as merely a science of prevention and detection of crime. It is viewed in a more basic manner with roots in studies of Sociology,

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important because the success of a police officer lies greatly, wherever he may be stationed, and whatever he may be doing, in the measure he can obtain the co-operation of the people of the place. Whether it is in the detection of crime or in the normal maintenance of law and order it makes all the difference in the world whether the public react to it in a friendly way or are reluctant to help.

I have had a great deal to do in my life—past life—with crowds, and I know something of the psychology of crowds. A crowd has an individuality of its own and that individuality can be changed from friendliness to hostility with great rapidity and a hostile crowd can also be made a friendly crowd if properly tackled. It is obvious that if you have to deal with a crowd, the best course and in fact, the only course is to make it a friendly crowd. If it tends to be a hostile crowd because of something that has happened, even then try to make it friendly. Try to divert its attention from something that has excited it, and seek its co-operation in that friendly way. You may not always succeed. There are difficult circumstances, but even the attempt of that friendly approach to a crowd or to a group always pays in the end. That is to say, the approach of an officer whatever he may be, Civil or Military, Police or any other, in any situation dealing with crowds or groups, or individuals, must always be a friendly approach. Thereby you draw out the best in that group or that crowd and can deal with the recalcitrant elements more easily; otherwise the anti-social elements get the sympathy of the crowd and then you have to deal with a much bigger problem.

I have spoken to you about this broad approach because you are going out to shoulder very responsible duties. You are young and suddenly at the height of your youth you may be faced with heavy responsibilities. I am sure that you have learnt a great deal during the course of your training, how to face some of the problems that you may have to deal with. But there will be many new problems and these will try sometimes your temper even, very much so, and some times you may be in doubt as to how to deal with the problems. But if you remember about the basic approach of friendliness to the people you seek to serve and not try to be bosses, ordering them about but rather seeking their co-operation, you will find that many of your problems are easier to solve. Many people increase their own difficulties by a wrong approach. It is the approach that counts.

Secondly, it is of the highest importance that a police officer who is in charge of such heavy responsibilities should have the respect of the people he serves. They should have faith in his integrity and friendliness. A police officer is often faced with great temptations. He must overcome them and an officer has to overcome them more than the constable under him. The officer has always to set an example and, if he fails, there is greater harm done to the State and to the reputation of the police force than if an ordinary constable fails.

MASS MURDER IN BANGALORE

B.P. Revanna

District Superintendent of Police, Bangalore.

EARLY in the morning on June 6, 1956, Sub-Inspector Srikanta Reddy who was at his desk in the Police Control Room at No. 1, Infantry Road, Bangalore-1, received an emergency telephone call. A person named Nagaraj rang up to say that a mass murder had been committed in "Ranga Vilas", a mansion opposite to the Taj Mahal hotel, from where he called. The mansion belonged to Belur Srinivasa Iyengar, a 74-year old, well-to-do, retired lawyer. Nagaraj suspected that property had also been stolen.

The Sub-Inspector recorded the message, flashed it to his Inspector Mr. Sivacharan Singh, and rushed to "Ranga Vilas" with a posse of police. Inspector Sivacharan Singh soon reached the spot and found that a large crowd had already collected. The police officers saw for themselves that the crime was indeed a most frightful one. Five mutilated bodies lying in pools of blood were enough to curdle anyone's blood. There were two other persons lying unconscious. They were Belur Srinivasa Iyengar himself and his 17-year old daughter, Rangalakshmi. They were immediately rushed to the Victoria Hospital in an ambulance. Srinivasa Iyengar succumbed to the injuries in the evening. The police officers carefully but thoroughly inspected the scene of crime. The photographer and the finger print experts were summoned to do their part of the job.

"Ranga Villas" was an aristocratic mansion situated in the heart of Gandhi Nagar, an elite locality of Bangalore. The mansion had a large vacant space on all sides and there were three entrances to it.

It was soon clear to the police that the miscreants must have had a thorough knowledge of the place. The watch dog had been heavily doped (as was revealed by autopsy). The watchman Ramalingam had been brutally assaulted before he could raise any alarm. Then the murderers wrenched one of the window bars and gained entrance into the building.

Belur Srinivasa Iyengar had been confined to bed owing to a fractured leg and was in the front room of the house. The other inmates namely, his wife Vengadamma, aged 45 years, mother-in-law Singamma, aged 70 years, daughter Rangalakshmi, aged 17 years, and the twins Lava and Kusha, aged six years, were asleep in the adjoining room. The other two daughters were in a room at the

rear. The connecting door between the two rooms was open. In the third room adjacent to the second, there was an iron safe in which were deposited all the valuables and the cash.

Beginning their inquiries the police questioned the neighbours and the servants who worked in the house. The following details were obtained: Yellamma, a maid-servant in the Belur house, and the wife of watchman Ramalingam, accompanied by her sister-in-law, came to the bungalow for work early in the morning. To their surprise they found one of the gates open, which was unusual, and there was no familiar barking greeting from the dog. They went to the veranda and were still more surprised to find the front door ajar. They moved over to the left and in a side veranda a ghastly sight met their eyes. Watchman Ramalingam lay dead in a pool of blood. At once they screamed in horror and this brought one of the Belur's daughters from the rear portion sprinting to the scene. This was Rathna, aged 14, who having seen the terrible sight in the veranda, flung the front door open and ran in to tell her mother about it. But she gasped in horror when she saw her mother Vengadamma, her grandmother and twin brothers all lying dead in a pool of blood. Her sister Rangalakshmi sat crouching against the wall, severely injured and unconscious. Rathna became aghast and was beside herself with fear. With tears running down her cheeks, she slipped into her father's room only to find the old man lying unconscious on his blood-soaked bed, grievously injured. Then she ran in terror to Nagaraj, a tenant in one of the out-houses, and sobbed out the dismal news to him. Stunned beyond words, Nagaraj with two other tenants, Srinivas and Radhakrishna, went with Rathna into the house and saw the horror with his own eyes. There was a blood-stained crow-bar leaning against the wall, an iron rod nearby, and a knife on the cot. The doors of the almirahs and the iron safe were flung open and a few silver articles and empty jewel cases were lying pell-mell on the floor. A few trunks were also lying scattered about with their lids open and the contents thrown about in a confused heap. Nagaraj then acted promptly and informed the Police.

Examining the house closely the police found that the only clues they had were the crow-bar, the iron rod and the knife. There were also two halves of cinema tickets of the nearby Himalaya 'Talkies'. Nineteen articles were picked up by the Finger Print Experts for verification of marks. As things stood at that moment the only hope for the police investigation lay in Rangalakshmi's regaining consciousness. But that was a matter of time.

The police were faced with several questions. What could have been the motive for the gruesome murders? Who were the miscreants? Could it have been the relatives? They were closely interrogated, carefully watched and their antecedents examined but they were free from guilt. Belur Srinavasa Iyengar had three children

by his first wife, who was deceased. They were a son and two daughters. Muthanna, the son, was mentally deranged and so he was free from suspicion. Nor could the two daughters be in it. They were married and comfortably settled. The will of the old man bequeathing all his properties to the second wife Vengadamma could not have been responsible for the tragedy. By the process of elimination it was established that the cruel murders were for gain alone. The gaping iron safe, almirahs and trunks which had been rifled thoroughly bore silent witness to this presumption.

The Press and the public were justifiably agitated. Intensive efforts were made by the police to collect vital information. Night patrol was tightened. Shady characters were shadowed. Police Dogs from Madras were requisitioned, but unfortunately they proved to be of little assistance. The police kept their eyes and ears open for any chance information that might help to reveal the cause of the tragedy.

On the 8th of June, information came to hand that a certain person went to jeweller Panduranga's shop in the Civil Area on a motor-cycle and disposed of an ingot of 11½ tolas of gold at 100 rupees a tola. He had collected Rs. 1113/- only and promised to collect the balance of Rs. 20/- later. The name of the transactor was given as Krishnappa. It was a valuable tip. The police immediately flung a wide net and started to close in on the person named Krishnappa. On the same night, Police Daffadar Vedagiri, while on night patrol in Seshadripuram, espied a person moving suspiciously about. Vedagiri immediately challenged him. The other fellow faltered and fumbled. When searched he was found to have two house-breaking implements. He was taken to the Police Station for interrogation. The suspect who gave his name as Channa disclosed that he had returned from Bellary recently. Before he went to Bellary he had been asked by a bad character named Muniswamy to join hands with him and his brother Krishna Reddy to burgle the house of Belur Srinivasa Iyengar. They had made an unsuccessful attempt a fortnight previously to break into that house and so they wanted to try again. But by the time Channa came back from Bellary the burglary had been committed as also the murders.

A close examination of Channa's statement made the police feel that they were on the right track. They immediately took steps to arrest the persons named by Channa. Krishna Reddy and Muniswamy were arrested on the 9th of June. They were brothers by birth and in crime and were notorious culprits. Jewels, articles such as blood-stained clothes, and money were recovered from Krishna Reddy's house at Ulsoor. While the police raided Krishna Reddy's house, his concubine Jayamma, fearing instinctively that the game was up, frankly testified to the notoriety, evil intentions and conspiracy of

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her paramour. A few items of jewellery were traced to Muniswamy and their complicity in crime was unquestionably established.

Interrogated by the Police, Krishna Reddy and Muniswamy said that the brain behind the conspiracy was Govinda Reddy, who was a close relative of both. Govinda Reddy was a resident of Gandhi Nagar and so had a perfect knowledge of the Behur family affairs and also the topography of "Ranga Vilas." Investigation revealed that on the evening of the 5th June, Krishna Reddy went out on his motor-cycle to meet Govinda Reddy. It was too early for the crime and so the motor-cycle was left in a fuel depot owned by Basavaraj. Govinda Reddy stayed behind. Muniswamy arrived at the appointed time and together with Krishna Reddy he attended the late night show at the Himalaya Talkies. They did not sit right through the entire show. They came out in the middle and went to Govinda Reddy's house. Together the three of them reached the Behur mansion. As preplanned they doped the dog and butchered the watchman. Krishna Reddy wrenched a window bar, gained entrance into the hall and opened the main door to admit his associates. They went into the ladies' room and ruthlessly killed four of the inmates, battering a few, and knifing the others. Muniswamy walked over to the front room where the old and ailing master of the family lay asleep. He hit him on the head and thought he was dead. They ransacked the entire place, robbed the women of their jewels and bundled up their booty. While going out Muniswamy dealt another blow on Rangalakshmi who seemed to be watching their movements and deeds in a dazed manner. Thus they believed that they had made sure that there would be no eye witness at all. It was all done with devilish speed and cold calculation. Govinda Reddy went home, while Krishna Reddy and Muniswamy motor-cycled to the former's residence at Ulsoor. Muniswamy received his share of the booty and went to his village of Chinnayanapalya. Later in the day, Govinda Reddy received his portion of the booty namely Rs. 3420/- in cash and valuables worth Rs. 13,000/- at Krishna Reddy's place. Highly elated by this ill-gotten fortune Krishna Reddy acquired expensive clothes and furniture. He also got the jewels melted and disposed of the gold ingot. But by doing so he walked into the police net which had been spread for him.

On the 16th of June, Govinda Reddy, who had been absconding since the day of the crime, was traced and arrested. Gold jewels on his person and a blood-stained cloth from his residence were recovered. Thus within four days of the commission of the crime the culprits had been arrested and properties traced. All that remained to be done was to charge-sheet the accused.

Prime facie charges were made out against the three accused for offences under sections 457, 459, 460, 310, 302, 397, 307 and 34 I.P.C. For the prosecution, unimpeachable evidence was collected to prove



Tell-tale evidence: A room in a state of utter confusion in the Behur mansion after the cyclonic visit by the criminals.



The two daughters of Iyengar, Rathna and Prasanna, who identified the articles stolen by the criminals.

that the three accused had conspired together and had acted together to murder the inmates of the Belur House and thus got possession of the jewels, cash and other valuables. It was established that the crow-bar and the iron rod left behind in the Belur mansion by the murderers had been bought by Krishna Reddy and Muniswamy on the afternoon of the 5th of June. They were identified by Dhana-lakshmi and Ibrahim Khan, the owners of the shops where the articles had been bought. Complicity of the three accused relating to their movements on the afternoon and night of the 5th of June and early in the morning on the 6th was testified to by Venkataramaia, Basavaraj, Alamelamma and other witnesses. Basavaraj, the owner of the fuel depot at Gandhi Nagar, deposed how Krishna and Govinda Reddy came to his shop at 8 p.m. on the 5th June and left the motor cycle there saying that it would be picked up later that night on their return from the cinema show. The two halves of cinema tickets supported this. Alamelamma, maid servant at Krishna Reddy's house at Ulsoor, said that Krishna and Muniswamy came home at 5.30 a.m. on the 6th June and that she opened the door for them.

The articles of jewellery recovered from the accused on their information were proved to belong to Belur Srinivasa Iyengar's family. The two young daughters of Iyengar, Rathna and Prasanna, identified the articles. Dr. Srinangamma, sister-in-law of Belur Srinivasa Iyengar, also testified to having seen and known that the jewels belonged to the Belur family. A few of the articles recovered from Krishna Reddy's house bore specific marks on them. When Krishna Reddy was arrested on 9th June, a sum of Rs. 1065/- was found on his person, along with a bunch of keys and a few cash bills. Among the articles recovered from Krishna Reddy's place, a gold cup bearing the inscription "Gratefully, Siddabasappa and Brothers, 21-11-1926" was proved to be a present given by Mr. Siddabasappa to Belur Srinivasa Iyengar as a token of gratitude to the services rendered by Iyengar as the legal adviser of the family. A gold wrist watch with initials "B.S.V." (Belur Srinivasa Iyengar Vengadamma) was proved to be the property of Mrs. Vengadamma Srinivasa Iyengar, on the testimony of Srinivasaiah, who made it to order in his shop. A gold ring with the inscription "Srinangamma, M.B.B.S." was a present given by Dr. Srinangamma to B.S. Sampath, the deceased son of Belur Srinivasa Iyengar. Among the blood-stained clothes recovered from Krishna Reddy's residence, two were proved to be Krishna Reddy's on the evidence of Venkatappa and Motappa, the washerman who recognised the dhobi mark given by him for the clothes of Krishna Reddy. The other two clothes were those of Muniswamy and that was also established. The Chemical Examiner and Serologist, to whom the blood-stained clothes were sent for examination, certified that it was human blood of the "O" group.

A knife salvaged from a well near Krishna Reddy's house and bearing specific identification marks was proved to belong to him on the evidence of Jayamma, his concubine, and of Channa, who was an associate of his, and of Prabhakar his neighbour.

Two gold chains, currency notes amounting to Rs. 156/-, a jade Hoovu (a gold piece used for hair decoration), and a gold ring, all belonging to the Belur family, were recovered from Muniswamy's house after his arrest on the 9th June. A pair of pearl bangles, a pair of gold bangles set with red stones and a necklace set with red stones, all belonging to the Belur family, were found on the person of Govinda Reddy when he was arrested on the 10th June. A blood-stained dhoti recovered from Govinda Reddy's house was certified to contain human blood.

On top of it all, the police established how the silver articles touched and abandoned by the accused in the Belur house contained the finger prints of the three accused. This was incontrovertible proof.

Krishna Reddy was also found to be involved in a number of heinous burglaries and a sensational double murder for gain at Dharwar. Strong suspicion of his being responsible for the murder of a certain Kantha at Siddaghatta on 3-6-1919 was also on him.

The accused were defended by a team of talented lawyers. Their chief contention was that the information furnished by accused Krishna which led to the recovery of jewels was in the nature of self-incriminating evidence and so hit the article 20(3) of the Constitution of India and was *ultra vires*. But this contention was declared to be untenable in the light of the decisions of a number of High Courts on this point. The counsel for the accused also contended that the Investigating Officer acted in violation of Article 20(3) of the Constitution of India by taking finger impressions of the accused while in custody for purposes of verification and comparison and so it was in the nature of testimonial compulsion. But the ruling was given that it was not a violation of the Article in view of the decision of many High Courts and of the Supreme Court in this regard. However, leave to appeal to the Supreme Court on this issue was granted.

On a careful consideration of all the evidence, the Sessions Judge convicted the accused and awarded the extreme penalty and sentenced them to be hanged.

All the three appealed to the High Court, where they failed, and later to the Supreme Court, where also they failed. Mercy petitions were submitted to the Governor of Mysore and the President but they were rejected.

THE CENTRAL DETECTIVE TRAINING SCHOOL

Central Detective Training School

T. Ramamujam

Principal, Central Detective Training School, Calcutta.

THE Central Detective Training School has been set up to train investigating officers deputed by the different states in India, in the advanced methods of investigation and detection of crime.

The non-availability of accommodation at suitable places selected earlier ultimately brought this institution to be located at Calcutta where the Government of India had their own building and were able to hire a few more buildings necessary for the school, hostel and so on. The school started its first course of training from 17th November, 1958, and has taken in 28 officers of the status of Sub-Inspectors of Police, who have put in more than seven years of service, some of them even more than 20 years of service. There will be three courses in a year.

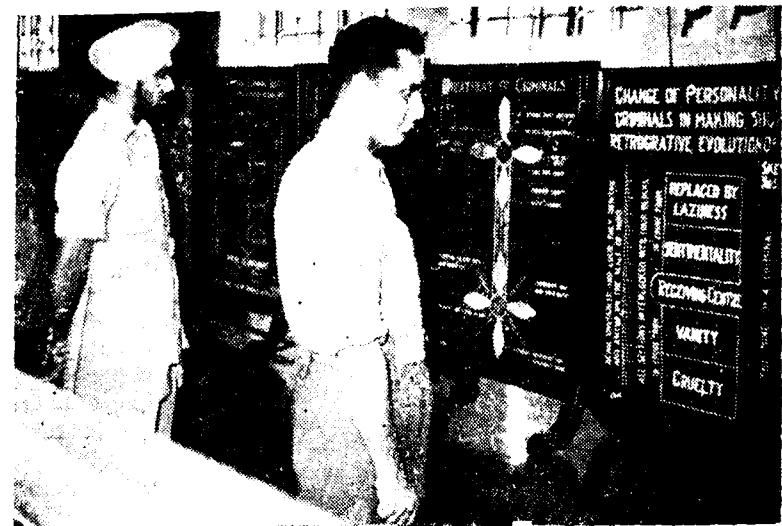
Syllabus and technique of instructions:

In a course of 13 weeks, 292 periods are available for instructional purposes. The syllabus consists of the following subjects:—

1. Criminal Investigation (General)	..	68	periods	(24%)
2. Criminal Investigation (Special)	..	79	„	(27%)
3. Scientific Aids to Criminal Investigation	..	51	„	(17%)
4. Law and Law-trends	..	34	„	(12%)
5. Miscellaneous subjects	..	60	„	(20%)
Total		..	292	periods (100%)

Considerable stress is being laid on the use of scientific aids to criminal investigation.

Intensive training will also be given on the development of finger impressions on material objects ordinarily found at scenes of crimes, taking casts of foot-prints, tool marks, handling, packing and despatch of exhibits collected at the scenes of crimes to the expert, preparation of plans and sketches and taking photographs of scenes of crimes. Practical demonstrations and exercises will be held at actual scenes of crimes, and at other places by standing scenes of crimes.



Above: A Section of the Crime Museum of the Central Detective Training School.



Left: Fired bullets are being examined under the comparison microscope in the laboratory attached to the C.D.T.S.

*Trainees testing microscope
in the laboratory.*



*Trainees doing practical work
in developing finger prints.*

Facilities have been provided for use of audiovisual aids, such as charts, models, photographs, lantern slides and movie films are also made besides displaying relevant exhibits from the crime museum to suit the lectures. Several lectures on extra curricular subjects by outside dignitaries have also been arranged in order to broaden the outlook of the trainees and create a wider range of interest in them. Discussion classes on the subjects of Police interest in which the trainees are free to express their views and experiences have been provided in the course as a means of instruction.

The Set-up :

The staff consisting of Principal, the Vice-Principal and five officers of the rank of Deputy Superintendents with wide experience in criminal investigation were selected from different States. They were trained in the best institutions in the United Kingdom and other European countries both in the matter of techniques of instruction and methods of investigation.

There is a good library equipped with books on Police matters, law and general knowledge, besides periodicals, police journals, police gazettes, criminal intelligence gazettes and police administration reports from most of the States in the country.

There is a museum which contains a wide range of exhibits illustrating the different types of crime prevalent in the various States. There is also a separate museum for medico-legal subjects consisting of few original human organs, male and female models showing the different parts of the body including the circulatory system, skeletons of human body, physiological charts and photographs illustrating the various types of wounds. There is also a laboratory with a few microscopes finger-print developing equipment, a bullet recovery box and a comparison microscope. A photographic section is attached to the School for practical instructions on photographs.

Provision is also made for indoor recreation, such as table-tennis, carrom, dart games and badminton in the School. There is a Canteen to provide light refreshments, stationery and toilet articles needed for the trainees on payment.

Hostel :

There is a residential hostel attached to the School not far from it. The rooms are reasonably furnished and the messing arrangements are satisfactory. A Medical Officer has been appointed to look to the health and welfare of the trainees.

The training in the institution which commenced from 17-11-58 fulfils a long-felt need. The number of Sub-Inspectors who would be trained in a year in this institution is no doubt low when compared to their annual intake all over India. But this institution offers advanced training to experienced investigating Officers who have had so far no such institution to give them special training and refresher course.

JOINT ACTION PAYS

Brahma Shankar Singh

C.I.D., Bihar.

ON the morning of September 10, 1951, while the labourers of the Tinsplate Company of India, Jamshedpur, queued up for their wages, despite a steady drizzle, driver Franklin of the Company started from the office of the Chief Cashier in a station wagon loaded with six boxes each containing Rs. 50,000 for the Time Office for the disbursement of wages. The station wagon stopped outside the gate of the Time Office and the paymasters and two of the chaukidars got down to unload the money boxes. Suddenly three terrific explosions in quick succession rent the air and frightened the labourers. The driver peered at the tyres thinking that they had burst but he was rudely pushed out by two unknown persons who got into the van and drove away, taking advantage of the smoky atmosphere caused by the explosion. The cloudy weather combined with smoke created a temporary mist which helped the robbers to disappear in the van unchallenged while the labourers stood bewildered. Hardly had they advanced 200 yards when Kalu Gurning, another chaukidar who was in the van, was pushed out of it resulting in severe injuries to his head and the right hand. While everybody stood stunned the resourceful driver Franklin with admirable presence of mind started in another car and chased the culprit only to find the station wagon abandoned in Agrico area with the chaukidar Ramu Rama dead inside in a pool of blood.

The case was reported to the local police station and an investigation was started immediately. Four of the six boxes containing money were discovered abandoned and broken. Some currency notes were found scattered probably left by the culprits in a hurry. A loaded six-chambered revolver No. 717275 by Smith & Wesson of .38 bore along with a few live and empty cartridges, some instruments apparently for breaking open the cash boxes, a pair of trousers, a mesh shirt with bloodstains and a few other articles were found in the abandoned van. Out of the two boxes which were left intact, an amount of Rs. 1,66,158/2/- was found including the money scattered. Also at a little distance away two crackers were found.

The police examined the scene of crime minutely. They found ample evidence of the brutal assault committed by the criminals on men and property. The glass panes of the window of the van and the front door were found smashed. The blood found in the station

wagon was sent for chemical examination and finger and palm prints on the glass panes and the boxes were photographed for comparison. The medical officers could not trace any bullet in the body of the chaukidar during an examination.

After completing the survey of the scene of crime the police interrogated the witnesses to the outrage but could not get any helpful information against the culprits. The line of investigation went in another direction for sometime and a Punjabi gang of Darsan Singh with his followers named Harnam Singh, Bansi Singh and Gurdip Singh was suspected on a statement made by a labourer of the company, but later on this was found to be baseless. The modus operandi of the hold-up was then examined in detail and compared with several hold-up cases which had occurred in the past. After a long and exhaustive examination, the C.I.D. Range Inspector noted that a similar hold-up had occurred in Calcutta and that the gang concerned in that hold-up had adopted a similar modus operandi. It was felt that they might be responsible in this case also. According to police files, that gang was headed by one Amulya Ratan Bose from village Ghat Manghi, P.S. Medanipur in the district of Faridpur, East Pakistan, who was an absconder in another case and about whom the Calcutta Police had enquired only a month earlier at Jamshedpur where he had a few relatives. Some dacoity squad officers were detailed to find out the details of Amulya's gang and hold-up cases of Calcutta.

It was learnt that on the day of occurrence at 6-30 a.m. Aditya Lal Das, an employee of the Tinsplate Co. had seen Ram Lal of Golmuri, a moneylender and formerly proprietor of a hotel, going hurriedly to the hotel in a small blue-coloured taxi and then coming back and picking up three persons near the rickshaw stand. He was again going towards the Tinsplate Company. After taking tea at a hotel he went to attend to his duty and at the gate Das again saw Ram Lal talking to one of the three persons who were putting on waterproof coats, sometime before the occurrence. Just after the occurrence he narrated this fact to the Office Superintendent who informed the Security Officer of the company who passed it on to the local police. Later on A.L. Das identified two of these three persons.

Babu Lal, a barber of Golmuri Bazar, who had been contacted by the police disclosed that he used to attend on three persons for the past three months. They came on the second and third day of every month, halted at the Prince Hotel and then went back on the ninth or tenth day of the month. On the day of the occurrence he had been to the hotel for attending on them as usual but was not allowed to do so by the proprietor Rolla Ram. When he went inside to demand his dues, he saw Rolla Ram flourishing a revolver. On the strength of this information, Rolla Ram's house was searched and two waterproof coats and a cap corresponding to the description of the water-

proofs worn by the culprits at the time of the crime were recovered. There were blood-stains on one of them. Rolla Ram could not explain things satisfactorily and was arrested. He was found to be a relation of Ram Lall from whom he had purchased the Prince Hotel.

The revolver found in the station wagon was traced to have been snatched from a watcher constable of Special Branch, Calcutta Police. The trousers and bush-shirts left behind by the culprits bore washerman's marks which resembled those found on the clothes of the accused in Deoghar Bank Dacoity case. The finger prints of the Deoghar dacoity case were sent to an expert for comparison with the finger prints found on the glass panes of the station wagon and boxes. At the same time another dacoit by name Dinesh Ranjan Mukharjee alias Dinu aged 26 of Chandranagar, West Bengal, was arrested on 24-9-51 at Dhanbad as he was wanted in a Howrah criminal case. He had started fire-works at Dhanbad in the name of his wife. His finger prints were taken for comparison with the latent prints found on the panes and boxes.

As there were several hold-up cases waiting to be investigated, the West Bengal and Bihar Police conferred together to discuss the line of investigation to be adopted. It was decided to depute an Inspector from each State to solve the cases. This produced results immediately because collaboration meant sharing of information about dacoit gangs and this led to smooth working and quick results. Soon it was learnt that one Jitendra Kumar Mitra of Calcutta who was concerned in Chakrabalia dacoity case which took place on 3-1-52 and was arrested at Silchar in Assam had made a confessional statement about the Jamshedpur hold-up case. He said that he came in contact with Amulya Ratan Bose in jail when both of them were undergoing imprisonment for some other offences. Their joint plan to rob a cash van in Asansol had failed but soon Amulya proposed looting of a cash van in an unknown place. Mitra was asked to procure arms and ammunition. The date for the crime was fixed and Mitra with two others reached Jamshedpur at midnight on 9-8-51. They went to the house of an associate named Kammu. Crude bombs had already been obtained for the crime. Amulya and other dacoits who were also there, discussed the plan of the crime and the next day the criminals examined the place where they proposed to commit the crime. As they lacked sufficiency of arms and ammunition, Amulya parted with some gold ornaments which fetched Rs. 220/- in jewellery shop. Another dacoit Bhattacharjee also managed to procure Rs. 225/-. Arms were thus obtained and the dacoits perfected their plan of operations. After the commission of the crime the dacoits met at Chandil in the house of an old friend. The blood-stained clothes of the dacoits were burnt by Kammu's sister, Radharani. There were sharp differences among them about

sharing of the loot and a few dacoits angrily complained that Amulya took a lion's share.

On the strength of the information given by Mitra, the Calcutta police arrested Nirmal Kumar Adhikari who was a cousin of Niranjan Das who visited Jamshedpur at the time of the occurrence of crime. A chit bearing the address where he stayed was also found with him. Adhikari was disappointed at not getting any share of the loot which was believed to have been taken by Kammu's sister to Calcutta and hidden somewhere. He wrote an anonymous letter to D.I.G. C.I.D., Bihar and Manager, Tinsplate Co., giving details of the gang. He also informed the Deoghar police. On this information, Niranjan Das and Dinu, associates in the crime, were arrested. When questioned by the police they made a confession giving details of the crime and said that Amulya took a leading part in the crime. He threw a bomb as soon as the cash van arrived near the Time Office while another dacoit Pagla pulled out the driver and took the wheel. Amulya and Bhattacharjee jumped into the rear and quickly broke open the boxes. A guard who was within was thrown out and simultaneously the van started moving. Another guard who resisted was also thrown out by them after being beaten and shot at.

The police had now obtained the details of the conspiracy and crime. They searched Kammu's quarters but could not discover any incriminating evidence. But his sister Radharani revealed that some persons had seen her brother Munish a few days before the occurrence and she had gone to Calcutta with a box in October. Later on information was received that G.L. Gaur, her neighbour, had seen a leather suit case wrapped in a towel and placed in the tin-shed near the common wall between his quarter and the next. He added that Gita, daughter of Pritivish Chandra, had taken it away. On interrogation, Gita admitted it and stated that the box had been taken by her grandfather to the quarter of her uncle. The box was then recovered by the police at the place mentioned. Radharani confessed that she did take the box to Calcutta but she denied any knowledge about its contents.

Munish Chandra Chakravarty, younger brother of Kammu, confessed that he had got Rs. 13,000/- as his share. The police checked up his statement and learnt that Rs. 14,000/- and Rs. 2,800 were deposited in his bank account on 20-11-51 and 3-1-52 respectively. The information that Rs. 24/- sent to Dinu through his mother Janhavi Devi of Howrah from Sakchi Post office by money order was also found correct.

Nonigopal Ganguli, another associate, also confessed to his part in the crime and at his instance the house of Triloknath Banerjee in village Hesilbil P.S. Patha, District Singhbhum was searched in the presence of two witnesses. The accused took out a bundle of notes from the roof of the house amounting to Rs. 8210/-. Nonigopal had

taken his share of the money to the house of Brijendra Kishore Chatterjee and had kept there in a small tin suit case and the latter had given it to his brother-in-law, Shushil Ranjan to keep it. On 26-3-52, the police party went to the house of Shushil Ranjan Banerjee who was not found there. But on the way they met a neighbour named Hazra who told them that she knew about the money which was kept in Railway carriage's quarter and accompanied them to the Railway quarter, the owner of which produced the suitcase. Brijendra Kishore gave the key and it was opened and Rs. 1,300/- in thirteen bundles were found.

All the confessional statements were verified by a magistrate and found to be true and were corroborated. Charge sheet was submitted on 12th August, 1953 against Niranjana Das, Jotindra Kumar Mitra, Dina Nath Mukharjee alias Dinu, Jotin Banerjee, Shankar Mandal and Pagla, Jotish Kumar Chakravarty, Munish Chandra, Amulya Ratan Bose and Bhattacharjee showing the latter two as absconders. The accused persons were committed to the Court of sessions to stand trial u/s 395-396-412-120B I.P.C. on 23-11-55. The charges were proved. Dina Nath Mukharjee and Shankar Mandal were convicted and sentenced to death u/s 396 I.P.C. while two others Munish Chandra Chakravarty and Jotin Banerjee were convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. Nonigopal was sentenced to three year's R.I. with a fine of Rs. 500/- or in default further imprisonment for six months u/s 412 I.P.C., Munish to transportation for life with a fine of Rs. 1,000 with no further imprisonment in default, and out of the fine realised Rs. 1400/- and Rs. 100/- was ordered to be paid to the heirs of Ramu Rana and Kalu Gurung respectively. Two approvers Jotin Kumar Mitra and Ranjan Das were set at liberty. Jotish Kumar Chakravarty and Radharani were acquitted. On appeal to the High Court, Shankar Mandal and Jotin Banerjee were acquitted. The sentence of Dina Nath Mukharjee and Munish was reduced to transportation for life and ten years R.I. with a fine of Rs. 100/- in default to R.I. for one year respectively. Amulya Ratan Bose with Krishna Bhattacharjee managed to slip away to East Pakistan and they are still there.

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Revenge is a kind of wild justice, which, the more a man's nature runs to, the more ought Law to weed it out.

—Bacon.

DELHI DECLARATION ON THE RULE OF LAW

THE International Congress of Jurists was held for the first time in Asia in Vigyan Bhawan, Delhi, from the 5th to the 10th January, 1959, and was attended by 150 eminent jurists, judges and lawyers from 53 countries. Inaugurating the Congress, the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, said that unless a community lived under the rule of law it would tend to be lawless and to have more or less an anarchical way of existence. The rule of law had to exist to bind the community and was synonymous with the maintenance of civilized existence. Law, he said, was the basis of civilized existence and without it society would go to pieces.

"Society changed very greatly in the last 200 years and even today the changes go on at a terrific pace due to industrial, scientific and technical developments. Therefore, the rule of law must run closely to life's problems. The law of today cannot be an answer to problems which existed yesterday," he added.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Vivian Bose, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India, the Conference decided to frame the Rule of Law in the context of the changing situations of the modern time due to industrial and social revolutions. For this purpose, it appointed four committees, which after considering the present position in various aspects such as the relationship of the legislative, executive, judiciary and the bar to the rule of law, adopted the declaration of Delhi on the rule of law at the end of a five-day session.

The Secretary-General of the International Commission of Jurists, Mr. Jean-Fleuvien Lalive, said: "This is the beginning of the task of world-wide significance and is of particular importance to countries which have just emerged into life, independence and freedom."

"The International Congress of Jurists is in essence a part of the family of U.N." said Mr. Oscar Schachter, the U.N. Observer, conveying greetings to the jurists on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Mr. Das, Chief Justice of India and Chairman of the Reception Committee, said in his address that the rule of law did not and could not mean one thing for a particular part of the globe or a particular race, religion or nationality and a different thing for another part of the earth or for people belonging to other religions or nationalities.

Summing up the deliberations of the Delhi Conference, Mr. J.J. Thorson, President of the International Commission of Jurists

said: "The principles of justice on which 'Rule of Law' must be based are universal and eternal and the Delhi Congress has made fundamental advance from the decisions taken by the Congress of Athens."

The concepts of injustice and crime change through the years. The Rule of Law implies certain guarantees to democracy and human dignity. The framework which the International Commission of Jurists has drawn up is commendable and acceptable the world over. Principles of legislation, its procedure and control, some principles of criminal law and procedure, rules that prevent interference with the independence of the judiciary and of the legal profession, form a good framework of the Rule of Law. There is nothing impractical in it and if the basic conceptions of the man's status are accepted slight modifications could be made by countries to suit their circumstances.

The following is the text of the Declaration of Delhi:

1. Legislature and the Rule of Law

The function of the legislature in a free society is to create and maintain conditions which will uphold the dignity of man as an individual.

Every legislature should endeavour to give full effect to the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The legislature must: (A) not discriminate in its laws in respect of individuals, classes of persons, or minority groups on the ground of race, religion, sex or other such reasons not affording proper basis for making a distinction between human beings, classes or minorities; (B) not interfere with freedom of religious belief and observance; (C) not deny the right to elect responsible Government; (D) not place restrictions on freedom of speech, freedom of assembly or freedom of association; (E) abstain from retroactive legislation; (F) not impair the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual; and (G) provide procedural machinery and safeguards whereby the abovementioned freedoms are given effect and protected.

2. The Executive and the Rule of Law

The rule of law depends not only on the provisions of adequate safeguards against abuse of power by the executive, but also on the existence of effective Government capable of maintaining law and order and of ensuring adequate social and economic conditions of life for the society.

The grant of powers of subordinate legislation to the executive should be within the narrowest possible limits and should carefully define the extent and purpose of delegated legislation and should provide for the procedure by which it can be brought into effect. In no event shall fundamental human rights be abrogated by means of

delegated legislation.

In general, the acts of the executive which directly and injuriously affect the personal or property rights of the individual should be subject to review by the courts.

A citizen who suffers injury as a result of illegal acts of the executive should have an adequate remedy either in the form of a proceeding against the State or against the individual wrong-doer, with the assurance of satisfaction of the judgment in the latter case, or both.

3. **Criminal Procedure and the Law** (special problems of the criminal law of a country of the relationship between the executive and penal administration):

It is always important that the definition and interpretation should be as certain as possible. Certainty cannot exist in the criminal law where the law, or the penalty for its breach is retrospective.

The rule of law requires that an accused person should have adequate opportunity to prepare his defence. **The duty of the prosecution should be fairly to place the relevant evidence before the court, and not to obtain a conviction at all costs.**

The rule of law does not require any particular penal theory but it must necessarily condemn cruel, inhuman or excessive preventive measures or punishments, and support the adoption of reformative measures wherever possible.

4. Judiciary and the Legal Profession

An independent judiciary is an indispensable requisite of a free society. Such independence implies freedom from interference by the executive or legislature with the exercise of the judicial function, but does not mean that the judge is entitled to act in an arbitrary manner.

The principle of irremovability of the judiciary and their consequent security of tenure until death or until a retiring age fixed by statute is reached is an important safeguard of the rule of law.

It is essential that there should be an organized legal profession free to manage its own affairs. But it is recognized that there may be regulations governing the admission to and pursuit of the legal profession.

Equal access to law for the rich and poor alike is also essential. Adequate legal advice and representation should be provided to those threatened as to their life, liberty, property or reputation, who are not able to pay for it.

The primary obligation rests on the legal profession to sponsor and use its best efforts to ensure that adequate legal advice and representation are provided. An obligation also rests on the State and the community to assist the legal profession in carrying out this responsibility.

Burglaries By Bawarias

Mahabir Singh

Instructor, Central Detective Training School, Calcutta.

DURING the monsoon (July to October) in Rajasthan in 1958, numerous reports of burglaries were received at the District Headquarters of Ajmer and Jaipur. The local press gave wide publicity to such unconfirmed reports. A study of the cases gave rise to the suspicion that inter-State gangs might be operating in the area and so special investigations were made.

About four miles away from the Police Station at midnight on 9th August, 1958, a burglary was committed in the house of Narain, a potter of Tilaura village in Ajmer District. The house was built of mud. A man-hole was bored in its wall at a spot where its view was screened by another house. The dimensions of the man-hole were 2' X 1½'. The marks on the man-hole indicated the use of a pointed house-breaking implement. A box containing ornaments worth Rs. 190 besides victuals like bread, pickles and gur were stolen. Soon after this occurrence, the culprits committed theft in the adjacent shop which belonged to Manak Lal, a goldsmith, by breaking open the lock. They carried away a wooden box containing silver pieces worth about Rs. 10. Three or four foot-prints were noticed at the scene of this occurrence. A case Cr. No. 27 u/s 457/380 I.P.C. was registered regarding these two occurrences and investigation was taken up by S.H.O., Pushkar.

At midnight on 10th August, the temple of Mahaparbhhu situated in Pushkar was raided by some criminals. Ganga Bisan Brahman, the priest, and his mother were residing in it. The method of entry here was scaling over the wall and jumping into the courtyard where the cattle were tied. The presence and movements of strangers had scared the cattle whose stamping sounds awakened the complainant and his mother. They challenged the culprits who however located them by the flash of their torch and attacked them. Gold ornaments worth about Rs. 230 were snatched from the person of the priest's mother, after injuries were inflicted on both of them. In the meantime, the alarm raised by them attracted the neighbours but the culprits hurriedly left the scene with the booty. On the line of their retreat lay another house in front of which a lamb kid was stolen. The criminals killed it at some distance away, extracted its flesh for their food and threw away the remains. The local citi-

zens chased the culprits who however disappeared into the mountains eluding their grasp. These occurrences were immediately reported to the police and a case Cr. No. 28 u/s 459/380 I.P.C. was registered and investigation was taken up by S.H.O., Pushkar.

The local police investigating the cases Cr. Nos. 27 and 28 reached the conclusion after a close study that these crimes were the handiwork of Bawarias. This was confirmed by the discovery that a gang of 40 Bawarias was seen cooking food at a secluded place between Pushkar and Ajmer town. The problem before the local staff was how to round up the gangsters, who were concealing themselves in the nearby mountains. Reinforcements were requisitioned from district headquarters at Ajmer, swooping parties were formed and the operations against the gang were launched. At 9-30 p.m. on 11-8-1958, one of the raiding police parties came across a gang of criminals relaxing in a hide-out of Pahari Thavla. At the sight of the police, the criminals jumped to their feet and a furious encounter ensued between the police and the gangsters. There was fierce fighting with sticks by both sides for sometime and finally one culprit was overpowered and arrested. He gave out his name and address as Pooran Bawaria, resident of Muzaffarnagar, district (U.P.). A huge amount of property including those concerned in both the burglary cases of Pushkar was also seized during the encounter by the police. The remaining members of the gang however escaped. At first the captured culprit was adamant in refusing to give information about his gang, but later he confessed to having committed the two burglaries and gave out the names of his associates who were all residents of Tinpulia, Ganganagar Police Circle in Rajasthan. According to him, Ram Singh was the leader of their gang. They had come from Sindh (Pakistan) after the partition and were always on the move. Most of their relatives lived in Ganganagar. The culprit and the property recovered were duly identified by some witnesses and the cases were charged.

It was obvious that the arrest of one member of the gang viz., Pooran was not enough for the problem of rounding up the remaining members of the gang still remained. Enquiries were immediately made in Ganganagar from where the gang was supposed to have started. The police were also on the look-out for them in their local jurisdictions. In the meantime, another crime was reported from Ajmer City itself.

On the midnight of 16th August, 1958, a burglary was committed in the house of Shrimati Noorain B.K. Masih, in the Circle of Alwar Gate Police Station. The culprits had jumped over the compound wall and entered the house through the door of the kitchen room. The complainant woke up during the commission of the crime but the culprits succeeded in decamping with a box containing clothes worth Rs. 40. They abandoned the empty box at

a distance. Earlier to this occurrence, reports of stone-throwing into the houses were received from several quarters but on each occasion the persons woke up and raised an alarm and then the mischief stopped. This was a method invariably resorted to by the Bawarias in order to ascertain whether the inmates were awake or asleep. However, these activities made the police and the public more alert and vigilant. The investigation of this case was vigorously pursued and soon enough the police met with success. The Station House Officer of Srinagar (Rajasthan) arrested Kishangir, Biharigir, Hiragir, and Shibgir, Sidhiwal Bawarias who were residents of Tinpulia Police Circle, Ganganagar district on 25-8-1958 u/s 54/109 Cr. P.C. On interrogation, they confessed to having committed the crime in Shrimati Noorain's house. They named Kesar Bawaria as their accomplice and leader of their gang. They also pointed out some of the stolen property of the above cases, which was recovered from a water channel near the city. But they denied their connection with Pooran who was concerned in the Pushkar burglaries. The police had still some more problems to be faced. Their enquiries at Ganganagar and efforts to round up the other gangsters proved futile. Another crime was also reported from Nasirabad Police Station. Besides this crime, 15 burglaries were reported during the first seven months of the year. The *modus operandi* employed in most of them was more or less the same such as lock-breaking, hasp-breaking, removal of door shutters and opening of locks by false keys. Bidis, match boxes, flour and gur were reported to have been stolen in the majority of these cases. In one case of theft at the local Post Office at Ramser, cash was stolen and in another case in the same village, clothes were stolen. Some suspicious strangers were reported to have been seen by the villagers of Ramser in the garb of Sadhus during day-time on several occasions during the period of this outbreak. No definite conclusions were arrived at as a result of investigations of the above cases. There were also reports of burglaries with similar *modus operandi* from other quarters of this district.

On 23-7-1958, a burglary was reported from Shradhna village in Mangliawas Police Circle. The scene of crime was an interior village at a distance of seven miles away from the Police station. On the night of 22nd July 1958 at 2 a.m. a gang of criminals entered the compound by scaling over the wall and raided the house of the medical officer of the local civil hospital. They kept the door of the compound open to ensure their speedy escape. The verandah was closed by wooden shutters having numerous triangular holes through which they managed to unlatch the door from the outside. As soon as they entered the room, the complainant and his wife woke up and challenged them. The culprits attacked them with lathis and stones and quickly decamped with a box containing cash, ornaments and clothes.

The empty box was left at a distance of half-a-mile away near the railway line and property worth about Rs. 2,100 was carried away. A heap of stones and house-breaking implements pointed at one end were found in the compound. Earlier to this occurrence, the same night they had entered the quarters of the hospital sweeper and the compounder, but they did not find any valuable article worth stealing. In each of these quarters also, a heap of stones was found. The enquiries at the spot revealed that on top of a lofty hill, a mile away behind the quarters of the complainant, there was a temple in which a Sadhu had been staying for about a month before this occurrence. He never spoke but used to communicate his ideas in writing. Suspicious strangers had been seen visiting him and staying with him in the temple. On one of his arms the name 'Bhanwar Lal' had been tattooed. This raised suspicion against him and it was strengthened by his sudden disappearance immediately after the crime. However the case diaries were silent on this clue. During the same period, three cases of snatching ornaments were reported at Madanganj Police Station in Kishanganj Sub-Division of Ajmer District. In this part of the country even the males of some communities wear costly ornaments thus offering a temptation to the criminals. The *modus operandi* employed in these cases was scaling over the compound wall and snatching ornaments from persons sleeping in the compound or in the open space in front of their houses. A gang of local Bawarias responsible for these offences was arrested by the Rupangarh Police and the property lost in these cases and two burglaries of Civil Lines Police Station of Ajmer city was recovered from them.

The Police found that the criminals made use of hideouts in the hills between Pushkar and Ajmer. Soon after their criminal expedition, they hid themselves in the hideouts where they planned further depredations.

A majority of the burglary cases committed by the Bawarias or other ex-notified tribes or gangs of criminals remain undetected due to the fact that most of the investigating officers are not conversant with the various *modus operandi* employed by each of them. That the activities of Bawarias are widespread has been established by past experience. Most of them have no fixed abodes. They wander from place to place in groups to commit crimes. During the day they appear in the garb of Sadhus or beggars or pilgrims which facilitates their preliminary preparations of selecting and reconnoitring the houses they want to rob. Some of them pose as high divines in places of pilgrimages and try to impress the people by observing silence and standing on one leg in sunshine for several hours. But these are only their day-light activities to hoodwink the public, to avoid suspicion about them and camouflage their criminal operations during the night. The temples on the hill tops, caves of mountains, dilapidated and deserted mausoleums and buildings and other unfrequented

places provide shelters for these wandering criminals. The attention of the police is seldom drawn to the deserted temples which have in fact been turned into hideouts by the gangsters. It is a well-known fact that burglary is the favourite crime of the Bawarias, but if challenged, they resort to violence and use lathis and stones for attack. Before entering any house they throw one or two stones to ascertain whether the inmates are awake or asleep. If no alarm is raised, they use various *modus operandi* for effecting entry into the house such as manhole, unlatching the door, scaling over the wall, lock-opening or breaking and the like according to the prevailing circumstances. They also commit 'Tapa' form of burglary which means climbing on to the roofs of buildings or leaping over walls or cutting or snatching ornaments from persons sleeping on the roof in summer, or in the courtyard or in covered corridors of their houses in cold and rainy seasons.

The Police officers are well advised to acquaint themselves with the various possible places of shelters for the criminals in their circles. Such places should be checked regularly for suspicious strangers especially in the garb of sadhus, beggars and pilgrims.

Another drawback which has been noticed in the investigation of the burglaries committed by the Bawarias is that the investigating officers do not study undetected cases in groups with similar or different *modus operandi*.

Experience has shown that they commit a series of burglaries in quick succession while on their criminal expedition. A solitary case is an exception. Therefore, the Police should not confine their search within the territorial limits of their stations, circles or districts but look beyond the same and keep a watch on the criminals' activities even in distant places, till they are rounded up. Coordination among the Station House Officers is most essential for organising concerted efforts in this direction. Another important point is that attention should be focussed on the undetected burglaries till their authors are detected.

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Two men looked out from prison bars, one saw mud, the other saw stars. —*Japanese*.

A CASE OF COIN COUNTERFEITING

P.L. Patil

Bombay Police.

ROUND about July, 1956, four anna counterfeit coins were in circulation in Dadar area of Bombay. On the strength of information, a watch was maintained by the officers of the Anti-Corruption Bureau, Greater Bombay, at the junction of Cadell Road and Kashinath Dhuru Road, Dadar, for two Gujrati gentlemen who were reported to be passing the spurious coins in the locality. At 5.20 p.m. on that day, taxi No. BMR 1876 was seen halting at the junction and two persons alighted from it. One had a cloth hand-bag in his hand. Strangely enough, after alighting from the taxi, they opened their umbrellas although it was not raining and started walking. Their behaviour aroused suspicion in the minds of the Police party and both of them were detained in the presence of two Panch witnesses. They were searched by the Panch witnesses and the cloth hand-bag which one of them had carried—his name was found to be Nandlal—was found to contain 545 four anna counterfeit coins of 1950 and 1951 issues and these were taken charge of. From the documents seized from Nandlal it was learnt that he resided at Kalyan, 35 miles from Bombay. He was immediately taken to his place.

The house of Nandlal was searched and two sets of dies for counterfeiting four anna coins of 1950 and 1951 issues were recovered. In addition, 18 blank steel dies adapted for the purpose of impressing them as four anna coins, 8 steel die jackets (collars), 13 iron pieces of the size of four anna coins, sets of emery papers, horse-shoe magnet, eye glasses and other instruments used for the manufacture of counterfeit coins were seized.

The residence of Hiralal was also searched during the same night and 55 four anna counterfeit coins in a rusty condition wrapped in paper were recovered from a safe in his house.

On the following day, driver of taxi No. BMR 1876, Alinabikhan Ahmednabikhan, was traced and he identified both the persons as the passengers who had engaged his taxi on the previous evening at Pydhonie and who had discharged his taxi at the junction of Cadell Road and Kashinath Dhuru Road, Dadar. This piece of evidence of the taxi driver proved useful later in the Sessions Court, in nullifying the defence of the accused persons that they did not travel in a taxi that day and that the cloth hand bag containing 545 four anna counterfeit coins was not found with Nandlal.

Both the accused persons were thoroughly interrogated and in consequence of a statement made by Nandlal, Sub-Inspector P.L. Patil, the Investigating Officer, accompanied by the Police party and Nandlal, proceeded to Limbdi, a town about 400 miles from Bombay, in Zalawad District, Saurashtra, by the night train on 27-7-1956.

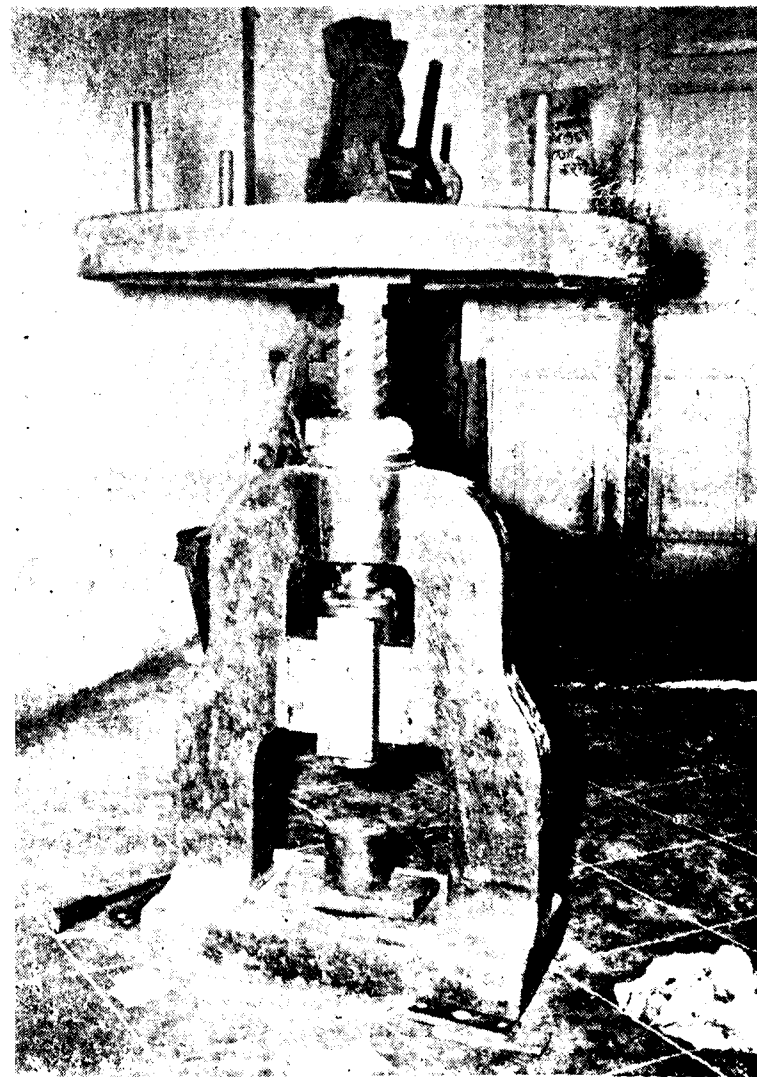
On 28-7-1956, Nandlal pointed out Jagjiwandas Haribhai Soni, a 50-year-old goldsmith, at Limbdi, as his accomplice. Soni's house was searched and seven blank dies of the size of a four anna coin and one blank piece of white metal of the size of a four anna coin, similar to the blank pieces recovered from the house of Nandlal at Kalyan on 26-7-1956, were recovered. Soni was arrested and brought to Bombay.

Soni was thoroughly interrogated and finding his case hopeless he agreed to help the Police. He took the Investigating Officer to the Honesty Iron Works, Sindhi Gulli, to which he had supplied 18 guaze iron sheets for striking discs of the size of four anna coin. He was identified by the owner of the factory as well as by his servant, as the person who had placed an order for striking a large number of iron discs of the size of four anna coins and taken delivery of them. The owner of the factory produced his account books which bore testimony to that transaction. Further inquiries resulted in the tracing of a shop of one Hatimbhai Abdulla at Kharva Gulli, Grant Road, Bombay, where from Soni had purchased iron sheets of 18 guaze size, which he had supplied to the Honesty Iron Works for preparing discs.

The Police also traced the Premier Electroplaters at Mount Road, Mazgaon, Bombay, where Soni had given a large number of iron discs for electroplating. The Assay Report of the India Government Mint, Bombay, to which the coins recovered by the Police were sent, opined that all those coins were made of iron with tin coating. On 8-8-1956, on receipt of certain information, Eknath Shripat Khairnar, 23-year-old domestic servant of Nandlal, was arrested at Kalyan.

On 18-8-1956, after sustained and meticulous investigation during which the Investigating Officer had to visit several towns, Ramniklal Dhirajlal Khara (34) an educated businessman, was arrested at Gondal in Saurashtra. His residence was searched and two sets of dies for counterfeiting 1954 and 1947 issues of four anna coins, some four anna counterfeit coins, die jackets (collars), a four anna coin in the process of counterfeiting, horse-shoe magnet, eye-glass and other instruments used for counterfeiting were recovered.

Tactful handling of Ramniklal Khara resulted in his agreeing to point out the building in Surat where the pressing machine was operated. He took the Investigating Officer to Surat and pointed out the ground floor of House No. 91, Chavtha Bazaar, Surat, as the place where the miniature mint was operated by culprits in



Pressing machine used as a 'miniature mint' which was discovered in the house of one of the accused in Surat.

this case. During the absence of the Investigating Officer from Bombay, in consequence of a statement made by Nandlal, the pressing machine had been removed to Bombay by other officers from the Anti-Corruption Bureau, Greater Bombay, a day prior to the arrival of Sub-Inspector Patil with accused Ramniklal Khara at Surat. The landlord of the house, Dayashankar Harishankar Thakar & Bhajiwalla, who had pretended innocence, was also arrested as investigation proved that he was the financier to the nefarious scheme.

The Police learnt that the mint installed at Surat was operated between December 1955 and June 1956. Though the pressing machine was seized, there was no evidence available to connect the suspects with the machine or to prove that it had been used for the purpose of manufacturing counterfeit coins. The investigation had, therefore, to be concentrated to prove these vital points.

On 28-8-1956, the Investigating Officer left for Surat for further investigation. It was not known at this stage as to how the pressing machine was brought to Surat and who had brought it. Enquiries in Surat disclosed that the pressing machine was not locally purchased but was brought from outside. The Investigating Officer thought deeply for some time and then an idea struck him. He knew that whenever an article was brought within municipal limits, octroi was required to be paid for that article. It was a tremendous task to go through the Octroi records of the Surat Borough Municipality, for a period of about 10 months, when daily hundreds of octroi receipts were passed. However, with all determination, several thousands of octroi entries were scrutinised and on the third day evidence was obtained on the transport of the pressing machine to Surat. An entry was found in the records showing that a sum of Rs. 13-8-0 was paid as Octroi charges on 19-11-1956, by one Kantilal Sakhalchand Shah, for two parts of the pressing machine brought to Surat from Bombay in motor lorry No. BMR 6265 of the Gujrat Transport Service operating between Bombay and Surat. The declaration form which the claimant of the article had to fill in at the time of making the octroi payments was scrutinised and it was disclosed that the pressing machine was purchased by Kantilal Sakhalchand Shah for Rs. 850/- from Shri Lazman Krishnaji Kumbhavadekar of Phanaswadi, Bombay.

Investigation revealed that Nandlal had told Shri Shantilal Maneklal Thakar, an electrical goods shop-keeper on Kalbadevi Road, Bombay, that he was in need of a pressing machine and that if the latter knew any, he should inform him. Shri Shantilal spoke to one Shri Keshao Govind Khule, a resident of Ghatkopar, Bombay, and on the recommendation of Khule, Nandlal and witness Shantilal had gone to the factory of Kumbhavadekar to see the pressing machine. As Kumbhavadekar had quoted a higher price at that time, the deal could not be settled. However, after a few days, Nandlal, settled

the transaction and purchased the pressing machine in the fictitious name of Kantilal Sakhalchand Shah of Surat. The pressing machine which was very heavy weighing about 12 maunds was removed to Surat on 17-11-1955 for the replacement of a nut. During this period, Nandlal, Prabhaskar and Shantilal Gopalji Joshi had visited the factory enquiring urgently regarding the replacement of the nut. They were identified by the servants of L. K. Kumbhavadekar. Thus it was proved that Nandlal had purchased the pressing machine in the fictitious name of Kantilal Sakhalchand Shah. Later, a receipt dated 8-11-1955 passed by L.K. Kumbhavadekar in favour of Kantilal Sakhalchand Shah of Surat for Rs. 850/- being the price of the pressing machine, was recovered from Nandlal's residence.

The coins, dies, pressing machine and other paraphernalia recovered by the Police were sent to the India Government Mint, Bombay, and it was opined by the Mint Expert that all the coins of the years 1950, 1951 and 1954 recovered by the Police were counterfeit and were struck from the dies of 1950 and 1951 recovered from the house of Nandlal at Kalyan and 1954 die recovered from the house of Ramniklal Dhirajlal Khara, at Gondal in Saurashtra.

The pocket diary found with Nandlal on 26-7-1956 was scrutinised. It disclosed how the counterfeit coins were uttered by him. Two names of important prosecution witnesses viz., Prabhudas Ranchhod Mehta and Prabhudas Lavji Malkan, were found in the diary. These two witnesses were intermediaries in disposing of the counterfeit coins on payment of commission. It was through these witnesses that the transaction of counterfeit coins was put through by Nandlal to Abhyachand Premchand Puratia and his son Kantilal. Their books of accounts also disclosed that handloom cloth worth Rs. 500/- was purchased by Nandlal by paying counterfeit coins worth Rs. 700/-. As nothing incriminating was found, Prabhudas Ranchhod Mehta and Prabhudas Lavji Malkan were not arrested.

Twelve persons were charge-sheeted under section 120-B read with sections 232, 234, 235, 240 and 243 of the Indian Penal Code. Each of the accused was individually charged for doing overt acts, in furtherance of the conspiracy. In all 19 charges were framed against them. One hundred and twenty-three witnesses were cited on the charge-sheet and the trial lasted for about two months without the Jury, in the Sessions Court, Greater Bombay. Ramniklal was made an approver and he told the Court vividly the details of the conspiracy.

On 30-9-1957, out of 12 accused persons, nine were convicted on various charges. Nandlal and eight others were sentenced to five years' R.I. under the conspiracy charge and two years' R.I. each, on five other counts.

The High Court on appeal upheld the convictions in all 9 cases except one who was allowed the benefit of doubt and acquitted.

SOMNAMBULISTIC HOMICIDE

Edward Podolsky, M.D.

SOMNAMBULISM (sleep walking) is a form of sleep in which a person is able to function without any awareness of his motivations and actions. In somnambulism a greater or smaller part of the personality takes command and dictates the general behaviour, the rest of the normal personality becoming apparently incapable of consciousness for the time being and having no influence on conduct.

During somnambulism the individual commonly lives through a vivid experience, little or not at all related to his surroundings, and therefore hallucinatory in character. Although such persons appear to be walking in their sleep, they are not asleep in the normal sense of the world. Their perceptions are often acute.

Somnambulistic activity is closely related to a form of behaviour known as a fugue. In a true fugue the individual suddenly leaves his previous activity and does something which has no apparent relation to what he has just been doing, and for which he has complete amnesia. In somnambulism there is an identical dissociated state except that it begins during sleep.

While it is necessary for a person to have consciousness before any cortical or brain function is possible, it is not necessary to have complete awareness. During somnambulism activity is so completely organized that it can function without awareness. There is a complete dissociation of behaviour patterns from the patterns of awareness. The dissociation is in that part of the brain known as the diencephalon.

Automatic movements occur in a pathological sense without the subject's being aware of their meaning, and even without his being aware of their happening at all. They do not have the full cooperation of the personality. These automatic movements do not involve interest and attention. They may, as a matter of fact, when generalized, occur in the complete abeyance of the normal personality.

Homicide has been committed in quite a few instances when the individual was in a somnambulistic state. Some years ago in Mount Vernon, New York, a man shot and killed his wife. On trial he pleaded that he was sleep-walking testifying that he had not been awakened until several hours after the crime had been committed. This detail almost sent him to the electric chair, as the jury could not in all conscience believe that the explosion of his gun would fail to shock him back to consciousness. However, he was acquitted on

the medical evidence that somnambulists could sleep through any kind of activity, however noisy and explosive it may be.

This fact was borne out quite dramatically in the case of John Cooke, a civil engineer of Denver, Colorado, who stabbed himself four times in his sleep and bled to death. Just before he died he awakened to relate to his wife a strange dream that he had had. In the dream he had been surrounded by enemies trying to ruin him, and finally an evil spirit had persuaded him to kill himself. Not only did Cooke sleep through the violence of his act, but also through the intense pain inflicted upon himself.

Quite recently in Kentucky, a pretty 16-year old girl, Jo Ann Kiger, dreamed that burglars had broken into her home and were murdering her entire family. In what seems to have been a super-nightmare she arose from her bed in the dead of night, seized two revolvers and plunged into the dream battle. Ten shots thundered through the darkened house and Jo Ann's father and six-year old brother lay dead, while her mother, shot through the hip, cried in bewildered pain.

The police arrested the girl on a charge of first degree murder, but at the trial the defense offered evidence that Jo Ann had suffered previous nightmares and was a confirmed somnambulist. This evidence, plus the prosecutor's inability to establish a shred of motive, resulted in the girl's acquittal.

English criminal history contains a case of somnambulistic homicide more horrifying in detail than the most sadistic crimes of the conscious murderer. Francis Stockwell, a quiet, retiring Englishman, fiendishly murdered and dismembered his wife while in a somnambulistic state. So shocked and horrified was he when he learned what he had done that he became psychotic and had to be confined to a hospital for mental diseases.

Some fourteen years ago, in Mandan, North Dakota, August Schwartz while in a somnambulistic state, shot and killed his wife and infant son. Schwartz had always been a rather quiet individual, rather steady going and not at all inclined to violence, and his act of homicide astounded everyone who knew him. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Another case was that of Chester Kutzlub who while in the somnambulistic state shot his wife. Three children of the Kutzlubs testified that their father walked in his sleep on an average of three times a week and that their parents never quarrelled. After the shooting, the report of the gun awakened him. He was so grief-stricken that he attempted to commit suicide.

One of the most famous cases of somnambulistic homicide was that of the noted French detective, Robert Ledru, aged 35, who was holidaying at the French seaport of Le Havre. He had just recovered from a nervous breakdown—the result of mental strain

suffered in solving a case. One morning, while getting dressed after a refreshing twelve hours' sleep, he noted that his socks were unusually damp, and he wondered about it. Later in the morning his superior in Paris wired that the naked body of a man, presumably a mid-night bather, had been found shot on the beach at Saint Adresse. As it was only short distance from where the detective was vacationing, he agreed to help the baffled local police.

The murdered man proved to be Andre Monet, a Parisian small business man, on a modest vacation. Monet was not wealthy; he had few friends and no enemies, and was in effect a harmless nobody. His clothes were neatly piled on the sand near his body, and they had not been rifled. There were only two clues: the murderer's footprints, which the local police had pointed out, were practically worthless as they had been in stockinged feet. The ballistics record proved that the bullet had been fired from a Luger, a very common make. Even Ledru's gun was a Luger.

Then later, as Ledru examined one of the footprints with a magnifying glass, he turned pale. A toe was missing from the stockinged footprint. Ledru himself lacked a toe in the right foot. In a flash, the explanation of his wet socks came upon him. On cold nights he was accustomed to sleeping in his socks.

Before the astounded police Ledru made an impression of his toeless foot in the wet sand beside the murderer's prints. With the magnifying glass he compared the two. Obtaining the lethal bullet from the local police, Ledru hurried back to his hotel, fired a muffled shot from his own gun into the pillow, and examined the grooves on the two bullets.

In haste he returned to Paris to report to his superior.

"I have the killer and the evidence but I lack the motive. It was I who killed Andre Monet." The detective laid the bullets and photos of the two footprints on the desk. Ledru's horrified chief refused to believe him, thinking that the detective had lost his mind. But after such conclusive evidence as he had presented it was quite clear that Ledru had murdered Monet while walking in his sleep.

Somnambulism is similar to automatisms except that it appears to develop while the individual is and has been sleeping, and differs from fugues and cases of multiple personality, in which a larger part of the personality is split off so that the patient is able to pass for a normal individual. This is rarely true in automatisms and somnambulisms.

Somnambulistic homicide may be said to consist of automatic movements occurring in a state of sleep without the subject's being aware of their meaning or purpose. In this state the actions take place beyond the conscious will of the individual. They function without his awareness. For this reason somnambulistic homicide is never premeditated nor wilful.

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTIES

D. R. Chaudhari

Punjab Police.

IN an earlier article under the caption 'Identification in law' published in July 1955 issue of the Indian Police Journal, an attempt was made to discuss the legal aspect of the identification parades held by the Police in respect of persons or properties concerned in a criminal case. The main points dealt with in that article were the significance, value and propriety of identification parades, admissibility of identification proceedings held by police but not supervised by a Magistrate and the feasibility of identification parades held by panch witnesses (respectable persons).

We will in this article summarise the precautions and measures taken by the Police officers in ensuring a proper identification by witnesses in India, regard being given to the requirements of law and procedure.

Whenever it is necessary to submit a person suspected to have been concerned in an offence to identification, the proceedings should be conducted as far as possible in the presence of a Magistrate, or of a Sub-Registrar, or, if the case is very urgent and if no such officer is available, in the presence of two or more respectable persons known for their disinterestedness and impartiality. The officer or respectable persons should be asked to satisfy themselves that the identification is conducted under conditions strictly precluding any kind of collusion.

The identification proceedings should be undertaken as soon after the arrest as possible. Care should be taken that the identifying witnesses should be kept under the charge of a court peon or any person who is not a police officer at a distance from the place where identification is to be held so that they cannot by any chance see the suspects.

The suspected persons should, if possible, be paraded along with eight or ten persons, or, if there is more than one suspect, with as many as 20 or 30 persons, similarly dressed and of the same age, religion and social status. Care should be taken that the mixing up of the suspect or suspects with the other persons does not take place in the view of the police officer and the witnesses.

Each identifying witness should then be brought up singly in charge of the Magistrate's orderly or some other person, who is not a

police officer, to pick out the accused. The identification by such a witness should be conducted out of sight and hearing of other witnesses. When the officer or persons conducting the identification have satisfied themselves that no communication between the police and the witnesses was possible, they should certify to this effect.

A statement should be prepared when suspects are presented for identification and when the identification is not held by a Magistrate or a Sub-Registrar. The disinterested persons holding the parade should be prepared to testify to the fairness of the manner in which the identification was effected and sign the relevant forms properly.

These directions apply only to instances in which suspects have been arrested and have to be confronted with witnesses who express themselves to be able to recognise them by appearance, although not previously acquainted with them.

A Magistrate is chosen merely as a person whose impartiality and honesty is not likely to be questioned by the defence when the case comes up for trial and when conducting the proceedings he is not acting in a judicial capacity unless the case is under trial before him. It is not his duty, therefore, to record statements or put questions to suspects or witnesses except such as are necessary for the purpose of identification. The identification should be conducted with complete fairness and impartiality and no attempt should be made to confuse or puzzle a witness or to create conditions which would render a witness who is honestly capable of identifying incapable of doing so.

Test identification has, whenever circumstances permit, to be held inside the jail. The above directions are applicable in the case of an undertrial prisoner or a suspect in jail. Men on bail should not be mixed up with undertrial prisoners except with the permission of the Magistrate. In the case of the confessing accused, separate test identification parade should be held unless the Magistrate insists that it is essential to mix confessing with non-confessing accused and hold the test identification parade simultaneously. In sub-divisional jails the accused should, if necessary, be mixed up with outsiders for holding the test identification as very few undertrial prisoners of similar nature and of the same social status are available there for the purpose.

In rioting or other cases, the police should keep the persons arrested during the occurrence separate from those arrested afterwards on suspicion of having taken part in it.

When a suspect refuses to attend a test identification parade no action can be taken in the absence of evidence other than identification. However, when there is other evidence against a suspect and he refuses to appear at a test identification parade he should be tried on the strength of such other evidence. During the trial evidence of refusal should be led in favour of the prosecution. At the time of trial the

suspect will be in the dock and available for identification by the witnesses. Whenever a suspect refuses to attend a test identification the Magistrate holding the parade should be requested to make a note of it and, if the suspect is later sent for trial, the Magistrate should be examined as a witness to prove the refusal.

The Police officer, though his presence may be necessary outside, should not be present while the identification is in progress. He should, however, make necessary arrangements for holding the parade and, if a Magistrate is not available, he should explain to the officer or the disinterested persons holding the parade how it is to be conducted. He should never do anything which might diminish the value of the identification.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY

Where any property recovered in a search or otherwise and alleged or suspected to have been stolen, is of a common nature in regard to the identification of which reasonable doubt could arise, a test identification should be held, unless it is so definitely and distinctively marked as to make identification easy and unmistakable.

In dacoity and other important cases, the test should, whenever possible, be carried out in the presence of a Magistrate. In ordinary cases, or when no Magistrate is available, it should be carried out in the presence of at least two respectable persons unconnected with the case, who should be asked to satisfy themselves that the conditions of the test have precluded the possibility of collusion.

(a) The property to be identified should be sealed by the Investigating Officer in the presence of the persons who witnessed its recovery and who should then sign or affix their thumb-impressions on the wrapper containing the property in token that it was duly sealed in their presence. The seals affixed should thereafter be left intact and should only be broken when the parcel is opened by the Magistrate at the time of conducting the identification.

(b) In submitting his report for identification of property, the Investigating Officer should clearly indicate what particular articles are expected to be identified by each witness and should also furnish in respect of each article for identification such description as is available in order to enable the Magistrate to instruct the Tahsildar or Contractor regarding the number, nature and kind of articles required to be mixed.

(c) In order that sufficient articles of the required description should be available on the date proceedings are to be held, the Magistrate will in the first instance obtain from the Tahsildar or Contractor, as the case may be, a written report of intimation that the articles required will be forthcoming and the date by which they will

be available. On receipt of such intimation, the Magistrate will then fix a date, time and place for the proceedings.

The Magistrate should see that satisfactory arrangements have been made in the district for the supply of similar articles to be mixed with the property to be identified. Where it is found that identification proceedings have to be frequently postponed owing to the inability or neglect of the Contractor to produce suitable articles to be mixed, steps should be taken to remedy the matter, if necessary, by appointing any other suitable person to undertake those duties or by making other arrangements. It is essential that the Tahsildar or Contractor producing property to be mixed should be clearly instructed that all such property should be enclosed in a cover and sealed before being taken to the place where identification is to be held and that the property must be produced, sealed intact before the Magistrate conducting the inquiry.

It must be clearly understood that the person producing property to be mixed before the Magistrate should be able to assure the latter that such articles had not been seen by the witnesses before the proceedings.

The bundle or bundles or property to be identified, produced by the Police Officer should be sealed intact and the Magistrate should note whether the wrappers bear any signatures or thumb impressions in attestation of the seals.

Note should be made whether the bundle or bundles of articles to be mixed produced by the Tahsildar or Contractor are duly sealed and the tahsil official or the Contractor bringing the bundles should be questioned so as to make sure that such articles have not been seen by the witnesses.

The bundle should then be opened and articles mixed in the presence of the Magistrate. He should note whether the articles mixed were similar in appearance to those for identification subject to any exception which should be marked.

(d) Witnesses should be kept outside at a distance and in such place that they cannot see what is going on; succeeding witnesses should not be able to communicate with, or after identifying make signs to, incoming witnesses.

(e) The signature or thumb impression of each witness should be taken against his name after he has identified.

(f) Unless there is special reason to do so, it is ordinarily unnecessary to hold identification proceedings of property.

In cases where there is no possibility that the articles recovered will be claimed by the accused; or

where the property to be identified is so clearly described in a report previously made as to establish its identity and is either of such a distinctive nature that it will not be possible to obtain articles of similar description to be mixed for identification; or

where similar articles cannot be obtained within a reasonable period of time, it would in such case be ordinarily unnecessary to hold identification proceedings as the very marks described would be sufficient to identify the articles.

No presumption attaches to identification proceedings of property. It is for the prosecution to establish affirmatively that every necessary precaution was taken to ensure fair identification. The most essential requirement is that the witnesses should not have had an opportunity of seeing the property after its recovery and before its identification before the Magistrate. For that purpose it is necessary to seal the property as soon as it is recovered and to keep it in a sealed condition until it is produced before a Magistrate. The Police Officers who take the sealed bundles to the Thana after recovery and who take it to the Magistrate for identification proceedings should be examined to prove that the sealed bundles were not tampered with in any way. The sealed bundles should be opened in the presence of a Magistrate conducting the identification proceedings and he should depose about it. The property to be mixed with the property to be identified should also be sealed some days before witnesses are called and the bundle containing it should also be opened in the presence of the Magistrate who should testify about it in court. Further, the result of identification as well as the fact whether the property mixed was similar to the property identified should be entered in the memorandum by the Magistrate in his own hand. (1954 Vindhya Pradesh 42).

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Such worldly virtues as obligation, protection and forgiveness are the off-spring of civility. Those who lack civility are of no use either to themselves or to others and are therefore a veritable burden on the earth. —Thirukkural.



MURDER IN TIRUNELVELI

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ON 31-3-1957 at 12 noon, a woman's body was found in a stitched gunny bag under a culvert, about three miles from Tirunelveli Junction. The village menial who had been informed by a pedestrian about the bundle, had a look at it. He was horrified to find a human leg protruding through a tear in the bag. He reported the matter to the Village Patel who prepared a "yadast" (report) after visiting the spot and sent it about 1 p.m. to the Police and the Magistrate, who were eight miles away. The local Sub-Inspector started the inquest proceedings in the presence of the Panchayatdars about 4 p.m. The gunny bag was unstitched. In it was the body of a woman with both legs tied up at the wrists and bent towards the chest. The appearance was that of a kneeling woman in a supplicating mood. Her left ear lobe had been torn. She was wearing a waist-string with a brass chain and a silver talisman and was dressed in a white art-silk saree. The body was not identified at the inquest. It was photographed. Then finger prints were taken, a copy of which was sent for record in the state Finger Print Bureau. The tattoo marks on the body were also noted.

The postmortem was conducted the next day by a lady Assistant Surgeon. She found the following injuries on internal examination. The first six ribs on the right and left side fractured on the middle axillary line and the middle portion of the sternum fractured one inch in length, transverse in direction. There were six ounces of fluid blood, in pleural cavities on either side; liver 40 ozs., upper lobe torn with a crushed injury 6"X3". The other organs were in decomposed state. It was apparent from the nature of the injuries, that very great pressure had been applied on the chest of the deceased and that she had died of shock and haemorrhage.

It will be pertinent at this stage to take stock of the difficulties which the investigation had to face in this case. The identity of the deceased had to be established beyond any doubt. There were no eye-witnesses to the murder and circumstantial evidence had to be adduced. Since it was reported that the gunny bag containing the body had been placed on the parapet wall of a culvert and pushed down, there was the possibility of the fractures being caused by the fall and leading to the death of the woman. This may suggest that the deceased might have been alive for eight or ten hours after the murderous assault on her. But if it was true that there was a possibility

of her attracting neighbours by her cries, how was it that no one knew about her condition? This puzzled the local police.

Four days after the discovery of the body, the C.I.D. were asked to take up the investigation. The establishment of the identity of the deceased was of paramount concern, because only that could help to know the motive that lay behind the crime. The investigating officer set about looking for missing women. It would be surprising to know that when once this quest starts in a town a crop of rumours about disappearances would smother the enquiring officer like leaves from Vallambrosa. The Investigating Officer was literally flooded with information. He had to check up each report of missing women. Laxmi of Vallanad had left her husband and run away. She was traced to be with her paramour, a labourer in a cement factory. Sivagami, a tea shop-keeper's concubine answering to the description of the deceased, was missing from her residence. She was ultimately traced in her paramour's own house. Such instances were galore. Ultimately, when the photograph of the deceased was shown to a Railway servant during the extensive door-to-door enquiries, he identified it as that of a woman who used to sell fruit near Tirunelveli Junction. Her name was found out and this eventually led to the location of her house, which was found locked. Her younger sister living in an adjacent portion of the house, identified the photo as her sister's without the ear-rings worth Rs. 300/-. But she added that the body in the picture appeared to be bloated. Her description of details about the tattoo marks on the legs and arms of her sister tallied with those found on the body. The only son of the deceased was also traced. Her relatives including the son had cut themselves away from her, as she was a foul-mouthed virago and thoroughly immoral. They were reluctant to co-operate with the Police in the investigation. The deceased's business in fruits was learnt to be only a cover for solicitation. The relatives could have had a motive to do away with her as her notoriety had tarnished the reputation of the family and her conduct was becoming more and more embarrassing. She flitted from one lover to another. There was the probability also of a disgruntled paramour putting an end to her life in a moment of anger for her unfaithfulness. These probabilities were all looked into by the Inspector and one by one the complicity of known lovers and relations in this murder was eliminated. The highlight of the investigation was reached when the Inspector conclusively established the identity of the deceased with reference to her finger prints. Her son had executed a document in her favour relinquishing his rights to a family house. The deceased had taken delivery of this record from the local Sub-Registrar's Office, after affixing her thumb-impression on a receipt. This thumb impression was compared with the recorded left thumb impression of the dead woman and was found to be identical. So there was no doubt that the

deceased was Essakki Ammal, the beneficiary in the document registered in the Sub-Registrar's Office.

Having established the identity of the body, the Inspector turned his attention to details connected with the death. Information was forthcoming that the deceased was an old flame of a one-time taxi-driver named Ponnusami Naidu and that she owed some money to him. Probably the loan had been advanced during an expansive mood which such illicit relations engender and which are afterwards repented by the creditor. Neighbours had heard about and seen the parleys which Ponnusami Naidu had with the woman to recover the money but she pleaded her inability to repay as she had no money. On 30-3-1957 the sister of Essakki Ammal had seen her going out at about 10 a.m. dressed in her art-silk sarce with her ear-rings intact. Another neighbour saw her getting into the house of Ponnusami Naidu. She had not been seen afterwards but nobody worried about her disappearance, as her doings were always inscrutable. It became necessary therefore to question Ponnusami Naidu as the woman had not been seen alive after getting into his house. So Ponnusami Naidu was arrested on 15-4-1957 on suspicion. He gave a statement that Essakki came to him with a bottle of illicit country liquor about 10 a.m. on 30-3-1957 by prior appointment. Kumarasami Thevar, a friend, was with him. All of them had drinks. He demanded repayment of the loan. Essakki pleaded inability to pay. So he pointed to her Pampadams and snatched at her left ear-ring. She began to shout. But her mouth was muffled by him and she was thrown down. Kumarasami trampled on her and stamped on her chest heavily and then pressed her throat. Essakki collapsed. The ear-rings were removed and were sent for sale through Kumarasami Thevar and a goldsmith. Kumarsami engaged a taxi on the pretext of carrying some brass vessels for sale and as such transport had taken place previously, the taxi driver had no suspicion. When the taxi arrived, the boot was opened and both of them placed a gunny bag inside. The door of the boot would not close. The accused told the driver and the cleaner of the car that he had caught hold of a wandering goat and milked it for giving milk to his pup and in a drunken mood kicked the goat which died on the spot. He added that he wanted to dispose of the carcass by throwing it somewhere. The culvert offered the opportunity. Kumarasami, later, took another car and went away to Sankaran-koil, a neighbouring town.

As a result of this statement, the owner-driver and cleaner of the first taxi were traced. Their statements were revealing. Apart from details of the clandestine trip for the disposal of the body, they gave out that they learnt about the murder from a newspaper two days later and they came to the conclusion that Ponnusami Naidu had something to do with it. Some days later when Ponnusami passed in front

of their shed they questioned him about the news item. Ponnusami admitted the offence but begged them to be silent about it. The witnesses however were worried about their own part in the disposal of the body and decided to remain silent about the matter until the Investigating Officer discovered them on the basis of the statement of the accused.

There was the question of how the packing of the body was done. Ponnusami had gone to another taxi owner on the same day about 1.30 p.m. and asked him whether he wanted any paddy. On the latter answering in the negative, Ponnusami requested him to send his servant boy to get him a gunny bag, a needle and jute-string since he had to transport some paddy from his house to a place of sale. Accordingly a gunny bag was purchased from a neighbouring Muslim shop, the proprietor of which also lent his needle and roll of jute-string. These were later returned about 3 p.m. The taxi was then engaged by the accused to get away from the place of crime. The Investigating Officer was thus able to track the movements of Ponnusami step by step.

He next directed his efforts to find out how far Kumarasami was involved in this murder. He collected evidence to prove the association of Ponnusami and Kumarasami and how the latter was working as a watchman in the garage of Ponnusami's brother. This was denied by both of them but independent evidence was available to refute this denial. On the date of the murder, Ponnusami had sent a bottle of an alcoholic tincture called Gingerberis—the State is completely dry and no licit liquor is available—through a boy from the garage of his brother about 1 p.m. with the instruction that it should be handed over to Kumarsami. This boy was traced and questioned. He stated that he was particularly cautioned not to go inside the house. The bottle of Gingerberis intended probably to infuse Dutch courage into Kumarasami was handed over at Ponnusami's house as instructed. This proved the presence of Kumarasami at the scene of crime. The nature of injuries on Essakki denoted that it could not have been a one-man job. Next, evidence was found that Kumarasami accompanied two goldsmiths for selling a pair of ear-rings to a jeweller's shop saying that they belonged to his mother. The ear-rings were proved to be those of Essakki. The driver and the cleaner of the taxi which transported the dead body proved the active collaboration of Kumarasami with Ponnusami in carrying the gunny bag to the boot of the taxi and in dropping it down a culvert. Kumarasami had also accompanied Ponnusami to Sankarankoil while escaping from the scene of crime. The trip sheet of the taxi proved the transport of the two passengers.

The post-mortem in this case had been conducted by a lady Assistant Surgeon, who began to waver in her statement as to whether the fracture of the ribs was ante-mortem or post-mortem. The

Investigating Officer had already visited the house of Ponnusami and had a plan prepared of the scene of offence. Evidence was forthcoming that the house was of an old type with very few ventilators and with thick walls, that the room in question appeared to be white-washed soon after the offence and that any sound was not easily transmitted outside. The lady doctor's statement that the deceased would have raised cries and could have lived for two hours after the infliction of the injuries created some confusion, and so the Assistant District Medical Officer, was called in, as an expert witness. This witness gave the quietus to the suggestion that the deceased could have gone on crying when she was assaulted. The Assistant District Medical Officer stated that the injuries were ante-mortem in view of the presence of fluid blood in the pleural cavities and though death would have taken place only after an hour or two of the infliction of the injuries, the injured would have cried out only immediately after the attack. The thick walls would have certainly smothered any such sounds and so there was no likelihood of the neighbours knowing about the offence.

The Investigating officer was able to collect all reliable evidence in this case which brought out fully the details of this heinous crime. There was evidence to prove that Essakki Ammal, wearing her pampadams as usual, entered the house of Ponnusami about 10 a.m., on 30-3-1957. Ponnusami left his house and gave a servant boy about 1 p.m. a bottle of Gingerberis to be taken to his house. Kumarasami bought a gunny bag, a needle and some jute string from a Muslim shop-keeper in the local bazaar. Kumarasami went with the two goldsmiths and sold the pair of ear-rings in a jeweller's shop and finally the goldsmiths sold to the same jeweller the gold they had misappropriated. There was also enough evidence to establish that the accused carried away the corpse in a taxi and threw it underneath a culvert. The post-mortem certificate proved the injuries inflicted on the deceased. Thus the evidence in this case was an unbroken chain. The events were followed up stage by stage; each incident merged into the other and at the end a complete picture was obtained without any trace of doubt.

Both the accused were charged under sections 302 and 201 I.P.C. The Additional Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli, who tried this case convicted and sentenced each of the accused to be hanged by the neck under the first charge and to seven years R.I. under the second charge. The High Court of Madras confirmed the conviction but modified the sentence to one of imprisonment for life for the first accused and seven years' R.I. for the second accused.

An hour may destroy what an age was building.
—German proverb.

ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC IN INDIA—III

M. B. Chande

Bombay Police.

Measures to Check Illicit Traffic

THE officers of the Narcotics Bureau, District Opium Officers, the officers and men of the Excise Department, the Prohibition staff, and the Police are the agencies through which the prevention as well as detection of opium and other narcotic offences can be secured.

The Central Narcotics Department has Opium Intelligence Sections attached to the various opium circles in the poppy growing areas with necessary staff duly vested with powers to search, seize and arrest illicit traffickers. To check the clandestine retention of opium by the cultivators, a system of preliminary weighments of opium at the cultivators' premises has been started. If, in the final analysis, it is found that the opium delivered by the cultivators is substantially at variance with original weighments, the onus of proving that the cultivator has not retained opium surreptitiously is squarely laid on the shoulders of the cultivators. This step has resulted not only in checking smuggling but also in a greater average out-turn of opium. A Central Narcotics Intelligence Bureau has been attached to the Narcotics Department of the Government of India, and functions under the supervision and guidance of a senior officer of the department. This Bureau collects information from all sources relating to suppression of illicit traffic and maintains "history sheets" of smugglers, whose movements and activities are under close and constant surveillance of the officers of the Bureau. The Bureau also arranges for mutual exchange of information between the State Excise and Police authorities, the information with the Narcotics Intelligence Bureau being also placed at the disposal of the various collectors of customs for taking effective action. It also gives legal and other advice regarding the investigation and prosecution of opium offences.

With the increase in the pace of the policy of prohibition of narcotics and intoxicating liquor, the Governments of the different States have also established Special Prohibition Departments, whose main function is to check illicit traffic in such liquor and drugs.

The Customs Houses at the major sea ports of Madras, Bombay and Calcutta have been provided separate Intelligence units to receive information and to investigate cases relating to illicit traffic in narcotics.

Information is also exchanged with the authorities in other coun-

tries in accordance with the detailed instructions laid down by the Government of India. In all urgent cases, the Collectors of Customs at the major ports are authorized to communicate direct with the concerned authorities in the foreign countries. An anti-smuggling scheme has been evolved for guarding the sea and land frontiers of India against the smuggling menace.

But even then there are instances to show that each department has its own informers which results in lack of proper liaison and cohesion. It is the primary duty of all the departments, other than the police, to prevent and detect opium cases. But as there is paucity of staff in these departments and as the police jurisdiction spreads over a larger area, good results are difficult to be achieved, unless police help these sister departments with voluntary, willing and full co-operation. Somehow or other the police appear to have developed the tendency to render help only when it is demanded, but they, as a rule, do not evince enough interest in opium cases. There appears to be two reasons for this apathy, viz., (1) overwork and (2) the feeling that it is not their primary duty. Smuggling of opium and other narcotic offences can be stopped if all these agencies work with cohesion. Smuggling of opium is difficult to be checked only by alerting the police on road barriers, railway trains or stations, and other strategic points, or by circulating information about known smugglers in the States Criminal Intelligence Gazettes, but only the centralized efforts by all the departments concerned with it can check and even stop the menace of smuggling. On the officers of all these departments there is a moral obligation to stamp out opium offences in view of the unhygienic and deteriorating effects on the addicts. Besides carrying out the functions made mandatory on them by the various legislations discussed before, an additional and perhaps, greater responsibility has devolved on them—the commitment of the Government of India to stop cultivation and consumption of opium for all purposes other than medicinal or scientific by 1959 according to the International Convention. All these underline the necessity to impress on the police station officers and their subordinates that along with the crime work, they should consider the prevention and detection of opium cases as one of their primary duties.

Opium Smoking

Opium is consumed in its inherent form available in markets from licensed vendors or any other source, and it is also smoked. The opium required for smoking does not vary from the ordinary opium as there is no basic material change in its constituents—morphine and codeine, so also the evil effects of opium are in this derivative. One has to prepare opium for smoking purposes in the same way one would prepare tobacco before putting it in his smoking pipe, which is equally essential for smoking opium. Therefore, the opium required

for smoking is commonly termed as "Prepared opium or modak (laddu)". Smoking of opium is a bad thing—perhaps worse than opium eating, and the various States have taken suitable measures for gradually curing the addicts of this abominable habit.

Due to the Re-organization of States, certain States have been merged either wholly or partly with other States with effect from -11-1956. On the 31st December, 1956, however, the total number of the registered opium smokers was 2,271 as detailed below:—

State	No. of registered opium smokers on 31-12-55	No. of registered opium smokers on 31-12-56	Remarks
1. Bihar	597	509	
2. Bombay	29	3	
3. Madhya Pradesh	1469	1469	
4. Madras	14	14	
5. Uttar Pradesh	104	104	
6. West Bengal	26	26	
7. Mysore	100	100	
8. Rajasthan	29	22	
9. Delhi	12	12	
10. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12	12	
	2392	2271	

The classification of the registered opium smokers, as on the 31st December, 1956, according to nationality, profession, age and sex, is as follows:

(a) Nationality

(i) Indian ..	..	2248
(ii) Chinese ..	..	12
(iii) Tibetan ..	..	2
(iv) Burmese ..	..	9
Total ..	..	2271

(b) Profession

(i) Business ..	..	414
(ii) Cultivation ..	..	749
(iii) Labour ..	..	844
(iv) Service ..	..	124
(v) Miscellaneous ..	..	140
Total ..	..	2271

(c) Sex and age group

	Under 15	16-19	20-34	35-49	50-65	65 & Over	Unknown	Total
Males	..	..	165	929	841	250	12	2197
Females	..	..	6	34	30	3	1	74

Supplies of opium to the opium addicts are made in extremely limited quantities. Excise opium is sold by licensed dealers from the quota supplied to them for issue for quasi-medical uses, and is converted by the addicts themselves into "prepared opium". No prepared opium is allowed to be sold in any State in India. It is not possible to estimate with any degree of accuracy as to how much opium is issued for smoking purposes; nor has India to import it from abroad.

Statewise lists of registered opium smokers are maintained in the office of the Narcotics Commissioner to the Government of India and the State Governments have been directed to keep him informed of the deletions from the list as and when any of the registered addicts, die or get cured of the habit.

The following statement will show the number of opium smoking offences in India during the year 1956:

No. of offences registered	Quantity of prepared opium seized	No. of opium smoking pipes seized	No. of persons involved	No. of cases decided during the year	No. of persons convicted	No. of persons acquitted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1,211	Mds. Srs. Tls. Grs. 0 5 31 138 (5.036 kgms.)	1,592	1,459	1,219	1,601	139

A summary of measures needed

What applies to the prevention and detection of opium cases, also applies to Indian hemp and other narcotic drug cases, and the requirements expected of the police by the sister departments in stamping out this menace to society may be summarised as follows:

(i) Careful watch at railway stations, road junctions, bus stops, canals, aerodromes, and any other points of communication used by smugglers.

(ii) Police of all ranks should be able to identify hemp and opium and should know their powers under the various Acts in this respect. Officers may be informed of the methods and routes used by smugglers and the action that should be taken against them.

(iii) Expeditionous investigation of all hemp and opium cases, which the police may detect, or which are handed over to the police for investigation, and their prompt prosecution.

(iv) Rendering of immediate assistance to the officers of other departments, such as Narcotics, Excise and Prohibition which the Police are legally required to give in the prevention and detection of opium offences.

(v) Watch on known smugglers.

(vi) Close liaison and co-operation with the departments of Excise, Prohibition and Narcotics by arranging meetings and a channel of correspondence.

(vii) Communication of information which the Police are unable to make use of to any of the departments mentioned above.

(Concluded)

Manliness consists in making circumstances subservient to ourselves. Those who will not heed themselves perish. To understand this principle is not to be impatient, not to reproach Fate, not to blame others. He who understands the doctrine of self-help blames himself for failures.

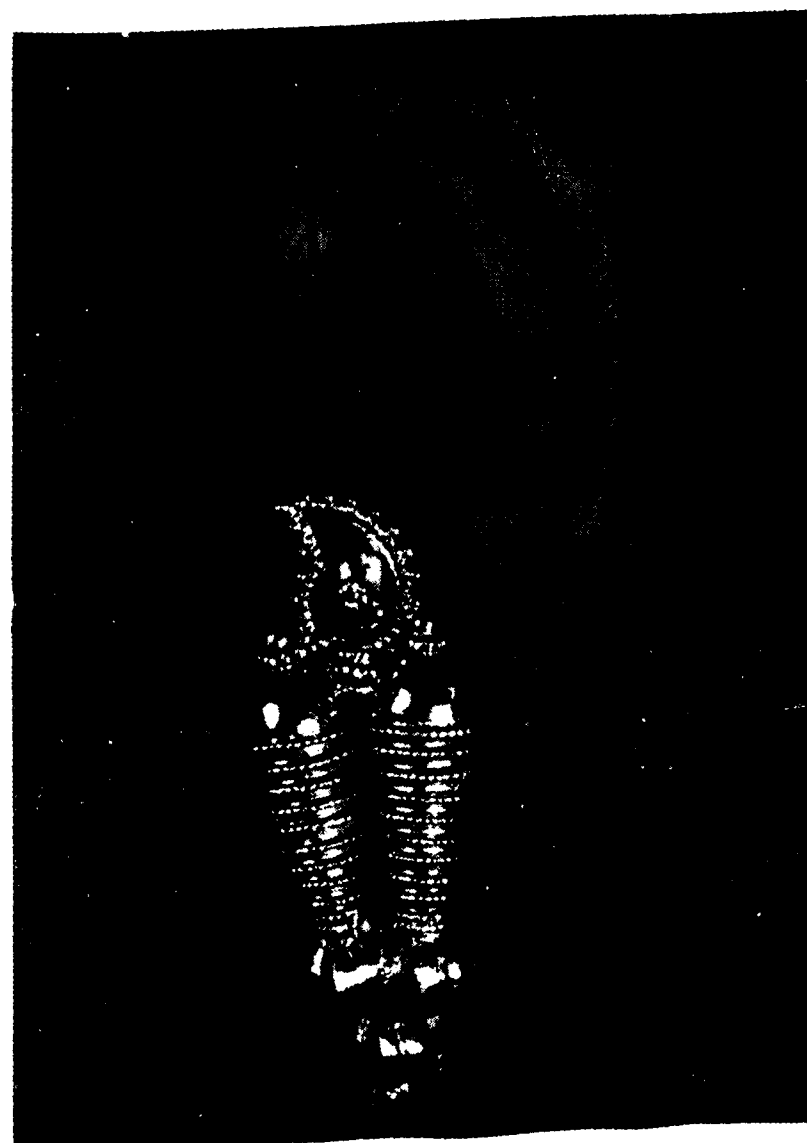
—Mahatma Gandhi.

THE INDIAN POLICE JOURNAL

Photography Contest 1958

CLOSE-UP

(First Prize)



Two entries submitted by Shri S. Akhaury, I.P., Deputy Inspector General of Police, C.I.D., Bihar, together secured the First Prize. The above shows ornamentation made-up.

Submitted by Shri Hanur Singh, I.P.S., Superintendent of Police, Rajasthan



FREEDOM LOVER
(Third Prize.)

A Useful Fingertip

S.C. Barua

Superintendent of Police, Assam.

ON the night of 13-10-55, a gang of dacoits armed with lathis, rollers and torches broke open the door of the dwelling house of Md. Tafazul Ali of Dakhin Noabeel, a village about 25 miles from Jamunamukh Police Station of Nowgong District. Surrounding the house, the dacoits tied up his nephew Nimar Ali to a post with a rope when he offered resistance. They assaulted Tafazul Ali and his wife causing injuries to them. When the miscreants tried to enter his room by breaking it open, Tafazul Ali put up a fight with some of them with the help of a Dao (a sharp-cutting weapon). But it was very dark and so he could not prevent the dacoits from looting his house and making a clean getaway.

The case was reported at the Police Station the next day and the investigating officer arrived at the scene of crime the following day as it took some time for the journey to the village. While carefully inspecting the surroundings and the room where the reported fighting with the dacoits had taken place, the police seized the bulb of a finger in an obscure corner of the house. The police officers were evidently glad of their discovery for they were certain that it belonged to one of the culprits at whom Tafazul Ali had slashed with his 'dao' and chopped off a finger. The investigating officer seized the broken pieces of wooden door, wooden rollers and lathis left behind by the culprits together with the bulb of the finger and prepared a seizure list in the presence of witnesses.

The doctor who examined the bulb of the finger expressed the opinion that it was part of the right little finger of a living man and preserved it in Formaline solution with normal saline in the hospital as suggested by the police, pending completion of investigation of the case.

The police officer made searching inquiries in the village and soon suspicion formed in his mind when he heard that it was possible that some of the members of the gang might have seen Md. Tafazul Ali when he sold paddy worth Rs. 1,000 at the weekly 'hat' (fair) at Nilbagan, about 10 miles away from his village Dakhin Noabeel, on the day of the occurrence. The police officer patiently questioned Tafazul Ali, his wife and other inmates. Pursuing his inquiries in the neighbourhood he learnt that two villagers namely Abdul Gafur

and Abdul Hamid did not run to Tafazul Ali's house on hearing the hue and cry following the crime. These two men were absconding since the occurrence.

After careful study of the evidence so far collected, the police arrested Wajid Ali of Chorlock, a neighbouring village, on suspicion as he was reported to have had dealings with the absconding villagers and knew their movements.

Questioned by the police Wajid Ali stated that he had met Mahbat Ali, a man from Noakhali district in East Pakistan, at Hojai Railway Station. Mahbat Ali had recently lost one or two fingers in his hand but he did not reveal how he had sustained the injuries. The police quickly pursued the clue and their inquiries at the Hojai Railway Station of N.E. Railway disclosed that a III Class ticket was purchased at that Station to Dibrugarh on 15-10-55 i.e., on the second day following the dacoity. An urgent request was made to the Dibrugarh police to enquire about Mahbat Ali at the Dibrugarh Medical College where he was suspected to have gone for treatment.

The Dibrugarh police could not find him but learnt that a man named Mahbat with injured fingers came to the Dibrugarh Medical College for treatment. He was discharged after treatment as no accommodation was available then to admit him as an indoor patient.

The police now took stock of the situation. They consulted medical opinion too and came to the conclusion that the nature of the injury that the dacoit had sustained at Tafazul Ali's house was such that it had got to be attended to closely for complete healing and could not be lightly treated. They felt that having failed to be admitted as an indoor patient at the Dibrugarh Hospital, Mahbat might have tried to get medical treatment somewhere else. It was suspected that he might have gone to the Ledo Colliery Hospital for treatment where many Noakhalia men were working as labourers in the colliery. A requisition was issued to the Ledo police to enquire and trace out the man there. Immediately came a reply that a man Mahbat by name with finger-cut injuries had been admitted in the Colliery Hospital and was discharged some days back after treatment. This confirmed the police officer's line of thinking and steps were quickly taken for the arrest of the man. Calls were made to all Police Stations in the interior to look out for a man with his fingers cut. Vigorous enquiries were made at different places by the police to trace him out as the case mainly hinged on his arrest. Very soon a man was arrested in an interior village under Jamunamukh Police Station of Nowgong district on 6-12-55, nearly two months after the occurrence. He made a confessional statement implicating himself and his associates namely Makai Sheikh, Abdul Hamid and Abdul Gafur (the two absconding neighbours of Tafazul Ali), Matab Ali, Mahbat Ali, and three others. The arrested man also gave details of their

illegal activities throughout Nowgong district. The confessional statement was duly verified by a Magistrate.

The doctor who previously examined and preserved the bulb of the slashed finger, examined the hand of the man in custody and found two fingers of his right hand cut off by means of a sharp weapon and opined that the injuries appeared to be two months old. The preserved portion of the bulb of the finger seemed correctly to fit with the right little finger. The odd portion of the chopped off ring finger was not found at the place of occurrence when searched for by the police.

The circumstantial evidence against Mahbat Ali was considered sufficient. Charge-sheet was framed against Mahbat Ali and his associates Makai Sheikh, Abdul Gafur, Kutub Ali, Ali Askar, Jamir Ali and Ashad Ali under section 395 I.P.C. Accused Mahbat Ali was convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for four years by the Assistant Sessions Judge, Lower Assam Division at Nowgong, on the strength of the evidence regarding find of the chopped part of his finger in Tafazul Ali's house. The rest of the accused were, however, acquitted on account of insufficient evidence. Md. Tafazul Ali and his wife were highly commended by the Assistant Sessions Judge for their courageous stand against the dacoits on the night of the occurrence.

The gang members who could not be sent up in specific cases were frequently bound down successfully under section 110 Cr. P.C.

The reasons for murder or suicide sometimes coincide, and it is interesting to see how one type of personality reacts to a given situation by killing someone else and another type by killing himself.

—Dr. Verrier Elwin
Maria Murder & Suicide.

Police Notes

Radio Telephone

A practical radio telephone which is particularly suitable for installation in motor cycles and, also, in motor cars or for being used both as a portable and fixed apparatus, is represented by the new "Telemot" Radio telephone. Its special design has been based on the demands and requirements of the authorities concerned and industrial enterprises. The first of these apparatuses tried by the police has proved very handy and useful. In cases of traffic bottlenecks, natural catastrophies, traffic accidents or in cases of surmounting obstacles and difficulties inherent in impassable terrain a motor cycle in view of its manoeuvrability, can reach the affected spot in an emergency in the quickest possible time. Therefore, the police officials are in a position to submit their preliminary reports on its usefulness or accept instructions for necessary measures being undertaken with regard to its use. The apparatus is shock and weather-proof. Even in the highest pitch of traffic noise in the streets it is possible to get a clear and disturbance-free reception with the help of this apparatus. The "Telemot" can be so installed on both sides of the rear wheel of the motor cycle that the pillion can be kept free. It consists of three parts:—

- (a) Broadcasting and -receiving apparatus with 4-watt low frequency transistor amplifier and with fixed antennas,
- (b) Transistor current supply from battery with charge regulator, and
- (c) Microphone loudspeaker.

The Microphone loudspeaker is installed on the handle of the motor cycle. In case of other types of use the microphone loudspeaker can be replaced by a small hand-apparatus. Remarkable advantages with it lie in the fact that its battery can be charged for an unlimited period, being fed directly from the dynamo of the motor-cycle. At present this apparatus is equipped with six telephone channels and in future it will be equipped with nine such channels. For the use of the police and gendarmerie (armed police) the advent of the "Telemot" as demonstrated in practical use, is of very great significance, since this apparatus can be taken any time off the motor cycle by making use of one's hands only. The official using it will be in a position to carry it with him to the exact spot of the accident in case it be not possible for him to reach the same with his motor

cycle and in case he is required to go on foot a little distance. The small size of the apparatus has been possible due to its sub-miniature or midget design. The entire current supply and low frequency system being equipped with transistors, current consumption is very low, which is only ten watts when two watt antenna performance is required.

The "Telemot" can either be used as a stationary broadcasting station in police headquarters or can be used as a mobile station being installed in motor vehicles and motor cycles placed at the disposal of any particular police district. The link between such motor vehicles and the district police station is maintained through District Police Broadcasters, which function automatically as soon as any broadcast from one of these stations presses against the call-keys installed in the apparatus.

Due to its versatility this new apparatus will be in a position to contribute in no small measure to the solution of the difficult task of the police and the gendarmerie.

—Offentliche Sicherheit.

Rocks in the Roadway

It has been said, "A policeman is a diplomat in uniform." That is true. You are diplomats, for a diplomat is a person who is flexible, has plenty of tact and is quick to adjust to changing conditions. Your work ranges from being a thief catcher to regulating the best of people. It takes constant physical and mental effort to keep yourself flexible enough to fluctuate between these two extremes.

You've been taught to shoot with your right hand, and to develop in your left hand a calm touch to soothe the fears of a lost child. You will develop your voice to bark a commanding "halt" to an escaping thief in one hour, and—in the next hour—you will need to give detailed instructions to a confused motorist.

No other job calls for the degree of flexibility your job calls for. You must be as delicate as a surgeon one moment and as rough as an oilfield roustabout the next. Yes, it can be done—through constant and continuing self-discipline.

You can make this quick change in yourself regardless of where or what the assignment is, and still maintain all the dignity of your job, and your uniform. To do this you simply think about what you are doing, when and where you are doing it, and who is involved.

And when you have mastered the ability to be flexible, you'll well deserve the title "A Diplomat in uniform." And you'll be well down the road toward better Police Public Relations.

—New Zealand Police Journal.

Better Prospects for Outstanding Merit

When he addressed the last conference of the Association of Chief Police Officers, Mr. Butler himself emphasised the need for more recruits with a broad educational background, and in the recent debate on crime he told the House of Commons that he was giving particular study to the training of the future leaders of the Police Service. Some misgivings, it seems, are felt at the Home Office, and it is well known that they are shared by a number of Chief Constables. There have also been references to the matter in the Press. One provincial newspaper has gone so far as to suggest that what the Home Secretary may have in mind is the establishment of an officer class. In a leading article the newspaper states that this "may not in fact be such a bad thing." A lowering of the standards for the ordinary rank and file, it is suggested, can be tolerated so long as steps are taken to recruit a few outstanding men for the higher posts. In our opinion any proposal along these lines should be rejected out of hand. The fact that every Constable in the Force exercises individual authority means that the reputation and efficiency of the Service depend to an exceptional degree on the standards set by the members of its lower ranks. It is of vital importance that these standards should be maintained, and they are certain to suffer if all that can be offered recruits is thirty year's service without hope of advancement. The real need is to step up the attractiveness of the Police Service as a career, so that it can once again compete with industry for the pick of the young men entering the labour market. To do this there would have to be an improvement in the material rewards and better prospects of promotion for outstanding men who have shown their ability as Police officers.

—Notes and Comments
Police Review (U.K.)

Automobile Thefts

Automobile theft ranks near the top, if not at the top, in the number of crimes committed in the United States, and professional investigators face an intricate and pyramiding problem in attempting to cope with the situation. Many police officials have not considered that automobile theft is a problem of the first magnitude, and the public seems to be laboring under the belief that auto theft does not mean individual monetary loss because most vehicles are insured. How often do we hear the statement, "I am not worried about the loss; it's insured"? From these statements and the careless conduct of motorists who leave unlocked cars upon public highways, it appears that people do not realize that insurance rates are predicated upon the loss ratios of a given area.

According to *Uniform Crime Reports*, there were 227,150 offenses of

automobile theft, reported for 1955 and 263,720 for the year 1956, an increase of 36,570 or 16.1 per cent. Financial loss from automobile theft exceeds the combined value of all other property taken through arcey. Auto theft investigation is made infinitely more complex because it combines two problems: the juvenile problem, in which the crime is treated as an act of delinquency and the subject remanded to the custody of juvenile authorities; and the commercial problem, in which the crime is treated as a felony and the subject ceased to appear before a court of competent jurisdiction.

Most authorities agree that a majority of automobile thefts are perpetrated by juveniles without the intention of selling the stolen cars or converting them to their own use permanently. According to *Uniform Crime Reports* released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, of the 28,035 persons arrested in 1956 for the crime of auto theft, 4,756 were 16 years of age, 5,427 were 15 years of age, and 5,622 were under 15 years.

—Richard Wedekind,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gazette.

Society's Contribution in Treatment of Offenders

The attitude of the society towards crime and criminal has considerable influence on the extent of criminality. In the last resort the rehabilitation of offenders finally depends on the consciousness of this need among the masses. Public opinion needs to be educated concerning the criminal and his treatment. Treatment must be guided by considerations both of immediate and long-term community security and by the social interest at stake. There should be liaison officers who can convince the community that its own security depends upon its active assistance to those who are released from jails so that they may live as normal citizens. There should be provision in the rules for all correctional officers for promoting public relations. This can be done by presenting the cultural efforts of the inmates to the community. Members of the society and business organizations should be encouraged to sponsor individual prisoners. This should be done on an organized basis. Business and labour groups can assist a prisoner by preparing him for his return to the normal employment. Voluntary organizations can take up the training and education of prisoners, as in the United States where there are voluntary services for recreation, entertainment, instructions, counselling and religion. Through these contacts the community creates an understanding of what is being done by the administration in regard to prevention of crime and treatment of offenders. There should therefore be clear provision in the rules for the coordination of the activities of voluntary organizations.

—The Journal of Correctional Work.

Judicial Approach in Investigation

I want the Police Officers to bring to bear a certain amount of judicial approach in their investigations. Once a Court feels that the evidence of a witness is false in certain particulars, we view with suspicion his evidence in respect of other particulars also. Our people are timid. They have a fear that all sorts of questions would be put when they are in the witness-box. This is one of the reasons for their refusing to come forward to speak to what they know. A certain amount of persuasion and creation of the impression that only true evidence would be placed before the court and that the Police would not tolerate the introduction of false evidence would go a long way to make the people co-operate with them and that would bring about greater efficiency in the detection of crime and will make the police administration more efficient than what it is at the present time.

—Hon'ble Justice N. Somasundaram,
The Madras Police Journal.

Utility of Micro-Photograph

"If I have to throw away all appliances and accessories placed at my disposal for conducting investigations I would not still like to part with my camera in any case," thus declared recently a Police Official.

When a crime or a traffic accident takes place anywhere, the photographic apparatus constitutes one of the main items of articles required by police officials in conducting their investigations, since a photographic snap-shot can later prove to be an indisputable evidence in a court of law and since it can at the same time give a correct picture of the place of crime or accident to those who were not actually present there during the commission of the crime or during the time of the accident.

—O.T.V. Presse.

Police and Policemanship

There is then no facile solution of the problems facing the Police Service now or in the future. What, therefore, is required of us? What can be demanded of the public, and what of us? Clearly the public influences its police for good or ill. May not the Police Service, in turn, affect the public as intimately and deeply. There is a moral challenge here.

Some of the virtues of the Police of the past were physical courage, mental and moral strength, tolerance, patience and a strong sense of duty. All these are lasting virtues and values, far more wonderful than any electronic gadget, and one can confidently suggest that, come fair weather or foul, they will see the Service through yet another quarter of a century.

If it is true also that "without vision the people perish", may we not also ask in the uncertainty of today and the mystery of tomorrow, for the vision to see things aright and the courage to act on our deepest faith, —a faith in ourselves, our Service and our Public.

The Hong Kong Police Magazine.

Forensic Investigation

In the past fifteen years crime detection and investigation have become a field for the expert. The crude and sometimes all too obvious techniques of the law breaker of yesterday have all but given way to the refined and almost specialised methods of today. Forged bank notes, for example, are likely to be a reasonable facsimile of the genuine note and this makes the detection all the more difficult. Modern developments in the field of crime detection lean heavily on the chemist who in an atmosphere of increasing complexity has become a diversified scientist.

At the Government Laboratory at Hope, chemistry and physics sometimes play a key role in police investigations. The work for the most part does not consist merely of analysing samples, but rather of conducting investigations of specific problems. Much has been written on the value of specialisation but to some extent the reverse is requested in this work. Scientists engaged in this work are required to have a wide range of interest and knowledge and to be able to apply the results of work in one field to a special problem and, above all, to be interested in the scientific aspects of crime detection. Such apparently mundane problems as whether a piece of glass or sand found on a suspect is identical to material removed from the scene of the crime, or whether a particular writing was written by a fountain pen or a ball point pen and at what time, must all be answered quickly and effectively.

We are often called upon to give opinion on hypothetical questions concerning firearms and ammunition. We may be requested to examine the pattern of powder residues on a victim's clothes and to demonstrate whether the defendant's gun could make a similar pattern, and if so, at what range.

This type of practical problem has its inherent difficulties in that to find these solutions, frequently a particular knowledge of all types of material is required and by comparison a piece of academic research is often much easier to accomplish.

—A.C. Ellington,
Jamaica Constabulary Force Magazine.

As Others See Us

STUDYING CRIME

UNLESS criminology is now to become one of the dirty words, we must carefully tend and nourish the difficult social study which it none too aptly describes. The way things are moving, it may soon be necessary to defend it tooth and nail against the reactionaries and punishers; for public money is going to be spent on it, just as if this were a foreign country. Its champions and enemies have their forces at the two oldest universities. There is a stronghold at Cambridge, which has had a Department of Criminal Science for some years—this is to be the home of the projected Institute of Criminology, for 'the training to post-graduate level of those who will carry out criminological research and teach others'; and there is what you might call a weakhold at Oxford, where it is proposed to abolish, as a fringe activity not worth its trifling cost, even the Readership in Criminology which has been held for so long and with such distinction by Dr. Max Grunhut. The Oxford Magazine rightly protests that, 'so far from being a fringe activity, criminology has sufficient claim to be treated as an applied science and has affinities with medicine, law, and sociology'. The fact that in England such a plea should be necessary after all these years suggests that criminology can still be regarded, even in the academic world, as akin to witchcraft. It might have had a better chance if we had called it criminal anthropology—it is wonderful what a few extra syllables can do.

Those European and American states which have institutes of criminology support them largely out of state funds, with (it seems) no very clamorous objection from the taxpayers. It looks as if our institute, when we get it, will have to be financed by industry and the charitable foundations, by private fund-raising and (perhaps) by a trickle from the Sunday Cinema takings. There is a hint of danger, too, that it may begin life as yet another social research foundation, devoting itself mainly to specialist studies and reports for the consumption of specialists. This kind of thing is already being done, on begged money, by several universities and voluntary societies (and on Treasury funds by the Home Office Research Unit), though these seem to be concerned mainly with the effectiveness of present treatments and punishments. The study of crime, of criminal statistics, of criminal law, of punishment, of criminal sociology involves the study of the self-same social conditions; and the segregation into separate disciplines that has now been going on for more than a century was strik-

ingly illustrated by the list compiled—I think for the first time—by Dr. Leon Radzinowicz in his essay on 'The Meaning and Scope of Criminal Science'* 1946. All these phrases, moreover, have different meanings for different authors:

Criminology, criminal science, criminal anthropology, criminal biology, criminal psychology, prison anthropology, criminal psychiatry, criminal psycho-pathology, criminal sociology, penal philosophy, criminal statistics, penology, prison science, prison pedagogy, police science, forensic psychiatry, medical jurisprudence, legal medicine, criminal law, penal legislative policy, criminal prophylaxis.

Revolted enough in the mass, these 'ologies' show at least the complexity which the subject must have been thought to have by their ologists; but they are in fact the consequence of restricting what I prefer to call criminal science for so long to the study of criminal law alone.

The United States Institute of Mental Health has a project in operation at the University of Pennsylvania, which, it seems to me, shows exactly what ought to be done. This integrates legal and sociological teaching in such a way as to embrace the widest possible concept of criminal science, studying the individual, his society, and all society as presenting aspects of the same problem, none complete in itself. It has been realised that, whenever sociology and psychiatry have been applied to practical problems, it has been because there was enough incentive to draw qualified researchers out of their normal seclusion. Intelligence testing, for example, grew to its present stature because its value was recognised in the world of education and child welfare. Industrial psychology has reached its firmly established position because industry has been ready to pay hard money for the help it was found to offer. For while the captains of commerce will underwrite this kind of experiment for some of the time, they will not go on doing it for 30 years, as they have even in this country, unless it shows results. (In 1946 our own Probation Service Commissioned the National Institute of Industrial Psychology to investigate the work of probation officers and the personal qualities it demanded: its report has ever since been the basis of selection procedure for training.)

Nor is there any reason why this work should be confined either geographically or academically, these are both ways of setting up a closed shop, creating a gap between crime and the rest of human conduct. In this country, as elsewhere, the law schools are the obvious centres for an integration of research and teaching, of the statistical and the clinical methods of investigating the causes and prevention of crime. It is along these lines, for example, that our criminal courts must pursue the kind of sentencing policy which is (or should be) at present occupying the attention of Mr. Justice

* *The Modern Approach to Criminal Law*, Macmillan.

Streatfield's Committee. And there is a further reason why it would be regrettable if the new Institute of Criminology were to be a research institute merely: its existence could then serve as a permanent government excuse, like a Royal Commission in perpetuity, for 'not being in a position to make any statement until we know the results of the inquiry which is presently proceeding'.

But even if it fulfils all the brightest hopes, there will remain, for geographical reasons at the very least, a self-evident need for such a school in London, offering a series of courses in particular, which would be open to all the services, professional as well as voluntary, concerned with pre-delinquency, crime, punishment, and after-care. For my part I should like it to be a centre of advice, as well as of research, conference, and education, to which any member of those services (probation, police, prison, remand home, borstal, approved school, after-care) could go for expert help in unusual problems, personal or occupational. Its lectures would cover the study of man and his impulses and biological needs, the whole function and history of the criminal law, the preparation of criminal cases for trial, the treatment of convicted offenders, and a deep study of the true public interests involved in the ageless phenomenon of crime.

But this new and widespread legal education would need a public relations technique that no university law school has hitherto thought respectable. Its real job would be to call in the help of the whole country in a campaign of what the American universities call preventive criminology. And its constant note of inquiry might well be the question fired at the American Bar Association in 1920 by Mr. Justice Holmes: "What have we better than a blind guess to show that criminal law in its present form does more good than harm?"

C.H. ROLPH
The New Statesman.

Pinch yourself and know how others feel.

—German proverb.

Cricket Match In Aid Of Police Welfare Fund

SOON after the tour programme of the West Indies cricket team in India was finalised it was announced by the Maharashtra Cricket Association, which controls the game in this part of the State, that the team's fixture against the Maharashtra XI would be played in November, 1958, at a district headquarters other than Poona.

Negotiations were, therefore, started with the M.C.A. who agreed to the match being played at Sholapur in aid of the Police Welfare Fund subject to certain terms like a specified guarantee money to be paid to the Board of Cricket Control in India, the payment of the expenses of the Maharashtra team and of a donation to the M.C.A.

These were placed before the Inspector-General of Police of Bombay for approval and were finalised with the M.C.A., subsequently by mutual discussion. Besides these terms the Police had to shoulder the financial and other responsibilities for the boarding and lodging arrangements of both the teams, their officials and umpires and a few officials of the M.C.A. and the Board, construction of the stands, and getting the wicket into shape.

The Organising Committee consisted of the Senior Police Officials of the district and several leading and public spirited citizens. The Organising Committee was divided into a number of Sub-Committees in charge of different special tasks like boarding and lodging of the visitors, sale of tickets and publicity, construction of stands, preparation of the ground and the wicket.

An unique feature of the organisation was that no contract was placed with any professional contractor as such but every aspect of the organisation was managed by the Sub-Committees concerned. This not only made for proper and smooth management of each of the various tasks but also for considerable economy. It may be mentioned as an example that whereas the lowest of the quotations from professional caterers that were called for initially was Rs. 18 per day per head, the catering Sub-Committee was able to provide the best possible food within Rs. 12-8-0 per day per head.

The Police Family Welfare Fund benefited to the extent of over Rs. 36,000.

THE IX ALL-INDIA POLICE ATHLETICS AND SPORTS MEET

Sardar Balbir Singh, I.P.

THE IX All-India Police Athletics and Sports Meet was held at Calcutta from the 31st January to the 6th February, 1959. It was declared open at an impressive ceremony by Dr. B.C. Roy, Chief Minister of West Bengal, on the 4th February. Kumari Padmaja Naidu, Governor of West Bengal, presided over the closing ceremony on the 6th February and gave away the prizes. Messages for the success of the Meet received from the Prime Minister of India and the Union Home Minister were read out by the Director, Intelligence Bureau at this function. At the close of the Meet, the All-India Police Meet flag was handed over by the Governor to the Captain of the winning Punjab Team to be kept in safe custody until it is again flown at the next Athletics and Sports Meet.

Eighteen teams representing the following States and central institutions took part :—

Andhra Pradesh; Bihar; Bombay; Kerala; Madhya Pradesh; Mysore; Madras; Orissa; Punjab; Rajasthan; Uttar Pradesh; West Bengal; Delhi; Himachal Pradesh; Manipur; Tripura; Central Police Training College, Abu; and C.R.P., Neemuch; Manipur and Tripura were welcome additions to the competing units this year.

The semi-finals and finals of the football, hockey, volleyball and wrestling tournaments, the hardlines finals in football and hockey as well as the finals of the gymnastics competition were held from the 31st January to the 3rd February. The winners of the preliminary rounds in these events which were conducted on a zonal basis took part in the semi-finals and finals.

In the football semi-finals, the Andhra Pradesh defeated Bombay (7-0) and West Bengal beat Uttar-Pradesh (2-0). The Andhra Pradesh team lived up to their reputation and won the finals beating West Bengal by a comfortable margin (3-0). Uttar Pradesh won the hardlines trophy beating Bombay (4-2).

In the semi-finals of the hockey tournament, Punjab beat Madras in a closely contested match (2-1) while Bihar got the better off Madhya Pradesh in the other encounter (2-1). Punjab established their superiority over Bihar in the finals by obtaining a 2-0 verdict

in their favour. After a goalless draw, Madhya Pradesh earned the hardlines trophy beating Madras in the re-play (3-0).

In the volley-ball semi-finals Kerala beat Madhya Pradesh (15-7, 13-15, 15-9) while Delhi beat Orissa in two straight games (15-4, 15-9). In a classic and popular final, Delhi won the tournament after three keenly contested games (15-8, 9-15, 15-9).

Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi have annexed the football, hockey and volley-ball titles respectively for a number of years. On this year's showing we should expect serious challenge to their supremacy next year. Apart from being of a high standard the games were marked by clean play and disciplined behaviour and drew large crowds.

The All-India Police Wrestling and Gymnastics Tournaments drew the largest crowds and the several bouts were watched with great enthusiasm by the public of Calcutta. The winners in the various weights in the wrestling tournament were as follows :—

(1) Fly Weight	Jogeshwar Singh	Bihar
(2) Bantam Weight	Tarkeshwar Pande	Uttar Pradesh
(3) Feather Weight	Sarjit Singh	Delhi
(4) Light Weight	Gian Prakash	Delhi
(5) Welter Weight	Lakshmi Kant Pandey	Uttar Pradesh
(6) Middle Weight	Jamna Pande	Bihar
(7) Light Heavy Weight	Bachan Singh	Punjab
(8) Heavy Weight	Suraj Bhan	Delhi

West Bengal figured in four finals and annexed the 2nd prizes in these events.

The gymnastics competition was very keenly contested this year. The zonal winners, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh participated in this event. The team Championship was won by Madras, while Uttar Pradesh came second, by the smallest of margins. Once again H.C. Ram Dutt of Delhi bagged the Medal for the best individual gymnast. The winners of the six items of this competition were as follows :—

Event	Name of Winner	State
Parallel Bars	Narayanan	Madras
Pommel Horse	Ram Dutt	Delhi
Long Horse	Bhimraj Thapa	Bihar
Horizontal Bar	Ram Dutt	Delhi
Floor Exercise	Ram Dutt	Delhi
Roman Rings	Narayanan	Madras

The usual card of 22 athletic events was conducted from the 4th

to the 6th February. The winners of the athletic events are mentioned in the statement given below :—

Events	Winners
1. 100 Metres Run	Somiah (Madras)
2. 200 Do.	Tara Singh (Punjab)
3. 400 Do.	Tara Singh (Punjab)
4. 800 Do.	Babu Singh (Punjab)
5. 1500 Do.	Hazari Ram (Rajasthan)
6. 5000 Do.	S.G. Desai (Bombay)
7. 10000 Do.	Saroop Singh (Punjab)
8. 110 Metres High Hurdles	Om Prakash (Punjab)
9. 500 Metres Hurdles	S.I. Jagdev Singh (Punjab)
10. 3000 Metres Steeple Chase.	Joginder Singh (Jr) (Punjab)
11. Marathon Race	H.C. Dass (Punjab)
12. Decathlon	Lashkar Singh (Punjab)
13. Running Broad Jump	Joginder Singh (Punjab)
14. Running High Jump	S.I. Ajit Singh (Punjab)
15. Hop Step & jump	Darshan Singh (Punjab)
16. Pole Vault	Lakhhbir Singh (Punjab)
17. Discus Throw	Baldev Singh (Punjab)
18. Shot Put	Baldev Singh (Punjab)
19. Hammer Throw	Bikram Singh (U.P.)
20. Javelin Throw	Bakshish Singh (Punjab)
21. 4 × 100 Metres Relay	Necmugh Punjab
22. 4 × 100 Metres Relay	Punjab

The athletes achieved a high standard of performance and set up nine All-India Police records and one All-India record. The details of the events in which records were set up are indicated below :—

S. No.	Events	Time/Distance	Name of the athlete	Name of the State
1.	1500 Metres Run	4m. 2.6 sec.	Hazari Ram	Rajasthan
2.	5000 Metres Run	15m. 27.4 sec.	S.G. Desai	Bombay
3.	10000 Metres Run	32m. 23.4 sec.	Saroop Singh	Punjab
4.	400 Metres hurdles	53.6 sec.	Jagdev Singh	Punjab
5.	High Jump	6' 7"	Ajit Singh	Punjab
6.	Hammer Throw	154' 9"	Bikram Singh	U. Pradesh
7.	Pole Vault	12' 4"	Lakhhbir Singh	Punjab
8.	Shot Put	46' 4"	Baldeo Singh	Punjab
9.	Decathlon	5354	Lashkar Singh	Punjab

THE POLICE ATHLETICS AND SPORTS MEET IN PICTURES



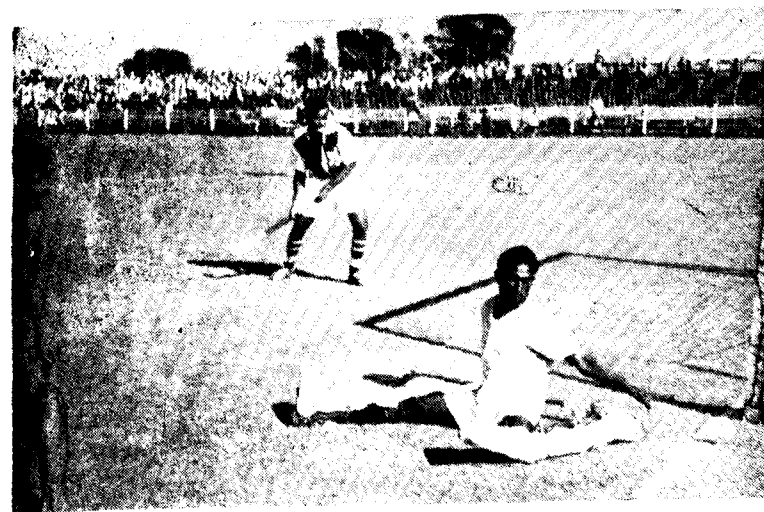
Dr. B. C. Roy, Chief Minister of West Bengal (centre), arriving for the opening on 4-2-1959.



The Chief Minister is introduced to the team captains.



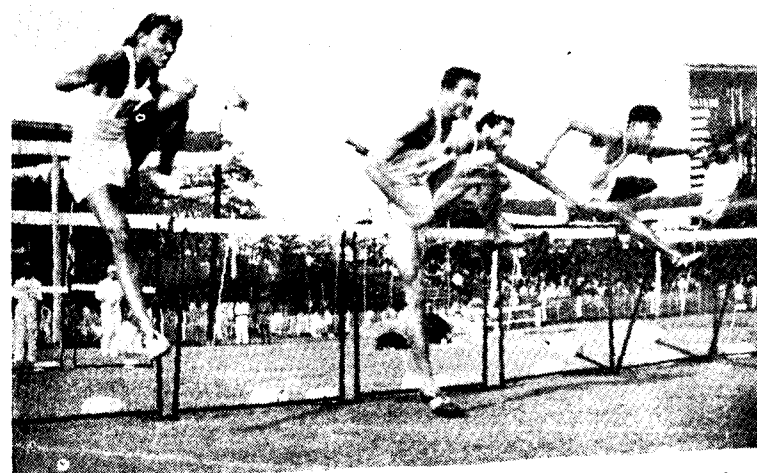
A rosette being pinned on the Maharajah of Patiala, President of the Indian Olympic Association.



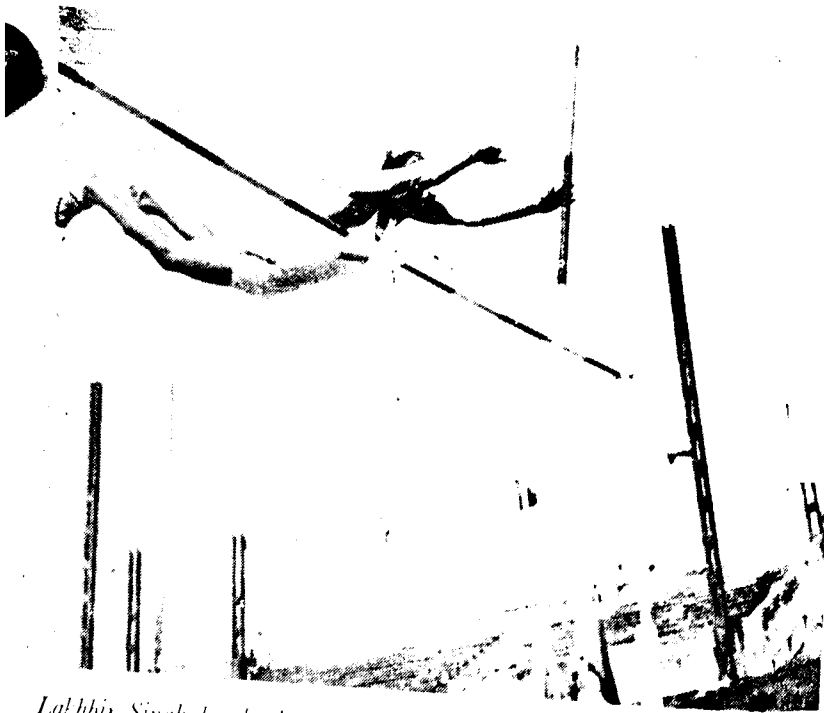
Well done, goalie !



Delhi were the winners in an exciting and well-contested final against Kerala in Volley Ball.



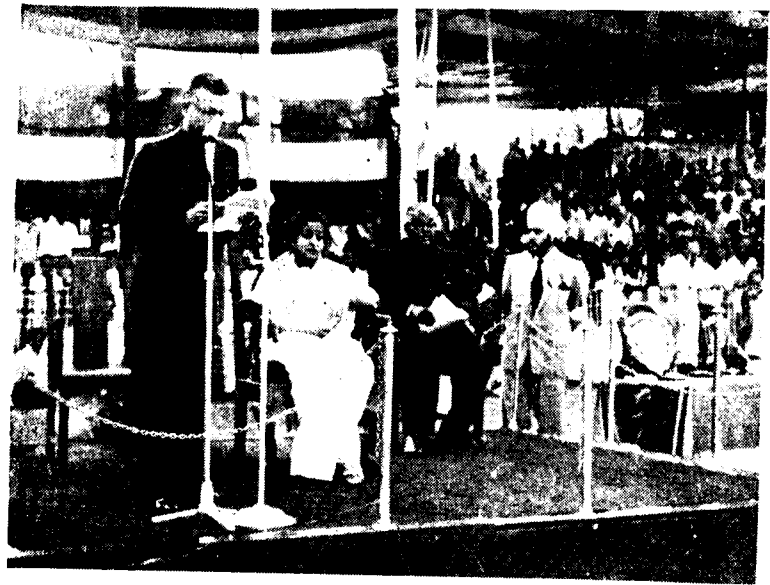
A close finish in 110 metres high hurdles won by Om Prakash of Punjab.



Lakhbir Singh breaks the All India Pole Vault record, climbing 12' 4".



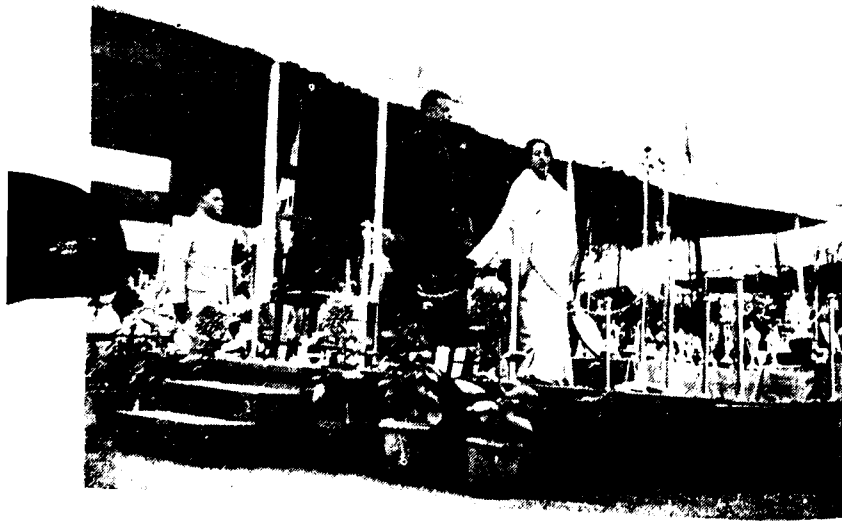
V. Singh creating a new high jump record (6' 7").



Shri B. N. Mullik reading out messages from the Prime Minister of India and the Union Home Minister.



Panjab captain receiving the Championship Trophy.



The Governor of West Bengal, Shrimati Padmaja Naidu, declaring the Meet closed.



Needs no caption. Mr. H.N. Sircar, Inspector-General of Police of the host State, at the close of the Meet.

The Punjab team finished way ahead of the other States and retained the State Championship trophy for the seventh year running, securing 310 points. The U.P team with 89 points was second. One gratifying feature of this Meet, however, was that apart from the Punjab and U.P., even smaller states and units like Kerala and the C.R.P. Neeruch put in creditable performances and obtained a good number of points in the aggregate. This augurs well for the future of sports in the Police and it is hoped that in the Meets which follow, even the smaller units would produce a number of athletes of All-India standard.

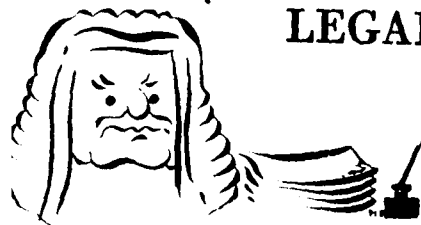
S.I. Ajit Singh won the coveted Union Home Minister's Medal for the best athlete. He established a new All-India record in the running high jump event besides coming second in running broad jump and third in the 110 Metres hurdles race. His high jump of 6'-7" was a big leap over his earlier All-India record of 6'-5".

On the 6th February after the Meet had come to an end, all the visiting teams and officials were entertained to a *Bara Khana* by the West Bengal Police.

The visiting teams were housed comfortably in the Body Guard Lines, Alipore, Calcutta. The visiting officers were accommodated in the Inspectors' Quarters in the Body Guard Lines and messed together. A few officers were provided accommodation at the Central Government Hostel at Alipore. Nearly 600 officers and men assembled at Calcutta for this Meet and the housing, messing, sanitation, transport and reception facilities catered by West Bengal were excellent. Most of the teams had brought their own cooks and ran separate messes of their own in the camp. Necessary facilities were provided for running these messes. Excellent variety entertainment programmes were provided on four evenings in the camp auditorium with the help of the Folk Entertainment Section, Government of West Bengal and other artists.

The football and hockey matches were held in the Calcutta Football Club grounds, and volley-ball at the West Bengal Volleyball Federation grounds. The wrestling and gymnastics competitions as well as the athletic events were conducted at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta. His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, the President of the Indian Olympic Association, and a number of senior Civil and Police Officers were among the interested spectators who watched and encouraged the performances of the Police athletes. The West Bengal Police were assisted in conducting the competitions and tournaments by several qualified officials of the athletic and sports organisations. The Meet received full and extensive publicity both in the Press and Radio.

The discipline, decorum and precision with which such a major sporting event was conducted is a tribute to the local Organising Committee and its enthusiastic band of workers.



LEGAL NOTES

CONTEMPT OF COURT

When a summons is received by a superior officer under section 2 Cr. P.C. it is his duty to serve that summons. If for any reason his subordinate cannot appear on the date fixed for his appearance in court, an application may be made after service of summons either by the superior officer or by the subordinate himself requesting the court to adjourn the case and if the application is *bona fide*, courts will accommodate Government servants in the matter. But it would be contempt of court for a superior officer to whom summons is sent to refuse to serve it on any ground other than that the subordinate officer was not available to the superior officer for service of summons as for example when he is on leave. (1958 Cr. L.J. 1348).

IMPORTANCE OF F.I.R.

The F.I.R. is the first information of an occurrence or transaction in point of time, which reaches the authority competent to investigate or order an investigation. Obviously, there cannot be more than one first information in one case, however many the victims of the alleged offence.

The F.I.R. is not substantive evidence and omissions in it will not *ipso facto* lead to the case being thrown out. But it is a piece of corroborative evidence; omissions in it will, other things being the same, deprive prosecution of the most valuable corroboration and thereby make the story suspicious. (1958 Cr.L.J. 1402).

EVIDENCE OF MOTIVE

It is true that the evidence of motive is not necessary for convicting the accused when other evidence is there. But it is also true that the evidence of motive throws much light on the actions of those who are involved in a case. In the absence of any evidence of motive, the

setting is not proper and the test of arriving at the truth is rendered somewhat difficult. It may be that in certain cases the motive cannot be ascertained, yet an effort should be made by the prosecution to find it. (1958 Cr. L.J. 1402).

DISHONEST MISAPPROPRIATION

The fact that the accused failed to account for the money which had been entrusted to him by itself would not be sufficient to show that he dishonestly misappropriated in the absence of any evidence to show that the money was utilised by him in a way which was inconsistent with the trust.

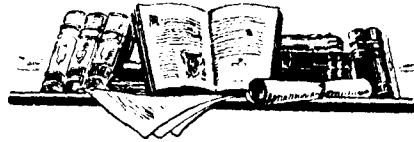
In both these cases S. 114 of the Evidence Act has not been discussed. The question that falls for decision is whether in the absence of any evidence as to dishonest misappropriation merely on the presumption arising under S. 114 of the Evidence Act the accused could be held guilty. In a case like this, where the accused has come forward with a plea, which relates to settlement of accounts and where the prosecution has not produced any evidence of any dishonest misappropriation, I am of the opinion that the accused cannot be convicted merely on the basis of any presumption.

The essential ingredient of S. 408 I.P.C., is dishonest misappropriation. The onus of the general issue i.e., dishonest misappropriation lay on the prosecution, and in the absence of any evidence of dishonesty the accused, in my opinion, is entitled to acquittal. The revision is allowed, the judgment of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Sub-Magistrate are set aside and the accused is acquitted. (1958 Cr. L.J. 1460).

—o—

Civilization is comradeship. —S. Radhakrishnan.

BOOKS



Prisoners at the Bar—By Francis Busch—Published by the Arco Publications Ltd., London—Price 30 Sh.

A book lover is attracted by the fine get-up and beautiful printing of the book before him. 'Prisoners at the Bar' is such a book. The author, a distinguished Barrister, tells in detail the stories of four celebrated American crimes. The treatment of the material, in spite of difficult questions of laws and facts involved, is admirable because the author makes the reader, however ignorant he may be of laws, an additional juror who gets completely absorbed in the facts of the story.

The four American trials selected by the author attracted nation-wide public attention in the States either due to their dramatic quality or their importance in forensic battles in which great advocates displayed their skill and wit. However, as the author correctly says, these accounts of four crime stories become important because "the scene is laid against the background peculiar to American life, and each trial possesses special social significance." They give a clear idea about the administration of criminal justice in America.

The story of 'William Haywood' is a striking example of the success of superior advocacy over a strong case skillfully presented by the prosecution lawyers helped by the barriers of social prejudice. In the 'Sacco Venzetti' case one is astonished to see how public opinion sways from one idea to another, and how anarchists like Sacco could become popular idols or at least objects of sympathy. "The Loeb & Leopold Case" gives stimulation to a thinking mind regarding the kind of punishment and the reclamation of the criminal, especially when in the 'aftermath' the author describes how Leopold becomes a useful citizen though behind the bars. The tragic story in the 'Bruno Hauptmann Case', its investigation, trial and subsequent appeals in the courts, go a long way to increase the public confidence in the effectiveness of the judicial processes.

The book is, in short, a valuable addition to literature on criminology and jurisprudence. —K.P. Medhekar.

The Sexual Criminal—A psychoanalytical study—By J. Paul de River M.D.F.A.C.S., 2nd edition—Published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, (U.S.A.)

Dr. River has been working for many years as a psychiatrist with the Los Angeles Police Department and is now the Director of the Sex Offences Bureau there. Both by his rich experience and high position, he is eminently qualified for this type of psychoanalytical study. It is not surprising, therefore, that the book bears the stamp of authority.

The author states that he wrote the book because he felt "that an unbiased report on the sexual criminal would help in handling and understanding this type of criminal." He has certainly achieved his purpose. The treatment is objective and mercifully free from sermonising that one often finds in text-books dealing with sex pervers.

Perhaps for these reasons, the book may make heavy and rather gruesome reading to the layman. But those whose job it is to deal with sex criminals will find much food for thought in it. The author has tried to assist the readers by giving details of the background—the history, somatic and psychic examination though one feels that he could have made it easier for understanding by giving fuller details of the offence in each case.

The book heavily emphasises the viewpoint of the psychoanalyst but chapters such as "Truth Serum," "Confessors" and "Pertinent Facts" strike a more practical note and will be of interest to the criminologist and the lawyer. Possibly the author himself was aware of this because the second edition carries with it five articles giving additional information, opinions, views and case studies by experts in other fields having experience of the problem.

S. M. Warty.

Famous Criminal Cases—Volume No. 5 by Rupert Furneaux. Published by W.H. Allen & Co., London. Available from Messrs. Rupa and Co., 15, Bankim Chandra Street, Calcutta-12.

This is the fifth and latest of a series by Rupert Furneaux who in his self-appointed role of reporter of current crime in England has year by year been recounting with extreme objectivity nearly a dozen cases in each book. A reader who expects thrills from this volume as from any mystery thriller is bound to be disappointed since the author deals with the legal presentation of each case rather from the point of view of criminal investigation. The book would, however, be of interest to policemen in all countries where legal trials are in vogue since the cases listed therein highlight the difficulties of the prosecution and the methods of the defence. —K. Ravindran.

Awards For Gallantry

A. President's Police and Fire Services Medal

Shri Guman Singh, I.P.S., Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Anti-Dacoity Force, Jodhpur.

Shri Tarachand, I.P.S., Superintendent of Police, Jodhpur.

Shri Deendayal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Headquarters, Jodhpur.

Shri Padam Singh, Constable, Jodhpur.

B. Police Medal

Shri Khuman Singh, Constable, R.A.C. II Bn., Jaipur.

Shri Kundan Lal, I.P.S., Additional Superintendent of Police, Jodhpur.

Shri Aturam, Constable, Jodhpur.

Shri Raipal Singh, Constable, R.A.C. 1st Bn., Jodhpur.

These officers of Rajasthan showed exemplary courage and fighting spirit during an encounter with the gang led by the notorious Kalyan Singh and largely helped in liquidating a few of them. On 11-3-58, they assembled in Pipar to attack the gang and after giving a furious chase successfully surrounded them and fired on them. Forced to fight, the dacoits made a desperate bid to break the police cordon and achieved partial success. But gathering their forces the police pursued them relentlessly. Finding themselves in a tight corner, the dacoits took refuge on top of a hillock and resumed their attack from a vantage position. Undaunted, the police replied with heavy fire and set fire to the barricade behind which the dacoits hid themselves. Left with no alternative the dacoits staked their all in a desperate dash in which six of them were killed including Kalyan Singh. The police recovered seven rifles, three revolvers, a sten-gun and a large quantity of ammunition abandoned at the scene of the encounter. They were however deeply saddened by the fact that Shri Tarachand who bravely and spiritedly led the attack and killed Kalyan Singh himself fell in the thick of the battle.

Shri Rajinder Singh, Platoon Commander, 5th Battalion, Armed Force, Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Singh showed remarkable courage in apprehending ten dangerous convicts who had escaped from prison and thanks to his ability and skilful action, the convicts were recaptured. On receiving information that ten notorious criminals imprisoned for

city had escaped from the jail in Bhilsa district, Shri Rajinder Singh with a small party chased them. The convicts were well armed and had some rifles and guns and 200 rounds of ammunition. By nightfall he was in sight of the gang but unfortunately he was separated from the police party owing to darkness and left with only two constables to help him. But this did not dampen spirits for he pursued the convicts relentlessly.

The convicts attempted to cross the river Bina and guided by their noise Shri Singh fired on them. The dacoits retaliated and to deter the crossing of the river by the gang, Karan Singh, the dacoit leader, opened heavy fire on the police. Shri Singh at this stage exhibited fine courage and advanced to the river bank. In a swift lightning move he disabled Karan Singh and succeeded in firing his rifle. Seven of the convicts were later apprehended as a result of this exceptionally intrepid and prompt action.

AWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

REPUBLIC DAY AWARDS

A. President's Police and Fire Services Medal

Shri Kaikhosru Jehangir Nanavatty, I.P.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Bombay.

Shri Bal Makund Shukul, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Bhopal.

Shri Sunnangal Balakrishna Shetty, I.P.,
Inspector General of Police, Madras.

Shri Hari Sadhan Ghose Choudhuri, I.P.,
Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

Shri Balbir Singh, I.P.

B. Police Medal

Shri Bandi Nitya Kalyana Rao, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Cyanam Durga Rao,
Retired Deputy Superintendent of Police, Criminal
Investigation Department, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Vummadiseti Durgi Koteswararao,
Inspector of Police, C.I.D., Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Emmaneni Venkatapathi Rao Naidu,
Inspector of Police, Hindupur Circle, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Jiban Chandra Nath,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Assam.

- Shri Arun Kumar Banerji,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Bihar.
- Shri Sayajirao Laxmanrao Pagar,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Bombay.
- Shri Naval Cawasji Mistry,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Criminal Investigation
Department, Bombay.
- Shri Murlidhar Kisan Diwate,
Inspector of Police, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Greater
Bombay.
- Shri Ram Narain Nagu, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Madhya Pradesh.
- Shri Babu Lal Parasher, I.P.S.,
Superintendent, Government Railway Police, Madhya
Pradesh.
- Shri Baburao Balwantrao Patil, I.P.S.,
District Superintendent of Police, Madhya Pradesh.
- Shri Madampath Balakrishna Menon, I.P.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Madras.
- Shri George Albert Ray,
Inspector of Police C.I.D., Madras.
- Shri Narayanaswami Naidu Venkataraman,
Sub-Inspector of Police, Madras City.
- Shri Bhimaji Hanmant Jainapur,
Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, C.I.D.,
Bombay.
- Shri Vedanayagam Samuel Doraiswamy,
Sub-Inspector of Police (Retired), Madras.
- Shri Nediyyadhu Kumaran Nair,
Head Constable 1159, Madras City Police.
- Shri Gangaiah Ethirajulu,
Head Constable 1177, Criminal Investigation Department,
Madras.
- Shri Chandy Chandy, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mysore.
- Shri Mohamed Quadir Ali, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mysore.
- Shri Hanumant Shankar Rao Havalad,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mysore.
- Shri Siddarmappa Gadinappa Kallur,
Police Inspector, Anti-Corruption Department, Mysore.

- Shri Budagur Hullurappa Setty Shivappa,
Head Constable, Bangalore District, Mysore.
- Shri Paramananda Biswal,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Orissa.
- Shri Gopinath Das,
Inspector of Police, C.I.D., Orissa.
- Shri Debraj Patnaik,
Inspector of Police, Orissa.
- Shri Tulbahadur Thapa,
Jemadar, Gurkha Military Police, Orissa.
- Shri Ram Sarup,
Inspector of Police, Punjab.
- Shri Gurdip Singh,
Inspector of Police, Punjab.
- Shri Laxmi Lal,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Rajasthan.
- Shri Gerald Arthur Burge,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Uttar Pradesh.
- Shri Prasad Kumar Basu, I.P.S.,
Deputy Inspector General of Police, West Bengal.
- Shri Ronald Allen Moore,
Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Calcutta.
- Shri Prafulla Chandra Das Gupta,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, Intelligence Branch,
West Bengal.
- Shri Nripendra Nath Banerjee,
Assistant Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.
- Shri Phanindra Bhusan Sen Gupta,
Deputy Superintendent of Police, West Bengal.
- Shri Debi Prosad Roy,
Inspector of Police, Detective Department, Calcutta Police.
- Shri Bishamber Nath Malik,
Superintendent of Police, Delhi.
- Shri Daljit Singh, Superintendent of Police, Punjab.
- Shri Shanti Swaroop, Superintendent of Police, Punjab.
- Shri Bimal Symon, Inspector of Police, Assam.
- Shri Jai Narain Sharma, Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Uttar Pradesh.
- Shri Brojendra Kumar Roy Chowdhury, Deputy Superinten-
dent of Police, West Bengal.

All-India Statement of Crime

Name of State	Total Cognizable Crime	Rioting	Offences relating to		Murder	Culpable Homicide N/A to Murder	Administering of Stupefying Drugs	Kidnaping and abduction
			Coins	Currency and Bank Notes				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	8,221	495	4	...	227	50	...	25
Assam	4,400	223	2	20	38	41	...	26
Bihar	15,907	529	6	34	203	65	12	82
Bombay	27,044	652	7	2	467	77	17	160
Jammu & Kashmir	1,264	70	...	...	25	7	1	25
Kerala	4,189	408	...	...	63	16	...	14
Madhya Pradesh	17,267	472	16	11	279	2	13	136
Madras	12,730	478	11	...	196	68	25	116
Mysore	5,684	170	2	...	141	35	9	25
Orissa	5,623	127	5	2	88	11	2	16
Punjab	5,582	42	...	2	174	86	2	104
Rajasthan	5,451	309	...	1	101	52	5	116
Uttar Pradesh	18,400	765	11	17	473	362	123	1
West Bengal	16,282	935	9	25	114	98	6	1
Union Territories.								
A. & N. Islands	48	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delhi	2,521	12	1	...	9	4	6	8
Himachal Pradesh	286	2	...	...	2	...	...	13
Manipur	172	5	...	...	3	1	...	...
Tripura	593	36	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pondicherry	801	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Naga Hills and Tuncang Area	73	...	...	1	4	4	...	...
Total	152,488	5,732	74	115	2,659	979	221	1,86

for the quarter ending 30th Sept., 1958

Dacoity and Preparation and Assembly for Dacoity	Robbery	House-Breaking	Cheating	Criminal Breach of Trust	THEFT						
					Copper wire	Cattle	Cycles	Motor Vehicles and Accessories	Fire-arms	Explosives	Other Types
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	41	1,735	136	265	85	487	263	31	2	1	2,694
40	34	897	60	48	8	95	116	18	4	1	1,045
367	166	5,945	141	130	147	233	401	3	3	2	3,706
142	554	4,992	532	824	181	758	547	135	12	2	8,801
15	22	361	11	19	5	65	5	3	2	6	168
8	34	559	27	63	5	36	17	3	...	...	827
81	153	4,424	349	362	36	948	339	32	15	...	5,583
20	65	2,111	177	469	96	682	227	16	4	9	4,831
17	46	1057	84	180	27	202	142	23	1	3	1,975
16	35	1214	83	132	58	157	76	8	2	1	1,477
3	39	1,354	124	142	50	159	197	8	4	...	1,099
13	108	1,440	89	73	8	556	140	1	8	...	720
127	5,592	282	610	170	1,113	964	26	52	8	5,165	
9	152	2,707	311	615	152	328	577	114	3	2	7,150
...	...	7	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	11
...	9	352	80	85	9	10	425	5	1	...	1,010
...	4	69	5	15	1	3	1	...	...	...	64
1	1	30	5	8	...	8	14	...	...	...	30
4	6	160	4	4	1	26	2	...	...	...	186
7	...	47	5	5	...	5	7	...	...	...	83
...	3	17	...	4	1	4	1	1	1	...	16
2	1,599	35,070	2,507	3,953	1,040	5,876	4,461	427	114	35	46,641

All India Statement of Crime

Name of State	Total Cognizable Crime.	Rioting	Offences relating to		Murder	Culpable homicide N/A to murder	Administering of Stupefying drugs.	Kidnapping and abduction.
			Coins	Currency				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	8,674	458	6	—	206	27	2	31
Assam	5,026	248	1	13	102	20	1	74
Bihar	14,306	555	7	31	207	50	26	55
Bombay	27,797	326	2	—	504	85	29	198
Jammu & Kashmir	950	49	—	—	19	4	1	29
Kerala	4,424	370	1	—	79	18	—	10
Madhya Pradesh	19,560	436	3	12	306	7	18	169
Madras	13,307	520	4	4	174	83	23	99
Mysore	6,302	192	3	—	186	32	7	38
Orissa	6,234	125	6	1	60	32	4	14
Punjab	6,282	43	—	1	113	90	4	82
Rajasthan	4,744	217	—	4	103	67	10	103
Uttar Pradesh	18,387	647	9	9	398	281	15	179
West Bengal	15,619	949	11	7	109	90	12	178
Union Territories.								
A.&N. Islands	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi	2,292	15	—	—	1	—	—	44
Himachal Pradesh	268	12	—	—	3	1	—	2
Manipur	288	6	—	—	1	1	—	20
Tripura	617	35	—	—	2	4	—	9
Pondicherry	769	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Naga Hills & Tuensang area	56	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
	1,55,948	5,203	53	83	2,588	894	155	1,334

for quarter ending 31st December, 1958

Dacoity	Robbery	House breaking	Cheating	C.B. of trust	THEFTS						
					Copper Wire	Cattle	Cycles	M.Vs and accessories	Fire arms	Explosives	Other thefts
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	31	1,832	104	197	122	392	252	30	4	2	2,635
73	48	1,000	49	53	13	75	144	21	4	2	1,407
190	147	4,183	114	182	146	164	382	1	14	2	3,813
125	537	3,834	469	783	227	661	601	128	10	2	10,626
16	30	210	11	11	1	31	8	3	2	3	147
11	32	534	29	49	6	54	15	3	—	—	912
113	189	4,141	273	353	49	709	435	31	32	3	8,055
16	54	1,967	208	402	144	745	243	15	10	4	6,067
36	55	985	76	65	40	226	140	17	8	—	1,892
14	37	919	143	136	52	91	92	4	—	—	2,069
5	19	868	105	124	57	141	197	4	6	—	887
21	96	1,040	78	72	9	453	135	1	15	1	859
190	193	4,403	284	535	158	852	1,097	19	58	7	4,750
96	153	2,503	306	466	142	222	636	143	2	3	6,884
...	...	7	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	14
...	8	295	78	78	8	13	418	4	...	...	918
3	4	58	1	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	70
10	5	39	9	2	...	17	16	1	...	...	72
8	8	150	2	5	...	15	2	...	1	...	161
...	...	29	1	9	...	4	10	...	...	...	105
2	...	8	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	10
946	1,646	29,005	2,341	3,531	1,174	4,868	4,824	425	166	29	52,353



ROLL OF HONOUR

Shri Vikramjit Pande, Constable, II Training Battalion, Special Armed Force, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Pande spiritedly took part in an encounter between the Indore Police and a group of gangsters. He fought bravely but was shot in the forehead during the thick of the fight and died soon after.

Shri Amin Lal, Constable, District Armed Police, Delhi.

Shri Lal was on traffic duty on 13-12-1958 when a car driven negligently hit him with considerable force. He succumbed to the injuries at the hospital later.

Shri Bejoy Singh Negi, Assistant Sub-Inspector and Shri Priyalal Shil, Head Constable, Tripura Police.

These officers were on duty keeping watch on the border area at Lakhimpur Police Camp when their Camp was raided by members of Pakistani armed force. In the exchange of fire that took place they fought valiantly but were killed.

Shri Anand Ballabh, Constable, Budaun, Uttar Pradesh.

While on Ghat duty with other constables, Shri Anand Ballabh heard the distress cry of a drowning man and immediately jumped into the swift-flowing river to save him. He took the man safely to the river bank but was unfortunately caught up in a swirling current and was drowned.

Shri Santoo Singh, Constable, Civil Police, Mirzapore, Uttar Pradesh.

Deputed to settle a dispute between two hostile and riotous parties, Shri Singh was severely hurt by one of them and succumbed to the injuries later.

Shri Rajmal, Constable, Special Armed Force, Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Nirbhayasingh, Constable, D.E.F., Madhya Pradesh.

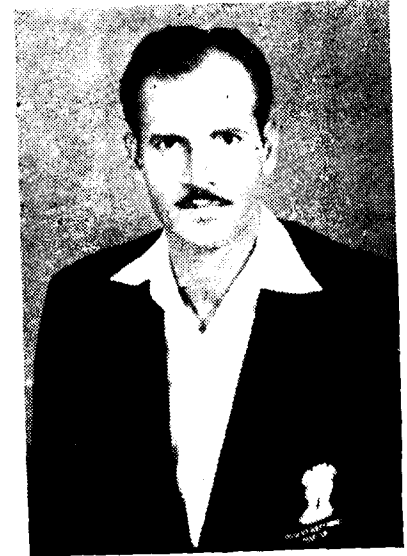
Shri Hartram, Constable, Special Armed Force, Madhya Pradesh.

While on duty these Constables were kidnapped by the dacoit gangs of Devi Singh and Moorat Singh and later while they were struggling to free themselves they were shot dead.

Sub-Inspector Ghulam Mustafa Guard

Sub-Inspector Guard of the Greater Bombay Police was selected as a member of the Indian Cricket Team in the First Test against the West Indies played in Bombay last year and put up a creditable performance.

Born in December 1925 at Nanpura, Surat District, Guard developed a liking for outdoor games from his childhood. While he was a student of the I. P. Mission Boys High School, Surat, he bagged a number of prizes in sports. Thereafter he joined the M.T.B. College and played cricket for that College. In 1935, he played in the Southern Gujarat Pentagonal even while he was at school and in the same year, he represented Gujarat in the Ranji Trophy cricket matches.



Guard is a medium fast bowler and captured three wickets in the First Test against the West Indies at the cost of 83 runs. His bowling average was the best for the Indian side in that Test.

A left hander, Guard bowls inswingers. He is believed to be the fastest left hander in India today and it is hoped that with his talents he would go far and achieve a name for himself and the force he serves.



Crowd control with a smile, polite but firm.

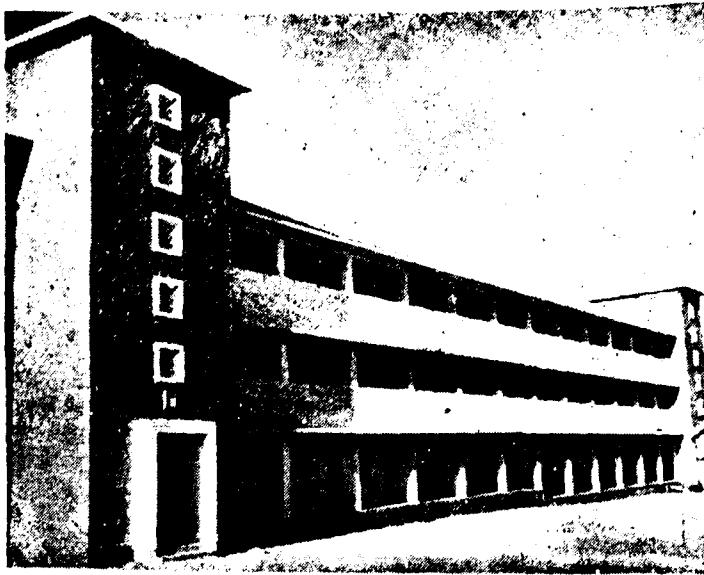
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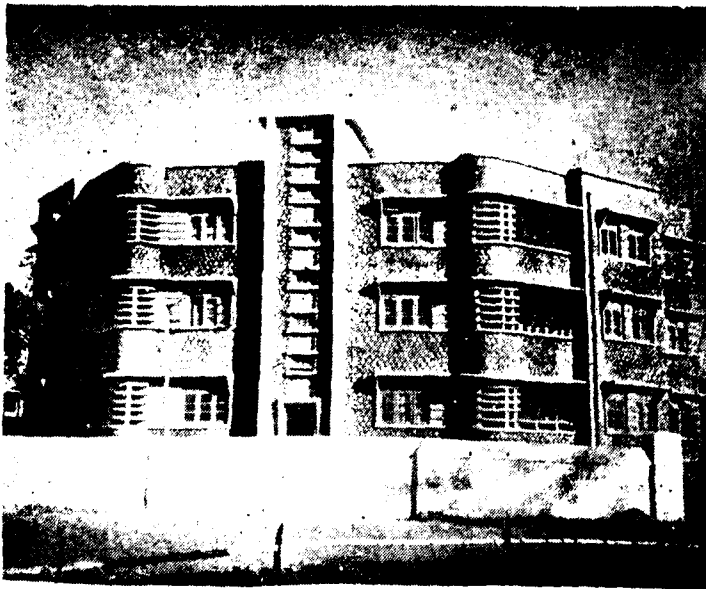
JULY 1959

Roxy Press, New Delhi

NEW QUARTERS FOR POONA POLICEMEN



A new type of Police Lines built at Bhavani Peth, Poona, to accommodate City Police Constabulary.



A new type of Sub-Inspectors' quarters constructed recently in Poona City.

THE INDIAN POLICE JOURNAL

Vol. VI No. 1

July, 1959

EDITORIAL

Careful plans are being drawn up in all countries these days on measures of social defence.

The life of the community is disturbed by various ills. The behaviour of juvenile delinquents, immoral traffic in women are a few of such common ills. And a mounting incidence of crime in general against society is the most disconcerting feature in all countries.

A good economic condition and a high standard of life are no safeguards against social ills. It is admitted that social defence is not a problem for under-developed countries alone. The usual nation-building activities seeking to raise the economic condition of a nation are therefore not enough to ensure a healthy society.

The nation-building plans need therefore take note of the social ills and provide for measures to deal with them.

For this purpose, the subject deserves to be taken stock of from three clear angles.

The preventive measures will include both positive provisions for social peace and the negative plans to exercise preventive control over circumstances that may lead to unhealthy acts. Among positive provisions, care and education of children, care of orphans, widows and old persons, raising standards of life by providing food, clothes and shelter and ensuring general security of life and property deserve mention.

The negative plans relate to enforcing the intentions of the measures, namely, Children's Acts, prevention of public nuisances, control of public places

and thoroughfares, upholding of public morals and prevention of offences in general.

The suppressive measures are needed for dealing with offenders who endanger social safety in various spheres by overt acts. Here the law enforcement agencies, the courts of law and the prison officers come into the picture. Their calibre is the measure of the standard of social defence.

The remedial measures are for reforming the offenders by giving them proper guidance both in prison and after. Probation practices, open jails, technical training etc. are various efforts in this direction.

A plan for organising social defence will have to cover all these aspects. It will be necessary therefore to make sure that the agents of enforcement are made equal to the tasks.

This is inevitably linked with the standards and efficiency of the police force. Recruitment, sound cadre, training, equipment, housing, conditions of service should all be duly examined from time to time to make sure that the force is up to the mark and is equal to the tasks of the moment. It will not be enough to have raised a force in the past and consider it good enough for all times and tasks.

A social defence plan will have to consider and include this aspect along with the other measures for ensuring a healthy society.

Editor

AN ADVERSE MEDICO-LEGAL EXAMINATION

Mahadev Karmakar

Inspector of Police, C.I.D., West Bengal.

AFTER holding autopsy over the body of Bistu Pada Patra (55), on October 31, 1957, the Chief Medical Officer, Chandernagore, expressed his opinion that death was due to hanging, suicidal in nature, anti-mortem. The doctor, however, noticed an oblique, non-continuous parchmentised ligature mark, high up in the neck with the knot on the left side behind the ear. There were abrasion-like wounds of half-rupee size on the forehead, face and left elbow and left knee which, on dissection by him, did not indicate any tissue reaction. So, he held the opinion that those were post-mortem wounds. The body was found hanging from the branch of a mango tree in the garden of the deceased's house at dawn on the 30th October by Aasadhar Hazra, his son-in-law. By 11 a.m. the local Thana Officer had arrived at the spot and made enquiries about the incident and sent the body for post-mortem examination because he noticed injuries, marks of blood trickling down the right end of the lips to the chest and similar marks down the nostrils. There were particles of dust on the right side of the body and most of the injuries were on the right side. A second ligature mark in the neck was also detected at the time of the inquiry. But despite the find of these injuries, the investigation was about to be closed, because the opinion of the Chief Medical Officer, countersigned by his superior, did not indicate any foul play.

In the meantime, an Inspector of the District Enforcement Branch, Hooghly, held enquiries following the receipt of an anonymous petition about the death of this man and suggested that investigation was necessary to find out the truth about the marks of ligature on the body. His suspicion, that the whole affair seemed mysterious was aroused by the fact that the position of the dead body when discovered was such as would not be the case if it was a genuine case of suicide. It was found to be hanging with its legs partly folded on the ground. The knot at the other end of the ligature was fixed to a branch of the tree at a height of only 5' 6" which was also the height of the deceased. The Inspector felt that in the circumstances, the case deserved to be investigated deeper instead of being disposed of in terms of the post-mortem report. His report was accepted and a case was started under section 302 I.P.C.

The C.I.D. took up the investigation of the case 55 days after its occurrence. At the outset, they had to face considerable difficulties. Enquiries revealed that the deceased, though an elderly man, had had a bad reputation. Consequently, the local people were indifferent to the incident and did not offer any help to the Police. When the Inspector visited the village for the first time, a nephew of the deceased named Gobinda Pada Patra (22), a semi-literate man, related to him a few instances of debauchery on the part of his uncle, in presence of a respectable gentleman of the locality, who was formerly his school teacher. The school teacher also said that the deceased was addicted to drinking but did not agree with the nephew regarding the bad morals of the deceased. There was, in fact, nothing to disbelieve the story given out by Gobinda, who also happened to be the informant in the case. However, the police officer was curious to know why Gobinda should persist in running his uncle down even after his death and wondered whether there could have been any animosity between the two. He took the school teacher aside and, after gaining his confidence, requested him to help the police by tactfully ascertaining the truth about the allegations against the dead man. The school teacher knew about the unequal distribution of property to Gobinda made by the deceased. So, while casually talking with Gobinda he sympathetically referred to this matter and at once touched a responsive chord in the nephew's heart. Finding a sympathetic listener in the school teacher, Gobinda secretly told him that he had along with his cousin Nimai Chandra Patra killed the deceased Bistu by strangulating him with a rope when he was dead drunk in the house of Narayan Manjhi, a neighbour. Narayan had been won over by them by offer of money. The school teacher, however, did not leak out the information to the police on account of the entreaties of Gobinda, who was his student.

Meanwhile, Narayan Manjhi, who had gone out on a pilgrimage to Brindaban at the expense of Gobinda shortly after the occurrence, returned to the village, still suffering from a bad conscience. He related the story of murder to Mathura Mohan Shaw, another school teacher of the village, and was overheard by a son of the deceased. The son immediately reported about it to the Police. In order to get this story confirmed the Police questioned the school teacher whom they had contacted earlier and the latter affirmed that it was true. In the meantime, Gobinda had vanished from the village. Nimai Patra and Narayan Manjhi and another accomplice to the crime named Jugal Maity were arrested on the strength of the extra-judicial confessions made by Gobinda and Narayan before the school teachers.

Though Narayan Chandra Manjhi, an old man of about 60, had revealed his complicity in the crime on the date of his arrest, he

did not however repeat his confession before the Magistrate when he was produced there the next day for recording it. Nimai Patra was closely interrogated and he confessed his guilt before a Magistrate. Soon Gobinda was arrested and he also confessed the crime disclosing details of his long-thought out plan to murder his uncle during the previous year. He stated that his uncle Bistu had stood in the way of his marriage with a girl of his choice. Moreover, Gobinda was dissatisfied with the share of property his uncle proposed to give him. His feelings were further provoked by Sital Chandra Jana in the village, who bore a grudge against Bistu owing to some dispute about land.

Confessions of both Gobinda and Nimai revealed that their plan to murder Bistu had been made a long time previously. A year earlier Gobinda had approached a quack doctor to obtain from him arsenic on the pretext of killing a diseased dog. This being not available, he had approached Narayan Manjhi, whose house Bistu used to visit every night for drinks and purchased him with money. On one occasion Gobinda had administered poison in a drink to Bistu who consequently was taken ill and remained in bed for several days but he managed to survive. Bistu's wife testified to her husband being taken ill four months earlier than his death. The two phials of poison, administered to Bistu which had been emptied and washed were recovered from the house of Gobinda's associate Jugal Maity, a neighbour, during the verification of the confessional statement. As the poison had failed, Gobinda planned to bring about Bistu's death by direct violence and waited for an opportunity. Bistu used to press him to show interest in cultivation or get some job instead of idling away his time. The constant nagging by his uncle offended Gobinda, especially his uncle's admonition to him to keep away from bad men like Sital Jana and Jugal Maity. One night Sital and Gobinda were found at the local Kali temple by some villagers. Gobinda admitted to the Police later that he had taken a pledge on that day to kill his uncle. On the morning of 30th October the old uncle, as usual admonished Gobinda for his idleness. The latter took it to heart and decided that he would not endure it any more. So he planned with Narayan Manjhi to get Bistu drunk on that night. Nimai who used to work in the fields with Gobinda, was won over by them with a promise of payment of Rs. 400/- after completion of the job and also the restoration of land which had allegedly been usurped by Bistu from him. Nimai who bore a grudge against Bistu agreed to help them. Both of them waited in the outhouse of Narayan Manjhi in darkness, after posting Jugal Maity as a guard outside. According to Gobinda, he handed a rope with a noose to Nimai on a signal from Narayan Manjhi about Bistu having got thoroughly drunk. They approached Bistu from behind. Nimai put the noose round Bistu's neck and gave a sharp pull. In his confession Gobinda told the Police that the noose

did not reach Bistu's throat because he shouted "who are you?" Gobinda immediately put the noose round the throat and gave a pull, with the result that Bistu fell on some pieces of broken earthen pot. Gobinda sat on the chest of the fallen man and Nimai went on tightening the rope with all his might. Still Bistu did not die. Gobinda then put a handkerchief inside the mouth of Bistu and applied heavy pressure on the chest with his weight. Bistu could not withstand it any more and died soon after. They then removed him to a mango tree and hung up the body. The hurricane lantern of Bistu which was in the house of Narayan Manjhi was brought home by Gobinda and Narayan. It was found on the next morning under a chowki in the outhouse of Bistu.

Though there were two confessions, there was still little evidence against the suspects. Both of them retracted their confessions, one before commitment to Sessions and the other after it, and there was not sufficient corroboration to prove their confessions. But luck favoured the Police at this time. When Gobinda was sent to jail after his confession had been judicially recorded, he was asked if any intimation of his health and property was to be conveyed to his mother. In an unguarded moment, he disclosed that he had sent letters to some people before his arrest and those were posted from Chinsurah and other places. Immediately steps were taken to check up the delivery of his letters in his village, particularly to the girl he loved or her relatives. In the course of the check-up some letters including one addressed to the grandfather of the girl were taken charge of, as soon as those were delivered by the postman. In one of the letters it was found that Gobinda had referred to a note book kept in the bookshelf of the girl in which he had explained everything. The note book was seized immediately and in it Gobinda had narrated everything about his own life and had requested his betrothed to wait for some more time for their marriage. He had also stated how he had removed one barrier to it, namely, his uncle. After careful enquiries from the houses of his relatives, ten such letters were seized by the Police. In all these he had mentioned the murder of Bistu which he said he had committed at the instigation of a conspirator.

The specimen handwriting of the accused was compared by the Handwriting Expert who indicated that the seized letters and some of the covers were from the same writer. The Police had ample corroboration in the self-made confessions found in the letters. There was corroboration on other points also namely the injury on the nose said to have been caused by the misplacement of the noose, the injuries on the face and other parts due to Bistu falling on broken pieces of earthen pot and tumbler which were noticed at the time of enquiry over the dead body.

The opinion of the Chief Medical Officer, Chandernagore still

stood in the way of a full assertion that Bistu Pada Patra was murdered. The post-mortem report and a copy of the inquest, along with other articles were sent to the Director of Health Services for an opinion by experts to indicate whether, on the data found in the post-mortem report and inquest the confessions could have any value. The Professor of Medicine and Forensics gave his opinion that it was decidedly a case of death by strangulation in the manner stated in the confession. He explained it fully before the jurors during the trial in the court of the Additional Sessions Judge, Hooghly stressing the presence of the second ligature below the upper one, absence of saliva in the blood secretions trickling down to the chest and the signs of rupture of internal organs due to violence of a great degree, as indicated by the bleeding from ears, nose and the right eye, noted in the post-mortem report of the dead body. These symptoms, according to him, proved death by strangulation.

The jurors returned a verdict of guilty against Gobinda Pada Patra and Nimai Patra under section 302/34 I.P.C. The Judge gave consideration to the age of the two accused and sentenced them to life imprisonment. Narayan Manjhi was acquitted. Jugal Maity and Sital Jana were discharged in the Lower Court for want of evidence against them.

Crime must be subjected to that systematic, disciplined, continuous attack of reason, which we call scientific procedure.

—Mr. Justice Felix Frankfurter,
U.S. Supreme Court.

FORENSIC MEDICINE IN ANCIENT INDIA

Ajit Bhushan Majumdar

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IT is embarrassing to note that nowadays we are accustomed to derive from western sources our knowledge of subjects of which we once had adequate acquaintance. 'Forensic medicine' is one such subject.

What is forensic medicine? Primarily, it is a branch of medicine which has for its object the application of medical knowledge to purposes of law with reference to judicial investigation. Being such, it has a wide application to cases of unnatural death and other criminal cases connected with injury to human body. Forensic medicine is often taken as synonymous for medical jurisprudence but I am afraid that is a common error. Medical jurisprudence is a science for regulating medical profession and it purports to determine the obligations that a doctor has towards his patient. This science is very comprehensive and it contains forensic medicine and toxicology within its sphere. Hence the common error.

We are largely indebted to I.B. Lyon of the Bombay Medical Service for presenting us with a standard work (Medical Jurisprudence for India) on the subject as early as 1888. We do not know if any work of the kind has excelled the master's work in point of authority, though Woodman and Tidy's "Forensic Medicine", Chever's "Medical Jurisprudence" and Gibbon's "Medical Jurisprudence" are generally recommended. Be that as it may, did our legal systems suffer owing to a total absence of this branch of useful knowledge?

The poser seems to be justified by the fact that while we hear about the Hindu and Mohamedan Law (civil), we hear very little about the criminal laws of India beyond the Indian Penal Code and therefore very little consideration is given to the nature of evidence taken in the criminal Courts of ancient India.

This may lead us to suppose that while we had semi-religious treatises on conduct and civil law which have been partly adopted by the British rulers, 'forensic medicine' and 'medical jurisprudence' are modern things and gifts of the foreign rulers in India. Indeed, it is far from the truth. It is more correct to say that like many other branches of knowledge we lost sight of the forensic medicine as developed in India. There are reasons for it which can be vaguely stated such as that the British Government had adopted the Hindu and

Mohamedan civil laws in part but disregarded the then existing criminal laws and codes.

It will be of interest to note that even prior to the advent of the Christian era India had enough to say about forensic medicine.

Manu, the Utopian Hindu law-giver, in Book VIII of his 'Manava Dharma Sastra' has laid much stress on the principles of evidence and says:

"As a hunter traces the lair of a wounded beast by the drops of blood, thus let a kind investigate the true point of justice by deliberate arguments (Graves Chamney Haughton's translation of Manava Dharma Sastra Vol. II V. 44)."

If that were so, legal systems in India in olden days enjoined a strict enquiry into cases of unnatural death and injuries due to assault inclusive of killing an embryo. In such cases, either the opinion of physicians was invited or relevant pages in a Sastra (religious treatise) were looked into. This practice developed in India and the Middle East much earlier than in the Continent. "The Mosiac Law requires the priests to adduce medical evidence in cases of wounding and leprosy. The Greek writers, notably Galen discussed questions of legitimacy, simulated disease and the difference between the lungs of the live born and of the foetus" (Introduction page 2 of Owen's Edition of Lyon's Jurisprudence). Criminal courts in the Continent made attempts to attach importance to medical evidence for the first time in the 16th Century A.D. Germany under the patronage of Emperor Charles V took the lead by publishing "Constitutio Criminalis Carolina." The penal code drawn up early in the sixteenth century directed the Bench to avail themselves of the opinion of medical experts in cases of death due to criminal causes. This caught the imagination of France, and England followed suit. By 1801 England showed convincing progress in this matter and did not fail to share her knowledge with her dependency. By the middle of the 19th century, Norman Chever's pioneer work introduced the practice in the Indian Courts.

Referring to our country, manslaughter has been an offence from time immemorial. But killing of embryo is possibly of a later origin. We do not find mention of such an offence earlier than the period of the later samhitas (1500-800 B.C.); possibly some stages of enquiry had to be undergone before a penance was prescribed. Next we come to the age of the Sutra literature. Of the sutras 'Dharma Sutras' (viz., Manu, Bodhayan, Gautama, Apastambha Vishnu and Yajnavalkya) see the beginning of civil and criminal laws of our country as distinct from rules of conduct. Stray opinions here and there about forensic medicine are traceable in Manu but the subject received a fuller treatment at the hands of Kautilya the illustrious author of 'Arthashastra' (Art of wealth).

We need not enter into the controversial issue of Kautilya's period

for, that is not relevant to our purpose. We may abide by the reasonings of Jacobi, Vincent A. Smith, Thomas Meyer and K.P. Jayaswal who hold 'Arthashastra' to be a work of the Maurya era (329 B.C.). Kautilya has devoted a chapter (Chap. VII of Book IV entitled Kantik-Sodhan) on matters which come within the purview of 'forensic medicine.' He says:

"A man who died an unnatural death: his body has to be anointed with oil and then examined." This is possibly for checking decomposition.

"A deceased is presumed to die from strangulation whose excretion was out, whose stomach and skin were filled with air, whose hands and feet swelled, whose eyes were open and whose throat bore an impression."

"If a deceased with above signs had his arm and thighs contracted, he was to be presumed to have died from hanging."

"A deceased whose hands, feet and stomach swelled, whose eyes were sunken and whose navel bulged out was to be considered dead being impaled on a stake."

"A deceased whose rectum and eyes became stiff, who bit his tongue and whose stomach had a swelling was to be presumed to have died of drowning."

"A deceased whose body was wet with blood and whose body had shown signs of fractures was presumed to be killed by assault with a wood-piece."

"A deceased whose body had shown fractures and rupture was presumed to have died of a fall from a house-top".

"A deceased whose hands, feet, teeth and nails were grey in colour and whose flesh, bodily hair and skin became loose and whose mouth was covered with froth was presumed to have died of poisoning."

"If a deceased with the above signs had blood oozing out from a scar, he was presumed to be bitten by a snake or poisonous insects."

"A deceased whose dress wore a disorderly look and who had vomited excessively or had enormous excretion, was presumed to have been killed by intoxicants."

Attempts to simulate signs of suicide by hanging on the deceased did not escape Kautilya's notice. Those observations he made with reference to criminal trials and so it would not be wrong to hold that consideration was given to the evidence tendered by a medical man or that a reference was made to a standard work on the subject. Kautilya did not stop there. He thought of chemical analysis and suggested that the food in a poison case should be examined with the help of milk. Two indications of a poison case were suggested by him. Some portion of the heart of the deceased in the case of poisoning should be thrown into fire. If it produced a "chit-chit" sound and gave out various colours like those in a rainbow, it was a case of poisoning. Again, if the heart of a deceased remained un-

burnt while the whole body burnt on a funeral pyre, it was a sure case of poisoning.

Again in the 18th chapter of Book II 'Dharmasthiya' Kautilya refers to cases of lepers and insane persons and holds that the opinion of physicians about leper and insane persons and persons in close contact with them is direct proof of their disease. About signs of impotency Kautilya says: "Proof of impotency of a man is to be gathered from a woman, absence of froth in urine and sinking of stool in water." In any case it is clear that physician's opinions were taken in law courts.

During the Kushan supremacy (1st century A.D.) we get the Charaka 'Samhita' and the Susruta 'Samhita' which are essentially science of medicine. Nevertheless, 'Kalpasthana' chapters of both the works have something which we name 'toxicology.' Moreover, signs of still-born child or miscarriage which merit mention in any standard work of medical jurisprudence of our days find a comprehensive treatment in the aforesaid works. Although it would be too much to suppose that they have in themselves any forensic value, it is but natural to conclude that these must have been taken into consideration by the Judges of old.

In any case, forensic medicine in India in pre-Christian era or at its beginning was not altogether unknown. Of course Kautilya's chapter on forensic medicine is not as comprehensive as a full scale treatise on the subject. We are naturally hesitant to attach any importance to the observations of Kautilya on forensic medicine so far as their practical utility is concerned. They do not contain the many analytical or scientific features which any standard work on the subject furnishes. Yet Kautilya's observations are of much academic interest to any inquisitive reader. We should not forget that Kautilya's time did not present many of the complications which confront a society to-day. Nevertheless, it will appear from a comparative study that he was not only modern in his time but revealed a progressive mind in this branch of knowledge and that is enough to show him the consideration that he deserves.

One can no more develop capacity by resting on his job than he can learn to spell by sitting on a dictionary.

—Tit-Bits.

PERIERA THE CAT BURGLAR

T.A. Mohan, I.P.S.

A FEW years ago, a series of cat burglaries were reported from the then civil and military station of Bangalore and they caused worry to the Police. The burglar used to enter the bedrooms of high-ranking British officers, while they were asleep, and decamped with diamond and gold jewellery left carelessly by their wives on dressing tables, after late return from dinner and dance parties. Two storeyed bungalows, situated within large compounds were usually selected for such offences. These bungalows invariably had bed rooms on the top floor. The windows of the rooms had no bars, which made access easy. No particular locality or area was affected; the depredations were widespread. The places of attack were selected by the intruder, perhaps by previous study of the movements of the occupants, either fortuitously on the night of occurrence or for some nights previously. Since the houses burgled belonged to the affluent class of society, diamond and gold jewellery, and cash in some cases, alone were taken away by the culprit. From a study of the several reported cases, a common pattern became obvious viz., that the cases occurred on nights when there were dance parties in one of the high class clubs, which the ladies attended bedecked with their jewels.

In some cases, the intruder had gained access to the first storey by climbing the storm-water pipe and had then entered through the unbarred window of one of the upstairs rooms. No clues were left behind by the culprit. Latent finger prints on the storm-water pipes could not be developed successfully because they were badly smudged. The culprit was careful not to touch anything that he did not take away, with the result that no finger prints other than those belonging to the members of the house were found on the trinket boxes, ash trays and other knick-knacks. In one case, the burglar had climbed through the ivy creeper overhanging the balcony on the first floor. On another occasion, it was reported that when the husband and wife were sleeping in the bedroom, the wife was awakened by some noise, evidently the grating sound of the opening of a drawer. Sleepily she queried: "Is that you, my dear," to which she received a suave reply: "Yes, darling." The wife, believing in her half-awake state, that it was the voice of her husband, went back to sleep, allowing the burglar to walk away with jewellery worth Rs. 2,000.

The Police took several measures to prevent occurrences of such

cases to restore calm and confidence in the area. Night patrols were tightened, especially during nights when there were big dance parties. The shops of possible receivers of stolen property were discreetly watched and old crime records were searched diligently for the names of possible criminals with this modus operandi who might be committing these offences. References were also made to the Police Modus Operandi Bureaux of neighbouring States but they did not yield any results. It was, however, clear that a criminal had arrived from outside and was operating alone. This inference was drawn after eliminating the known criminals of the city by means of careful but systematic investigation and inquiries. The thefts were committed with great daring and in a manner of which the old criminals were innocent. It was also suspected that after committing the offences, the criminal was disposing of the stolen property outside Bangalore, because the interval between successive offences was generally long, as much as a fortnight or twenty days or some times even a month. It was thought possible that the burglar might be living on the proceeds of his previous thefts during such intervals.

The descriptive lists of stolen property were circulated widely, offering handsome rewards for anyone furnishing information with regard to disposal or receipt of such property, but there were no results. In the meantime, a storm of protest was raised by the victims who naturally had become alarmed about the insecurity of person and property in the area.

Men on detective duty were sent out unobtrusively to watch the shops of jewellers of doubtful integrity because it was felt that, if ever there was a chance of stumbling on a clue about the crimes, it would be only in those shops which might be visited by the criminal or his associates for selling stolen property. This line of working proved useful and a policeman brought word one day that a certain jeweller had purchased European type jewellery from a well-dressed Indian. The investigating officer hastened to the shop and examined the jewellery which the shop-keeper did not hesitate to show on demand. According to the jeweller, he had made a bonafide purchase from a certain individual and the transaction was entered in his account books in the usual course of business. The name of the seller was noted as Periera, residing in the town claiming to be a dealer in gems and synthetic diamonds. The jewellery consisted of silver ear pendants, a necklace of the same metal set with small diamonds in European pattern. They corresponded in description with the articles stolen in a recent case of burglary from the bungalow of a European gentleman in the outskirts of Bangalore. The trinkets were readily identified by the lady to whom they belonged. She stated that they were made by certain jewellers in England.

Losing no time, the Police rushed to the address given by the jeweller and found there a man of 35 years of age, thin built, 5 ft.

7 inches in height, of wheat complexion, who gave his name as Mr. Periera, dealer in synthetic diamonds and gems. A woman of about 25 years, who was found living with him, gave her name as Rosemary and claimed to be his wife. She was wearing jewellery on her person, the value of which appeared to be beyond her social status. The house, which was well-furnished and showed signs of affluent living, was searched thoroughly. The mattress was torn open. Currency notes to the tune of Rs. 2,700 and some jewellery of western pattern and setting were recovered as a result of the search. The jewellery found on the person of Rosemary was also seized for the purpose of investigation. Some correspondence in English found on the office table revealed the names of persons with whom Periera was having dealings in jewellery in Bangalore, Madras and Bombay.

Quite a quantity of loose gems were also found in the trunk box of Periera and seemed to have been removed from other ornaments. Some of the jewellery seized from his house and those from the person of Rosemary, who it came out later was only his mistress, were identified in two cases of burglary in Bangalore. Periera was taken to Madras and Bombay, where also he had operated with a similar modus operandi; but unfortunately, due to the long interval of time, some of the loose precious stones which he had sold to the dealers there after removing them from the stolen jewellery could not be identified and some could not be recovered, with the result no evidence was forthcoming of his complicity in such cases there.

Sketching his history, Periera said he came from a middle class family in Jaffna in Ceylon, was educated up to the High school standard, went to Colombo in search of a job and reached Bombay in one of the ships. At Bombay he was employed in one of the cargo ships, where he gained experience in climbing on the mast with the help of ropes. As sea-faring was detrimental to his health owing to his asthmatic tendency, he left that job and did some odd jobs for a living until he fell into bad company and got involved in vices of gambling, drinking and womanising. As he had no steady job, he had to find money for his needs and this dragged him into the haunts of criminals. He committed burglaries along with other criminals by gaining access to the top floors by climbing drain pipes. He was convicted thrice in Bombay and was deported from there. He knocked about several towns and ultimately landed in Bangalore, by which time he had acquired considerable experience as a burglar. He always dressed himself in fashionable type of clothes, especially when he ventured out on his house-breaking expeditions. Besides, his decent demeanour, his education and his ability to speak fluent English enabled him to bluff even those who were inclined to suspect him that he was a decent sort. According to him, one night when he was returning home on a cycle about 2 a.m. after burgling a bungalow, he was carrying the stolen jewellery in a small handbag usually

carried by doctors, when he came across two beat constables accidentally. His cycle had no lamp. He alighted from the cycle before the constables could observe him and when they came near, he asked them for a match box and lit his lamp. While doing so he told them that he was a doctor and had been out to attend to an emergency call. His statement was believed by the unsuspecting constables because he was well-dressed and spoke in English and they let him go, wishing him "Good Night."

Periera said that he invariably selected the bungalows he planned to attack, by making discreet enquiries about the occupants, the number of servants and also about dogs in the houses. To some of the servants, from whom he made enquiries, he described himself as an electric meter Inspector. He got information about dance parties in clubs from the newspapers. He would visit the bungalows during day-time on some pretext or other and study the plan of the houses. He selected the dance nights particularly because he was sure that the women invitees of social standing would return tired after the parties late in the night or sometimes in the early hours of the morning and carelessly leave the jewels on the dressing tables. He disposed of the stolen jewels in daytime posing as a merchant in synthetic diamonds and gems from Ceylon. He had acquired some knowledge about this trade while in Ceylon. He had printed business cards with him which he had shown once to the Police and got off. He operated alone. The only implement he carried with him was an inoffensive two-cell electric torch and he never carried any instrument of house-breaking. In short, he was a gentleman-burglar who preyed only upon the higher strata of society, especially foreigners, who generally insured their valuables against theft. In one case, he said that he was disappointed to find that the jewels that he had stolen were cheap imitation ones whereas in the newspapers the following day he read that very expensive jewellery set with genuine gems were stolen. He also learnt later that the owner had preferred a claim with the insurance company with which they had been insured.

He was charge-sheeted in five cases of burglary of Bangalore. His three previous convictions in Bombay for burglaries were also noted. He was convicted in a set of three cases and sentenced to four years' R.I. in all and, after his release, he was ordered to be deported to Ceylon, his native land.

TWO BULLETS IN THE SAME HOLE

N.K. Iyengar

Director, Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Calcutta.

IN the Rifle shooting competition held at Jaipur in connection with the All-India Police Duty Meet, 1958, there was a dispute with regard to the score at 300 yards prone position. Ten bullets were fired but only nine marks were visible on the target, one of which appeared to be slightly bigger than the others. The point to be decided was as to whether this particular bullet mark had been caused by one or two bullets passing thorough it. The Director, Central Forensic Science Laboratory, was asked to examine this bullet mark on the target and give an opinion as to whether two bullets had passed through the hole which appeared to be slightly bigger than all the other holes. Photographs of five bullet marks including the abnormal one were taken and enlarged, so that the difference between any one of the eight holes and the normal one might be magnified.

The following issues were examined:

1. Whether the diameter of the disputed hole was significantly greater than the diameter of all other eight holes.
2. Was there considerable variation amongst the diameters of the eight apparently uniform looking holes; if so, can the disputed hole be caused by one bullet purely by chance without the possibility of any other factor operating?
3. Could the disputed hole have been produced by any change in the angle of firing?
4. Could this be due to non-uniformity in the surface of the target?
- I. The longitudinal and transverse diameters of all the nine holes on the target were measured and the figures have been given in Table I.

TWO BULLETS IN THE SAME HOLE

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Table—I

Serial No. of the Hole	Longitudinal Diameter	Transverse Diameter
1.	$\frac{6.75}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch
2.	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch
3.	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch
4.	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch
5.	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch
6.	$\frac{7.5}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch
7.	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch
8.	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7.25}{25}$ of an inch
9. Hole under dispute	$\frac{9}{25}$ of an inch	$\frac{7}{25}$ of an inch
Mean longitudinal diameter of the eight holes		$= \frac{7.06}{25}$ of an inch.
Mean transverse diameter of the eight holes		$= \frac{7.16}{25}$ of an inch.

Table—II

Deviation from the mean :

Serial No. of the Hole	Longitudinal Diameter	Transverse Diameter
1.	0.31/25 of an inch.	0.16/25 of an inch.
2.	0.06/25 of an inch.	0.09/25 of an inch.
3.	0.06/25 of an inch.	0.16/25 of an inch.
4.	0.06/25 of an inch.	0.09/25 of an inch.
5.	0.06/25 of an inch.	0.16/25 of an inch.
6.	0.44/25 of an inch.	0.09/25 of an inch.
7.	0.19/25 of an inch.	0.09/25 of an inch.
8.	0.06/25 of an inch.	0.09/25 of an inch.

The deviations from the mean values in the case of the hole under dispute are :

1.94/25 of an inch. 0.16/25 of an inch.

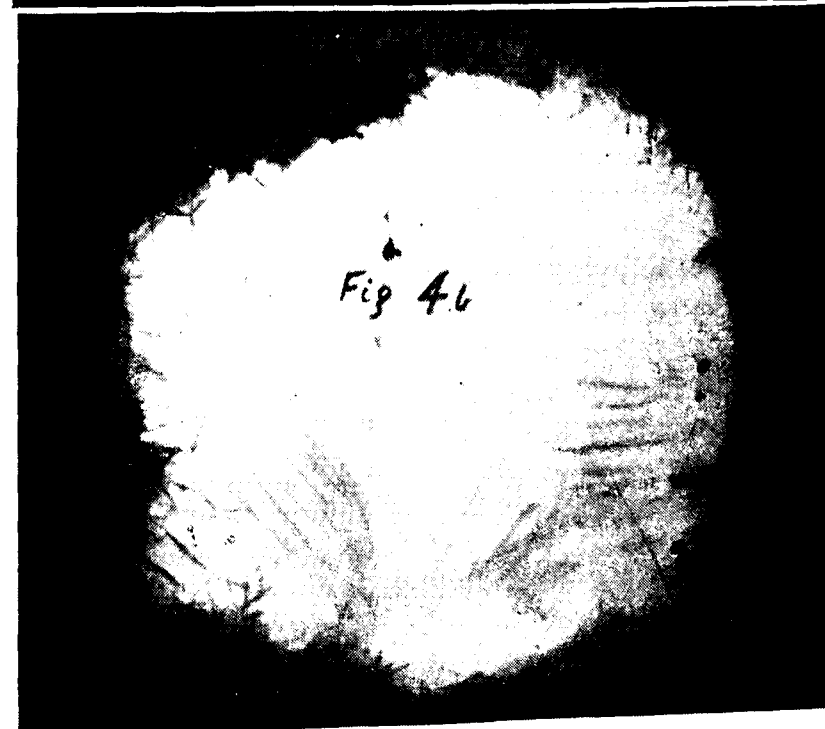
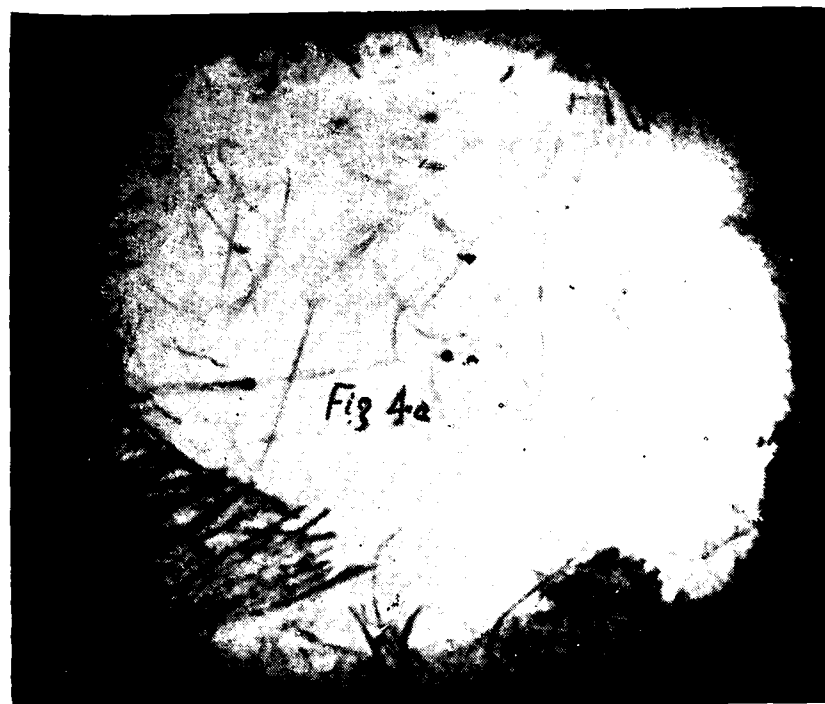
It is apparent from these measurements that the longitudinal diameter of the disputed hole is significantly greater than the diameter of any of the holes on the target, and there is very little variation among the diameters of the eight holes.

II. As the longitudinal and transverse diameters of the 8 holes were almost the same, standard deviation of the longitudinal diameter was determined by the application of the formula

$$(S.D)^2 = \frac{\sum Sq. \text{ of the deviation from the mean}}{n-1}$$

and found to be 0.0089". The deviation in the longitudinal diameter of the 9th hole, which is under dispute, is $\frac{1.94}{25} = 0.076$, which is eight times the standard deviation. The probability of such a deviation occurring purely by chance is approximately 2.6×10^{-10} or 1 in 4×10^9 , which is practically nil. It is, therefore, concluded that this abnormal hole could not have been caused by chance without the operation of any other factor.

III. All the shots were fired from a distance of 300 yards and the dimensions of the target was only 4 feet square. If the breadth of the target (1 yard) is taken as the arc of a circle whose radius is



TWO BULLETS IN THE SAME HOLE

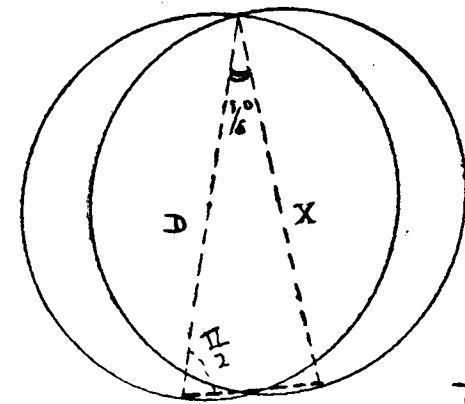
1



Fig 2

Fig. 2. Configuration obtained by superimposing the enlarged photographs of two normal bullet holes with their centres displaced by the distance mentioned in the article.

Fig. Aa. Enlarged photograph of the disputed bullet hole. It would be noticed that the shape of this bullet hole is exactly the same as the outline by the superimposed bullet holes in Fig. 2.



$$\frac{D}{X} = \cos 1/2^\circ$$

Fig. 1

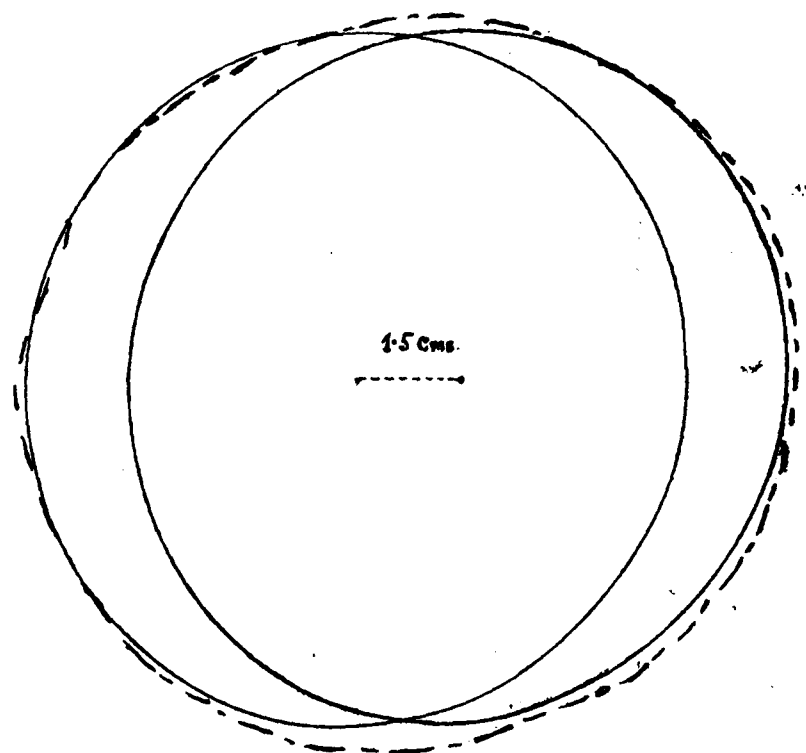


Fig. 3

300 yards, the angle of view of the target is $1/300$ radian according to the formula $\theta = \frac{L}{R}$ where L is the length of the arc and R is radius. As one radian is 57.29° , the angle of view will become nearly $1/5$ th of a degree. If the hole under dispute was due to variation in the angle of firing, the maximum variation in the angle would be $1/5$ th of a degree or 12 minutes. If we consider two holes, one in which the diameter is least (D) and the other in which it is the highest (X), then it will be clear from the accompanying diagram (Figure 1) that $\frac{D}{X} = \cos 1/5$ or $X = \frac{D}{\cos}$ 12 minutes. Substituting the value of $\frac{7.06}{25}$ for D which is the average diameter of 8 holes, X will become $\frac{7.07}{25}$ of an inch. Hence the maximum increase in diameter which might be due to the highest variation of angle of firing is only $\frac{.01}{25}$ of an inch. It may, therefore, be concluded from this that the significant increase in the diameter of the 9th hole is not due to change the angle of firing.

IV. The target was examined very carefully with the help of a lens both in the front and the rear, particularly in the neighbourhood of all the holes in the target. No particular abnormality was noticed in the neighbourhood of the disputed hole and it appeared that the surfaces both in the front and the back were fairly uniform. Moreover, the measurements of the eight holes were very similar, which was also an additional indication that the surface was uniform.

It is apparent from the foregoing discussion that the significant increase in the longitudinal diameter of the disputed hole giving it an oval shape cannot be due to any of the four causes. The possibility of two bullets having passed through the same hole should now be considered adducing positive evidence, if any, in support of this.

Two photo copies of one of the photographs (circular hole) were prepared by contact printing. These two photo copies represent the holes made by two bullets. By cutting along the circular edge of each of these photographs, two separate circular photographs were obtained. These two circular photographs were placed over the photograph of the disputed hole so that their combined boundary coincided with the outline of the disputed hole. In a particular position, a perfect fit of the combined boundary line of the two holes with the outline of the disputed hole was obtained. (Figure 2). The distance between the centres of these two circles was found to be 1.5 c.m. The longitudinal diameter of the enlarged photograph of the disputed hole is 10.8 c.m. and the average longitudinal diameter of any one of the other holes from the corresponding enlarged photograph was

9.2 c.m. The difference between these two diameters (1.6 c.m.) is approximately the same as the distance between the centres of the two circular photographs (Figure. 3).

If one of the holes with a diameter of 9.2 c.m. was caused by one bullet and if another bullet of the same dimension had hit the target very close to this hole, the combined effect of the two bullets would be visible as one oval hole on the target. As each bullet mark on the target was circular, two such bullet marks whose centres were displaced on the same horizontal line by 1.5 c.m. would produce one hole which is exactly similar to the disputed hole. This is exactly what we find from the enlarged photographs of the disputed hole as well as one of the other holes.

The rears of all the holes were examined through a magnifying glass. The number of fibres radiating from the edge was greater in the hole under dispute than in any of the other holes. It is natural to expect greater disturbances at one of the edges if two shots had hit that edge in passing through the hole.

Conclusion :

It appears from the foregoing discussion that two shots must have passed through the same hole resulting in a significantly different type of hole which represents the resultant effect of two shots passing through the same region with a slight displacement of their centres on the same horizontal line. The extent of this displacement determines the longitudinal diameter of this combined hole.

The worth of a State in the long run is the worth of the individual composing it.

—John Stuart Mill.

A CASE OF FORGERY AND DEFALCATION

Brahma Shankar Singh

Bihar Police.

THE Accountant-General, Bihar, pointed out some irregularities in the accounts of the Ranchi Vaccine Institute whereupon the Director of Health asked for an explanation from Dr. S.N. Sinha the Superintendent of the Institute. The Director waited for a long time but since he did not get a reply, he decided to inspect the Institute. A surprise awaited him there. Dr. Sinha had no knowledge of the letters regarding irregularities. The receipt register was examined but no entry of such letters was found. The Head Clerk of the office, Santo Kumar Mitra, had reported himself ill. The Director advised Dr. Sinha to go to the Accountant-General's Office to obtain further particulars.

The Superintendent went to the Accountant-General's Office and checked up a few bills of his office. He saw a contingent bill of a quinine sub-depot for Rs. 3,450/- and, to his amazement, he noted that his signature had been forged on it. He traced the copy of the bill in his office and found that it was only for Rs. 181-3-0. These discoveries naturally made him suspect that defalcation had been going on in his accounts branch on a systematic basis.

The Police were informed and investigation was taken up. The Police learnt that Santo Kumar Mitra, the Head Clerk, had encashed cheques to the value of Rs. 63,000/- and had fled away in his car No. BRN 2387 with his sister-in-law, Pushpa Ghose. His house was searched but nothing incriminating was found there. The Police also searched the house of Sudhir Kumar Bose, a clerk of the quinine sub-depot, and seized some documents. Bose absconded for a while but later surrendered to the Police. Two other clerks Anthony Kujur and Francis Herrong, who were suspected of complicity in the case, were also taken into custody.

During investigation it came to light that the process of misappropriation had started much earlier. A rough estimate put the amount misappropriated at Rs. 18 lacs. A large percentage of the Vaccine Institute's income out of the sale proceeds of quinine and vaccine lymphs had been defalcated. The police examined hundreds of documents during their investigation and discovered that misappropriation had been going on not only on the income side, but also on the expenditure side. The procedure adopted was that after pre-

paring challans in three foils for cheques received, on the income side, one of them containing the correct entry was kept as office copy while the other two were destroyed and fresh challans for bigger sums were forged. These were presented to the Treasury. After they were passed, the sums were diverted to two accounts opened by S.K. Mitra in the name of Dr. C.N. Banerjee as Superintendent of the Vaccine Institute in two local banks by means of forging the Superintendent's signature. S.K. Mitra operated these accounts for his private purposes. The Police discovered that defalcation had started some time in 1941 but ceased soon after Dr. Banerjee retired in September 1947. In order to conceal this fraud, the cheques returned to the office by the treasury were tampered with and the figures were altered to correspond with the amounts mentioned in office copies or the challans. Thus, the records were kept above suspicion.

After careful enquiries, the Police came to know that S.K. Mitra had acquired various items of property such as the Mount Hotel and the Pindra Coal Co. and seized several documents which proved his ownership of them. They also intercepted a letter suspected to have been written by S.K. Bose, Mitra's deputy, from the jail to his mother, which contained information about the defalcations. Acting quickly, the Police searched a house behind the Mount Hotel which was in the occupation of S.K. Mitra and seized several documents and articles which were concealed in two gunny bags. These articles included baskets of quinine tablets and powder which had been concealed there. The seized documents were official papers of the Vaccine Institute and one of them was an original of a report sent by Dr. Sinha to the Director of Health. In that document Dr. Sinha had mentioned several improvements which had taken place in the Institute since his assumption of office and had in particular referred to a saving of Rs. 70,000 in expenses. Dr. Sinha told the Police that he had given the letter to clerk Anthony Kujur for despatch. It was however discovered that the paper which had contained information about improvements was removed and another page was substituted in its place omitting mention of saving. It was presumed that this was done by Mitra and that the modified information had been subsequently sent to the Director.

Intensive efforts were made to trace Mitra. The Calcutta Police located his car in October 1949, and seized it from a man who claimed to have purchased it from R.N. Ghosh a relative of S.K. Mitra. The car number had been changed to one taken out at the Calcutta registration office. The description and particulars of Mitra were given for the widest publicity and a reward of Rs. 5,000/- was announced for help to capture him. At this stage, the Police were favoured with a piece of luck which helped them in arresting the wanted man. Shri D.S. Sinha, an officer of the Indian Police Service, who was return-

ing from Shillong to Delhi happened to halt for a few hours at Dum Dum Airport. There he saw a well-dressed man going about in a markedly carefree manner. The stranger's features struck him as oddly familiar. Shri Sinha quickly identified him as Mitra whose photograph he had seen in the wanted notice published by the police. He sent a security officer to enquire whether he was Mitra. The stranger hotly denied it and asserted that his name was N. Saha. Shri Sinha felt sure that he was bluffing and had him detained. The Police searched him and seized cash to the tune of Rs. 1 613/- and other documents from him one of which was a return ticket in the name of N. Saha from Calcutta to Bombay. Feeling trapped and losing his nerve completely, the arrested man tried to tear up and throw away a piece of paper which contained his Bombay address but he was prevented from doing so by the Police. His actions only showed that he had something to conceal from the Police which could incriminate him and land him in trouble.

On interrogation, he disclosed his other Bombay address and he admitted possessing gold bars and a Hillman car, but still assumed an air of hurt pride and offended dignity. Taking no chances, the Bihar Police acted quickly and advised the Bombay Police to search the arrested man's house in Bombay. The Bombay Police also acted promptly and their search resulted in the seizure of gold bars, jewellery, expensive furniture, motor car and various other costly articles. Pushpa Ghose and another young woman, named Bhagwati, were residing in one of the houses occupied by the arrested man who was found to be none other than S.K. Mitra. The Ranchi police were informed of the arrest of Mitra. Mitra made a voluntary confession about having misappropriated a sum of Rs. 5 lacs. Fearing exposure he said that he had fled from Ranchi with the money and had invested a major portion of it in gold bullion which he had kept at his Bombay address. Following this, the Police searched the house of B.P. Mitra, a relative of S.K. Mitra and took charge of a typewriter which was suspected to have been used by Mitra for forging documents. Specimens of typed material of this machine together with finger-prints of Mitra were sent to experts for examination. After the completion of the investigation, the Police framed charges against S.K. Mitra and his accomplices Sudhir Kumar Bose, Anthony Kujur and Francis Herrong u/s 409-420-467-477A read with 120-B I.P.C. The accused were committed to the Sessions soon after.

Mitra denied the charges against him but it was proved that during the period when he reported ill i.e., 1-8-49 to 14-8-49 he had encashed a number of forged contingent bills. The Police also offered evidence to show that he had lived in Madras under the assumed name of U. Shaw in the house of W. Gardozs who identified him and Pushpa as his wife. Evidence was also led that D.G. Gandhi of Bombay had

sold a flat and a garage to Mitra for Rs. 12,500/- and Rs. 4000/- respectively during October, 1949. The agreement in relation to this transaction which was signed by S. K. Mitra as Prakash Saha and Pushpa Ghose as Shila Saha daughter of P. Saha was also shown as an exhibit in the Court. Moreover, Mitra could not state how he acquired various valuable properties such as Pindra Coal Co. Mount Hotel at Ranchi, Regal Hotel at Muri, Keora Lime Works Keder Brickfield, B.B. Ghosh and Co., 13 trucks and cars and other movable and immovable articles while he was only getting a meagre income in the position of a Clerk. Mitra's ownership of all the properties was proved with the help of documentary evidence. The Police also led evidence to show that the office mail was received and suppressed by S.K. Mitra by means of a chit written to S.K. Bose, in which he had requested the latter to send his car so that he could collect all the mail direct from the Post Office as also the money sent to the Institute. After a protracted trial Mitra and Bose were found guilty. Mitra was convicted and sentenced to 10 years R.I. and a fine of Rs. 5 lacs u/s 409 I.P.C., seven years R.I. u/s 467 I.P.C. and five years R.I. u/s 420 I.P.C. Bose was sentenced to five years R.I. u/s 120-B read with 409 I.P.C. and five years under each of the other two charges u/s 120-B read with section 420 I.P.C. and 467-471 I.P.C. The sentences were to run concurrently. The other two accused were acquitted by being given the benefit of doubt. There were appeals to the High Court by the accused against their sentences and also by the Prosecution for the enhancement of the fine. The appeals of the accused were dismissed, their sentences were upheld and the fine of Rs. five lacs imposed on Mitra was enhanced to Rs. 15 lacs.

We are made wiser not by the recollections of the past, but by the responsibilities of the future.

—George Bernard Shaw.

NATS, THEIR LIFE AND HABITS

S. Sarup Singh Johar

Inspector (Crim.) C.I.D. Punjab.

ORIGIN

THE "Nats" as the name suggests, belong to a community which depends for its livelihood on showing acrobatic feats and enacting puppet dramas in the rural areas. Some times they also resort to begging.

The members of the community are mostly settled in Jodhpur division of Rajasthan and are spread out in the districts of Jodhpur, Pali, Nagaur, Jalore, Sirohi and, to some extent, also in Churu of Bikaner division. They trace their origin to Gadia Lohars (Raj Nats) of Jodhpur. About 10 families of Puljari Natni Dera left Jodhpur about 40 years ago and settled permanently in Hissar and Rohtak districts of the Punjab. Fifty families out of about 200 at Chapasni migrated to Ahmedabad, while the rest got settled in Massoria, Sadarpur Police Station, Jodhpur district. The Ahmedabad members have close affinity with the Nats of Massoria, while those of the Punjab keep in touch with the members of their tribe staying at Dudara, Luni Police Station, Jodhpur district.

The present distribution of the Nats is approximately as under :

Sr. No.	Village	Police Station	District	No. of families
1	Massoria	Sardarpura	Jodhpura	150
2	Deggari	Mahamandir	"	25
3	Jalim Singh Ka Ahta	"	"	25
4	Samdari	Samdari	"	20
5	Dudara	Luni	"	80
6	Hawo	Kharchi	Pali	80
7	Bali Rani	Bali	"	40
8	Sharan	Siryari	"	100
9	Bhawanda	Bhawanda	Nagaur	20
10	Marwar Jn.	Marwar Jn.	"	100
11	Ranjwara	Raniwara	Jalore	60
12	Abukarari	Abu	Sirohi	100
13	Sujjangarh	Sujjangarh	Churu	10
14	Bammer	Distt.	—	100
15	Alakhpura	Hansi	Hissar	10

NATS, THEIR LIFE AND HABITS

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DRESS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

The Nats lead a nomadic life wandering from one place to another in small groups of about 6 to 25 members including women and children in quest of living. They have their own Panchayats and obey implicitly the orders of their group leaders. Their women are of a somewhat lax moral character and the young girls of the tribe even take to prostitution as a means of living. The women are fair-complexioned and wear the dress worn by the Jodhpur and Jaipur women. The men usually wear dhotis, kurtas and heavy Marwari-type turbans, while the women sport tight trousers or skirts, shirts and small 'Orhnis' with rings in their ears and big 'borlas' with imitation pearls on their heads. Nats are heavily tattooed with designs of flowers and scorpions (Qichhwas) on the different parts of their bodies. While on the move, they usually wear dirty or worn-out clothes and travel without ticket on the railways. In their homes, however, they spend money lavishly, especially on marriage ceremonies.

MODUS OPERANDI

Mainly they commit burglaries or thefts during daytime. To start with, they obtain complete details of the house they seek to attack, such as the means of ingress or egress and the value of the property that could be looted. The whole group then divide themselves into three sub-groups, one displays acrobatic feats or puppet shows as the case may be, the second keeps an eye on the movements of the inmates or neighbours of the house selected as their target, while the actual crime is committed by the third group. The members of the tribe are experts in opening padlocks with the help of large bunches of keys carried by them or by the use of a peculiar type of sharp-edged needles. After the commission of a crime, some members of the party are sent home with the booty in the shape of cash or ornaments and it is then buried in a previously chosen place. It is never taken to their camp for fear of being discovered during a search by the police. The members of the tribe usually disappear from the scene of their latest activity and may even hastily leave their loot there to be recovered later when things have calmed down.

Usually they select roadside villages as their targets and stage their attacks during harvest time or when the male population is out working in the fields.

If the group is taken by surprise by the police when they have the booty in their possession, they try to pass it on to their women who try to slip away on some convenient excuse, or they scatter in different directions, making it difficult for a small police force to pursue and apprehend them. The stolen ornaments are usually taken to Jodhpur where they are converted into gold and silver ingots.

The members of the tribe usually try to gain the confidence of the local police and for this purpose they pitch their camps near police stations.

METHODS AND HABITS

When questioned, they usually give out false names and addresses. They pretend to be members of the "Banjara" tribe, and do sometimes manage to pass off as such owing to their ability to speak a mixed Haryana dialect. They produce papers purporting to contain their names and addresses signed by some petty officers or others, but these are invariably fabricated. Pressed further, they very often pretend to be searching for suitable employment because of famine in their home area and would not hesitate even to offer small sums of money to the police officers as bribe to get rid of them. Whenever accosted by the police (and even at the time of arrest), these people, including their women and children, generally start talking simultaneously and try to put the police off with all sorts of excuses. Their womenfolk even go to the extent of cracking lewd jokes with the police constables to divert their attention from their duties. They are hardened criminals and do not easily admit their crimes. Their youngsters are trained fairly early in their life to develop capacity to endure pain by the application of hot irons to various parts of the body. They have a high sense of loyalty and have made it a strict rule never to betray the tribal secrets. In fact, they are so particular about it that if anyone proves weak and gives away information to the police, he is not allowed to survive.

If arrested, they try their best to get released on bail and even offer hard cash for it. They usually have sureties ready in the area where they reside. However, they often disappear if released on bail.

OPERATIONAL AREA

Before partition, the activities of this tribe extended up to the districts of Montgomery and Multan in West Punjab. Now they operate in the districts of Ferozepore, Hissar, Karnal, Rohtak and Gurgaon of the Punjab and Meerut and Muzzafarnagar of Uttar Pradesh, and in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Bombay.

GENERAL

As the community was not a notified criminal tribe even before the abrogation of the Criminal Tribes Act, no records were maintained about them in the erstwhile Jodhpur State. Even now, on account of their nomadic habits, the maintenance of any records about them is a difficult task.



A ROBBERY WITH MURDER

B. S. Das, I.P.S.

ON the 22nd November, 1952, I received in the evening a telephone message from the Kotwali Police that a serious robbery had been committed in the main market, in which two employees of a 'Biri' firm had been shot and cash to the tune of several thousand rupees had been stolen. The incident had occurred about six in the evening and the Station Officer had rushed to the scene of occurrence.

Enquiries at the spot revealed that Baldeo Das, Manager of a well-known 'Biri' firm in Gorakhpur, was going home from his shop with his Cashier after closing it. The Cashier was carrying a bag containing Rs. 12,088-3-6 in cash to be deposited in the safe in the Manager's house. When Baldeo Das was about five yards from his house, which was situated in a by-lane, a man wearing a black coat brushed past him, turned back and suddenly fired at him at an arm's distance. Baldeo Das fell down immediately. Simultaneously the culprit fired two rounds in quick succession at the Cashier from point blank range, snatched the money bag and ran away. The Cashier died on the spot. Baldeo Das, who got the bullet in the lung, got up on his feet and chased the culprit for about fifty yards shouting 'Chor, Chor' (thief, thief) but could not run further. He collapsed due to incessant bleeding. Some passersby in the lane, who tried to stop the culprit, were threatened with a revolver and fearing danger to their lives, they did not go further.

The Police immediately set to inspect the scene of crime closely for clues. They found a chappal (a slipper) and a piece of lead of a fired cartridge. The piece of lead had struck a wall and had got flattened out and twisted as a result. As the incident had occurred only a short while earlier, the police thought that the miscreant could not have gone far. Pickets were posted at all important roads, bus stations, river-ferry and the railway station to detain anyone who looked suspicious. The find of the chappal ten yards behind the place of firing indicated that more than one person was involved in the crime. The chance witnesses, who saw the culprit running away, could only state he was wearing a black coat and was of medium height. They also gave their general impression of the man. Only one characteristic was marked and that was the sharp voice of the man.

Baldeo Das, who was questioned by the Police in the hospital, was in terrible pain and was slowly dying. His statement was recorded. He could only say that a short man wearing a black coat had shot him. He died soon after.

The autopsy of Baldeo Das's body revealed that a bullet had got lodged in the region of the lung. The Ballistic Expert gave his opinion that it was fired from a .455 bore weapon.

While tracing old cases, in which a revolver had been used, it was found that, two years back, a village chowkidar had been fired at while he tried to arrest an absconder named Satyabrat Singh, who was an educated criminal with political affiliations and who had also committed a murder. In this case also, a lead piece had been taken out from the body of the chowkidar. When the lead piece was compared with the one recovered from the body of Baldeo Das a similarity was noticed. The Ballistic Expert reported that both the lead pieces were of .455 bore but he could not say whether they were fired from the same weapon as there was not enough data for comparison in that regard. Satyabrat Singh had been arrested a few days after the assault on the chowkidar and had been released on bail. He was re-arrested along with his two associates and interrogated about his complicity in the present case. They denied knowledge of the incident and the police could not get any clue from them.

Meanwhile I got news from a source about a local bad character named Mahendra Singh having visited a friend of his on the night of the incident. Mahendra Singh had a revolver with him and had not been seen since then. He was a Sikh and had once been suspected in a murder case. His general reputation was bad. We had nothing else on him. An officer was deputed to trace him in Bihar where he used to live in the past.

Soon another piece of information came which indicated that a person named Ashiq living in the rural area was spending money freely, although, in the past, he had not even had enough to eat. The Sub-Inspector of that circle was instructed to collect information about him but this police officer could not find anything adverse against him. We were thus again at a dead end.

The Officer, deputed to trace Mahendra Singh, got some information about Mahendra Singh's presence in Bihar. He went to Patna and while he was travelling he noticed a person in the train answering to the description of the suspect. He got down at the next Railway Station and informed the Railway Police who detained the

the suspected man and recovered a .455 bore revolver from him. The suspect was interrogated but he said he was Ram Singh of district Basti and denied any knowledge of the crime at Gorakhpur. He was sent to jail by the Bihar Police under section 19 of the Arms Act. A wireless message was received by the Superintendent of Police, Basti, the next day about the arrest of Ram Singh and he was asked to verify his antecedents. The Superintendent of Police found that the address was wrong and telephoned me to find out if I could throw any light on Ram Singh. Meanwhile the officer deputed by me had also informed us of the arrest of Ram Singh. This officer had seen Mahendra Singh seven years back and so could not say definitely if the arrested person was the man we were after. We sent a signal to Bihar Police to await the arrival of an officer of my district who would interrogate the arrested man as we suspected him to be Mahendra Singh and not Ram Singh. As luck would have it, we got a message the next day that the arrested man was Mahendra Singh of Gorakhpur and not Ram Singh as reported earlier. His description also tallied with that of Mahendra Singh which had been communicated to them.

Mahendra Singh's revolver was sent to the Ballistic Expert, who found the bullet to have been fired from this weapon. The revolver was Colt .455. This gave us positive proof of the complicity of Mahendra Singh. We could not interrogate him as he was in the jail and had to be put up for identification. He was correctly identified by the witnesses.

Mahendra Singh was then interrogated and, when confronted with the evidence against him, he made a confession. He stated that his parents had died when he was a child and he had fallen into bad company. He had earned his living in Bihar by committing petty thefts and mostly worked in shops. He was suspected in two cases of murder too but those cases were never worked out. He admitted committing the crime in the market of Gorakhpur and named three other associates Ashiq, Hira and Bashir. He told the police that the money bag was passed on by him to Ashiq while escaping and he could not collect his share as the police were watching all the places. He remained in Bihar and lost contact with Ashiq. When he learnt of the arrest of some other persons in the case, he thought of returning to Gorakhpur to get his share but was caught. We immediately raided Ashiq's house and arrested him. No cash was recovered from him but only expensive clothes, a cycle and some pieces of jewellery were recovered. Presumably these had been purchased by him with the help of the looted cash.

Ashiq did not confess his part in the crime but Hira and Bashir

corroborated the statement of Mahendra Singh and confessed to having received Rs. 2,000 each. They had spent the money. No recovery of cash could be effected due to lapse of time. The chappal left on the scene was that of Hira who surrendered the other chappal also to the police. Bashir, who had pointed out the persons carrying the cash and was the informer of the gang, gave out the whole story.

The case went up for trial. Mahendra Singh refused to make a confession in court, but was found guilty and sentenced to death. The others were acquitted as there was no evidence of identification and recovery against them. Mahendra Singh was hanged on 14th April, 1955.

INTER-COMMUNICATIONS

It has been noticed that Inter-Communication specially upwards, i.e. from junior and subordinate officers to superior officers was rather hesitant and halting. The junior and subordinate officers are noticed even now trying to hide bad news from the superior officers little knowing that they may not be able to deal with the worsening situation later on or to hide the news altogether. This feeling may be due to our occasional harshness towards the subordinate who brings the news. All of us must be able to receive good and bad news with equanimity. If something goes wrong in a district or a police post, the officer-in-charge should know what has gone wrong and should not hesitate to pass the information to appropriate authority upwards.

Similarly orders from upward should permeate at all levels and everyone should see that this happens.

—H. N. Sircar,
Inspector-General of Police, West Bengal.

A Survey Of Juvenile Delinquency In Amritsar

Bhagwan Singh Danewalia, I.P.S.

A SAMPLE survey of juvenile delinquency in Amritsar City was held by the Police from the 1st to the 20th December, 1957, in collaboration with the departments of Education, Health, Jails and Social Welfare. This was done in pursuance of the recommendations of the sub-committee of the Conference of the Inspectors-General of Police, 1954.

For this purpose, the City of Amritsar was divided into areas representing distinct social groups viz., unemployed persons; labour class; clerical class; petty businessmen and shopkeepers; bigger shopkeepers, industrialists, bankers and the landlord class; professional people like the doctors, lawyers, engineers, professors, teachers; and students from schools and colleges. Even when the areas could not be so demarcated, the officers were trained to be able to identify each social group in a particular area as distinct from the other social groups. On an average, each area was inhabited by over 3,000 persons.

Children between the ages of 7 and 20 were interviewed by the survey team by house-to-house visits. As many boys and girls as were easily available were interviewed. The students were picked out from each class and interviewed. The teachers co-operated admirably. They encouraged the students to speak their minds freely. One additional advantage was that the teachers were able to supplement the information offered by the students about themselves from their own intimate knowledge of them.

Before starting on their survey work, the interrogators were given general instructions about various types of juvenile delinquency and were also equipped with a detailed proforma to fill in. For the purposes of survey, juvenile delinquency was defined as follows:

"Juvenile delinquency constitutes any act, which if committed by an adult, would be crime—a deviation contrary to law. It is an anti-social behaviour, outside of the patterns of normal misbehaviour, which is so extreme as to endanger society and the delinquent. It may be defined as hostile defiance towards authority—whether it be vested in the policeman, the teacher or the parent. The child in question sticks out against the world for reasons of environmental deprivation, conflict with domestic situation or psychiatric difficulties."

The following are a few details of the survey:

1. In all, 2859 children were examined, of whom 209 were found to be delinquents, thus giving a delinquency percentage of 7.3.
2. The total number of students examined was 1699, of whom 91 (5.3 per cent) were found delinquents in one form or the other.
3. 50 boy students and 187 girl students in colleges between the ages of 15 and 19 years were examined. Strangely enough, no boys were reported to be delinquent in any way. The percentage of delinquency among girls was 1.6.
4. 1134 boy students and 328 girl students in schools were examined. The percentage of delinquency of boys was found to be 4.8 and in girls 3.8.
5. To examine the prevalence of venereal diseases, the blood of 272 female and 31 male students was taken; but the result was negative in each case. The male students were generally chary of offering their blood for test. As it was only a voluntary survey, the students could not be compelled to do so. So the number of boy students actually investigated in this respect was less than that of girls whom their teachers managed to persuade to help in this inquiry.
6. Outside the school area, 1,160 children were examined of whom 118 (10.1 per cent) were found delinquents.

A statement showing the number of delinquents and various types of delinquency is given below:

Sr. No.	Type of delinquency	No. of delinquents.
(1)	Carelessness in studies	4
(2)	Indiscipline and rudeness	32
(3)	Truancy	15
(4)	Thieving	39
(5)	Smoking	35
(6)	Sex deviations	56
(7)	Gambling	17
(8)	Drinking	11
Total		209

It may be seen that the sex deviations were the largest in number. Then come thieving, smoking, indiscipline, gambling, truancy, drinking and carelessness in studies in the declining order. The number of sex deviations was the highest among school-going boys. As the college authorities did not co-operate, the number of such

delinquents in colleges could not be ascertained with any degree of accuracy.

The general causes of delinquency that came to notice during the survey were:

- (1) Negligence by parents.
- (2) Over-fondling by parents.
- (3) Maltreatment by parents.
- (4) Death of parents.
- (5) Indifference of parents and teachers towards children.
- (6) Poverty.
- (7) Bad society.
- (8) Lack of recreational facilities.

The survey also indicated that delinquency was associated with over-crowding, lack of healthy recreations like organised sports which could provide diversion for idle minds and interest in pornography. Homes did not provide proper control nor was there any escape for children from unhealthy homes. In the case of schools and colleges, a general code of conduct was unfortunately lacking and what was more distressing was that there were no visible efforts to foster one.

Frankly speaking, the survey could not be as exhaustive as we intended. The reason may be attributed to lack of co-operation on the part of the public. Also the information supplied to the Police was involuntary and often refused even in colleges of repute who should have known the usefulness of such a survey better than they did. Social obloquy also stood in our way in getting the truth in individual cases. I am certain that some wide areas of information have not yet come to notice, although we had taken great pains in assuring the public that no individual names would be taken and that information supplied would not be used against the interests of the children surveyed.

The data collected in this survey, imperfect and incomplete as it was, put the number of juvenile delinquents at roughly 10,000 at least in a population of 3,41,000. When thorough studies are made, the number of young persons in predelinquent stages might be found to be much higher. With an urban population of 30.67 lacs the Punjab has probably 90,000 delinquents on the basis of data collected in the survey; but, when the truth of the matter comes to be told, the number might turn out to be even higher than this.

PURANA QILA MURDER

Devinder Singh Mehta

Sub-Inspector, Delhi Police.

IT had rained heavily in the afternoon of July 25, 1957, and the road was caked with mud and slush by the evening, making it almost unusable. Businessman Bakshi Ram, who was returning home to Purana Qila (Old Fort) in Delhi on his motor cycle found the going very difficult and got off his vehicle to make a detour across a stretch of wasteland to reach a road which was in a better condition. His brother-in-law Om Prakash accompanied him. As Bakshi Ram was pushing the vehicle along, a person greeted him from across the street. Bakshi stopped and, peering at the person, found him to be Jagat Singh, an old acquaintance. Jagat Singh approached him and handed him a chit with a request that it should be given to his friend in Old Delhi. Agreeing to oblige him, Bakshi was trying to put it in his pocket when Jagat Singh whipped out a knife and plunged it into his heart. Bakshi collapsed bleeding profusely. Instantly Jagat Singh took to his heels. Om Prakash was completely taken unawares; besides Jagat Singh had been much too quick for him. He did the next best thing by taking Bakshi to the nearby Irwin Hospital in a taxi but unfortunately the victim expired within minutes of admission into an emergency ward at the hospital.

Om Prakash reported the matter to the Hardinge Road police. Although his statement was incoherent and disjointed, the police gathered from him that there was a clue to the case in the shape of the chit which the assailant had given to Bakshi. They immediately visited the scene of crime and scoured the entire area for the chit but did not have any luck. While they were going through the clothes of the deceased the next day, they were happy to find the chit in one of his pockets and read the following message written on it:

"Bakshi, I have taken my revenge on you for the evidence you gave against me."

It was unsigned. This little bit of paper was slightly stained with blood and the police prudently preserved it as one of the most valuable pieces of evidence in the case.

Enquiries about Jagat Singh revealed that he had been convicted once in an abduction case and sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment. Bakshi Ram, who had employed him in his factory for manufacturing surgical instruments, had helped the police in capturing him and gave evidence for the prosecution. After he was

released, Jagat Singh found it difficult to obtain a job, although even without much education, he was known to be a good craftsman. He had approached Bakshi Ram to take him back, but his former employer refused to oblige him, and under his influence the other businessmen in the locality also ostracised him. Still, Jagat Singh continued to call on Bakshi Ram without ever showing any trace of malice or ill-will towards him.

It was vital for the police to get corroborative evidence to prove Om Prakash's statement about the murder. The most obvious thing for them to do was to obtain a specimen of Jagat Singh's handwriting and compare it with the handwriting on the chit that they had seized from Bakshi Ram's clothes. A vigorous search for Jagat Singh was made by them but he could not be traced anywhere. It was obvious that he had gone into hiding away from Delhi. They made a shrewd guess that sooner or later the penniless Jagat Singh would communicate with someone known to him and ask for help in his desperate situation. They made discreet enquiries and compiled a long list of his friends and relatives who were likely to help him. By a process of elimination, they ultimately picked out the name of his brother, Harban Singh, who lived in Jullundur as the likeliest person who would help to him. It was learnt that Harban Singh was an illiterate person and had helped him previously. The Delhi police advised the Jullundur police to keep a close watch on Harban Singh's activities and also see if he received any postal communication from Jagat Singh. The Sub-Inspector handling the case also took the neighbours of Harban Singh into confidence and appealed for their cooperation which was readily promised.

Several days later, Harban Singh received a letter which he unsuspectingly took to a neighbour to be read to him. The letter contained a request for monetary help and said: "My dear brother: You are the only one in this world who had stood by me during my distress and now I am again in need of your help which I am sure will not be denied to me....". Before the neighbour could finish reading the rest of the letter, Harban Singh rudely snatched it from him and walked away brusquely. The neighbour was taken aback by this exhibition of rudeness and, suspecting that there was more in it than met the eye, he informed the police quickly. The police at once rushed to Harban Singh's house and questioned him, but he denied having received any letter at all. The police did not believe him and searched his pockets from which they drew out the letter. Harban Singh desperately snatched it from the police and, grasping half of it, chewed it up at once. Fortunately, the police retrieved the rest of the letter and found that it contained the address of the writer under the name of Jagdish Prasad staying at an ashram in a village near Hardwar. It was apparent that Jagdish Prasad was none else than Jagat Singh.

As soon as the Delhi police received intimation about Jagat Singh's address, they sent officers to Hardwar to capture him. The policemen reached the ashram early in the morning and took the inmates by surprise. They assuaged their fears and calmly explained to them the object of their visit. A thorough search was made for the wanted man and he was soon discovered by the police sleeping soundly. He had tried to disguise himself as a "Sadhu" by smearing ash on his body and looking wierd but he could not fool the police.

He was brought to Delhi where, in the presence of a Magistrate, a specimen of his handwriting was obtained by the police. The writing on the blood-stained chit, the letter received by Harban Singh and the specimen handwriting were compared by an expert who gave his opinion that the writer was the same person in all the three cases.

At the Sessions trial Jagat Singh pleaded illiteracy and asserted that he did not write the letters. The police had anticipated this plea and, to counteract it, they placed before the court a statement that he had signed before a Magistrate in the abduction case in which he had been concerned previously. Questioned by the judge, the accused had to admit that it was signed by him and this admission nullified his plea of illiteracy. The charge was thus proved. Jagat Singh was convicted and sentenced to death. He appealed to the High Court which upheld the conviction but commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life in view of the young age of the accused. He was only 20 years of age.



However slender its shoots, a banyan tree from them takes,
and gives to them, strength to resist uprooting. —Panchatantra.

PREMATURE RELEASE OF PRISONERS—A STUDY OF PRACTICES IN INDIA

M. M. Thapar

THE test of a modern correctional system is its ability to return individuals to society as law-abiding and self-respecting citizens, and all procedures from the time of commitment should contribute to this end. Premature release of prisoners on due commitments from this part of view is a method which is gradually assuming a place in the process of institutional treatment.

If the whole treatment process is a "training for freedom," the 'parole' system of release should constitute the required half-way house in such a process. It may constitute a bridge between the strict regime of the prison and the free life of the community. Parole is not pardon, for when a person is pardoned, his crime is forgiven. Parole is not a shortening of sentence. Parole also differs from an outright discharge on the final day of the offender's sentence. Parole is not merely an obligation to the offenders to turn themselves into good citizens but it also takes due note of the rights of the law-abiding citizens as against the offenders; and as such its purpose is to protect the society by supervising and assisting released prisoners until they have a chance to stand up on their feet and show that they intend to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives.

This American concept of Parole has not been fully introduced in many countries including India. In India the practice of releasing prisoners prematurely before the expiry of the full term of their detention began only after the publication of the Indian Jail Committee's Report in 1920, though the provision for such a release existed in Section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure since 1898. The Indian Jail Committee expressed in strong terms the desirability of bringing long-term imprisonment under review at some period in the course of the sentence, by an impartial authority which would have before it information, which no sentencing court possessed, as to the result of the imprisonment undergone by the prisoner, and as to the question of his fitness for release. The States have implemented in varying degrees the recommendations of the Indian Jails Committee in this respect. The following is a study of the practice in this respect in Uttar Pradesh, Madras and West Bengal:

Uttar Pradesh

In Uttar Pradesh, premature release of prisoners was, before 1937, made under the scheme of Revising Boards. The release was

made u/s. 401 Cr. P.C. and was confined to casual and habitual prisoners when the former had completed half the sentence and the latter two-thirds, exclusive of remissions earned. As a result of this scheme every Central Prison in the State now has a separate Revising Board and the District Jails at the Headquarters of the divisions have a separate Revising Board for the District Jails in that division. The recommendations of this Board are submitted to Government which issues orders for release u/s 401 Cr. P.C. The experience is that although all prisoners except short termers upto three years sentence are eligible, very few prisoners are actually released. This system still continues.

But with the assumption of office by the first Congress Ministry in 1937, the question of premature release of prisoners along with other correctional matters assumed importance in the State, and a regular statute entitled "the Uttar Pradesh Prisoners' Release on Probation Act" was passed during the year 1938. (Note: The word *Probation* is confusing in this context, but it was perhaps used since there was no Probation Act in Uttar Pradesh at that time. The more appropriate term would have been "parole".)

Under this act, prisoners, who have completed one-third of their sentence, or five years, whichever is less, are eligible for premature release provided somebody agrees to act as their guardian. The Probation Officer or a secular institution or a society belonging to the same religion as the prisoner could act as a guardian. Prisoners, who have been convicted and sentenced under Chapter V A (Criminal Conspiracy), Chapter VI (Offences Against the state) and VII (Offences relating to the Army, Navy and Air Force) of the Indian Penal Code and also under the *following sections of the Code are, however, excluded from the scope of this act.

*Sections 216 (a), 224, 225 (if it is the case of escape from Jail) 231, 232, 303, 311, 328, 364, 376, 382, 386 to 389, 392 to 402, 413, 459 and 460.

A prisoner eligible for release has to make an application on the prescribed form to the Superintendent of the Jail where he is confined. If the application is in order, the Superintendent forwards it to the District Magistrate of the district of conviction with his opinion regarding the effect of imprisonment on and fitness of the prisoner for premature release. After consulting the Superintendent of Police, and if necessary the Probation Officer, and the District Magistrate of the District of the home place of the prisoner, the District Magistrate of the area of conviction forwards his opinion regarding the fitness of guardian and advisability of premature release. The District Magistrate also consults the 'Aparadh Nordhak' (Honorary social workers appointed by the Government) with regard to the suitability or otherwise of the guardian.

A Board consisting of the Parliamentary Secretary with the

Minister for Jails, Home Secretary or Deputy Home Secretary and the Inspector General of Prisons or his deputy consider all applications for premature release. This Board usually meets twice a month and its recommendations are finally considered by the Government, which issues licence for premature release. A copy of this licence is issued to the guardian.

The duty of the guardian is to look after the conduct and welfare of the licensee and to see that the conditions of the licence are fulfilled during the remaining period of sentence. If the licensee's conduct is found to be questionable, the guardian is required to report it to the District Magistrate, who may, after necessary enquiry, recommend to Government that the licence may be revoked. When the licence is revoked, the prisoner has to pass the remaining period of his sentence in jail.

Every year, 1000 to 1500 prisoners, including a majority of life-term prisoners for murder etc. are released on licence under the Uttar Pradesh Prisoners' Release on Probation Act. During the last 19 years that the act has been in force, several thousand prisoners have thus been granted premature release; but there have not been even one per cent occasions for the revocation of the licenses. This seems to indicate that the prisoners released on licence generally behave well and very seldom give cause for complaint, even though there is yet no scientific method for granting licence, nor is there an organised machinery to watch and maintain a record of their work and conduct during the probationary period (the unexpired portion of the sentence). This belief is further strengthened by a recent study of 179 prisoners belonging to certain districts, who had been released under the Uttar Pradesh Prisoners' Release on Probation Act. Of the 179 prisoners so studied, as many as 167 were classified as successes and four as failures. With regard to the remaining eight, it was reported that they were still doubtful. Even if half of these eight ultimately prove as failures, the percentage of success works out to 96, which is very encouraging.

Madras

It was in February 1923 that the Government of Madras passed an order constituting an Advisory Board for every Jail as suggested by the Indian Jails Committee. The function of the Board was to review the cases of long term prisoners, who had undergone $\frac{2}{3}$ of their sentences including remission. The government order was restricted to prisoners who had no previous convictions. The Board consisted of the Inspector-General of Prisons, the District and Sessions Judge and the District Superintendent of Police of the district in which the Jail was situated, and a non-official, generally, the Honorary Secretary of the Discharged Prisoners Aid Society in the District. The Superintendent of the Jail was to be the Secretary of the Committee.

The Government invariably accepted the recommendations of the Board. There was also a provision in the order constituting Advisory Boards for appointment of Honorary Supervisory Officers called Honorary Probation Officers. (A better term would have been Honorary Parole Officers or Honorary After-care Officers). These Officers were appointed by the Collector who was then also the District Magistrate, on the recommendations of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies in the districts, and by the Commissioner of Police, Madras, on the recommendation of the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society in the City of Madras. The result of the premature release under the Advisory Board Scheme was, on the whole, encouraging and the Government of Madras liberalised the terms of such premature releases from time to time and included habitual offenders also within the scope of the Advisory Board scheme. The present position is given below:

- (i) The scheme is applicable both to casuals and habituals.
- (ii) All prisoners, who are sentenced to two years in aggregate or more but not exceeding three years who have served $\frac{2}{3}$ of their sentence *excluding remissions* are eligible for premature release.
- (iii) All prisoners with sentence exceeding three years who have served $\frac{2}{3}$ of their sentence including remission and have served not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ years *including remission* are eligible.
- (iv) Old and decrepit prisoners who are incapable of doing any real work and would appear to be unable to commit or organise any crime are eligible. No condition is attached regarding the length of their sentence or to the period to be undergone to be considered for the premature release.
- (v) Male prisoners who are over 65 or female prisoners who are over 55 years of age and have served not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of their sentence including remission are eligible for premature release provided they are serving their sentences for their first and only conviction—irrespective of the length of their sentence.
- (vi) Prisoners, who are committed to jail to undergo the unexpired portion of their original sentences for violation of the conditions of their release are eligible for reconsideration by the Board, provided they have undergone $\frac{2}{3}$ of the unexpired portion of the original sentence including remission or the period of any fresh sentence which may have been imposed, whichever is longer.

During the year 1950, the Government of Madras passed an order that all prisoners released conditionally under the Advisory Board Scheme should be supervised by the Probation Officers appointed under the Madras Probation of Offenders Act. After the passing of this order, the supervision of parolees became regular and systematic and reliable statistics could be obtained regarding the success or failure of the scheme. The Probation Officers exercised regular and continuous supervision over the released prisoners, assisted them

to secure decent places and thus re-establish themselves in society and submitted monthly reports about their welfare and progress. The following table will show the number of persons placed under the supervision of the Probation Officers of the Madras State since 1951, the number of reversions to crime during each year, and also the percentage of successful completion of parole. The table will also show that the parolees acquitted themselves well and that the number of persons who reverted to crime was negligibly small.

Year	No. of cases recommended by the Advisory Board	No. of cases in which releases were ordered by Government	No. of reversion to crime	Percentage of success
1951*	443	371	1	99.7
1952*	410	364	3	99.2
1953*	274	148	5	90.7
1954**	131	104	1	99.0
1955**	182	115	4	96.5
1956**	113	71	1	98.6

There was a feeling that the existing scheme of premature release was not quite liberal, scientific and modern, and that it should be replaced by a regular statute which would prescribe uniform and scientific methods for the selection and release of parole cases throughout the State. In fact, a Parole Bill was actually in the process of preparation when the Government appointed a Jail Reforms Committee in July, 1950. The Bill was therefore not proceeded with pending the report of the Committee. The Committee considered that there was no necessity to introduce a special statute for the purpose, but that the scheme as adopted may be liberalised, and that instead of or in addition to the reports obtained from the police about the advisability of release of the convicts, reports may be obtained also from

*The figures relate to the composite State.

**The figures relate the to residuary State.

the Probation Officers who had to supervise the persons after their release.

West Bengal

The State Government adopted a resolution during 1924 providing for appointment of an Advisory Board for each Central Jail to investigate and report to Government on the sentences of certain classes of prisoners. Necessary rules for the purpose have been incorporated in the Jail Code of the State.

According to these rules the Board is to consist of the Inspector General of Prisons, who is to be the Chairman of the Committee, the District Judge and the District Magistrate of the District concerned (in case of the Presidency Jail the Chief Presidency Magistrate and the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta) and two non-official members to be selected by the Chairman from amongst visitors of the Jail. The Superintendent of the Central Jail concerned is to be the Secretary of the Board.

The Board sits at least twice a year in each of the Central Jails on dates to be fixed for the purpose by the Inspector General of Prisons. The Superintendent of the Jail arranges to put before the Board for their consideration the following categories of prisoners for premature release:

(i) Non-habitual prisoners undergoing a substantive sentence of three years and over, who have completed two years' imprisonment or half the sentence including remission, whichever is greater.

(ii) Habitual prisoners who have served $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of sentence including the period of remission or have served $\frac{2}{3}$ of sentence including the period of remission, whichever is greater. He may also put up cases of prisoners who will become eligible for consideration for premature release before the next meeting of the Board.

Prisoners convicted of rape, forgery, dacoity and terrorist crimes and of similar other offences are not eligible for consideration of their cases by Advisory Boards.

Habitual prisoners who are members of registered criminal tribes, homeless or of the *goonda* class or those with more than three convictions are also excluded from the purview of the Board.

The cases of prisoners suffering from infectious diseases such as leprosy, tuberculosis etc. are also considered by the Board.

In examining the case of a prisoner, the Board has to take into account not only the nature of the offence but also the character and previous history of the prisoner, his conduct in Jail and the result of the imprisonment already undergone by him and whether he can be released with safety to the community, and submit its recommendations to Government through the Inspector General.

The Secretary of the Advisory Board has to collect, for the purpose,

a copy of the relevant judgment of the convicting court and details of the prisoners' previous history and character from the District Magistrate concerned, his prison record supplemented by the opinion of the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police of the district in which the prisoner was convicted and resident as to whether there is any objection to the prisoner's premature release. The Medical Officer of the Jail is also to furnish other relevant information regarding the physical and mental condition of the prisoner and his fitness for release.

The Superintendents of affiliated District and Subsidiary Jails bring to the notice of the Superintendent of the Central Jail the cases of prisoners confined in the District and Subsidiary Jails, which are fit for consideration by the Advisory Board according to rules.

The Superintendent of the Central Jail informs these Jails when the next meeting of the Board is likely to be held and obtains from them a list of the prisoners whose cases should be considered.

The recommendations of the Advisory Boards for premature release of prisoners are invariably accepted by Government and orders for their release are issued accordingly.

The results in these cases of the system of premature release show that this system not only results in financial saving, but also helps in the adjustment of interpersonal relationships which get disturbed especially by long incarceration. The system is likely to show still better results if a more scientific method is evolved for judging the progress of prisoners and determining their fitness for release on parole.

RURAL POLICE—ITS ORIGIN AND FORMS

I.J. Johar, I.P.S.

IN most of the Indian States, there is, in addition to the regular police, an institution of rural police. The members of this force are men of the village and are appointed for aiding the regular police and the administration by reporting local matters and by maintaining general surveillance over bad characters and movements of strangers. They do not receive any special training; they follow their family avocation, chiefly agriculture, and discharge certain duties of their office in addition. They get a nominal stipend for this. They are known as chowkidars in most of the States.

While considerable attention has been paid to the improvement of the armed and civil police, the chowkidars, who form a basic unit of the police, have not been given the attention that they deserve. In this note, I propose to say something about their origin and the different forms which the system takes in various parts of India.

In the Vedic Age, the duties of the chowkidars used to be performed by a village officer called the Gramin (ग्रामीण). Thus, the rural police force of chowkidars, or Kotwars as they are called in Madhya Pradesh, is a very ancient institution. Except in East and North Bengal, this institution has for the most part descended from the old Hindu village system, according to which the Patel used to combine the functions of Collector of revenue and chief of police. He used to administer justice as well as exercise local jurisdiction in other matters. These functions got separated and vested in different officials in the process of evolution.

Under the Gond and Maratha dynasties in the Central Provinces, the village Chowkidar, sometimes called Kotwar or Pandya, used to assist the Patel in the collection of rent from tenants and also helped him in other duties. The village Panchayat also exercised control over the Chowkidars in various degrees.

According to the report published by a Select Committee of the Kaman Sabha (कामन सभा) of the East India Company in the year 1812, the powers and duties of Chowkidars were laid down in detail in Regulation No. XX of 1817. During 1838, their number

was estimated at 190,000 in the then British India. In 1870 a new law was enacted detailing their duties and providing for the levy of a tax for their pay through Panchayats. The Chowkidars were required to attend Police Stations at regular intervals to report vital statistics, information of movements of bad characters, and incidence of crime in their respective areas.

Late in the 19th century in Bengal, village unions came into existence, whose duty it was to assess and levy the local Chowkidari tax and also appoint and control Chowkidars. Mr. Rogers, a member of the Bombay Council, suggested a very radical change in the above set-up. He proposed decentralization of administration of civil and criminal matters through Panchayats to units comprising a few villages. The proposal was examined by the Decentralization Committee set up by the East India Company, but it was not accepted.

The British Government used to remunerate the Chowkidars through an additional cess on land. This created ill-feelings amongst the tenants towards the Government. The system was later withdrawn and the Jagir system was introduced in its place. Chowkidars were appointed even from amongst the criminal tribes in order to suppress the criminal tendencies amongst them. This experiment worked successfully in some provinces.

The Indian Police Commission of 1902-03 examined the problem of policing the villages and arrived at the conclusion that the agency of village Chowkidars was of paramount importance and should continue to be utilized for Police work.

It has been the accepted policy in the past to link the village Police system with the system of land tenure and revenue administration. It was for this reason that the village Police duties were discharged by the revenue head of the village.

The committee set up by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to go into the question of police reorganization observed in its report that it was necessary to increase the strength of Kotwars. In theory, the Kotwar is regarded as only a part-time servant, but in fact, he is fully employed in public work, with little spare time to devote to his private trade or occupation. The committee recommended that the Kotwars should be given adequate wages directly by the Government, should be uniformed and trained in the discharge of Police duties.

The Conference of Inspectors-General of Police held in New Delhi in May, 1956 recommended that the Gram Panchayats should not be given any power or authority over police matters and should not

be entrusted with the duties of investigation of cognizable offences. The Rural Police, it was pointed out, should be reorganized and strengthened. It was recommended that where there was a Chowkidari system, it should be made more modern and this agency should not be placed under the village Panchayat. An experiment is being tried in one of the western districts of Uttar Pradesh where a constable is posted to a group of 4-5 villages in place of Chowkidars. The result of this experiment is still to be known.

The set-up, duties, remuneration and strength of Chowkidars vary in slight degree in the States where the Chowkidar system exists. In the former Travancore (Kerala) State, the institution of Chowkidars did not exist at all.

In the Punjab, each village has a Chowkidar, whose emoluments work out to between Rs. 15/- to Rs. 30/- per month. He is appointed by the Deputy Commissioner on the recommendation of the local Police according to the provisions laid down u/s 39-A of the Punjab Laws Act, 1872. His main duties are reporting of vital statistics and crime committed in his area, keeping watch over movements of bad characters and giving general assistance to all Government officials who visit his area. He also performs the duty of organising village patrols by villagers. In case of emergency, special provision has been laid down under the Punjab Village & Small Towns Patrol Act, 1918, for the performance of nightly patrol duty by the residents of villages and small towns. When the residents fail to perform watch and ward duty voluntarily, the Deputy Commissioner is empowered to order that all able-bodied male residents of any village should perform patrol duty.

The Chowkidar system in Uttar Pradesh is the same as in Punjab, except that his remuneration is only Rs. 5/- p.m. The appointment to the post of a Chowkidar is considered a great honour by certain classes because the Chowkidar has free access to the higher officials and because of this privilege he enjoys a great amount of Izzat (prestige) in his own area.

In Bihar, his duties and functions are the same as in the adjoining State of Uttar Pradesh. Certain areas in Bihar such as Chhota Nagpur, have a slightly different set-up. The Bihar Government has recently decided that a Dalpati will be appointed for each village who will take over the duties of the Chowkidar. This experiment is still to be tried and results seen in due course. Bihar has also got village officers called Dafedars who are superior officers of the Chowkidars and exercise supervisory control over them. A group of villages is put under each one of them. The Orissa system of village officials is

the same as that of Bihar, except that the emoluments of the rural police are higher in Orissa than the Chowkidars and Dafedars of Bihar. In the year 1956, a Committee was appointed to revise the terms and conditions of service of Chowkidars and they were given a higher scale of pay.

In Bengal, the Chowkidars are under the Anchal Panchayats which are solely responsible for their control, discipline, conditions of service and also for the levying of tax for meeting the cost of rural police organisation.

In Madras, there is a village official by the name of Talyari who is under the village Magistrate. He is not required to go to the Police Station at regular intervals for the reporting of crime, as is the practice in most of the other States.

In the old Madhya Pradesh State, the remuneration of Chowkidar was Rs. 192/- per annum and it was paid either in cash or in kind.

In the erstwhile Madhya Bharat State, the system of recruitment and control over Chowkidars was almost the best in the whole of India. The Chowkidar's remuneration was Rs. 20/- per month. He was appointed and dismissed by the Superintendent of Police. He performed no other duties except police duties. After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh, this set-up is being changed and is being brought in line with the set-up that was in existence in the old Madhya Pradesh State.

In Rajasthan, there is no officially recognized system of Chowkidars. In most of the integrating States the Chowkidars were in existence but that was a matter entirely left to the villagers. No effort has so far been made by the Rajasthan Government to organise a proper Chowkidari system.

Some interesting features of the institution of Chowkidars are given below:

- (1) He is a Government servant and yet is allowed private vocation.
- (2) There is no organised course of training for him and this is responsible in some measure for his present inefficiency.
- (3) The institution is more or less hereditary.
- (4) He is a Police Officer.

Since the village Kotwar wields the sceptre of authority, he is the centre of political bickering and animosities in the village. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that this last link of the Government hierarchy should be impartial in all its undertakings. If this agency is properly organised, police efficiency would considerably improve. It is desirable that this friend, philosopher and guide of the villagers should be a person with character and integrity.

The village Chowkidars have played an important role not only in matters relating to law and order but also in other activities of the villages. Since the number of policemen for election duties was insufficient, during the second General Elections held in the year 1957, the services of Chowkidars were requisitioned by Madhya Pradesh Government and they were appointed as special police officers under the Police Act on a remuneration of Re. 1/- per diem. They were given preliminary training for a few days in their new duties. They were reported to have done their job very satisfactorily and in a commendable fashion.

The institution of Chowkidars has a proud record. In some of the districts of Berar, Mahars are employed as Kotwars in the last 100 years. Every year they carry over a crore of rupees of land revenue to tahsil Headquarters. No case of misappropriation had ever come to the notice of the administration until the year 1937 when in tahsil Darwha of district Yeotmal one of the Chowkidars was found to have misappropriated some money.

As suggested by the Police Commission and as observed by all the Inspectors-General of different States in 1956, this institution should be strengthened so that the Chowkidar may be able to serve his village community more efficiently in the role which he has been performing for centuries.

THE POLICE COME TOO LATE

Rex Cowan

*(Reprinted with kind permission of the Editor, 'The Observer'
London, the author and the editor, The Hindustan Times, Delhi.)*

SO long as you know what you are doing, it sometimes clears the mind to oversimplify. It is especially easy, popular, and misleading to do this in discussing the causes and treatment of crime; but you can obtain a sudden new vision of the problem if you approach it from the angle chosen by Professor Sheldon Glueck, of the Harvard Law School's Institute of Criminology. In effect, he explains our failure to come anywhere near a solution by pointing to our pre-occupation with catching and devising punishments for fully grown crooks. "The greatest amount of funds and talent," he says, "is spent on the finished product—the adult criminal." Like Dr. John Bowlby and Dr. Edward Glover in this country, he looks to childhood, even to early infancy, for the causes, symptoms, and remediable trends of criminality.

Early Signs

No one would claim this as a strikingly original notion. The trouble has always been that it belongs to the class of sociological dogmas that are self-evident enough to be overlooked, so that no one "does any work" on them. The New York City Youth Board, however, has for the past ten years been watching children at the youngest school age for the vulnerability that has been recognised as leading to mature criminality. Teams of social case-workers, mingling with the teaching staff at elementary schools in New York areas of heavy delinquency, are confident that they can recognise the embryo delinquents and redirect their steps.

Having observed the signs of "behaviour disorder," these specially trained case-workers make an early point of visiting the homes of "difficult" children, painstakingly establishing good relationships with the parents and family, and persuading them to accept the help they need. Naturally, this first step is the case-workers' greatest single difficulty. By every expedient short of the foot-in-the-door technique that has vitiated so much "do-goodery" in the past, they maintain an attitude which enables them, though barely tolerated, to go on refusing to take no for an answer. As with a few very unusual psychiatric clinics which set out to treat criminal offenders, they regard

all initial hostility, however long it lasts, as a first hurdle to be got over, and not as an excuse for regretfully dropping a case after months of trying.

No Skimping

These case-studies of the vulnerable child have to be comprehensive, not a matter of a few skimmed interviews, for the families of such children often present a constellation of psycho-social-economic problems. The case-worker must be able to call on all the official and voluntary services that can help; but above all he must be able to create within the family a strong desire to seek and accept the kind of help recommended. The committee now examining the law relating to "children and young persons," under the chairmanship of Lord Ingleby, may perhaps recommend that the present "care of protection" methods be extended in ways that would depend entirely on the voluntary co-operation of the child and his parents. Some such scheme as the New York City Youth Board's would then be essential.

It will occur to most people, and particularly to those who mistrust all diagnostic work about social behaviour, that this plan involves the danger of mistaking a phase of misbehaviour in a perfectly normal child for a deep-rooted predisposition to real delinquency. The answer is, I am sure, that the method adopted is in fact a deep diagnostic study of each child, carried out by people with long training in the observation of children.

It has been found—as Dr. Edward Glover has often pointed out—that early in the life of a child whose delinquent future can be predicted there occur familiar symptoms: cheating, bullying, and habitual lying in school, petty thefts at school and at home, aggressive hostility to school-teachers, parents, and others in authority. Experienced teachers, it is true, can always pick out the future trouble-makers, but in most cases the problem is then merely passed on to the next teacher as the child moves up: even the sparse facilities now available for scientific diagnosis and special treatment are little used.

First Arrest

In the histories of all adult offenders there is evidence of lost opportunities for sublimating, at an early stage, their potential criminality. When a child is arrested by the police for the first time, it is seldom for his first offence. The older he gets, the less can be done for him, and yet it has long been our custom to wait until he reaches maturity before seriously beginning to spend time and money on the treatment of his criminal conduct, or on the kind of research that will establish whether we are on the right lines with him and his kind. Most of this expenditure goes on Approved School and Borstal treat-

ment for young offenders, and on prolonged imprisonment for the old lags.

"Prediction tables" are already being used experimentally in this country on lines suggested by Dr. Herman Mannheim, lately reader in criminology at London University, and by Mr. Leslie Wilkins, statistician at the Home Office Research Unit. These tables enable one to forecast, with a surprising degree of accuracy, the effect of a Borstal sentence and its recipient's probable rate of re-conviction. They arose from a study of Borstal boys—aged from sixteen to twenty-one with pretty bad criminal records—and they are the nearest approach ever made in this country to the Gluecks' study in 1930 of delinquent children in the United States—"500 Criminal Careers."

'Old Lags'

We are, in fact, devoting too much of our criminological research to the study of old lags. The very phrase "old lag" suggests an aged incorrigible, but nearly all our "recidivist" offenders are under thirty-five. At the same time we loudly bewail the existence of juvenile crime, as though it were some totally new and puzzling social disaster.

Crime has always been predominantly the work of the young and immature. Before the age of thirty, the criminal with repeated convictions is "set." Twenty-one is unlikely to be early enough to deflect him. For various reasons, including school-leaving, job-changing, and adolescent cockiness, the Borstal age of sixteen is even less propitious. The age of five years may not be too late, but it is none too early to begin the thorough (but of course unostentatious) observation, by teams of trained workers at the schools, which I have described. If we can detect the signs of criminality so early, isn't our whole splendid apparatus of "criminal investigation" a waste of money, time, effort, and ingenuity?

POLICEMEN'S VITAL ROLE—HOME MINISTER'S ADDRESS

(We publish below with his kind permission extracts from an address delivered by Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, to the Officers of the Madras Police force on December 21, 1958.)

"The Police have to perform very arduous duties, which are also delicate and intricate at times. They have to protect the weak, and enforce the law impartially without fear or favour. They have also to safeguard those conditions in which every citizen may be able to enjoy his rights and the society may continue to progress and live in peace. We are now living in a free country with rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Police has now the positive and constructive role of safeguarding the enjoyment of these rights. There is now a sense of partnership in a common endeavour. Every citizen, regardless of the position that he may be occupying, has a contribution to make and to give his best to the country and the State. The gulf that there was in the days gone by between the people and the Police has been bridged by greater understanding, and the public is more responsive and less unfriendly, if not completely friendly, than what it used to be in those unnatural conditions.



Shri G. B. Pant

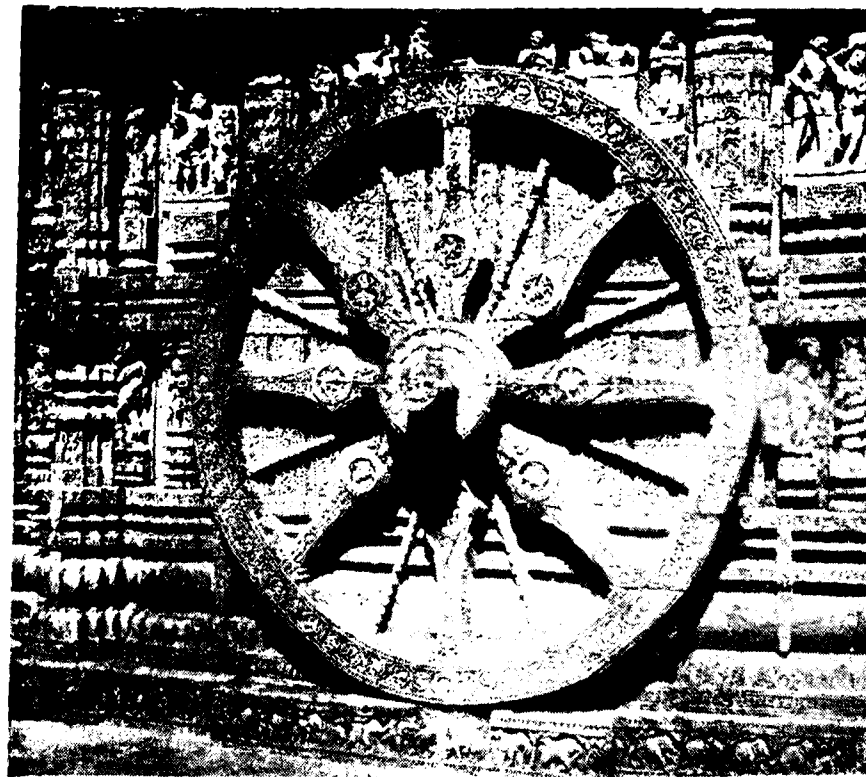
"In a democratic State where the Press is free and freedom of speech and association is guaranteed under the Constitution, everyone of us has to be prepared for some sort of review of his actions and activities. Sometimes the remarks made or the criticisms that are offered (about

the police) may not be justified, or it is also conceivable, on some occasions, the motives may not be unmixed. But we need not attach undue significance to these deviations, but adhere to the path of rectitude. If we do that and if we are always actuated by a true spirit of service, we should be able to win over even our opponents. To some extent, the Services have to function under a certain measure of disadvantage, if in a democratic system the conventions are not developed fully to spare them from criticism and direct it rather to the politicians, the Ministers and those associated with them. But it has also to be borne in mind that if the Police has the general support and the goodwill of the people, that would be the best safeguard against criticisms, malicious or otherwise, that may be levelled at them individually or collectively.

"We have to see that our administration is clean, efficient and responsible. Everyone in the Services and the Police has to appreciate fully the creative element that enters into our work when the approach to the public problems is in a spirit of cooperation. We have to be sensitive to how people react to our actions and should not isolate ourselves from the rest of the community. No doubt the members of the Police force have to keep themselves away from partisanship, factions, intrigues, or anything that might reflect on their impartiality and efficiency. But they must be vigilant guardians of the poor and the weak and see that the wrong-doers regardless of their position, are brought to book. At the same time, while enforcing law strictly, impartially and effectively, their methods have to be humane. The days of tooth for tooth and eye for eye are gone. Criminology has undergone revolutionary changes, and it is realised that many of those who have turned into habitual criminals could perhaps have been reclaimed if they had received humane treatment in the earlier stages. So, while the black sheep are taken out of the fold, they have to be tamed rather than broken.

"We have to see that every citizen of our country lives and functions without fear. All our efforts today are directed towards relieving him from want and fear. The Police has a vital role in this task. So, in order that you may be strong enough to protect the liberties of the people and continue to occupy the position which will enable you to serve them, you have to see that everyone who has the opportunity of rendering some service does his part in a clean and efficient way."

Earlier, Shri S. Balakrishna Shetty, I.P., Inspector-General of Police, Madras, welcoming the Union Home Minister, said the work of the Madras Police had been very good in the maintenance of law and order, crime control and intelligence collection.



"Konarak Wheel" Photo by S. Akhaury, I.P., Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., Bihar.

It received an Honorary Certificate at the Tokyo International Police Photography Contest in 1958 and was praised by the Inspector-General of Police, Japan, as "excellent". Readers may recall that Sri Akhaury won the first prize in the Indian Police Journal Photography competition.

Police Notes

Police and Policemanship

Mankind now stands poised on the edge of what is popularly called the Atomic Age, an age which may be catastrophic in its overwhelming disaster or Utopian in its great opportunity for universal well-being and limitless power. It is for man to make his choice. But even now we are giddy with whirling sputniks and dismayed by the vast specialised scientific knowledge which man, during the last two hundred years, has built up—a knowledge which few can comprehend and fewer master.

It is in such a world, for all its progress—fear-ridden yet hopeful, complex yet exciting—that these elementary principles of the Police will now be tested and their truth assessed. Two objects must be kept in view; the Policeman and the organisation, which we call the Service, in which he works.

The Policeman himself, upon whose shoulders have fallen the burden and duty of enforcing these principles, has emerged during the past century from the physically strong, semi-educated, methodical beat-bound individual whose capacity was gauged more by his practical ability to quell the common brawl and disorder and to prevent the more barefaced theft and robbery than by any refined technical skill. The individual we now see is still physically tough, perhaps, but more athletic, better trained and educated, and capable of mastering some of the complexities which arise to-day not only from a wider and more intense application of these apparently simple principles which he has inherited but from the enforcement of a mass of legislation which has been delegated to him. Moreover, he is now called upon to serve a public more educated and informed, jealous of its rights and conscious of its legal powers—a public which, previously hostile, has over the years transformed its regard to one of friendliness and trust.

We are reminded that the Police and the Public are one. If this assumption be true, it follows that the Police cannot be divorced from the society into which it is cast. As the social scene changes so does the Police.

—Sergeant C.F. Padfield
The Australian Police Journal

Police Commission set up in Kerala

The Government of Kerala has constituted a five-member Committee under the chairmanship of Shri N.C. Chatterjee, Senior Advo-



Shri S. Akhaury received an Honorary Certificate from the Inspector-General of Police, Japan, for his entry "Konarak Wheel". The Certificate on which was affixed the picture above said:

"Of all the work sent to us, your photograph attached here has been deemed excellent by the Exhibition Jury. We, therefore, present you with an Honorary Certificate."

cate, Supreme Court of India, to enquire into the Police administration in the State and recommend measures for its reorganisation. The terms of reference of the Committee include the role of the Police in the Welfare State; adequacy or otherwise of the existing provisions of law for the fulfilment of the objectives laid down in the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution, and of the public aspirations, in particular, in the sphere of employer-employee and landlord-tenant relations; associating the public with the work of the Police, establishment of Police Advisory Committee, measures for better public relations; associating village panchayats in some form with the Police; reorganisation and re-orientation of the administrative set-up of the Police and of methods and practices of recruitment, training (both initial and in-service) and promotion; and incentive schemes, employees' welfare and the setting up of Whitley Councils in the Police Department.

—The Indian Journal of Public Administration

Police-Public Relations To-day.

An efficient Police Force is a desirable thing not only from the point of view of the Police themselves but more so from the point of view of the Public. What is more, an efficient Police Force, is a physical and mental impossibility without public co-operation. The public has a big hand to play in the moulding of the Police Force. It argues, therefore, that if the Force is not what they think it should be then they have themselves to blame as well.

The duties of the Police are numerous and diversified and in many cases not so pleasant. The basic function of the Police, it can be said, is to form the bulwark between the community and individuals who seek to offend against the community. This is a very delicate position to be in especially when wittingly or unwittingly the general public are only too ready to interpret every move or turn of the Police as being motivated by hostility or vengeance and directed at them, so much so that they eventually believe to be true, what they in the first place imagined. Hence their aloofness and uncooperative attitude towards the Police.

—P.C.P. Gajabalan
Singapore Police Magazine

Police Dogs—An Anniversary

It is now twenty-one years since dogs were first introduced in the Metropolitan Police. If any further proof is needed that they have justified their existence, it is perhaps provided by the fact that Police Dogs now have a department of their own—D9—at Scotland Yard and are no longer lumped together with Accommodation, Building and Cadets in D2. Two Labradors were originally employed as an experi-

ment in 1938. The experiment was regarded as a failure, and it was not until after the war that a further experiment was made with six Labradors which had received intensive training at Imber Court. The results achieved by these dogs exceeded expectations, and since then the Dog Branch has gone from strength to strength. The dogs now used are almost entirely Alsations, and most of them are obtained as gifts from members of the public. They all receive training at the Dog Training Establishment at Keston, which last year was attended by Police officers from the U.S.A. and has instructed dog handlers for many Forces both at home and overseas. The two pioneer dogs of 1938 have grown to an establishment of 200. They have proved a most effective addition to the resources of the Metropolitan Police, and have been responsible for the detection and capture of many offenders. The number of arrests made by Metropolitan Police dog handlers in 1957 was 1,464 and of this total 774 were made with the direct assistance of the dogs. The experience gained in the past twenty-one years shows that a trained dog can be the Policeman's best friend.

—Police Review (U.K.)

Coping with Hooliganism

Anxiety has been expressed in the House of Commons about the effectiveness of Police action in suppressing hooliganism. The questions asked in Parliament reflect the feeling of many people that sterner measures are called for in dealing with the youths whose unruly behaviour in the streets has become a public nuisance. Special measures have in fact been taken by the Police in London and elsewhere to stop this hooliganism, which frequently takes the form of gang fights by youths armed with knives, chains and studded belts. There is of course a limit to what the Police can do. In London and in many other cities they are hampered by lack of men, and in any event it is not possible for them always to be on the spot when they are needed. In addition it seems that the old-fashioned and perhaps rough-and-ready methods of dealing with these young thugs, which proved quite effective, are very much out of favour. The Police are apparently expected to wear kid gloves even when handling the wielders of flick knives and bicycle chains. Any show of force by the Police will be regarded by some people as unprovoked and excessive violence, and there will be charges of brutality and a demand for a full inquiry. Take, for example, what recently happened at Middlesbrough. A letter of complaint from a woman was received by the Chief Constable (Mr. R. Davison) that she had seen a Police officer punching and kicking two boys. News of the incident also reached a Town Councillor, who publicly announced that he would expect the Watch Committee to conduct a full investigation into the matter. In the meantime the Chief Constable had made his own inquiries and inter-

viewed the woman who made the complaint. He found that the officers concerned had not acted improperly in any way, and when the woman was told what had actually happened she expressed herself perfectly satisfied and asked if she could withdraw her complaint. The Chief Constable's findings were unanimously confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the Watch Committee. In spite of this the Town Councillor who gave the matter publicity in the first place said that he was still far from satisfied and that an independent inquiry should be held. According to an eye-witness interviewed by the *Yorkshire Post*, the incident about which all this fuss had been made was as follows: Three young men were staggering about in the road and knocking off the tops of beer bottles they were holding. One of them wrapped a handkerchief round a bottle, and when a woman who was passing thought the bottle was going to be used as a weapon she telephoned the Police. A Police car arrived, and a Sergeant and a Constable spoke to the youths. Eventually one of the officers took hold of one of the young men, and told them to go on their way, which they did. There was no violence whatever. According to the eye-witness, this is all that happened. In this matter of dealing with young hooligans the public cannot have it both ways. The Police cannot be expected to act effectively when any show of force they make—and there are occasions when violence is the only answer to violence—is likely to result in demands for a full investigation by the Police Authority or a public inquiry.

—Police Review (U.K.)

New Method of Securing Traces

Recently in many cases of murder when a post-mortem examination was called for, TESA films of different breadth were used by the official conducting the inquest and attached to the Juridico-Medicinal Institute of Muenster University under the direction of Prof. Sachs. With the help of this method, traces clinging fast to the dead bodies could be easily secured when TESA films in suitable lengths were spread over the skin of the dead persons concerned, so that hairs, blood crusts, dirt of fingers and sperms could be secured. In continuation of this procedure double length films were folded up in such a way that they could be directly used as a microscopic slide. Another method provides for pasting up the film laid on the skin. Even in cases of sexual crimes this procedure is said to have proved useful, since loose hairs found on the skin could thereby be made to cling fast to the film when it was spread on the required parts of the body. Chemical reaction to such recovered foreign traces could not so far be noticed. Fresh experience gained on the basis of the application of this method will be profitably utilised.

—Offentliche Dienste Transport Und Verkehr (Germany)

Importance of 'Beats'

The increased incidence of crime in recent years, especially crimes of violence, and the daring with which they are carried out, throw some doubt on the wisdom of paying too little attention to prevention whilst concentrating on the cure; in short the substitution of the scientific arm and the mobile unit for the policeman on the beat. We are convinced—and this appears to be internationally accepted—that the man on the beat is still the strongest deterrent to crime in any community. The criminally minded will fear his living presence in uniform far more than the unseen and remote white-coated expert or mobile unit at the distant Divisional or District headquarters. The fact, however, is that his presence is no longer feared because it is not there and this is especially true of rural areas where the incidence of crime has recently received so much publicity, with special reference to unsolved murders.

—The Garda Review

Policeman's Lot

There is hardly a police force in the country whose establishment is fully manned: the deficiency for the Metropolitan Police (London, England) is more than 3,000 men. Many of the suggestions made by the Select Committee seem to cover ground which is already being covered by the Home Office—for example, the problems of recruitment, wastage, training schemes—and to urge consideration of these problems for purely economic reasons is not to make the task of those responsible for finding solutions to them any easier. Nor is it helpful to suggest "penny-pinching" in welfare matters such as housing schemes, rent allowances and canteen facilities; the policeman's lot, particularly in these days of increasing violence, is not a happy one, and stringent economy in administering the police force is not going to assist recruitment.

The question of the Policeman's lot has also been considered by the West London Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. E.R. Guest, who has suggested that persons assaulting the police should be charged with causing grievous bodily harm, an offense carrying a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, rather than with assaulting a constable in tence of life imprisonment, the maximum penalty for which is a £ 20 fine or six months' imprisonment. Whether juries would feel disposed to convict on the graver charge is, as the *Solicitors' Journal* points out, a different question. If they did, there would be little doubt of the deterrent value of heavier sentences in these cases.

—Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gazette

Juvenile Delinquency

As announced recently by the New York Police last year in the city area 11,570 teen-agers below 16, consisting of both boys and girls, were arrested on charges of murder, criminal insult, rebellion against school teachers, rape, burglaries, thefts of motor vehicles, unauthorised possession of fire arms etc. This indicated that there was a considerable rise in juvenile delinquency there.

—Öffentliche Dienste Transport Und
Verkehr (Germany)

Flick Knife Bill Approved

The Restriction of Offensive Weapons Bill received the Royal Assent on 14th May. It prohibits the manufacture, sale, hire, loan or gift of flick knives, flick guns and gravity knives. For a first offence the penalty is imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or a fine not exceeding £ 50, or both, and for any subsequent offence the penalty is imprisonment up to one year or a fine not exceeding £ 200 or both. The Act will come into operation on 14th June.

—Police Review (U.K.)

Wanted—Devotion

Life in a police force has many facets which scientific aids or mobile units, as such, cannot replace. The successful policeman must have, first and foremost, a devotion to his calling and must be prepared to sacrifice much to it. He must be ready to accept physical hardships, social restrictions and loneliness. He must be above all temptations, social and moral, to which he will frequently be exposed. His courage must be of a very high order and, since he will often be his own commanding officer in critical situations, he must have initiative and a will of his own.

By all means let us have specialised police work but let us ensure that the uniformed Garda, the man who fulfils the primary police purpose, is not relegated to a position of insignificance and given the impression he is being tolerated in a secondary role, because, in that way, the police administrative machine would be gravely weakened and no amount of scientific aids or mobile units could restore its vitality.

—The Garda Review.

Readers' Views

DO WE ASSESS POLICE WORK CORRECTLY?

Dear Sir,

Crime statistics are undoubtedly important, for they help in the proper appraisal and are helpful in planning measures to be taken for the solution of a particular problem. But it should be realised that mere figures do not tell all the story. It is wrong and dangerous at least in the field of crime and its investigation to draw the inference of efficiency from a high percentage of detection, and the opposite if the detection has been low. Detections are not necessarily an index of efficiency. What is important and should really count is the method and quality of investigation and the standard of preventive work. Unfortunately the efficiency of a Police Unit or of a Police Officer is often judged by crime figures. If these figures go up, it is assumed that crime has gone out of control and Police vigilance has been slack. Although the local authorities may appreciate the extraordinary circumstances due to which it was not possible to suppress a crime wave or improve detection, as we go higher up, the authorities do not have either the facility or time to go deep into the causes and appreciate the difficulties of the local Police. This attitude is very harmful. It induces the local Police Officers to burke crime or adopt objectionable methods of investigation. It needs to be appreciated that even the most competent and methodical investigating officers may not, in spite of their best efforts and correct investigation, succeed in detecting certain cases or in bringing the offenders to book. On the other hand, some chance or element of luck may enable an ordinary investigating officer to unearth a notorious criminal gang or detect a difficult case. Hence statistics are not responsible for drawing conclusions which do not flow from them. What is required is a change in our outlook towards statistics.

The argument in favour of statistics is that without them it would be extremely difficult to judge the quality of Police work in an Unit, or efficiency of a Police Officer. After all what can be the yardstick for judging good work? The efficiency of the Police depends on numerous factors that may be broadly classified into:

(a) State of preparedness

The outlook of a Force in relation to the people and their fellow-officers, their ability to adjust themselves to the needs of a fast-

changing society, their courage, their mental and physical fitness, knowledge of laws and regulations and training are indicative of their preparedness to deal with a situation. It has to be seen if the policemen are vigilant, whether proper check is maintained on suspicious strangers and whether policemen have thorough knowledge of the place, its inhabitants, bad characters and subversive elements. It is equally necessary that their records are complete in all particulars and their intelligence system is well developed.

(b) Utilization of resources

It is equally necessary that the resources available to a Police Unit are properly and promptly utilized, to prevent crime.

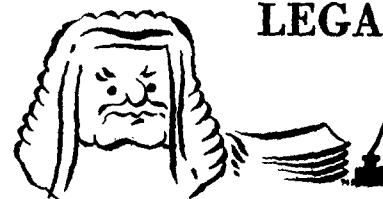
(c) People's reaction

In a Welfare State the efficiency of the Police can be judged from the nature of the service rendered or rather the amount of satisfaction produced in the public. It has, however, to be admitted that there are very few complaints and at any rate no genuine complaint against a conscientious, honest and efficient Police Officer. Such an officer is generally well spoken of and obtains the fullest cooperation from the public, and because of this cooperation his preventive and detective work is also good.

There is also a fear that if statistics are not to be taken into account, Police Officers may not bother about detection and the percentage of detection may fail. If every case is properly investigated and all possible clues are carefully worked out, there is no reason why there should be a drop in detection. Perhaps more supervisory staff will be required to ensure this. More scientific laboratories will have to be set up and also more transport for investigating officers, more stationery, better system, better method and more of everything that makes an efficient Police Force.

What we want is a correct assessment of crime position and an outlook that would help us to earn a better reputation and make progress in the use of scientific aids. As it is, considerable difficulty is experienced in finding funds for the establishment of forensic laboratories, obtaining scientific appliances and training the staff, and if proper atmosphere is not created for making use of whatever little we have, progress will be retarded.

Yours faithfully,
K.K. DAVE, I.P.S.



LEGAL NOTES

Retracted confession of co-accused

Section 30, Evidence Act, makes it clear that, where more persons than one are being tried jointly for the same offence, a confession made by any of them affecting himself and any one of his co-accused can be taken into consideration by the court not only against the maker of the confession but also against his co-accused. The Evidence Act nowhere provides that if the confession is retracted, it cannot be taken into consideration against the co-accused or confessing accused. Accordingly, the provisions of the Evidence Act do not prevent the Court from taking into consideration a retracted confession against the confessing accused and his co-accused.

The amount of credibility to be attached to a retracted confession, however, would depend upon the circumstances of each particular case. Although a retracted confession is admissible against a co-accused by virtue of S. 30, Evidence Act, as a matter of prudence and practice a court would not ordinarily act upon it to convict a co-accused without the strongest and fullest corroboration on material particulars. The corroboration in the full sense implies corroboration not only as to the factum of the crime but also as to the connection of the co-accused with that crime.

Held on the facts of the case that the confession of the co-accused though retracted was not only voluntary and true but it had been corroborated in material particulars regarding the general story told by him in his confession and in tending to connect the appellant with the murder of the deceased. Recovery of the ornaments of the deceased at the instance of the appellant incriminated him to the fullest extent and lent the strongest corroboration to the confession of the co-accused from which it was apparent that no other person than the appellant could have murdered the deceased.

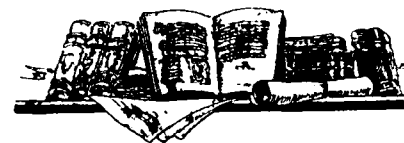
(1959 Cr. L.J. 90)

Defective investigation

Where cognizance is in fact taken on a police report following an illegal or defective investigation, the result of the trial which follows it cannot be set aside unless the illegality in the investigation can be shown to have brought about a miscarriage of justice.

The words used in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 190 are "any police officer". It does not confine to the police officer, who might have investigated under section 156 and the word "any" is comprehensive enough to include a report lodged by a police officer other than the police officer, who could make investigation under section 156. Many a time there are special officers who are deputed to make investigation in complicated cases which are likely to take considerable time and who are not officers in charge of a police station and they investigate the case and if they file a report before a competent Magistrate, he would be entitled to take cognizance.

(1959 Cri. L.J. 113).

BOOKS

Crime and Sexual Psychopath—By Dr. Paul de River—
Published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

To a society that still adopts a "hush-hush" attitude towards sex, Dr. River's book should serve as an eye-opener. Representing a quarter of a century's devotion to Psychiatry and Criminology, this book attempts a rational analysis of the diseased human mind that is at the root of the violent anti-social acts of the sex criminal.

Dr. River has covered all the known forms of sexual 'deviations' including such comparatively rare conditions as incest, necrophilia, and sexual incendiarism. Many of these are illustrated by case histories drawn from author's study of psychopaths. Each illustration is complete with factual data of the offence, the results, physical and psychic examination and background history of the subject. The chapters on "pedophilia" and "exhibitionism" are particularly well written and effectively spotlight the menace that such sex perverts present to the impressionable adolescents.

In the concluding chapters, the author dwells briefly on the causes that have presumably led to the rising incidence of sexual crime. He points his accusing finger at the modern practice of selling sex through art and literature, but offers no specific remedy. May be, he does not want to trespass in the field of social reform where angels fear to tread!

—S.M. Warty.

Police Personnel Management: By A.C. Germann, Published
by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

The effective functioning of any Police Organisation depends on the quality and spirit of its personnel, on the preparation of its members for the performance of their tasks and on their direction and control. All these may be covered by the comprehensive term "Police Personnel Management" which this book discusses in detail. It surveys

the entire area of personnel management including selection, payment, development, regulation and motivation. It discusses the recruitment, classification, training and promotional procedures followed in the various police organisations in the U.S.A., and gives a complete account of personnel management which, if consistently followed will lead to the professionalisation of the Police service in an efficient manner. Though the procedures and problems discussed are related to those prevailing in the U.S.A. and so may not be applicable to other countries, this book should make interesting and educative reading to all Police Officers interested in personnel management.

—R. Swaminathan.

Police Promotion Quizzer—By Paul B. Weston and Harry P. McCann. Published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

The authors have avoided the beaten track and broken new ground. The book covers a wide range of police subjects such as Patrol Techniques, Criminal Investigation, Arson, Homicide, Traffic Control, Juvenile Delinquency, Criminalistics, Supervision and Command and Police Management—practically the entire field of Police Science and Administration. The treatment of the subjects is unconventional and bears the hallmark of professional thoroughness. The book contains a thousand questions of all types—"fill in" questions, questions calling for true or false answers and questions requiring short or long answers in the shape of essays. In preparing the questions and answers, the authors have made use of many authoritative texts and drawn upon their rich experience and vast knowledge. This makes the text a very useful reference book on certain important aspects of policework. The book is primarily meant for American Police Officers and is designed to help them in passing promotion tests. Certain questions, especially in the chapter on Criminalistics, are however elementary and the answers thereto do not call for more than ordinary knowledge and intelligence.

—B.N. Misra.

Awards for Gallantry

A. PRESIDENT'S POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES MEDAL

1. Shri Bhullan Singh, Sub-Inspector, Civil Police, Uttar Pradesh.

He showed exemplary courage and devotion to duty during an encounter with a gang of notorious dacoits led by Rupa and Sarupa Goojars. At Roorkee, Shri Singh received information on 22-3-1954 about the presence of the gang in the Gangadaspur village near Deoband. He immediately took out a police party to capture them. The dacoits hid themselves in a field. Although they could not advance unobserved, the police party split up into three groups and reached quite close to the field. The dacoits suddenly opened fire and the police also retaliated. Shri Singh rushed towards a dacoit but was shot at by the latter and badly wounded. He succumbed to his injuries in the hospital later. In the encounter both the dacoit leaders Rupa and Sarupa were killed due to the energetic action of the police who recovered arms and ammunition from the dacoits.

2. Shri Kutta Muthan Krishnan, Constable, Madras City Police.

He showed conspicuous courage in grappling unarmed with a notorious thief and pursuing him despite grievous injuries sustained by him. On the night of January 24, 1958, Shri Krishnan who was searching for an ex-convict, recognised the wanted man among a group of persons sleeping on a pavement although he was covered up in a sari. When the constable tried to apprehend the ex-convict, the latter stabbed him with the dagger in the chest. In spite of the injury sustained by him, Shri Krishnan courageously grappled with him but the ex-convict again stabbed him in the stomach and escaped. Despite this injury, the constable chased the ex-convict but could not go far. He succumbed to his injuries later.

B. POLICE MEDAL

Shri Kalul Lepcha, Constable, 2nd Armed Force Battalion, and Shri Bairagi Singh Routh, Constable, 3rd Armed Police Battalion, West Bengal.

These Police officers displayed commendable devotion to duty and exemplary courage in an encounter with a gang of dacoits in West Dinajpur District, West Bengal. While on patrol duty on July 27, 1957, in village Bethari, Sarvashri Lepcha and Singh saw a gang of about 30 dacoits armed with guns and other weapons raiding a house. The dacoits opened fire on policemen who returned the fire. The dacoits fled with booty. Although it was very dark the police officers pursued them. The dacoits were compelled to surrender the booty. Two of them were killed and one more was captured in this encounter.

All India Statement of Crime

Name of State	Total Cognizable Crime.	Rioting	Offences relating to		Murder	Culpable homicide N/A to murder	Administering of stupefying drugs.	Kidnapping and abduction.
			Coins	Currency				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	8,152	422	4	1	108	12	7	39
Assam	4,784	276	...	3	85	13	3	82
Bihar	14,495	532	8	12	155	51	10	73
Bombay	25,595	310	3	1	447	81	11	169
Jammu & Kashmir	719	39	...	...	9	2	1	26
Kerala	4,415	279	2	1	93	11	1	14
Madhya Pradesh	18,195	385	4	5	306	6	13	208
Madras	10,436	386	7	6	177	53	20	86
Mysore	5,746	142	1	...	158	30	1	47
Orissa	5,915	110	1	3	54	22	4	10
Punjab	4,433	42	1	2	134	84	4	86
Rajasthan	4,955	216	2	2	93	02	8	131
Uttar Pradesh	16,084	707	3	9	338	272	21	190
West Bengal	10,108	843	5	14	88	86	3	190
Union Territories.								
A. & N. Islands	50	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Delhi	2,278	19	...	2	17	0	7	42
Himachal Pradesh	266	5	...	...	4	1	1	7
Manipur	279	13	...	...	3	1	...	23
Tripura	647	37	...	...	5	2	...	8
Pondicherry	258	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Naga Hills & Tuensang area	47	2	...	...	6	...	...	...
	1,43,847	4,767	41	60	2,372	809	121	1,453

for the quarter ending 31st March, 1959

Dacoity	Robbery	House breaking	Cheating	C.B. of trust	THEFTS						
					Copper Wire	Cattle	Cycles	M.V's and accessories	Fire arms	Explosives	Other thefts
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	41	1,389	103	215	113	320	242	21	4	5	2,584
66	50	943	61	70	46	117	137	19	3	...	1,162
254	153	4,876	104	111	124	200	439	21	4	2	4,093
128	528	3,634	563	831	245	659	611	192	1	...	9,242
7	13	189	10	21	4	22	10	1	2	...	83
10	38	458	41	47	7	32	21	4	...	...	786
104	216	4,051	267	349	63	671	482	35	35	...	6,856
12	66	1,312	199	385	78	474	261	10	3	5	4,073
33	46	1,020	91	137	41	192	117	13	3	...	1,792
23	51	1,004	72	202	79	161	112	5	3	...	1,496
5	21	797	105	114	25	135	209	5	2	...	927
21	100	1,259	78	84	14	497	145	...	1	...	905
251	505	3,433	318	524	178	637	903	81	44	...	4,555
148	196	2,425	330	336	230	280	727	154	5	5	7,069
...	...	7	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	11
...	10	292	88	68	2	15	405	11	...	...	836
3	2	59	6	10	...	4	...	...	2	...	53
6	...	37	8	1	1	24	31	...	...	...	53
19	12	161	1	3	...	55	5	...	...	...	132
...	...	38	1	4	...	3	9	...	...	...	201
1	...	3	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	14
1,108	2,048	26,887	2,446	3,514	1,251	4,500	4,867	573	112	17	46,923

ROLL OF HONOUR



Shri Jhagru Ram, Constable, Kamleshwarpur Police Station, District Surguja, Madhya Pradesh.

While on duty in village Barima, Shri Ram detected a case of illicit distillation of liquor and while attempting to seize the illicit still, he was fatally assaulted by the culprits.

Shri B.K. Mohanty, Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police, Singla Police Station, Balasore, Orissa.

While preventing a breach of peace in village Bisikadupur, he was attacked by a violent mob, with arrows, spears and lathis. He retreated in self-defence but fell into a ditch and died.

Shri Deepchand, Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police, No. 65, Battalion No. II, Punjab Armed Police.

Posted as Picket Commander at Hanoi-I on Cease Fire Line, Srinagar, Kashmir, Shri Deepchand was patrolling the border when he was invited to meet two persons on the other side of the border. As soon as he approached them in good faith, seven other armed persons appeared on the scene and beat him to death.

Shri Darshan Singh, Constable No. 309, Government Railway Police, Punjab.

He died in an accident on 6-10-58 while boarding a train on escort duty.

Shri Shivachand, Constable No. 771 of 'G' Company, II Battalion, R.A.C., Rajasthan.

Shri Chand showed conspicuous bravery during an encounter between the police party and the notorious Rupa's gang of dacoits and was shot dead in the thick of fighting.

Shri Pritam Singh, Constable No. 151, Gardiwala Police Station District Hoshiarpur, Punjab.

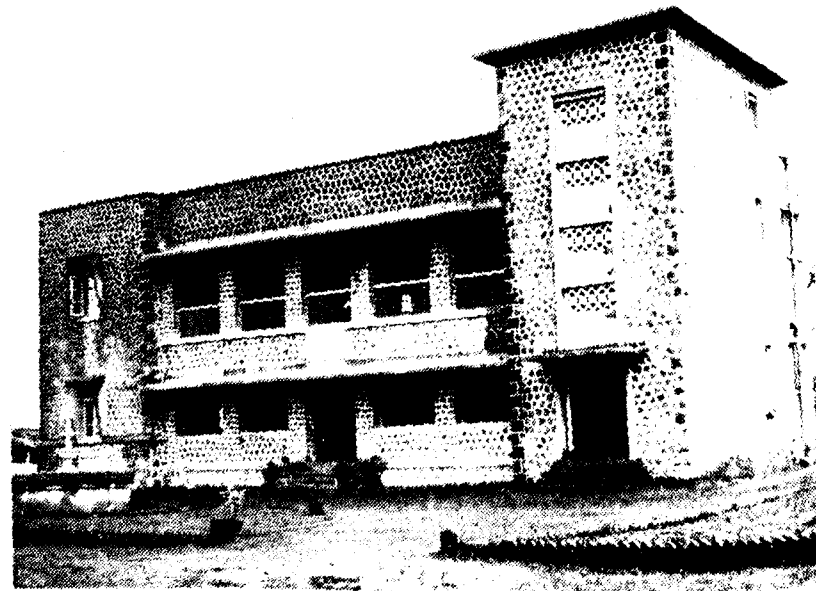
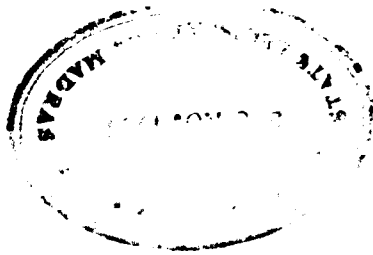
While on patrol duty, he chased a person who was moving about in suspicious circumstances. Undeterred by repeated threats by the criminal, the Constable kept on chasing him until he was shot dead by the criminal.

POLICEMEN DONATE BLOOD TO VICTIM OF DACOITY

Patna, March 12, 1959.

On the night of March 8, an armed dacoity was committed in the jurisdiction of Katras Police Station, Dhanbad (Bihar). A constable and a villager were shot dead by the dacoits during an encounter. Two persons who were seriously injured, were sent to Patna Medical College Hospital, one of whom, Shri Golak Bihari Goswami, was operated upon and needed blood transfusion.

On information, the Police-Public Relations Officer, the City Superintendent of Police, Patna, and the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Headquarters, rushed to the Blood Bank to donate their blood. Their blood however did not match. Meanwhile, a few officers and 23 jawans of the Bihar Military Police, V Battalion arrived there, of whom Sergeant Major Rydquist, Sub-Inspector K.N. Singh and Sepoy Chandan Singh Bista, each donated 300 c.c. of blood to the injured person. Thanks to their timely and generous help, Shri Bihari made a quick recovery.



Poona City Police Maternity Home built recently at Bhamburda Police Headquarters, at a cost of Rs. 65,000. The Maternity Home will accommodate 24 beds.

THE INDIAN POLICE JOURNAL

Vol. VI No. 2

October, 1959

PRESIDENT'S ADVICE TO POLICEMEN

"It gives me great pleasure to associate myself with this function which marks the opening of new residential houses for members of the Police Force.

"In every civilized country the police have a very important and in fact an essential duty to perform and it is up to the State to see that they are as comfortable as possible within the resources of the State so that they may discharge their duties without domestic anxieties and worry. It is therefore a good idea to provide accommodation not only for members of the Force but also for their families so that when they are not on duty, they may have the opportunity of enjoying a normal family life.

"In the present set-up that we have in the country, the police have a very important function to perform. There were police during the British raj; there are police now that it is our own raj. That is because they are indispensable. Their functions so far as prevention or detection of crime is concerned, so far as maintaining peace is concerned, are more or less the same as they were previously. There is, however, one very basic and fundamental change and that is the attitude which society adopts towards the policemen and the policemen adopt towards society. There are many things which are unpleasant, at any rate to some people, which a policeman has to do, but he has to treat all people not only with consideration but with fairness and justice. He has to see to it that everybody is free from anxiety while living in his own home and while carrying on his daily duties.



Rajendra Prasad
15.3.58.

Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD

President

REPUBLIC OF INDIA

11/10/59 69322
15.3.58

"All this has to be done. But the basic thing which, I would suggest, should govern the attitude of the policeman is that he should regard himself in much the same way as a doctor. The medical man sees to the health of the individual. He sets right whatever goes wrong with the individual and, if he is conscientious, he tries also to prevent anyone falling ill. So in a sense, for a truly patriotic, well-intentioned and honest medical man, his profession should be a self-liquidating one because in so organizing social life, he may abolish all disease and his function as a doctor may come to an end! I say the policeman's function is also more or less the same. He has so to arrange society and so look after its welfare that there is no crime left for him either to prevent or to punish. But this is not dependent entirely on him alone. He is only one part of the society whose function it is to do that. But in discharging his duties, he can bring to bear the attitude of a doctor. Even where he has to shoot a man, he ought to do it in the same way as a doctor kills his patient on the operation table with the best of intention and the best of goodwill towards the man! If that is the attitude which a policeman adopts, I am sure the whole aspect of life would change.

"Really it should not be necessary in a well organized society where people are able to look after themselves, to need a policeman's service at all. There should be no crime and such crime as there is, the people themselves should be able to take care of, not so much by way of punishment as by way of reforming the man who has gone wrong on account of some cause. If policemen therefore look upon their profession in this spirit, it is really a very honourable profession and one which is absolutely necessary for the well-being of society. What is most essential is that he should not forget that he himself is a human being and he has to deal with human beings, and in dealing with them he should

always have his own humanity before himself. It is in this spirit that our policemen have to be trained and that is the kind of society which we want to build up. Society should depend more upon the individual's own good sense than upon the policeman's baton to keep individuals in their place. It has been well said that that government is the best which governs least. That society alone can have that kind of government whose every individual member is able to control himself and to contribute to the good of others. It would not require any sanction either of the police or of the army for purpose of protection.

"That is a great and big ideal. It is very difficult to achieve it. But it is good sometimes to think of big ideals even in our mundane affairs, and I have therefore taken the liberty of drawing the attention of policemen to this high ideal. If they make even the least attempt to move in that direction, I am quite sure they will be able to render a good account of themselves.

"In this country we do need the service of good men in all departments of life and the Police Department is a very important and essential department which needs good men. I am sure the amenities which the Government is going to provide for the well being of policemen will be appreciated and the Government will get a very good dividend on this investment in the shape of good service from those for whom these amenities are being provided. I have therefore great pleasure in declaring these buildings open."

(Speech delivered at the opening of the Police Colony at Karnool on the 19th August, 1959)

A MURDER IN A TRAIN

R.S. Bhandari

Uttar Pradesh Police.

AT 1.30 p.m. on Tuesday the 18th of February 1958, a telephone message arrived at Government Railway Police Station, Charbagh, Lucknow, from a wayside Railway Station by the name of Kusumbhi to the following effect:

"A dead body of a well clad youngman is lying between Kusumbhi and Jaitipur Stations at mile No. 20/20. The dead body has wounds around the neck."

As Officer-in-Charge of Government Railway Police Station, Lucknow, I decided to visit the spot myself. I took one Sub-Inspector and a Constable with me and left for the scene with my investigating kit. A train was immediately available for that side. The small police party reached Kusumbhi station at about 3 p.m. and found Head Constable Sri Swaminath Singh of G.R.P. Unnao, anxiously awaiting its arrival. He had conveyed the message to Lucknow and had evidently received the information earlier. He had posted one of his Constables to guard the dead body.

Kusumbhi is a small wayside station on the Kanpur-Lucknow section of the Northern Railway. Both the broad gauge and the meter gauge lines run parallel between these two big cities of Uttar Pradesh. The distance is 48 miles. About two dozen trains run between these two cities during the 24 hours. There is a very fine motor-road also running parallel to the railway track linking these two cities. Its distance from the railway track varies from two to three miles at certain places but they converge on the bridge over the river Ganges. Unnao is the only important station on this section and is the headquarters of the district of that name.

From Kusumbhi, the police party proceeded to the scene about a mile towards Lucknow by the railway track, where a dead body, cold and rigid, of a robust youngman of 25 was lying, pale and grim, facing upwards. Brownish red patches of clotted blood were covering the wheatish skin of the face, which was otherwise serene. The tuft of his hair was twisted in a tangle with smears of blood. Underneath the head and body, blood had percolated and thickened into brownish colour in small pits. The gaze of the half-open eyes was fixed on the blue sky. There was a spray of blood dried on the ballast shouldering the railway track, which indicated that the victim was thrown from some moving train. There

was a blue striped surge suit, a neck-tie, and a black pair of shoes on the dead body. The neck-tie was also soaked and twisted in dry blood. The face and the body was covered with several knife wounds of all conceivable dimensions and description.

Sri Swaminath Singh, Head Constable, stated that he had received a Morse message from Jaitipur Station about the discovery of the dead body in the forenoon. The driver of a goods train which was running on the broad gauge from Kanpur to Lucknow had spotted the dead body and stopped the train. The engine crew, the guard and the Sainiks of the Railway Protection Force, who were in the train, alighted and examined the dead body. They searched the pockets and found therein a second class ticket from Kanpur to Lucknow. A purse containing currency notes worth Rs. 42/- and some pieces of paper, including a doctor's prescription of Shillong bearing the name of Lt. J.B. Khanna, were also recovered from there. They had deposited these articles with the Station Master, Jaitipur about two miles towards Lucknow. The guard also gave a short report of this incident to the Station Master to be transmitted to all concerned. It was under this information that the Station Master, Jaitipur, informed Government Railway Police, Unnao, and also the local Police Station. A police party from there had also reached the scene.

Since the dead body was found in between the two railway tracks and there was evidence to suspect that the victim was a passenger by some train, the investigation was taken up by me. Before the inquest was held, a few persons from the village by the name of Kunjpur were collected to act as Panchas. Village Kunjpur is situated about 3/4 miles south of the scene. Apart from other persons, one Pt. Manna Lal, the village Sabhapati, was one of the noted persons who attended the inquest. The inquest was held and the articles deposited with the Station Master Jaitipur were sent for and received at the scene. The following articles were significant for different reasons:

- (1) One Second Class Railway ticket from Kanpur to Lucknow with 17-2-58 date mark on it.
- (2) Two bus tickets of the recent dates from Shillong to Pandu.
- (3) A doctor's prescription of Shillong bearing the name of Lt. J.B. Khanna.
- (4) There were some secret letters purporting to have been issued by the military authorities from Shillong to the military authorities at Lucknow.

From these exhibits, there were reasons to infer that the victim might be a military officer, who had come from Shillong in the near past. It was also evident from the Railway ticket that he was a passenger by some train from Kanpur to Lucknow on 17-2-58.

As the evening shadows were lengthening over the horizon and the dead body was put on a hired bullock-cart to be sent for post mortem

examination to Unnao, 12 miles from the scene, we started our search for clues in the vicinity. Darkness enveloped us soon and nothing tangible was found then. The staff were deputed to collect some data about the sale and collection of tickets between Unnao and Jaitipur and I came back to Lucknow by a metre-gauge train. The journey by train from Kusumbhi to Lucknow in the night was also useful in the investigation of the case. I could see the headlights of the motor trucks and cars constantly plying on the road running at a distance parallel to the railway track. I could suspect that the criminals, if they were from Kanpur or Unnao or even from Lucknow might have got a lift in some of these plying vehicles on the road. This turned out to be correct during subsequent investigation. On reaching Lucknow, I gave the detailed information about the incident to the Section Officer and registered a case under section 302 I.P.C. at the Police Station. The military authorities at Lucknow were contacted during the night and they disclosed that Lt. J.B. Khanna had come from Shillong on courier duty to Lucknow on 16-2-58 along with Subedar Sri Dharam. They also informed that Lt. Khanna had gone to Kanpur to see Mrs. Seth, his sister, married to Mr. S.S. Seth, Income-tax Officer at Kanpur. They also added that Lt. Khanna had deposited his service revolver at Lucknow and he had only an attache-case containing some pineapple fruit for his sister. It was thought that he had nothing valuable with him.

Unfortunately there was no telephone at the residence of Sri S.S. Seth. It was after midnight that P.S. Kotwali, Kanpur, was contacted on telephone and details of the recovery of the dead body were given to them for further enquiries from Mrs. S.S. Seth. Information was received from there that Lt. J.B. Khanna had been to his sister's place on the 17th evening and had returned to Lucknow the same evening by 10 p.m. train. It became more or less definite that the victim was none else than Lt. Khanna. The Kanpur Police were asked to request Mrs. Seth to reach Unnao mortuary to see the dead body.

The same night, I made enquiries from the railway officials at Lucknow, who were supposed to have attended the train that left Kanpur for Lucknow at 10 p.m. on the 17th February, 1958. Fortunately the same staff were on duty after midnight, who had attended the train the previous night. Bhagwan Dass, one of the electric 'khalasis' who had examined the electric fittings of the rake of the train, told me that he had seen blood in a second-class compartment of the train the previous night. The same rake had come this time too and he took me to a three-berthed second class compartment in which he had seen the blood. This compartment was approximately in the middle of the train. The 'khalasi' told me that he had not seen anybody getting out of the compartment the previous night and also that he had not made any report about the detection of blood in it. He

A MURDER IN A TRAIN

explained that his impression was that some lady might have given birth to a child and might have detrained at some wayside station before Lucknow. I also contacted the Train Examiner In-charge of the washing line and he informed me that the rake of the train was drawn to the washing pit immediately after the passengers left it and was washed there. He also corroborated that one of the second class compartments had blood in it, but the khalasis, who had filled the compartment with water washed it thoroughly and made no report of the presence of blood. The khalasis and the Train Examiner also pointed out the same compartment as was shown earlier by Bhagwan Dass. The compartment was detached and sealed to be examined early in the morning by an expert.

At 7 a.m. on 19-2-58, Subedar Sri Dharam came to me and showed the identity card bearing the photo of Lt. J.B. Khanna. I identified the dead body as that of Lt. Khanna. Subedar Sri Dharam gave a detailed statement including details of the contents of the attache case which Lt. Khanna had taken to his sister. He also added that he could identify the attache case and all its contents. A Deputy Superintendent from the Scientific Section, C.I.D., Lucknow came with his apparatus in the morning and the railway compartment concerned was opened in his presence. Some blood stains still sticking to the walls of the compartment were taken by him and sealed in packets. No traces of finger-print etc., were found in the compartment. It was unfortunate that, due to the inadvertance of the railway staff, the compartment which contained blood of the victim and might also have contained the foot and the fingerprints of the culprits was thoroughly washed and all such evidence was gone.

At 10 a.m. the same day, the Section Officer, the Inspector and I along with a few men went to Unnao mortuary by a motor vehicle. Mr. and Mrs. Seth, a leading lawyer of Kanpur and motor-driver Budhai Singh were present there before us. They all identified the dead body. Mrs. Seth stated that Lt. J.B. Khanna was her younger brother and had been to see her on the 17th evening. He took his meals with her and visited Sri Ramnath Seth in Civil Lines, Kanpur. He was stated to have been sent to Kanpur Central Station by car to catch the last train for Lucknow. Budhai Singh alone had gone to see him off at the station. Sri Ramnath Seth had given hand of his daughter to the elder brother of the deceased.

Mrs. S.S. Seth also gave details of the contents of the attache case which contained nothing except some toilet articles and a tin of Nevias cream. She could identify the articles of her deceased brother. Budhai Singh driver stated that he had brought the deceased in the car of his master to Kanpur Central Station, where he bought a second class ticket and had taken his seat in a second class compartment of the train, which left Kanpur at 10 p.m. He also indicated that he had seen two youngmen getting into the same compartment before

the train steamed off from the station. He gave some description of these two men. The Civil Surgeon held post mortem and found as many as 38 incised and punctured wounds on the dead body and all of them were shown to be anti-mortem.

From Unnao, the Section Officer, the Inspector and I along with the police party motored to the scene again. A thorough examination of the scene and its surroundings was conducted, but no additional evidence was found there. After an examination of the scene, I went to the village Kunjpur and met Pt. Manna Lal. He informed me that an attache case with some papers and a blood stained pair of trousers was found abandoned in the fields about 3th mile from the scene. The articles were lying there and he had posted the village Chowkidar to guard them. I went there along with some other persons and found a flexible leather attache case containing some papers and some minor items such as a few small phials containing medicine, some buttons and an army medal. A blood stained pair of trousers was also lying about fifty paces still further to the south. This pair of trousers had several laundry marks on it and a handkerchief, a platform ticket of Kanpur Central Station with 17-2-58 date mark and timed at 21.00 hrs, were found in its pocket. The two discoveries were separately sealed in two bundles in presence of the Panchas.

The attache case was undoubtedly that of Lt. J.B. Khanna and the pair of trousers and its contents belonged to the culprit. By the size of the trousers, one could judge that the owner was short-statured and of stout built. The attache case was examined by the finger print expert, Lucknow, but no prints could be deciphered. The investigation was now divided in two main strands, firstly, on the theory that the motive for this brutal murder might be in some twisted personal relationship and secondly it might be due to the motive of gain.

From the place of recovery we went still further south and came on the motor road about three miles from the scene. There is a small bus station by the name of Nawabganj midway between Lucknow and Kanpur. There are a few brick houses and some tea-stalls sheltered in tin-sheds there. It was easy to contact a large number of inhabitants of this locality there and we learnt from the people that motor-trucks between Lucknow and Kanpur plied mostly by night and the truck-drivers took refreshment in these tea-stalls, which were kept open all hours of day and night. The stall keepers keep servants, who work in day and night shifts and the stalls are lighted with petromax lamps. They were requested to call all such employees as were on duty in the night between 17/18-2-58. All of them were collected and were separately interrogated. At least three of them testified that two young men had come to their stalls in search of a lift by a motor-truck going towards Unnao. They also stated that one of them who had only a 'banyan' and an underwear on kept away from the stalls, and the other had come to the stall and had ordered two cups of tea. He

also settled a deal for a lift to Unnao with a truck-driver of a motor transport concern of Birhana Road Kanpur. The stall-keeper also described the features of the two suspects which tallied with the description given by Budhai Singh driver of Sri Ramnath Seth.

On the 20th February 1958, I went to Kanpur and contacted the truck driver and the cleaner. They corroborated the story given by the stall-keepers of Nawabganj and also gave the same description of these suspects. They stated that the two suspects had got down from the truck at Babaganj Octroi Post in Unnao. I also collected the regular travellers by train between Lucknow and Kanpur, more specially those persons, who vend their goods in the train on this Section. One of them told me that one Kailash Nath of Unnao had with another companion travelled by the same train in a second class compartment. He also told me that he knew Kailash Nath from before and that he was vending goods in the train like him. The description given by him tallied with the description given by others. After interrogating these persons I made a search for the laundry marks on the abandoned pair of trousers in Kanpur. Hundreds of laundry shops were searched in Kanpur, but no success could be achieved. The same evening I came to Unnao and contacted the Station Officer, P.S. Kotwali. I enquired about Kailash Nath and he told me that one person of that name was arrested for cycle theft in 1956 and 1957 and one of his Head Constables was following up that case in court. I contacted the Head Constable who gave me the address of Kailash Nath and showed me his house. He also told me that the last hearing of his case was on the 18th February 1958, and Kailash Nath had attended the court with one hand-banded. An unobtrusive watch was kept at his house, but he was not found there. Information was collected and it was found that Kailash Nath was living in Kanpur in Mohalla Sutarkhana. In the early morning of 22nd February 1958, I rushed to Kanpur with a police party and manned every street of the Mohalla. At about 6.30 a.m. Kailash Nath emerged from a slum quarter and he was readily arrested. His body was examined and several small incised wounds were found in the region of his palms. The clothes that he was putting on, were examined and bore the same laundry marks that were found on the abandoned pair of trousers recovered near the scene. Kailash Nath was in a bewildered state of mind and he was taken by surprise with his sudden arrest. He could not make up his mind as to what defence he could offer. He was confronted with the evidence collected so far against him, and he came out with a partial confession of his guilt. He was brought to Unnao and his house search was conducted resulting in the recovery of some pieces of stolen articles. He declared the name of his associate as Rajola, one of his own relations. Kailash was sent to the medical officer for examination of his injuries which was promptly done and

the medical officer reported that the wounds were incised and could have been caused by a knife and also by nail scratches. The wounds were adjudged to be four or five days old. There were 24 such wounds found on his person. During the night, Kailash was lodged in a small lock-up of G.R.P. O.P. Unnao. I was also staying in front of the lock-up in the office room. At about midnight, Kailash started shrieking, and cried out "Save me, Save me." I was perturbed to hear his cry and found him clinging to the iron-bars of the lock-up. I enquired from him as to what had happened to him. He collapsed on the floor and stated that he saw a dreadful dream. Somebody was stabbing him with a knife. I found him in a confessing mood and he gave a full story of the crime and led police to a place in Kanpur, where he had buried the knife, with which he had stabbed the victim. Kailash was sent to jail in 'Pudlah'.

The laundry marks, which were found on the abandoned pair of trousers and also on the clothes that Kailash was wearing at the time of his arrest, were searched in Unnao and two laundries came forward with their receipt books, which bore the same laundry marks. The name of Kailash was also contained in the receipts. The laundry-keepers identified their laundry marks on the clothes of Kailash.

The arrest of Kailash was widely published and Rajola, his associate, went into hiding. Strenuous efforts were put to trace him out and ultimately he was arrested on the 26th of March 1958 in a village in the interior of district Unnao. He was also sent to jail in 'Pudlah'. He also confessed his guilt. Both of them were put up for identification and as many as eight witnesses out of 10 identified Kailash and Rajola was identified by all the 10 witnesses. These identifying witnesses included those who had seen the accused at Kanpur Central Station on the fateful train. Some of them had travelled in the compartment between Kanpur and Agra immediately before the commission of murder and last but not the least, the tea-stall keepers and the truck drivers had seen and given a lift to the accused persons immediately after the commission of crime. The laundry-keepers had identified the clothes of Kailash and the laundry marks on them. The Chemical and the Serologist's reports further pinned the crime on the two accused. The articles recovered were also identified by Mrs. S.S. Seth, Subedar Sri Dharam and the brother of the deceased.

A charge-sheet was submitted under Section 302/34 I.P.C., Section 394/411 I.P.C. against both the accused on the 5th of May 1958. Seventy-two witnesses and about 100 exhibits were listed in the charge-sheet. The case was tried in the court of Sessions Judge, Unnao. The accused were convicted and sentenced to death under section 302/34 I.P.C. and were awarded life imprisonment under Section 394 I.P.C. and ten year's R.I. under Section 411 I.P.C. on the 18th of October 1958.

Central Finger Print Bureau

S.K. Chatterjee

Director, Central Finger Print Bureau, Calcutta.

Object :

The science of Finger Prints has earned for itself a right place in the realm of scientific aids to investigation. Finger Print Bureau is an indispensable organisation in every State police force and so there is a network of Finger Print Bureau in India. For the past few years the need of a Central Organisation Coordinating the work of all the State Bureaux was felt. Therefore, in 1954, a decision was taken to establish the Central Finger Print Bureau on the same lines as those set up in United Kingdom and the U.S.A. The Bureau started functioning at New Delhi early in 1955. It was shifted to Calcutta in 1956 and has been functioning at 30 Gorachand Road, Calcutta.

Scope :

This institution records Finger Print Slips of all types of criminals, including international and inter-State criminals. This will reduce a large part of unnecessary work on the part of the State Finger Print Bureaux relating to identification (Search) work of inter-State criminals which is now performed by the State Bureaux themselves. Besides, the Central Bureau will also take up the examination of questioned prints on documents in criminal and civil cases in which the Government of India is involved, and also cases relating to the various Ministries of the Union Government. Examination of cases, either civil or criminal, which may be referred to this Bureau by the State Governments, will also be done. It will also act as a coordinating agent for smooth performance of finger print work between the States and the Centre by giving advice to the State Bureaux regarding their organisation, working and other connected matters, whenever occasions arise.

Records :

It has been estimated that this Bureau will deal with about 2,000,000 finger print record slips. At present it is actively engaged

in building up its records of F.P. slips which started coming in since September 1956 from the State Bureaux.

Classification System :

Considering the enormous volume of records which the Bureau has to deal with, the finger print classification formula has been devised in such a way that it will ensure a larger number of divisions for arrangement of files in order to enable the staff to do search work in as short a time as possible. For this purpose, a new expansion system has also been devised.

Training Class :

With a view to raise the standard of knowledge in Finger Print Science and discovering talented Finger Print Experts in the whole country, a training class has been instituted in this Bureau since October, 1958. Officers from the States in India and foreign countries are trained in this institution. The entire cost of training is borne by the Government of India.

All India Board for Examination of Finger Print Experts :

To raise the standard of expert knowledge in Finger Print Science, an All-India Board for Examination of Finger Print Experts has been established, with the Director, Central Finger Print Bureau, as its Chairman. Officers of the State Finger Print Bureaux with three years' knowledge in Bureau work, inclusive of the training period, are eligible to appear at this Board examination. Since the establishment of this Board, States have been directed not to declare their officers as Finger Print Experts unless they qualify in the All-India Board Examination of Finger Print Experts.

Laboratory :

A fully equipped laboratory and a photographic section with up-to-date appliances have been set up in this institution. It is one of the best in Asia and offers convincing proof, if any is needed, that finger print science has taken giant strides in this country and the experts continue to maintain a steady tempo of progress.

Research Section :

Research on various aspects of Finger Print Science is conducted here under the direct supervision of the Director, Central Finger Print Bureau.

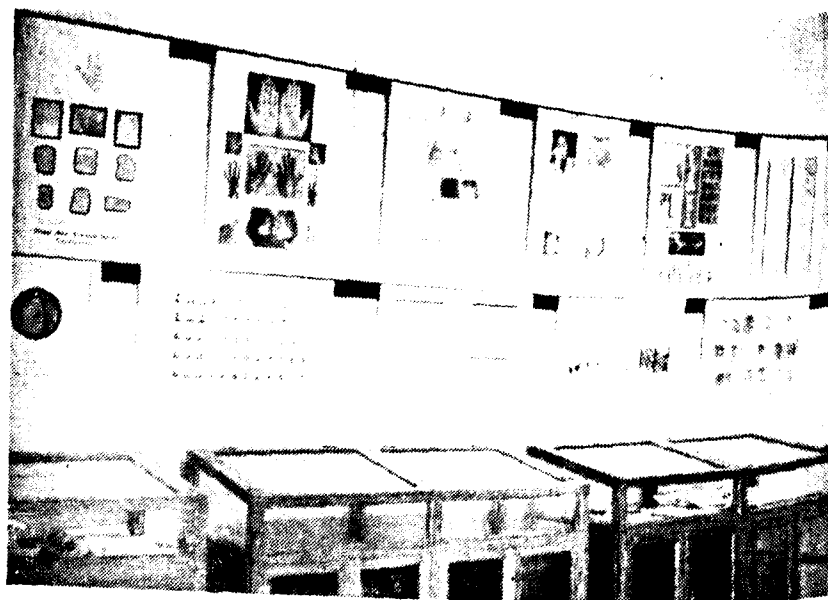
THE CENTRAL FINGER PRINT BUREAU



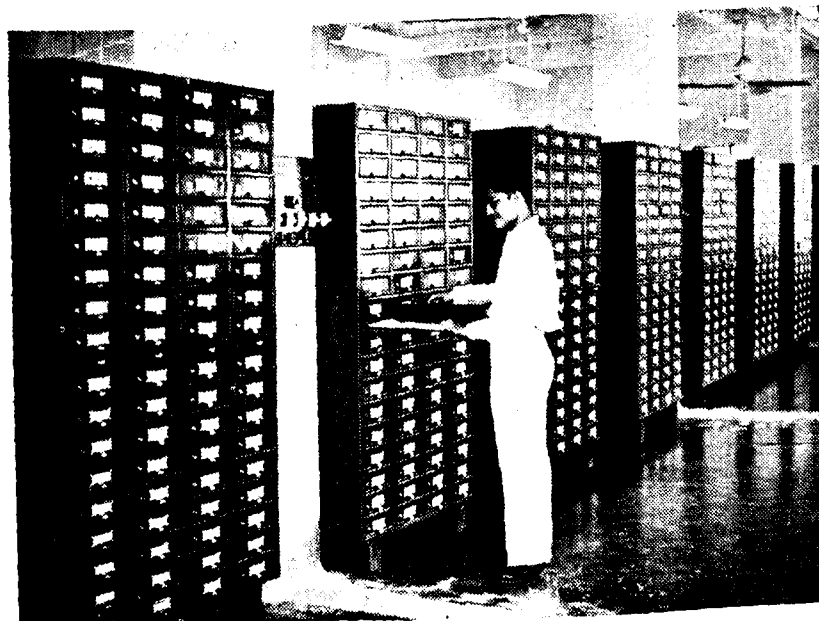
A view of the corridor of the C.F.P.B.



Training class.



Museum



Recording cabinets.



Index room



Technicians at work.

Museum :

A highly interesting Museum on Finger Prints, the first of its kind in this country, has been built up. Started on a modest scale, it contains news and material about every fresh and interesting development in the Science. It contains many objects of curiosity (some of them very ancient) pertaining to the history, development and other aspects of the Science of Identification from finger prints and other forms of personal identification. Posters, photographs, models and other exhibits illustrating various aspects of different Sciences for personal identification have been designed by the experts in such a way that they are bound to inspire and instruct students of criminalistic Science. The Museum also provides facilities for comparative studies of various methods of personal identification and undoubtedly helps in research work.

Modus Operandi Bureau for International Criminals :

The flow of international traffic into India is steadily increasing. India has not been excluded from the field of operation of international criminals, as frequently we come across cases of smuggling of gold, narcotics etc., by foreigners. In order to check the activities of these international criminals, a Modus Operandi Bureau for international criminals has been started here with all the circulars received from Interpol. At present, details of about 1200 international criminals are on record in this Bureau.

Weakness is the one cause of suffering. We become miserable because we are weak. We lie, steal, kill and commit other crimes because we are weak. Where there is nothing to weaken us there is no death nor sorrow.

—Vivekananda.

THE END OF AMRITLAL

AMRITLAL, son of Bhagwanlal Kirar of village Ganeskhhera, P.S. Pohri, district Shivapuri, one of the worst criminals of India, whose reputation rivalled even that of the notorious Mansingh, was shot dead in a village in the interior of Shivapuri district on the 19th August 1959 by a member of his gang. A menace to the peaceful life of the area lying on the border of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh has been lifted after nearly a quarter century, and in the villages of this area there is rejoicing.

Amritlal was born in 1915 and was educated upto the VIII standard in the Adarsha Vidyalaya, Pohri. Early in life he exhibited signs of the cunning, extravagant and exotic qualities which marked him out as a criminal of a dangerous type. Even in his student days he was addicted to thieving. In the year 1939 he was arrested for the first time in a house-breaking case of Pohri, but escaped from the Jagir lock-up on 26-6-39 taking away with him two muzzle-loading guns. In 1941, he joined the notorious burglar gang of Gopi of P.S. Jaswantnagar, Etawah, U.P., and he celebrated the occasion by pulling off a daring burglary in the house of the District Magistrate, Etawah.

The gang stole some 12 bore guns from a Kanpur Mill and began committing dacoities towards the end of 1941. Gopi was arrested in 1943 in Gwalior and was sentenced to transportation for life. Amritlal, commonly known as Babu Dilliwalla, assumed leadership of Gopi's gang and began a series of depredations in Agra, Mainpuri and Etawah districts which are remembered to this day for their ferocity and craftiness.

Some members of his gang were arrested in Uttar Pradesh and after that in 1946 Amritlal was arrested in Agra, was prosecuted and sentenced to 18 years rigorous imprisonment. While awaiting trial with five others, he escaped from the Kolaras Judicial lock-up of Shivapuri district. He was re-arrested in 1949 in Gwalior in the heart of the city and convicted again, but escaped from the Central Jail, Gwalior on 30-8-49. From this date, he embarked on a desperate career of brutality and crime.

Even in the early days of the formation of the gang, he was shot at by a member of his gang, who opposed him for his habit of womanising, and was nearly killed. This led to a rift in the gang and Amritlal discarded all the members from Uttar Pradesh and concentrated on obtaining support from the forest and hilly areas of Shivapuri and Guna districts and Sheopur sub-division of Morena district.

On 19-5-53, he launched a sensational attack on Kolaras P.S. with the intention of killing Shri Channilal, I.P.S., Superintendent of Police, Shivpuri, who had taken special measures for the capture of the gang. By chance, the Superintendent of Police was out, so Amritlal and his gang killed two constables and looted three rifles and two muskets.

In the succeeding years, he managed to establish a reign of terror among the forest areas of this district. His strategy was one of extreme cunning and each of his crimes was planned with a delibera-



Amrit Lal

tion and foresight, which could have matched a military operation. Every detail was carefully worked out. Every move of the authorities was known to him through a network of spies and informers, that was wide-spread and lucratively paid. His immoral habits, however, created enemies in his gang and in the district. At one time he was reported to have as many as 11 mistresses in one district alone.

A crime marked by daring and ingenuity of high order was committed by him at the house of the Raja Sahab of Umri, district Guna. On Dashehra day in 1953, he appeared at the Gadhi, dressed as a Kattha contractor, calmly walked into the house, past the sentries and captured all the arms which were being worshipped by the Thakur Sahab. After that he looted the house and secured property worth Rs. 75,000.

In February 1957, Amritlal entered into a Garna ceremony of the Thakur Sahab of Dhamnar in Guna district and removed arms and property from the house and kidnapped two Thakurs. In Madhya Bharat, before merger, a broad day-light kidnapping was done on the Bombay-Agra Road near Gwalior.

After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh, he committed a sensational crime at Palighat in Morena district. He intercepted a marriage party of Shecopur that was proceeding to Sawai-Madhopur (Rajasthan) and looted a bus-load of people depriving them of their ornaments and property worth Rs. 40,000. One rich businessman was kidnapped and Amritlal collected a ransom of Rs. 60,000 from him.

After this crime, a special intensification of measures against

tion and foresight, which could have matched a military operation. Every detail was carefully worked out. Every move of the authorities was known to him through a network of spies and informers, that was wide-spread and lucratively paid. His immoral habits, however, created enemies in his gang and in the district. At one time he was reported to have as many as 11 mistresses in one district alone.

A crime marked by daring and ingenuity of high order was committed by him at the house of the Raja

this gang was undertaken by the Government of new Madhya Pradesh. Under the direction of Shri H.S. Kohli, I.P.S., D.I.G., N.R., Shri B.A. Sharma, I.P.S., Officer on Special Duty, and Shri H.K. Pahuja, I.P.S., D.S.P., Shivapuri, measures were prepared taking into consideration the modus-operandi of the gang. A reward was announced by the M.P. Government which proved to be attractive.

While these measures were still under consideration, Amritlal struck again. This was his last important crime. On 6-3-58, a party of Holi revelers had gone to Sankade Hanuman temple on the Bombay-Agra road from Shivapuri. Amritlal descended on them suddenly and kidnapped 11 of them, all members of rich business families, and himself drove them away in a truck. Three of them who could not walk with him were immediately released, while eight others were kept by the gang for almost four months and released on payment of ransom.

The investigation of Sankade Hanuman temple case and the Palighat case showed that the only method of dealing with Amritlal was to cut the roots which enabled him to hold fast in the district. Special officers were appointed, special measures were devised and for months on end, a persistent attack was made to cut the roots which he had established in the district. Side by side, various schemes were launched against him. As a result of one manoeuvre, two encounters with the police took place on 4th of June 1958 in which the gang narrowly escaped leaving behind all their equipment at Budhanahar and Nawalpura.

This encounter could be said to have started the disintegration of the gang as it was evident to Amritlal that the Police had information from within the gang which had led to the encounter. He suspected that the location of the gang was conveyed to the Police by Mangal Singh Kheria, brother of Daulat Singh, an important member of the gang. In August 1958, Amritlal shot Daulat Singh dead. Internal dissensions in the gang now appeared to be acute and as a result, the gang split up into three parts. The Thakur group under Sultan Singh separated from the gang. The Shikari group under Devi Shikari went into another area. Amritlal was left with only two members, so he persuaded his brother-in-law, Motiram Marora, to jump bail in a dacoity case which was pending against him, and join the gang. Motiram was an influential person in Pohri. He was Sarpanch of the Kendra Panchayat and was the man behind the gang who arranged supplies, information and defence. But the difficulty of the police in the dacoity area in securing evidence in support of legal action continued because of the fear instilled in the public by instances like in which Amritlal killed six witnesses who deposed against him.

A quick success against the gang was achieved by the Police in December 1958. In an encounter with the police in Morena Dis-

trict, Sultan Singh was shot dead. Sultan Singh formed the hardcore of the gang. He was a dismissed policeman who led the gang in all encounters, and concentrated on the operational side, while Amritlal planned the crimes. His death struck a blow at the fighting qualities of the gang from which it never recovered.

With the help of Motiram, Amritlal reconstituted the gang. His suspicious nature, however, soon caused trouble, and in January 1959 Amritlal shot dead Tula Gadaria and began to suspect Losu Ahir, with the result that Losu fled from the gang. Ram Prasad, another member of the gang, also left the gang and was arrested by the police.

This weakness of the gang was fully exploited by a deliberate campaign of making Amritlal doubt and suspect members of the gang. Every new member appeared to him to be giving information to the police.

Amritlal's fears were, however, intensified when he was led into a police ambush on the 12th June 1959 at Unchibarod, district Shivapuri. He narrowly escaped. He had gone to the village to meet the wife of an ex-member of the gang with whom he had conceived an attachment.

About this time, Badri Kirar, brother of the second wife of the ex-member of the gang referred to above, joined the gang. Amritlal asked him to produce his sister failing which he threatened to kill him and his brothers. Badri began to nurse a serious grudge against Amritlal for making attempts to secure his sister for immoral purposes, and was encouraged to take action against Amritlal by a villager whose house had been looted. At first, he was not entrusted with a fire-arm, but later as he developed confidence he was given one by the gang. It was obvious at this stage that the break up of the gang was imminent and a forecast about the eventual outcome was actually made.

On the 18th of August 1959, the gang travelled in the night and camped in the Mahua grove, three miles from village Gopalpur (the home of Badri Kirar). After the meals were completed Badri



Motiram

volunteered to guard the gang, and later shot Amritlal and Motiram dead.

Two members of the gang (Bhagirath and Halke) fled to Shivapuri and appeared before the Collector with the story that they along with Badri had killed Amritlal. The Collector and the D.S.P. with the S.D.M. immediately left for the spot. They had to make a difficult trek through the hills and the forest on foot. The distance of the spot from the Agra-Bombay road was about 10 miles and could only be reached after a long march. Later in the evening they reached the spot and began their enquiries. Meanwhile Badri had reported to the nearest Police unit at Gopalpur and handed over two of the rifles that he had taken from the gang. Later he recovered the other arms which were hidden by him. Verification on the spot showed that it was Badri alone who had killed the two dacoits. The other members of the gang had run away because their arms had been taken away.

The return journey for the Collector, the D.S.P. and the S.D.M. was difficult because the bodies had to be escorted back over a difficult terrain. While one party was able to reach the Agra-Bombay road and motored up to Shivapuri, another party with the S.D.M. lost its way in hilly country and had to spend the night there. They were not able to reach Shivapuri till the noon. For this reason and also because the report of the post mortem examination had not been received, there was delay in releasing the report of the incident to the public.

The gang has lost its leader and four members, three others are absconding and efforts for them are being made. In addition to the arms found on the spot, property worth Rs. 4,000 in ornaments, cash and other articles, was seized. A copy of the pamphlet offering a reward of Rs. 20,000 was found in the effects of dacoit Amritlal.

There was a public demand that the body should be brought to Gwalior but the cremation was performed in Shivapuri. It was attended by Amritlal's mother and wife.

Thus ended the crime career of a man who starting from thieving committed almost every serious crime known to the law. In his active career of 23 years, he committed hundreds of serious offences in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and collected an enormous sum of money. His death will relieve people of a large tract of Central India from the fear of dacoity.

"Statement made by Shri Narsingh Rao Dikshit, Deputy Home Minister, Madhya Pradesh, in a Press Conference held in Gwalior on 22-8-59"

Role Of Biology In Forensic Science

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IN any scientific criminal investigation, examination of biological trace materials plays an important role. Biological materials are widespread and are scattered around us almost everywhere. So in criminal activities traces of such materials are liable to be transferred from one place to another. Trace materials recovered from the suspect from the victim and from the place of occurrence are examined with a view to establishing a close link between the victim and the criminal or to prove their presence or absence from the place of occurrence.

Examination of blood stains in cases of murder and that of seminal stains in cases of sexual offences is well known. In fact blood is the most common biological trace material which requires examination and semen is a close second. Examination of such materials mainly consists of detection, determination of origin (whether human or not) and determination of Group (O, A, B, or AB). Occasionally other biological fluids like saliva, sweat, tears, pus, urine, milk and so on are also encountered. Identification of such materials often furnishes valuable clues for the detection of crime. Besides these biological fluids detection of fragmentary human remains like skin and muscle in the articles seized in connection with murder or accident may serve as an important piece of evidence.

Examination of hairs and fibres is of considerable importance in scientific criminal investigation. The evidential value of these trace materials mostly depends upon the thoroughness with which they are examined in the laboratory. Hair is so important a physical evidence that it is essential to collect it in every case in which its presence is noted and it should be subjected to a thorough study in the laboratory. Examination of hair mainly consists of morphological and other physical examinations. From the result of such examinations an expert is able to answer the following questions which may be raised by the investigating officer—some of which may receive fairly definite answers, some merely tentative and some cannot as yet be answered with confidence :—

- (1) Is the hair that of a human being or of an animal?
- (2) If animal, which family does it belong to?

- (3) If human, from what part of the body does it come?
- (4) Was the hair cut? If so what type of weapon was used?
- (5) Was the hair pulled out or had it fallen naturally?
- (6) Was the hair dyed? If so, by what process?
- (7) What may be the approximate age of the individual from whom the hair came?
- (8) Is the hair from a male or a female?
- (9) Whether the hair has come from a particular individual or not?

Fibres from sources like clothings, furnishings, ropes etc., are often of much evidential value; and a large group of those fibres is either of vegetable or of animal origin. Many crimes especially those against person *e.g.*, homicide, rape etc., involve contact between criminal and the victim. In all such physical contacts, fibres from clothings are liable to be transferred from the criminal to the victim and vice versa. Therefore, identification of those fibres may furnish a valuable piece of circumstantial evidence in such cases.

Identification of a portion of plant or any material of plant origin *e.g.*, seeds, leaf fragments, wood bark, twigs, pollens etc. which are very commonly found adhering to clothings, weapons or to other objects connected with crime is regarded as botanical evidence. The examination of such trace materials requires the services of a biologist with a good knowledge of taxonomic botany. From the results of such examination, an investigating officer may be able to connect a criminal with the scene of crime.

Identification of very minute vegetable forms *e.g.*, diatoms and other micro-organisms in the lungs has been found to be useful in cases of suspected death due to drowning. In cases of death by drowning of diatoms growing in water get inside the lungs of the victim and, by detecting such materials a case of death due to drowning may be confirmed. Moreover, in such cases, it may sometimes be possible to give an opinion regarding the actual place of drowning by comparative study of such materials found inside the body and materials recovered from the suspected source.

In the examination of soil samples, the identification of algae is very important, because their species have been found to vary from place to place. Therefore, in making an analysis of soil samples, it is not only important to determine the mineral constituents, but also to determine at the same time the contents of place of origin of various fungi. Because of the great diversity of place of origin of various wingless insects, their detection in soil samples may also prove useful for determining any particular location or spot.

The detection of such organisms like moulds, algae and fungi

on the clothing or shoes of the accused often provides valuable evidence in connecting a person with the scene of the crime when such materials are found on the walls and floors of a building or in the soil. In sexual crimes, when committed in jungles or some marshy places, fragments of moss or fern may be found clinging to the apparel of the victim or of the accused or both. In spite of their diminutive size, they are very typical and their detection may provide a valuable clue for connecting the accused with the victim and with the place of occurrence.

The question of identification of a piece of paper may arise in many cases. One of the important points in the examination of paper is the determination of the quantitative and qualitative composition of the paper fibres. This composition is mainly a mixture of variable proportions of fibres like linen, cotton, jute, bamboo, straw, esparto grass, wood etc. Their identification as well as relative percentage determination are usually done by a biologist with the help of a microscope.

Toxicological analysis plays an important role in the scientific investigation of unnatural deaths. Besides chemical analysis, the use of biological test in the identification of poisons or as confirmation of results obtained by chemical tests is well known. In biological tests the test material need not in general be of a high degree of purity which is essential for successful chemical tests. The biological tests are very sensitive and detect quantities which are usually less than those required for definite chemical identification. Some of the well known biological tests for poisons like atropine, strychnine, abrin, 'bhang' and 'ganja' are very helpful in arriving at a definite conclusion; in fact, upto now there has been no satisfactory chemical test by which these poisons can be identified with any degree of certainty.

In the evaluation of skeletal evidence for forensic purpose such as determination of race, sex, age and stature, from skeletal remains, the role of such biological experts like "Physical Anthropologist" and "Anatomist" is indispensable.

Evaluation of dental evidence for the solution of identification problems, especially for the identification of victims of either accident or of crime, has progressed so much in countries like U.K. and U.S.A., that they have now given a separate name *e.g.* "Forensic Dentistry" for this aspect of science. At the present time, there is no organised body of experts in this field nor are there well-standardised clinical or laboratory procedures for the same in this country. At present, only such examination as the estimation of age, based on the eruption of milk and permanent teeth, are usually carried out in our country. Dental evidence has been considered an important factor in criminal identification because of two facts: (1) that there is very little likelihood of the dental characteristics of the two persons to be alike and (2) the high degree of indestructibility of the teeth.

The determination of the age of an individual may be made by studying the structural alteration of the teeth in cases where a single tooth or tooth fragments are encountered. Sometimes the structural defects in the teeth may help in the determination of occupation or habit of a person. For example, in the case of a heavy pipe-smoker, the crowns of the teeth at the angle of the mouth are worn down to form a lozenge shaped opening when the jaws are closed.

Like any other trace identification, the identification of biological objects cannot be done merely by the application of physical and chemical methods. For the determination of biological trace material, a special knowledge of morphology is essential. Moreover, experience in the field of vegetable and animal geography of the country is of significant help for the successful evaluation of such evidences.

It would be observed from the foregoing that the scope of application of various branches of biological science in the scientific investigation of crimes is fairly wide. But it is very unfortunate that our police investigators get very little help from our experts so far as this biological part of forensic science is concerned. It is because most of our laboratories dealing with forensic science do not have such experts on their staff and, therefore, do not undertake such examinations except stereotyped examination of blood and semen. Frankly, this part of forensic science has been neglected and its value has been underestimated. The application of biological sciences to the detection of crime will yield a rich harvest. In recognition of this, a well-equipped division of Biology has been established in the Central Forensic Science Laboratory and a number of very interesting investigations leading to definite conclusions have already been carried out. It is hoped that all the State Forensic Science Laboratories will give due recognition to this important branch of Forensic Science.

All pleasure may be bought at the price of pain. The difference between false pleasure and true is just this: for the true, the price is paid before you enjoy it; for the false, after you enjoy it.

—John Foster.

THE HUMAN TERMITE

D.C. Motwani

Inspector, Bombay Police.

A HEAD CONSTABLE of Vartej Police Station happened to visit Nari village about ten miles from Bhavnagar, on March 19, 1958, on surveillance duty. He was informed by a villager named Ramji that the house of his cousin Mahipatram had remained bolted from the inside and that no member of his family had been seen for two days. The intrigued Head Constable called witnesses to Mahipatram's house and in their presence broke the door open and went in. At once he stepped back, unable to bear the foul stench which emanated from an upper storey. Gritting his teeth, however, he slowly climbed the steps, certain now that he was going to see something dreadful. What he saw confirmed his worst suspicion. Toughened though he was by contact with crime and criminals, he gasped in horror when he saw a ghastly scene which contained every sign of brutal violence. Four bodies lay on two separate cots with multiple injuries on them. They were dead and the foul smell indicated that they must have been dead for many hours. The witnesses, who had accompanied the Head Constable, immediately identified them to be Mahipatram, his wife, son and daughter.

Without wasting time, the Head Constable sent information to the Sub-Divisional Police Officer, Bhavnagar, about the tragedy. The Sub-Divisional Police Officer arrived quickly at the village with four officers and started investigation.

The police learnt from enquiries that Mahipatram was a rich man and owned several buildings in Bhavnagar and Nari village. The fact, that the door had been bolted from inside, indicated to the Police that the criminal or criminals must have entered the house through some other means. The police carefully examined the house, which was situated right in the middle of the village. There was a small courtyard in the front surrounded by a compound wall. The upper storey had two rooms and a balcony which overlooked the street. The staircase leading up to the upper storey was on the right hand side of the house. After a thorough inspection, the police noted the following points:—

(1) The culprits had entered the balcony by scaling the compound wall. There were foot prints on the wall.

THE HUMAN TERMITE

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(2) The culprits had closed the front gate of the house from inside by going down the staircase from the balcony.

(3) Only one sharp weapon was used for all the four murders, because the injuries on all four bodies presented the same features.

(4) The ornaments worn by the deceased were wrenched away by the culprit in a savage manner by cutting the ears or otherwise slashing the bodies.

(5) The fact that the bodies were in a highly putrefied state, indicated that the murders had been committed at least two days earlier.

(6) No finger prints were found. The foot prints on the wall could not be lifted.

(7) The savage manner in which the injuries were inflicted and their number pointed to the conclusion that the motive could have been revenge.

Pursuing this last line of thought, the police made enquiries in the village to verify if anybody had serious enmity or dispute with Mahipatram on account of money or land transactions; but they got no useful clue. The police also questioned the neighbours about the relations between Mahipatram and his wife and about their character; but the locals spoke well of them in all respects and asserted that the deceased had no enmity with any one. The police concluded that the motive could have been plain robbery. The theft of ornaments and other valuable articles from the house supported this view; but in the absence of information about enmity between Mahipatram and anyone in the village, they could not draw definite conclusions as to why savage injuries were inflicted upon Mahipatram and his family members.

The next step suggested itself. The police had to find out whether any individual of bad character was missing from the village or from the neighbourhood. Several constables were sent to different villages in the area to check up on all local bad characters. This enquiry yielded useful results, for it was learnt that Tapu Giga, a tinsmith who lived in a house belonging to Mahipatram opposite to his house had not been seen since March 18 (date of murder). Enquiries revealed that he had gone to Nari village eight months earlier and had given out there that he was a Rajput by caste. The police located his shop and found it locked up. During a search of the shop, they picked up half-burnt sheets of written paper in one corner. An examination of the charred pieces of paper disclosed that they were some pages from a private diary of Mahipatram. This clue seemed to be promising and the police thought that, if they located Tapu Giga, they would be able to get a clear lead to the mystery. They made diligent but discreet enquiries which disclosed that Tapu Giga kept his family at Navagam, about six miles away, while he lived alone at Nari. Enquiries at Navagam disclosed that the family had left

the village a fortnight previous to the murder and that it was possible to obtain more information about him from his married daughter Savita, who lived in Ahmedabad. The police learnt that Tapu Giga's family belonged to Amreli district but nobody was able to name his exact village.

An all-out search for the elusive Tapu was then started. A Sub-Inspector was sent to Amreli on 20-3-1958 to trace him. Another officer went to Ahmedabad to locate Savita and ask her about the whereabouts of her father.

The Sub-Inspector who went to Amreli realised that his task was difficult, but he hit upon the idea of scrutinising the records of police stations in the area and conducting enquiries about bad characters there in the hope of securing information about Tapu. It turned out to be the correct line of action for, among the history sheets of bad characters in Amreli district, he came across one bearing the name Mayji Giga and this at once aroused his suspicion.

The records indicated that Mayji Giga belonged to village Chalala. The Police Officer promptly went there and with the help of local police located Mayji's house. Examining the house carefully, the police noted that a part of its floor was soft and appeared to be freshly covered with earth. This aroused their suspicion and while making a search of the house they found a trunk lying open on the floor. They removed it and, to their amazement, they discovered a recently dug cellar large enough and deep enough to accommodate a human being. They also saw some one covering inside and pulled him out. This human termite started whimpering and stammering and guilt was written all over his face. The police questioned him and found that it was Tapu. He was taken to the Police Station for interrogation. He admitted his guilt and was arrested. Meanwhile the Police seized from the cellar a blood-stained spear-head, which they suspected to be the weapon of murder, a pocket watch, gold and silver ornaments, clothes and a photo of Tapu with Rama Bai, wife of Mahipatram. They also discovered a piece of cloth bag which had a few strands of hair on it and seized it.

Although they had arrested the man who confessed having committed the murders, the police were faced with the difficult task of collecting convincing evidence to bring the offence home to him. The ornaments seized from Tapu had to be identified as those which belonged to Mahipatram in order to prove that they were stolen by the suspect. There could be two agents for identification, (1) relatives who had seen them on the person of Mahipatram and his wife and (2) Jewellers who had made the ornaments. Since no relatives of Mahipatram were able to identify them, the Police turned to the other possibility of obtaining information from the jewellers. They examined the account books of Mahipatram to trace the identity of the jewellers. They were happy to find that some account books

contained entries of stolen ornaments. With the help of details found in the account books, they traced the goldsmiths who had made them and examined their account books also. They found that the entries in Mahipatram's books about the ornaments tallied in all particulars with those in the account books of the goldsmiths, thus proving that the jewellery really belonged to Mahipatram. The same procedure was adopted in regard to the identification of clothes and other items seized from Tapu. The account books of cloth merchants in the village were examined and it was proved that the clothes also belonged to Mahipatram. They also questioned the local watch repairer on the strength of entries made in Mahipatram's books and learnt that the watch found with Tapu was in fact stolen from Mahipatram's house. With great difficulty the ironsmith, who had manufactured the weapon of attack, was traced in a village named Budhel, 16 miles away from Nari. Tapu's son Bachu made a statement to the police that the spearhead had been made 12 months earlier.

From the account books of Mahipatram the police inferred that a number of valuable articles, about which mention had been made in them, were not traceable in the house. They were certain that these too must have been stolen. They came to the conclusion that Tapu might have sent them to someone whom he trusted. The police records had mentioned a daughter of his staying in Ahmedabad. It was felt that she might, if contacted, reveal further useful information. The police located her in Ahmedabad with the help of a money-order receipt found with Tapu. Savita refused to help the police to start with; but, by a judicious use of tact and persuasion, the police induced her to produce some costly sarees and ornaments belonging to Mahipatram. She stated that they had been sent by Tapu to her through Bachu, his son.

Thus the police had built up a chain of evidence against Tapu. The find of stolen ornaments, the weapons of attack, and other articles from Tapu, the fact that he was found hiding in a freshly dug cellar, proved his guilt. One more point that required to be proved was how and when he went from Nari to Chalala. Independent witnesses came forward to offer evidence to prove that they had seen him going on foot from Nari to Bhavnagar, a distance of six miles on the morning of March 18, and from Bhavnagar to Budhel (eight miles) where he had stayed for some time. From Budhel he went to Mahuwa by train. This was proved by the statement of the Railway Station Master who said that on March 19 only one ticket was issued from Budhel to Mahuwa. Tapu went to Savarkundla from Mahuwa by train and then to Chalala on foot.

What was the motive for the murder? Tapu told the police that he had illicit relations with Ramabai. Ramabai proved exacting and demanded all of Tapu's earnings. Tapu surrendered everything to her in the hope of carrying on his romance with her; but his mis-

gress's greed exceeded all limits. His earnings dwindled and he was unable to meet her excessive demands. The result was that she lost interest in him and stopped giving food to him. Not only that, she dropped him from her favour and took up another paramour. Tapu became so intensely jealous that he murdered her, her children and her husband.

Tapu was produced before a Magistrate who recorded his confession. The Police, however, anticipated that he would retract his confession during trial and so took care to see that every fact stated in his confession was corroborated by independent evidence. Tapu was tried by the Sessions Judge, Bhavnagar, and was found guilty under sections 302, 394, 457 and 426 I.P.C. and sentenced to death u/s 302; seven years' R.I. u/s 394; one year's R.I. u/s 457 and one month's R.I. u/s 426. The Bombay High Court confirmed the death sentence.

Police Commission set up in U.P.

NAINI TAL., July 7. The Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to appoint a commission to suggest measures to reorganize the State Police Force.

This was announced by Mr. Kamalapati Tripathi, U.P. Home Minister at a meeting of the standing committee of the Legislature for the Home Department. Mr. Tripathi said the commission would have official and non-official members.

The Government proposed to launch a housing programme costing Rs. 1.14 crores for the Police force in the third Plan, Mr. Tripathi added.

—The Hindustan Times

The Madras Police Centenary

T.M. Subramaniam, I.P.S.

THE centenary celebrations of the Madras Police Force were observed for a week from Monday the 31st August to Monday the 7th September, 1959, in the city of Madras, and in the preceding week in the various districts of the State.

In the districts centenary was observed by organising meetings and sports. Distinguished men spoke at these meetings and appealed to the members of the public to render all cooperation to the police force in the discharge of their duties.

The celebrations started in the city on the 31st August, 1959 on a solemn note with the unveiling of a twelve foot memorial column in the premises of the office of the I.G. of Police by Shri W.R.S. Sathianathan, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, in memory of policemen who died in the course of duty during the last hundred years. The tablet at the foot of the column bears the inscription "Life's work was nobly wrought. The race was bravely run. His duty done." "To the memory of all officers and men of the Madras Police who laid down their lives at the call of duty." Requesting the Chief Secretary to unveil the memorial, Shri F. V. Arul, D.I.G., C.I.D., observed that the memorial focussed the attention of every member of the Police Force on his duties and responsibilities. The Chief Secretary expressed the hope that the lives of those who died nobly at the call of duty would serve as a glorious example to those who came after them. Floral wreaths were placed at the foot of the memorial by Shri M. Bhakthavathsalam, Home Minister, the I.G. of Police, Shri S. Balakrishna Shetty and other officials, and also by a 12-year old son of Shri Ratnam, a constable who laid down his life in the discharge of his duties.

On the evening of Monday, the 31st August, a pageant was taken over nearly eight miles of important roads in Madras city, terminating in the Marina, opposite the office of the Inspector General of Police, where it was reviewed by Shri S.K. Chettur, Home Secretary. The pageant consisted of 10 floats—each float depicting a landmark in every decade of the history of the Madras Police like the enactment of the Madras Police Act in 1859, the establishment of the Finger Print Bureau, the setting up of a Police College in Vellore, the introduction of Traffic Police and Wireless and the enlistment of Alsatian dogs to aid the police in crime detection. Congratulating Shri N. Krishnaswamy, the Deputy Commissioner of Crimes, Madras

City, on putting up an impressive pageant, Shri S. K. Chettur appealed to the public to render all cooperation to the police in the discharge of their onerous duties.

On September 1st and 2nd, the State Police Sports were held in Rajarathnam Stadium, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. On September 1st, Shri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, inaugurated the sports and on September 2nd Shri K. Kamraj, Chief Minister took the salute at the March Past of the athletes. Shrimati Balakrishna Shetty distributed the prizes. The stadium was packed to capacity on both the days. A gruelling 3,000 metres steeple chase, canine race, gymkhana event for visitors and fire works were the highlights of the sports programme.

Shri S. Balakrishna Shetty, I.G. of Police and President of the State Police Sports Committee explained in a short speech the various measures sanctioned by Government for the welfare of police personnel. He thanked the donors who on the occasion of the centenary had agreed to give scholarships to the children of policemen and hoped that the diploma course in criminology to be started in the University of Madras would prove useful and that the Forensic Science Laboratory would also be established before long. Shri Kamraj, Chief Minister, congratulated the police in Madras for the excellent service and appealed to the people to extend their full cooperation to the members of the Police Force.

To meet the officers and men of the Madras Police, His Excellency, the Governor of Madras gave a dinner party at Raj Bhawan on the 2nd September 1959.

On the 3rd September, 1959, a spectacular and colourful tattoo was held at the Corporation Stadium. Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, Union Minister for Defence, inaugurated the Tattoo and Shri Bhaktavatsalam, Home Minister of Madras, presided. Shri R.M. Mahadevan, Commissioner of Police, in a short speech appealed to the large gathering present to give their hand of cooperation to the police, who were their friends.

The proceedings started with the 'Reveille' played to the accompaniment of a record song welcoming the dawn, sung by Shrimati M.S. Subbulakshmi. As the sun came over the horizon, the men dressed appropriately formed the pattern of lotuses on the ground. Physical training exercises by a band of nearly 250 men to the accompaniment of Carnatic music, 'a human fort' formed by men standing in pyramid formation, an exciting gymnastic display, a Bhangra dance and 'a vanishing snake' formed by myriads of coloured lights were some of the items of the tattoo, which were greatly appreciated. The Alsatian dogs 'Yuvraj' and 'Chief' endeared themselves to the audience by demonstrating the recovery of a jewel-bag from a "wounded dacoit" and seizing another "bandit" trying to make good

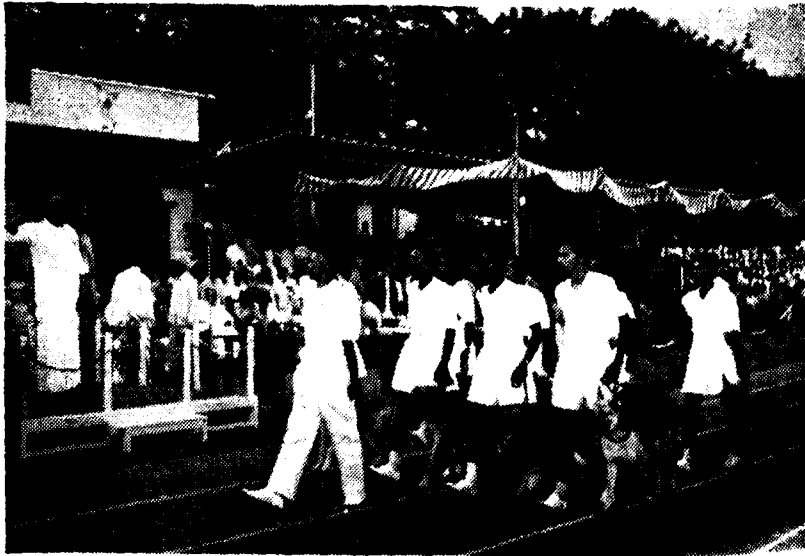
THE MADRAS POLICE CENTENARY IN PICTURES



Wreaths placed at the Memorial.



Sri Bishnu Ram Medhi, Governor of Madras presenting President's Police and Fire Services Medal to Srimathi Lakshmi, awarded Posthumously for gallantry to her husband Sri Kutta Muthan Krishnan.



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister of Madras taking the salute of the Madras Police at the States Police Sports.



Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Home Minister presenting the Red Cross Donation Draft of Rs. 35,000/- to Sri S. Balakrishna Shetty, Inspector General of Police.

his escape, amidst simulated exchange of fire between a police party and an armed gang of dacoits.

The admission to the tattoo was free and it was repeated again on the 4th September under the presence of Shri Bishnuram Medhi, the Governor. To avoid disappointment to all those who could not get admission to the tattoo on the 3rd and the 4th September, the I.G. got the tattoo staged again on the 6th, and the 8th of September.

A Medal Parade was held on the 5th September at the Rajaratnam Stadium. The Governor of Madras accompanied by Mrs. Ratnam arrived in State at 5-30 P.M. and was received by Shri S. Medhi arrived in State at 5-30 P.M. and was received by Shri S. Balakrishna Shetty, I.G. of Police and Mr. R.M. Mahadevan, Commissioner of Police and was conducted to the saluting base. After the national salute, the Governor inspected the parade which was commanded by Shri S. T. Thiruchitrabalam, Commandant Special Armed Police. About 175 officers and men were drawn from the Madras City Police, Malabar Special Police and the Special Armed Police for the parade. The State Police band was in attendance and the mounted branch in smart and ceremonial uniform lent colour to the whole display. After the parade the Governor presented medals to the 21 recipients. It was a poignant moment when the widow of the late Constable Kutta Muthan Krishnan of the Madras City Police escorted by two officers went to receive the President's Police and Fire Services Medal for gallantry awarded posthumously to her husband. Shri S.K. Chettur, Home Secretary, though unreading the citation, declared that Constable Krishnan though unarmed displayed outstanding sense of duty and courage in grappling with a notorious thief and pursuing him in spite of grievous injuries inflicted on him. Next to receive the President's Police and Fire Services Medal for distinguished service were Shri S. Balakrishna Shetty, I.G. and Shri O.L. Burrell, O.B.E., D.I.G. of Police. Other officers and men were given the Indian Police Medal for meritorious service. After the presentation of medals the Governor in a short speech remarked that the presentation of such medals would serve as an incentive to all the members of the Police Force. The Governor further observed that the Madras Police had a brilliant record of service and that it was gratifying to note that since the advent of independence, the relationship between the public and the police had improved considerably. Commending the work of the police in the field of social service, the Governor said that everything possible was being done for the promotion of welfare of the policemen's families. He concluded his speech with a hope that the Madras Police would not only keep up its high reputation but also improve on its previous record and become a model police force for others to emulate. The same evening the I.G. and officers of the Madras Police gave a dinner to some 600 guests from various walks of life.

The centenary week concluded with a public meeting held at Teynampet at 7 P.M. on the 7th of September, 1959. The meeting was attended by some 20,000 members of the public. After the introductory speeches by the Inspector-General of Police, the Commissioner of Police and other officers, the meeting was addressed by Shri Kamraj, Chief Minister, Madras, Shri Blakthavatsalam, Home Minister, Shri Subramaniam, Finance Minister and Shri A.S.P. Iyer, Retired Judge of the Madras High Court. The Chief Minister emphasised the need for increased public-police co-operation and reminded the police that they were the servants of the public. Shri A.S.P. Iyer, in a characteristically humorous speech mentioned interesting anecdotes about the police force and its work. The Commissioner of Police thanked the public for the co-operation and goodwill they had shown to the force in making the centenary celebrations a success.

After the speeches an interesting drama depicting police work was enacted. The leading role was taken by the well-known Tamil film star, Shivaji Ganeshan, who played the part of a Deputy Superintendent of Police. The drama brought home to the public the devotion to duty of the police and the hardships they had to undergo in the discharge of their duties. It also gave a glimpse of the use of police dogs in the detection of crime. At the end of the drama the actors were presented with souvenirs by the Chief Minister in appreciation of the help they had given in making the celebrations a success. Shri Shivaji Ganeshan presented a large shield to the police force as a token of appreciation of their service by the artistes.

The Centenary Celebration was also attended by delegates from Mysore, Andhra and Kerala, portions of which had once formed part of the old Madras Residence.

On the occasion of the Centenary, messages were received from the President of India, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister and the Home Minister of the Government of India, the Governor of Madras, the Chief Minister and the Home Minister of Madras.

The Prime Minister in his message stated, "I understand that the Madras Police is completing hundred years of its existence in September, 1959 and is celebrating this centenary. I send my good wishes on this occasion."

"I have sometimes criticised the police, but I have often wondered at the great responsibilities they have to carry and the quick judgment they have to make from time to time. Their's is indeed a difficult and delicate task and we should sympathise with them. At the same time, they should remember that they are constantly before the public eye, and in a democratic structure of society, the police are a part of the public and not opposed to it. Therefore, the only way to work successfully and effectively is to have the confidence and cooperation

of the public. If they have this, their work is made much lighter and their reputation is thereby enhanced."

The Home Minister of the Union Government greeting the Madras Police on the historic occasion of its centenary said, "The history of our country during the last hundred years had witnessed momentous changes. After the attainment of Independence, the police has assumed new responsibilities and duties. It is called upon to function as a guardian of the orderly processes of social living and a protector and defender of the fundamental rights and liberties of the citizens of a free and democratic country. I trust that the Madras Police Force which has over the years won a high reputation for efficiency and discipline will make this memorable celebration an occasion for dedicating itself anew to the service of the people and the maintenance of the dignity of the rule of Law."

In connection with the Centenary, proposals have been made to the Madras University for the institution of a post graduate Diploma Course in Criminology. A scheme has also been submitted to Government for the establishment of Central Forensic Laboratory with all the modern equipment and adequate staff.

A documentary film in Tamil entitled 'Ungal Nanban' ("your friend") has been produced by Shri P. Paramaguru, Dy. Commissioner of Police in cooperation with local cinema artistes with the theme that the policeman is the people's friend. The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, Shri P.V. Rajmanner inaugurated this film on the 30th of August, 1959, and also released a book titled 'History of the Madras Police' compiled by officers of the Madras Police.

The film brings home to the public topics like the importance of leaving things undisturbed at the scene of the crime and the utility of crime records maintained by the police, like finger prints, photo etc. Fifteen copies of the film have been prepared and are being shown simultaneously at different theatres in the city. It is intended to bring out a 16 m.m. film for exhibition in schools and in rural areas. A Hindi version is also proposed to be made for exhibition in North India.

The centenary provided a valuable opportunity to the police to give some glimpses of the various facets of police life and work to the public. These performances enabled the public to come into contact with the members of the Police Force of all ranks and to realise the valuable service rendered by the Madras Police to the community. This comingling has helped to increase regard and respect for the policemen. The good-will thus created is bound to generate more cordial relations in the years to come between the police and the public. The Madras Police in turn will look forward to rendering greater service to the people, surer of more sympathy and cooperation from the public than ever before.

THE POTTERS BAR GOLF COURSE MURDER

R.L. Jackson, C.B.E.,

Assistant Commissioner, G.I.D., New Scotland Yard, London.

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ON Friday, the 29th April, 1955, at 8.10 p.m., a Mrs. Elizabeth Rosina Currell, who lived in the vicinity of a golf course at Potters Bar, a small town on the northern outskirts of London, took her corgi dog for evening exercise, leaving her husband at home watching television.

At 9.40 p.m. her husband became worried as his wife had not returned and went to his front garden where he found the dog. He went to the golf course and searched for his wife, without result. He then informed the local police that his wife was missing.

Police searched the golf course in the dark but failed to find Mrs. Currell. Search was renewed at day-break the next day, and at 5 a.m. her body was found lying face upwards in the rough off the 17th green. Her head was severely injured and one of her stockings was found broken round her neck, as strangulation had been attempted.

The Officer-in-Charge of the investigation, from his local knowledge, realised that the footpath to the golf course taken by Mrs. Currell was used mainly by local people, being situated in a triangular area bounded on the west by the main Northern Region line of British Railways, on the north and north-east by a large farm known as "Bolton's", and on the east and south-east by good class residential areas of Potters Bar.

Observation had apparently been kept on the footpath by the murderer through a slit in a wartime built "pill-box" for him to select his victim.

A tee marker of the 17th green covered with blood and some of the victim's hair, bore a faint fragmentary palm mark in blood. This was the weapon used and was the only clue. It was found lying a short distance to the right of the head, covered with victim's knickers.

It was therefore decided, with the assent of the local residents and the co-operation of the press, to take the palm prints of all male persons over 16 years of age in the area.

About 9,000 palm prints were taken and sent to the Finger Print Bureau at New Scotland Yard. Comparing this large number of prints with the fragmentary palm mark, as well as comparing it with the thousands on record, we knew was going to be a formidable, tedious and long task.*

Knowing, however, that the mark in blood must be the murderer's—the prints of all persons investigating the crime and those of the dead woman having been eliminated—and having the whole-hearted co-operation of the local residents, we needed only patience and the keenness which are always characteristics of a good team of finger print experts, to identify the mark should the deduction that the murderer was a local man be correct.

To cut down the time of searching, it was vital that we should deduce, as far as possible, which part of which hand—left or right—was responsible for the mark. Bearing in mind that the only part of the marker which bore any ridges was the top of the metal stake where it was rivetted to the plate, the position of the marker in relation to the body and the trend of the ridges in the fragmentary mark, it was decided that it probably emanated from the base of the right palm.

This deduction, which later proved to be correct, narrowed down the initial comparison with the huge number of palm prints.

Owing to the very exacting nature of the task ahead, it was decided to form teams of three searchers, each team working on a weekly basis. This was done to ease the eyestrain involved and to prevent the searchers from becoming "stale".

Thus, every form compared by one searcher in the team was checked by the other two. No chance could be taken of this mark slipping through.

At the same time, other bureaux throughout the country were supplied with copies of the mark so that comparison could be made by them in their palm print collections, and with the palm prints of any person whom they suspected. This was done in case we were wrong in our deduction that the murderer was a local man. All forces throughout the country co-operated to the fullest degree.

In addition to the finger print investigation, there was, of course, the usual inquiry, whose ultimate success was the result of the untiring efforts of the divisional officers-in-charge of the investigation and their staff of about 30 who were responsible for thousands of door-to-door enquiries. There was the work of the Criminal Record Office where hundreds of files were examined and, as a result, letters sent to the chief constables of six different countries asking that certain men with

*As many readers will know, it is a British tradition not to keep the prints of persons unconvicted of any offence. The palm prints volunteered were given back in October, 1955, after the arrest of the murderer.

Records for sexual violence should be interviewed as to their movements on 29th April and palm prints taken.

In order to dispose of the palm prints voluntarily given by the local residents to assist police in their investigations in this case, the public were invited through the medium of press notices, to call at Potters Bar Police Station between 17th and 29th October, 1955, to collect them. A total of 847 sets were claimed, the remainder being later destroyed at the local Council incinerator in the presence of the local Chairman and the Clerk to the Council.

There were men known to have escaped from mental institutions. There were others without criminal records who had been in Potters Bar that evening and had since left. The letters grew in number until enquiries had been set on foot in 31 counties and 12 cities and boroughs in the United Kingdom by the Civil Guard in Dublin, the Provost Marshal's Department in Germany, and by the police in California, Canada, Australia, Eritrea and Ghana. Finally there was the unflagging enthusiasm and diligence of the finger print searching staff.

On 19th August, 1955, when the 4,605th set was compared, a young officer found the right palm which made our blood mark.

The palm prints were those of a young man, just under 18 years of age, named Michael Queripel, the son of a local resident.

When charged he made a statement of confession and at his trial at the Central Criminal Court on 12th October, 1955, he pleaded "guilty". In view of his age, sentence of death could not be passed and the usual order was made that he be detained "during Her Majesty's pleasure."

It should be noted that in this country sixteen ridge characteristics are the standard number marked on enlargements of both finger and palm prints to establish identity in courts.

This case once more proved that the success of an investigation does not generally depend on the work of a single individual, but of a team.

Even the most experienced police officer continues to learn a little more with each investigation. New methods have to be adopted to suit individual cases.

The Potters Bar murder was no exception. Although it was deduced that the piece of palm found on the tee marker probably emanated from the base of the right palm of the murderer, the possibility that it could have been made by any part from the joints of the fingers to the base of the palm could not be ignored.

It was therefore essential that the palm prints taken for comparison should be complete. It is a well known fact among finger print experts that palm prints taken by pressing an inked palm on to paper do not always reveal the skin ridges where the fingers join the palm, the centre of the palm, or the heel of the palm.

A sergeant from the Finger Print Branch at New Scotland Yard, who was assisting in the taking of the palm prints of the local residents, devised a simple but effective method of ensuring that the whole of a palmar surface could be taken.

The method is as follows:

The palmar surface is inked in the usual way with a roller, preferably one wider than the average hand.

A piece of good quality foolscap paper is laid over a round ruler

of about one inch diameter, with about two inches overlap (broom-stick cut into one foot sections will provide several substitutes in an emergency) and the inked hand is placed on the paper with the finger tips resting on the top edge of the ruler (Fig. 1).

The hand is then slowly and evenly rolled forwards, an even pressure being maintained on the finger tips with the operator's left hand fingers while the right hand controls the movement.

When the fingers of the subject have passed over the



Fig. 1

roller the operator's left hand slides gently down to the position where the fingers join the palm, to ensure even pressure at those points.

Rolling then continues until the whole of the palm has passed over the roller (Fig. 2).

The whole movement should be slow and deliberate to allow the ruler to take the paper into the various hollows so that the whole of the palmar surface is revealed on the paper.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

Fig. 3 shows a palm print taken by this method, while Fig. 4 shows the same palm taken by the old method. A comparison will prove the superiority of the new method over the old.

It is only natural that a temporary expedient should lead to a piece of apparatus to replace it if desired.

This is shown in Fig. 5 and it consists of a rubber covered metal roller of one inch diameter, with a free movement on a spindle supported by brackets on a wooden base measuring one foot by six inches by three-quarters of an inch.

The metal rod in front of the roller serves to keep the paper from sticking to the hand during the rolling process.

The new method proved to be the most useful in this particular case and will be generally practised in future.

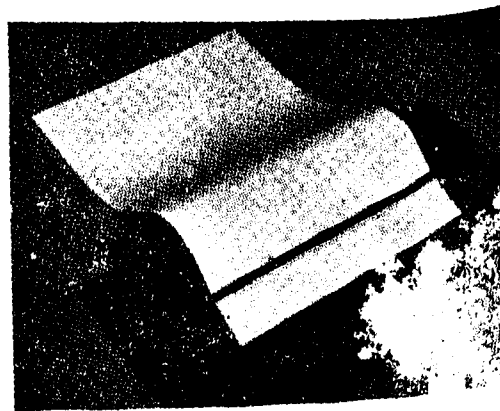


Fig. 5

CRIMINOLOGY AND FORENSIC SCIENCE AS SUBJECTS IN THE SAUGAR UNIVERSITY

AT its fifth Session held in May, 1950, the General Conference of the UNESCO wanted a general survey to be undertaken on the teaching of social sciences in the universities of various countries. Accordingly a detailed study was made and the UNESCO published a pamphlet containing information on the various studies being made in European and American countries. It was found that the universities in these countries ran both diploma and degree courses in criminology and forensic studies. In some universities, there also were special diploma courses for police officers.

This information was circulated by the Intelligence Bureau to the universities of Saugar, Madras, Delhi, Patna, Calcutta and Osmania, with a request that similar courses might be introduced in India, because the study of these subjects was likely to make a person better equipped for the functions of police officers, public prosecutors, lawyers or magistrates and other posts in social welfare organisations, which dealt with juvenile delinquency, women's homes, after-care of prisoners etc.

The purpose of instituting such courses is to provide facilities for a scientific study of the causes of crime and the economic, social and psychological conditions that lead to it. Such study provides basic and theoretical knowledge relating to:

- (i) the administration of criminal justice;
- (ii) the formulation and characterisation of the various criminological aspects of social units;
- (iii) the unification, co-ordination and stimulation of scientific research in the domain of criminal activity;
- (iv) the study of various methods—economic, social, psychological, clinical and remedial—of treating adult offenders and juvenile delinquents.

Thus the object is to equip the citizens of tomorrow to deal more intelligently and affectively with problems relating to crime. Saugar University has taken the lead in the matter and is the first in India to include the subject in its curriculum. The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Shri D.P. Mishra, took very keen interest in the subject and appointed a committee to examine and formulate a course of syllabus to be followed on the subject. At a meeting held on the 26th February, 1959, the committee discussed the various aspects of the problem and recommended that it should be

introduced as an optional subject at the undergraduate stage with the following combinations :

- (a) In the Faculty of Arts—Political Science, Anthropology and Criminology & Forensic Science, or Political Science, Psychology and Criminology & Forensic Science.
- (b) In the Faculty of Science—Physics, Chemistry and Criminology & Forensic Science or Zoology, Chemistry and Criminology & Forensic Science.

The committee further recommended that the idea of starting Diploma, Post-graduate and Research courses be determined later when the Department has actually worked for some time. The University authorities accepted the recommendations of the committee and have introduced the subject both in the Arts as well as in the Science Faculties from July, 1959. The syllabus of the course is as under :

Paper I

—Elements of Criminology : Bio-psycho-sociological causes of crime, Criminal behaviour, the effect of crime on society etc. Classification (Typology).

All subjects in the paper would generally come under the term 'descriptive'.

Paper II

—Treatment of Crime : Penology, Police, Judicial and Correctional administration (Institutional and non-institutional treatment of crimes and criminals).

Paper III

—Science of Crime :
Elementary Science and its application to crime under :
(a) Physics, (b) Chemistry, (c) Biology and (d) Ballistics, Criminal Psychology, Social Psychology, Economics and its relation to crime;
Elements of Forensic medicine.

The combinations of subjects permitted with Criminology are as follows :—

Arts Faculty :

1. Criminology, Psychology and Anthropology.
2. Criminology, Psychology and Political Science.
3. Criminology, Anthropology and Political Science.

Science Faculty :

1. Criminology, Physics and Chemistry.
2. Criminology, Chemistry and Zoology.
3. Criminology, Chemistry and Anthropology.

At the post-graduate stage, there would be specialisation in subjects covered by one of the papers. Paper I and II would probably be suitable for Arts and Sociology students and Paper III for Science students.

The novel feature of the subject has been to incorporate the study of the causes and the treatment of crime with the detection of crime, thus combining criminalistics, forensic science and scientific police methods with Criminal Anthropology, Criminal Sociology, Criminal Psychology, Penology and Criminology proper. For the degree examination, these subjects are grouped in three theory papers carrying 200 marks and a practical carrying 100 marks. The major portion of this curriculum is common to both the Arts and the Science students. However, Criminalistics and laboratory work in analysis of physical evidence are emphasised for the Science students, whereas for the Arts students a greater stress is laid on social and individual case studies.

The University proposes to engage one Senior Assistant Professor and two Assistant Professors and also to set up a well-equipped laboratory and a library.

The introduction of this course has been very enthusiastically received by the students. A large number of them offered Criminology as one of the subjects with various combinations in order to secure admission. The University has taken the following number of students in different classes :

B.A. 1st year	... 40
B.Sc. 1st year	... 20
B.A. 2nd year	... 16
B.Sc., 2nd year	... 16

Proposals for introducing the subjects are also under consideration with the Universities of Madras, Calcutta, Delhi and Patna.

To lose patience, is to lose the battle—*Mahatma Gandhi*.

The Midnight Burglar

N. Krishnaswamy, I.P.S.

BEGINNING from April 1957 a series of burglaries were committed in the bungalows of affluent persons living in fashionable localities like Adyar Mylapore and Nungambakkam divisions of Madras City which were so quiet and secluded that anybody could do anything stealthily there without fear of being caught or observed. The houses that the burglar attacked had expansive grounds full of trees which provided a convenient screen for him; in the case of a few houses there was easy access from the banks of the Adyar or Cooum rivers. The burglar operated in the small hours between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m. by climbing the drain pipe or the water pipe and getting into the open verandah or window on the first floor. Thereafter his work was easy. He collected all available cash, jewels, watches etc. and made his getaway down the main staircase and out through the front door. He had, however, a curious habit. On his way out he would check in at the kitchen and pantry and have his fill of whatever food was available there. By August 1958 the number of burglaries which had similar features totalled more than 40. The detective staff of the Madras City Police knew that they were up against a new and clever criminal.

The police immediately took some preventive steps. To start with, night patrols both in uniform and in mufti, were strengthened and tightened up. On several nights police dog patrols were also sent out. They were not, however, available every day or in adequate number to provide effective coverage over the affected area.

The second step taken by the police was to identify the criminal through the help of finger prints obtained from the scenes of crime. Seven chance impressions of the burglar were discovered at the houses, where burglaries had been committed. A comparison of these prints showed that four of the prints were identical thus proving that the same person was responsible for them. These finger prints, however, could not be located in the collection of finger prints of known criminals available in the Single Digit Finger Print Section of the Madras City Police. The police then sent to the Vellore Bureau the names and finger print serial numbers of all the house-breakers and house-thieves who had come to their notice during the past five years, both in the city and in moffusil areas. The Vellore Bureau got down to the task of taking out the finger print slips of all those who had been named and started examining them.

The third step that was simultaneously taken was to search among the modus operandi records for a criminal who had operated in a similar manner in the areas affected. The criminals who were suspected to have a similar modus operandi were listed and were eliminated one by one after enquiries and investigation until the whole list was exhausted. The problem of finding out the identity of the burglar was still not solved. It then occurred to the police that they might usefully examine the category of house-thieves who in the last few years might have matured into house-breakers. They thought it might be worthwhile to cast a wider net and enquire about the offenders who had come to their notice in the moffusil areas surrounding the City. One of the persons who came to notice in this enquiry was one Krishnan of Velacheri, a criminal who had had four convictions for house thefts in the City as well as moffusil during the preceding four years. Krishnan's house was only a mile from Adyar and initial enquiries disclosed that Krishnan had shifted to Alwarpet which was in the centre of the affected area. It could be an ideal base for his criminal activities in the area. Nothing more however was yet available to connect him with the burglaries. The fact that Krishnan had had four previous convictions indicated to the police that his activities might be known to others of his fraternity who might have come to know him during their sojourns in jail and outside. The police discreetly questioned their informers who were in touch with the underworld, but nothing useful came to their notice.

In the second week of September, the police arrested a known criminal (history sheetee) by name Kabali. Kabali who lived in Alwarpet knew every bad character in his area. He was an inveterate bungalow burglar and was one of those whom the police had suspected in a series of cases they were investigating. When interrogated by the police, Kabali casually mentioned that Krishnan and Sevidan of Velacheri had been gambling and spending money lavishly at home gambling dens in Alwarpet. Enquiries were, therefore, reopened against Krishnan.

Krishnan was arrested on September 15 for further enquiries. Soon after his arrest news arrived that his identity had been established by a comparison of the finger prints obtained from the scenes of crime with the one available at the Vellore Finger Print Bureau of Krishnan. Krishnan's finger prints tallied with those obtained from seven houses in which burglaries had been committed.

When questioned by the police, Krishnan realised that he was fighting a losing battle because the evidence against him was indisputable. He confessed that he had committed in all forty burglaries in which he had taken away goods to the value of Rs. 15,000. On the strength of his statement, the police recovered stolen property to the value of Rs. 10,000. Krishnan was convicted and sentenced to two years' R.I.

WELFARE WORK IN THE POLICE

B.N. Pathak

Bihar Police

THE subject of welfare work for the police personnel was discussed in the Conference of the Inspectors-General of Police held in 1958. It was agreed that welfare work was very necessary and the Conference recommended that funds should be raised by small voluntary contributions from all ranks and that State Governments should also be requested to provide grants-in-aid. In some of the States, welfare funds had already been started with voluntary contributions from the police officers of all ranks and some grants-in-aid were also given by the Governments. Police Welfare Committees have since been formed in several more States and funds are being collected there in the manner described above.

The welfare work, which has been undertaken, generally falls in three categories: (a) Work relating to the production of useful articles in leisure hours to supplement income. This is largely confined to wives and other women-folk in police lines, thanas and other police units, (b) Promotion of cultural activities among policemen, and (c) Social service activities and measures to improve health, food and educational facilities for policemen and their families.

Given below is an account of the welfare work done in two States viz., Bombay and Uttar Pradesh.

BOMBAY

In Bombay, as in other States, a special fund has been instituted and welfare work has been undertaken in several directions to improve the standard of living of policemen and their families. One of the drawbacks which the rural police suffered from was the non-availability of medical facilities. Even in towns policemen, particularly in lower ranks, found it difficult to meet their medical needs on account of their low income. Maternity homes and wards and clinics have been opened at several places for their benefit and the services of honorary doctors have been secured to serve them. Medicines and services of nurses are provided from the welfare funds for these institutions. The families of policemen are taking advantage of these insti-

tutions for improvement of their health. Small medical dispensaries have also been opened at several places. Twenty-six welfare centres have been organised in Greater Bombay and they are visited twice a week by mobile medical units. A mobile dispensary has also been started in Ahmedabad City and an outdoor medical centre is working at Worli. To provide first-aid in times of emergency, medicine chests have been supplied to all police stations in Sorath district.

Under-nourishment was another problem which required urgent attention. Several steps have been taken to deal with this problem. Poultry-farms have been established at many places, which provide nutritious food to policemen and their families at reasonable rates. Dairies are run at a few places to provide good milk at a cheap price. The profit earned from them goes into the Police Welfare Fund. Besides this, free milk is given to the children of policemen at various places. Several milk centres have been started to supply pure milk to policemen and their families at reasonable rates.

Education of children and their proper care was another important item in the Police Welfare Work. A number of Montessori and Primary schools have been started for this purpose with provision of transport facilities for the children of policemen. They are also supplied books and other articles of stationery free of cost at certain places. Children of policemen, who show promise by securing 50% or more marks in their annual examinations, are given scholarships, prizes and books by way of encouragement. Suitable help is also given to those boys and girls who pursue their studies in College. Children's parks have been provided at a number of places. The wives of policemen and their children take advantage of these parks for their recreation. In addition to this, recreation centres have also been opened and at some places, instructional films are exhibited with a view to impart education and entertainment. To add to this, radio sets have been purchased and provided to policemen at several places.

The question of activities concerning women of police families has also been given very close attention. The wives of policemen are still handicapped by lack of education, recreation and employment to supplement their income. Measures have been taken to help them, and school classes are conducted in Banaskantha, Kolaba, Broach, Madhya Saurashtra, Sorath, Surat and Bombay City to educate illiterate policemen and their wives. Tailoring, knitting and embroidery classes have also been started at a number of places for women to provide them employment, so that they could supplement their family income. In Broach City, a number of crafts such as weaving bed covers, spinning khadi yarn, weaving carpets etc., are

taught to the wives of policemen. In Poona City, five policemen and twenty-one women have undergone a course of training in print preservation. A Police Families Co-operative Women Producers' Society was formed in Broach district during 1955 and the products of the society are sold through the District Industrial Co-operative Board. About 40 women have been trained in Ambar Charkha spinning at the Ambar Training Centre started at Broach, where a building has been constructed for the Police Welfare Centre by about 200 policemen and women without any outside help. This building has a hall meant solely for the activities of women, policemen's club, grain shop and store room etc. At a few places, women have been provided with sewing machines on easy instalments plan to enable them to save tailoring charges.

An account of the miscellaneous activities started at several places in Bombay for the betterment of the life of policemen would show that Police welfare work has not only improved their conditions of living but has given them a new outlook on life. Most of the policemen in the lower ranks, who were cut off from social activities and current affairs, have now the benefit of libraries and reading rooms to improve their knowledge on various problems including police work.

Co-operative societies have been started at several places to advance loans to policemen for the purpose of liquidating their old debts or for meeting expenses of their own marriages or those of their children. Canteens are run at many places for the benefit of policemen so that they may get better food at low cost. Wells have been dug and water storage tanks have been constructed with provision of pumping sets for the use of policemen. A gas plant has been constructed by policemen for proper utilization of the cow dung of the dairy which otherwise was wasted. The gas, which is manufactured in the plant, is utilised in the recruits' mess and canteens with the result that a saving has been effected in the cost of fuel there.

Family planning centres have also been started in Banaskantha, Kaira and Madhya Saurashtra districts.

Welfare Work In Uttar Pradesh

In Uttar Pradesh also a lot of useful work has been done to improve living conditions of policemen and the members of the families. Women Welfare Committees were organised in all the districts during the year 1956 for this purpose. To remove illiterate whole time women teachers were employed and regular classes were held for those who were illiterate. In a number of welfare centres

books are supplied free and lectures arranged on the subject of mothercraft. For women who are literate, reading rooms have been opened at a few places where they can read newspapers and periodicals.

As in Bombay, Ambar Charkha training schemes were started in a number of districts, as a result of which the trained women are now able to earn a tidy sum for themselves. In Bareilly, 14 women have so far been trained to use Ambar Charkha with skill. In Deoria district, where spinning classes in Ambar Charkha were arranged with the assistance of Gandhi Ashram, the yarn produced was sold to the Ashram. Training in knitting, sewing, cutting and tailoring, embroidery etc., is also imparted at various centres. In certain districts women have been trained in crafts like soap-making. An exhibition of Police Arts and Crafts was held in Nainital which recorded a good sale of the articles. A number of prizes were awarded to wives of policemen to encourage them. Articles prepared by the Women's Welfare Centres in Gonda district won praise in the District Annual Exhibition. In the Sitapur Agricultural and Development Exhibition, the police stall received a lot of appreciation from the public.

To break the monotony of the welfare meetings, cultural programmes were occasionally arranged in which women also took part with considerable interest and gusto. In some Provincial Armed Constabulary units, variety shows and dramas were also staged.

Want of medical facilities was still acute at some places and great emphasis has, therefore, been laid on effecting improvement in this respect. Maternity centres properly equipped with medicines and other essential instruments, have been started with trained midwives in many districts. In Aligarh, Agra, Pilibhit and in Provincial Armed Constabulary units, doctors pay regular visits to such centres. Medicines, which are available in hospitals, are usually supplied free and arrangements are also made to purchase from the market such medicines as are not usually provided by the hospitals.

In most of the rural areas, lack of hygienic knowledge and sanitation among women led to harmful habits. Lectures on hygiene, cleanliness and family planning were arranged in almost all the districts. Prizes were given for cleanliness and quarters were regularly inspected by the members of the Women's Welfare Committees for this purpose. Trained nurses and midwives have been appointed in all the districts to attend on women during their illness. As malnourishment still continued to be a problem, particularly among women and children, special attention was paid to distribu-



Paintings by Policemen on display at the Exhibition in the Cultural Meet held at Nainital.



A scene from the cultural item performed by the children of policemen during the Cultural Meet at Nainital.

tion of free milk powder in almost all districts to expectant mothers. In Etah, arrangements were made to supply fresh milk daily for 10 days to women after delivery. In Mathura, butter, oil, cheese, corn-syrup and vitamin tablets were freely given to under-nourished women. Skimmed milk is being regularly supplied to expectant mothers and also to sick women at many places.

The next important phase of the welfare work was taken up with regard to children. Work for children related mainly to their education, health and sports. Schools in the police lines have been started in nearly all the districts of the State. In Etawah for example, free books and charts were provided to the school-going children. Tutorial classes for the children residing in lines were also arranged in Etah. A school was opened in Kotwali Police Station in Bareilly in addition to the police lines school. A children's hostel was started at Faizabad for those who did not have accommodation in the lines.

Children's sports were organised in a number of districts. The Meerut Range Sports, in which children from various districts participated, proved a great encouragement to the children who received various prizes. A show of mass P.T. on this occasion won considerable appreciation of the public. Children's parks were constructed at several places with the co-operation of the Planning Department. In Etawah and Bareilly children organized dramatic shows which were very much appreciated by the public. The various shows arranged for the children by welfare centres included film shows, puppet shows, magic shows and celebrations of children's day etc. In certain districts, children were taught parade and P.T. and separate squads were organised for the purpose there. Training in scouting was also arranged for grown up children.

Careful attention was also given to children's health. A medical check-up was arranged to be held every month and progress cards were maintained for all children. Baby shows were arranged in the districts of Fatehgarh and Allahabad with a view to encourage the mothers to take better care of their children.

Various steps were taken to enable policemen and their families to improve themselves educationally, physically, culturally, socially and financially. Libraries and reading rooms have been provided to enable them to improve their knowledge. Community dinners were arranged to encourage better relations between the various ranks in the forces of districts.

Canteens were started in some police lines on a co-operative basis. They are run by the staff members themselves and bring considerable profit to the District Amenities Funds.

An Automobile Thief

Amiya Kumar Gupta

Inspector of Police, Calcutta.

HARIPADA DEY came of a middle class family from East Bengal. After partition, he came to Calcutta with his parents and settled down there. He learnt motor driving and soon got a job as a professional driver. He was a good driver and was doing fine, when the whole course of his life was suddenly changed by an unexpected event. He fell in love with a woman of loose morals and the infatuation was so strong that it completely swept off all his moral restraint and social inhibitions. The result was that he was willing to commit any crime, pay any penalty, subject himself to any humiliation to be close to her. The inevitable followed. Bad company and drinking bouts ruined him and made him penniless. He wanted money badly and was prepared to earn it by any means.

In the course of a drinking bout, one of his pals suggested: "Why not lift cars!" The idea appealed to him at once. He had all the qualifications for the job. He was an excellent driver and knew all the loopholes in the car registration departments. He knew whom he should tap for re-registration and how that could be done; he also knew the market and the increasing demand for cars at cheap rates. He knew the place for disposal of stolen cars and the parties to be contacted for the purpose. Finally, he knew the big margin of profit he would earn in this venture. He made up his mind to try his hand at it. The fact that this kind of activity was illegal did not bother his conscience. In fact, he was past caring for anything. He plunged headlong into crime.

Haripada first came to notice of the Calcutta Police in 1952 when he made an attempt to dispose of a stolen car. The original engine and chassis numbers of the car were filed off and new numbers had been punched in. This was obviously done to remove evidence of original identity of the car. He passed the vehicle through Chandernagore Registration Department by producing false papers to the effect that the vehicle had previously been registered at Dacca. He was successful, though temporarily. The Scientific Expert helped the police to resurrect the filed off original chassis and engine numbers. The papers, by which new registration was obtained, were proved to be forged and Haripada was convicted and sentenced to two years' R.I. by a Magistrate.

Haripada was, however, not perturbed. He fought hard against the conviction. On an appeal to the High Court, he was released on bail. The taste of success in his first venture at false registration of a stolen vehicle encouraged him and there also was the tempting prospect of earning fat profits. He stole in quick succession three motor cars in Calcutta in the course of eight months from September 1953 to March 1954 and sold them to different parties in Delhi.

On receipt of complaints from the car owners, the police started an investigation. The manner in which the cars were stolen clearly indicated to them that Haripada had been active again. They alerted all their informers and after obtaining information quickly, they arrested him and his gang. All the three stolen cars were recovered in Delhi from three different parties who happened to be bonafide purchasers. A number of forged registration certificates, as also a few forged tax tokens were recovered from them. It was observed that, in these cases, Haripada had adopted a novel way to arrange registration of stolen cars which showed that he had anticipated difficulties and had made provision for them. In one case, he approached the Jamshedpur Registration Authority, and, by showing a forged registration certificate purported to have been issued in Assam, he got a fresh registration number and got it endorsed on the forged registration certificate. In fact, the car for which registration was made did not exist. But it was done to utilise the new number of Jamshedpur for a car to be stolen later. He went a step further. To shut out the possibility of detection of this fraud, he later reported that the original registration certificate was missing. Against the forged certificate he got a genuine duplicate registration certificate issued by the Jamshedpur Registration Authority. When this was done, he and his gang lifted a car of the same model and make, for which a registration certificate had already been obtained. He synchronised the engine and chassis number of the car with those of the registration certificate. He removed the detachable number plates from the car and punched the number of the registration certificate on another set of number plates made out of aeroplane condenser, which was available in plenty in Kalwar shops. Punching blocks which were utilised for the punching of new numbers were also available in the market. With the car having a new number and the papers apparently in order, he and his gang went to Delhi and disposed it of for a good price.

Three months later, this gang sold another car, similarly lifted, to another party at Delhi. This time too, they got a duplicate registration certificate for the stolen car issued on a false report that the original registration certificate had been lost.

In his third deal which he made in March 1954, he avoided the botheration of arranging for a new registration number before committing the theft. He stole a car in Calcutta and after fixing a false

number plate of a number purported to have been allotted by Assam Registration Authority, he took it to Allahabad. There he produced a forged registration certificate representing that the vehicle had been registered at Assam. The Allahabad Registration Authority allotted a number on it without making enquiries about it from the previous Registration Authority. The engine and chassis number of this car were altered to fit in with those mentioned in the registration certificate in the same manner as had been done in the two previous cases. From Allahabad this car was taken to Delhi and sold to a third party.

In all these cases, it was a problem for the Police to establish the identity of the cars sold by the gang with the cars stolen by them. They were all Austin cars but the change of number on the engine and chassis, that had been effected and the papers filed, made identification a difficult task. Even then, the crimes could not be concealed long. The only possibility of obtaining evidence about the original identity of the cars, the Police felt, was by contacting local car dealers. This they did and received some help from them. They also made a wise move by asking for help from the Head Office of Austin Company in U.K. This proved fruitful, for the U.K. firm gave several suggestions to establish the original identity. With this help the Police again contacted the car dealers and succeeded in drawing up a list of persons who had purchased Austin cars recently. They were able to pin-point persons who had their Austin cars stolen by perusing lists of complaints of thefts in their possession and checked up their car numbers. Thus the police succeeded in establishing the original identity of the cars and also in tracing the altered cars to their real owners. It was proved beyond doubt that the cars, which Haripada and his associates had in their possession, had indeed been stolen by them.

Haripada found himself in a tight corner. His plans did not materialise and he was sent up for trial. In all these cases, Haripada and his gang were tried jointly. However, they were granted bail. In the meantime, the first case against Haripada which was pending before the High Court on appeal went against him and he was put in custody. Again he appealed to the Supreme Court and was successful in getting himself released on bail.

He became active again. In December 1954, he and his associate, named Satya Ranjan Bhattacharjee stole a car in Calcutta and took it to Ranchi. On a false representation that it had been previously registered in Krishnagore, they had it passed again through the Ranchi Registration Department on false papers and forged Registration Certificate. Thereafter, they travelled to Indore in that car where it was sold to a man from Bombay.

However, on March 20, 1955, Haripada and Bhattacharjee, while trying to decamp with a stolen Austin car, were arrested near Howrah Station with the car bearing a false number plate purported

to be of Krishnagore. A few forged blue books, screw drivers, stamp pad and false seals purporting to be from some Registration Authorities were also found with them in the car. The car which had been stolen two days earlier was found to have been fitted with a set of engine and chassis number plates with fictitious numbers punched on them. The difficulty in establishing the ownership of the car was however surmounted by a reference to the dealer who helped in establishing its original identity. While investigation was being completed and the evidence gathered against them, the accused persons jumped bail which was granted to them on the day following their arrest.

On 29-3-55 an Austin car was lifted in Calcutta and removed to Indore by Haripada and Satya. It was similarly passed through Ranchi Registration Authority on a forged registration certificate and on a false representation that it had been previously registered at Alipore. On the way, however, the car was involved in an accident near Jhansi. It dropped from the high road down on to a meadow below, following an attempt by Haripada to avoid hitting a passerby. He and his friend escaped miraculously. With the help of a breakdown van, secured from a repairing garage of Jhansi, the car was towed to Jhansi where necessary repairs were carried out. Eventually it was taken to Indore and sold to a party.

Soon after, Haripada again took a stolen car to Banaras, where he got it re-registered and tried to sell it. But the Banaras Police got scent of his move and seized the car. Haripada, however, managed to escape.

By this time, he had become broke. His plans did not work well. Dissipation had ruined his health and the constant flight from town to town as a fugitive from justice wore out his morale. Wine and womanising cost him money. The money, that he earned by disposing of stolen cars, had to be shared between himself and his partners. The dangers, strain and worries involved in such deal became too much for him to bear. In despair, he thought of a side business—opium smuggling; but the police were always after him. The hunt for him became more intensive and finally he was arrested with a seer of contraband opium in his possession near a Railway Station north of Calcutta. On interrogation, he made a statement on the strength of which two cars, which had remained untraced, were recovered. One was traced at Indore and the other at Bombay. They were seized from two bonafide purchasers. The original engine and chassis numbers had been removed in both these cars. But with the assistance of the distributor and the Scientific Expert, the police successfully established the identity of both the cars.

Investigation into these cases disclosed the ingenious way in which these crimes had been perpetrated by this gang, and the lacuna in law that made such operations possible. It was found that Haripada

took advantage of a provision in the Motor Vehicles Act which made the production of the vehicle at the Registration Department optional. It was also found that Haripada and his men stole Hillman and Austin cars of a comparatively new make, which were very much in demand in the market. The import restrictions had increased the demand and created a sellers' market. This made disposal quick and easy. It was also discovered that the gang operated during day-time in congested car parks in office quarters and were always after owner-driven cars of new models. The members of the gang would watch the movements of the owner of a car they had decided to steal. The watch was intensive and extended for weeks so that the habits of the car owner could be clearly ascertained. After this, the timing of the operation was worked out and the plan for theft was perfected. To meet the difficulty of opening the locked doors of cars, the criminals used to find out the key number on the switch lock of the car by placing a small telescope on the window screen to note it down. They would then get the key prepared from a car dealer. This was easy. The gang supplied the number of the switch key and the key cutting machines made the switch key. When the duplicate key, which could fit the door lock and switch lock, was obtained, the zero hour was fixed. Money was then collected for expenses for the run and finally action was taken without anyone suspecting that a crime was being committed.

Haripada and his men faced trial for many cases of theft of cars. This time, however, he could not get himself released on bail. His previous conduct went against him. All evidence, scientific, documentary and oral, was collected against him and he and his friends were convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

On February 19, 1958, his last case was decided by the High Court. He and two members of his gang were awarded three years' and two years' R. I. on two counts respectively.

The basic test of freedom is perhaps less in what we are free to do than in what we are free not to do.

—Eric Hoffer.



PROMPT ACTION TRAPS HOUSE-BREAKER

M. B. Chande

Inspector of Police, Bombay State.

SOON after my inspection of police station at Chandur Bazar, a remote village, on January 19, 1957, I received a special message. It was a report about a house-breaking case at Shirasgaon, eight miles away from Chandur Bazar. The Station Officer of that area had intimated that the house of Bhagirath was broken into and ornaments worth Rs. 2,500/- were stolen. He suspected that Amanullah might be the culprit responsible for the crime.

Amanullah was a surveillee of Balharshah, known as an old hand and adept in house-breaking. The police felt sure that he would make a bee-line for Balharshah with the stolen property. They were in two minds whether to go chasing him right way or visit the scene of crime before doing so, as was the proper and usual course. A constable who made inquiries at the village bus stand brought the information that a person named Amanullah was travelling to Amravati. The police were not sure whether he was the same Amanullah who was suspected in the case. All the same, the information helped them to decide the course of further action.

Balharshah is 83 miles from Wardha which can be reached from Shirasgaon by two routes, one by bus and the other by rail.

Studying the two routes, the police felt that Amanullah might have taken the longer route by bus to Wardha on his way to Balharshah because it was more convenient to travel by that route. Having little time to catch up with him, the police were forced to take the shorter route by rail to reach Wardha in time to arrest him there. The nearest railway station from Chandur Bazar, which unfortunately was an out-of-the-way village, was Badnera where there was a chance of catching the Wardha-bound Express in 45 minutes. The police decided to go to Badnera to catch the Express train. Badnera was 35 miles away and there was no public transport to it. However, they quickly engaged a taxi and raced towards Badnera.

When they reached Badnera it was 11:50 hours and they were disappointed to learn that the Express train, though running late, had already left. But a goods train was due to go to Wardha at 12:10 hours and they decided to travel by it. In order not to arouse any suspicion, they disguised themselves and pretended to be railway employees during the course of the journey.

PROMPT ACTION TRAPS HOUSE-BREAKER

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On arrival at Wardha, the police party searched for Amanullah on the platform but he was not seen anywhere. Only one constable among the police party, namely Majidkhan, had seen Amanullah previously and could recognise him. The brunt of searching the suspect, therefore, fell upon him. Majidkhan continued his search in the waiting rooms, railway platforms and yards, rest houses, bus stands and other likely places. Having ascertained that Amanullah had not boarded any train till then, the police decided to wait at the Railway Station until the departure of a passenger train for Balharshah at 21:00 hours.

Their plan was to raid Amanullah's house the next morning, if he did not arrive at the Railway Station on that day. They were quite optimistic however that Amanullah would turn up there. They posted themselves on the railway platform in such a way that they could watch all incoming and outgoing persons. Constable Majidkhan was asked to go alone to Amanullah, if he was sighted, and engage him in conversation. The police plan was to make Amanullah move towards the Station Master's office, where, with the advantage of a building on one side, they could surround him and prevent him from escaping. Amanullah arrived at the Railway Station soon after, unsuspecting and confident that he was safe. The police surrounded him on all sides and so held him that he had no chance of escaping. So surprised was he that he did not realise what had happened. He thought that it might be a case of mistaken identity. He told them indignantly that he was going to Balharshah and that he wanted to enquire about the scheduled departure of the train. It did not occur to him that they were police officers until the Inspector sprang a surprise on him: "Kion Amanullah Kaise Bhagirathe Zavarat Dedo" (What a chance meeting Amanullah! Please hand over the jewels of Bhagirath). On hearing this, he looked utterly dumbfounded. He stared at each of them in turn but slowly realised that they were the police and that the game was up. The look on his face was most revealing. He was searched and ornaments valued about Rs. 2,500/- were seized from him and were weighed by a goldsmith in the presence of two witnesses. The police seized the following other articles from him:

1. A cinema ticket dated 18-1-57 of the Sham Talkies Paratwada.
2. A bus ticket of 07:00 hours from Chandur Bazar to Amravati dated 20-1-57 in the name of Amanullah.
3. A bus ticket No. 19159 dated 20-1-57 from Teosa to Arvi in the name of Rajmal.
4. A bus ticket of 14:30 hours time dated 20-1-57 from Arvi to Wardha in the name of Rahimtulla.
5. A knife, sharp and strong enough to inflict injuries.
6. Cash of about Rs. 20/-.

Amanullah was arrested. Four ornaments, two rings, one nose-ring and a necklace, which were among those stolen were not found on him and the recovery from him of cash amounting to Rs. 20/- indicated the possibility of his having disposed of them. A team of police officers interrogated him thoroughly and obtained a statement from him.

The following facts emerged during subsequent investigation by the police which went to strengthen the case against him.

Leaving Balharshah on 8-1-1957, Amanullah reached Shirasgaon on 9-1-1957 and stayed there with his mother till 18-1-1957. This was proved by the entries in the station diary made on a report by Amanullah, a surveillee, about his arrival and departure at the Police Station. From Shirasgaon his journey to Paratwada by bus on 18-1-57 was proved by the mention of his name as one of the passengers. The recovery of a cinema ticket from his person went to prove that he had attended a film show at Paratwada where he had been seen by a witness. Presumably he had returned to Shirasgaon that night to conceal himself.

On the night of 19-1-1957, he broke into the house of Bhagirath by climbing a stable door adjacent to the house and scaling the walls. He descended into the house with the help of a roll of wire. The roll of wire was found lying in the courtyard. Some blurred foot marks found at the foot of the door went to confirm this method of entry. The finger impressions found on the tin box containing ornaments were identical with those of Amanullah.

After committing the crime, Amanullah met his relatives, Sayed Usuf and Sayed Jaffar of Shirasgaon, and sold to them a nose ring and a necklace for Rs. 35/-, and obtained a shirt and pair of 'payjamas' from them. The shirt and the pair of 'payjamas' were seized by the police who got the 'dhobi' marks on them identified by the washerman. The tailor who made these clothes also gave evidence of their original ownership. Even the purchase of the cloth was verified from the shop where Usuf's name was mentioned in the bill as purchaser. Confronted with this evidence, Usuf made a confession and the nose ring and the necklace buried by him in his shop were recovered at his instance. A case under Sections 212, 411, 414 I.P.C., was registered against Usuf, Jaffar and their brothers Hussain and Yassin for harbouring and helping Amanullah.

Amanullah's journey by bus to Amravati was proved by the ticket which was seized from him. His further journey to Arvi was also proved likewise with the help of a bus ticket. He was identified by a bus conductor. Thus Amanullah's guilt was proved to the hilt.

A charge-sheet was accordingly submitted against him and Amanullah was sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for one year. The appeal filed by the accused against the order was rejected by the Additional Sessions Judge.

POLICE NOTES

Crowd Control

"As a result a small incident can cause the mood of a crowd to change to anger or panic in the same way as a happy but over-excited child can suddenly burst into tears. The Police on crowd control duties are conspicuous, and high-handed action can, not only lead to ill-feeling between Police and Public, but could also cause a crowd to get out of hand. If you seize a man who has slipped through your cordon in a hair-and-trousers hold and push him into a monsoon drain, you can hardly expect your action to be applauded by the onlookers. On the other hand you will receive their approval if the young rough is gently but firmly put back in line."

"What is the best way of keeping a crowd back when it pushes forward?" I asked.

"Push them back with your open hands," he said, "not forgetting to look cheerful and tell them firmly and pleasantly to move back. At the same time exert some real pressure. If the whole police line does this together the crowd will automatically check for a moment, this pause can be used to advantage to keep them moving back."

"Another method is to link arms and thrust back against the pressure of the crowd. This is effective but requires enough police for them all to be almost shoulder to shoulder."

"You are more likely to find yourselves spread out about five or six paces apart. Even so, except for a particularly concentrated rush on that sector, you should have no difficulty in holding the line provided you are alert and active. Crowd control is not just standing in line. You have to be alert for any attempt to slip through, sense the mood of the crowd and always be on the move. Make it quite clear that you are ready to forestall any movement almost before it starts."

"Most people will move back when requested to do so, but you will occasionally meet a 'passively aggressive' individual who is reluctant to move. If you let him get away with it somebody else will join him and you will lose the initiative. Walk up to him until your chest is nearly touching his, look him straight in the eyes, and jab him in the pit between the nipple and point of the shoulder. Like this!" The Corporal demonstrated. I was taller than he was but I was obliged to step back.

—Singapore Police Magazine

Atom's Place in Identification Methods

Even when all chemico-physical methods for detection of traces in a criminal case have failed, yet there can still be a good chance of tracing the criminal concerned through the application of a new Radio Chemical method, when radio active Formaldehyde containing a radio active carbon isotope can get inside the secreted sweat substance, detectable in finger prints, through a process of condensation and reaction, as a result of which such finger prints become radio active. Delineations of finger prints thus obtained though this trick are thus rendered visible to the naked eye with the help of a particularly sensitive film or plate. Finally, they can be compared with the card index recordings. Not only day light, but, also, this radio chemical analysis can thus help in the detection of a criminal.

—Öffentliche Dienste Transport Und—
Verkehr (Germany)

Causes of Crime

Unfortunately for the nation and the police service there is no organisation in being capable of conducting a large-scale publicity campaign aimed at checking crime and criminals. There is, for example, nothing to compare with the network of Accident Prevention Committees; there is no organisation equivalent to the N.S.P.C.C. and, even worse, there are almost no organised departments for public and press relations in Police Forces. Of course, it is possible, like ostriches with sand, to bury the official head in imponderables and piously hope that the crime increase is not a real increase and that, if it is, no one will notice and that, if they do, no one will care. But that will be begging a large question, which may resolve itself into "Have not the police a duty to persuade people that crime is their affair, a reflection on them, needing the efforts to keep it under control?"

—Frank Elmes
The Police Journal (U.K.)

Prosecutors and Police

In attempting to bring the violator to justice, law enforcement is at a great disadvantage, as it always is in a democracy. The odds are weighted heavily in favour of the criminal. He can, and usually does, make careful plans before executing his criminal schemes. He selects his own time to strike on a battleground of his choice. Invariably the element of surprise is his. Therefore, as you gentlemen

know from bitter experience, few counterattacks can be launched by police or prosecutor until an overt criminal act has been committed. Then the onerous task of tracking down the perpetrator is begun, often without the aid of a witness or a clue. In a large city, such as New York, that might mean any one of some eight million people. Questioning each of them would be physical impossibility; and even if this were possible, each would have the legal right to refrain from answering questions.

Where we develop information pointing to a suspect, he must and should be accorded the many important legal rights that safeguard him. Before an arrest can be made, probable cause must be shown. There are also many other restrictions, including those against entrapment and unauthorised searches and seizures to obtain evidence. But what is or is not legally permissible as an investigatory technique frequently turns on hairline court decisions.

Too often the public, and the courts too, if you please, fail to realize the grave responsibilities and problems that confront the police officer in the daily performance of his duties. He is required by law to preserve public peace, protect life and property, to prevent crime and to arrest those who violate the law. This is a large order.

—Stephen P. Kennedy
The Journal of Criminal Law,
Criminology and Police Science (U.S.A.)

Photography as Index in Criminal Case

In an effective manner it helps in the identification of individuals and gives in the course of fixing the place of occurrence of a crime, a true reproduction of any material object found, even then when in a particular case a correct sketch of such an incident has already been made. Also within the framework of criminology the photography of today has found its special application. Possibilities of clarification of many a crime, the inaccuracies of alibis or statements have been more often than not demonstrated with the help of photographic snapshots. Thus recently success was achieved through photographic "freezing" of all those persons who as witnesses in a traffic accident took to their heels and later stood as innocent. Inquisitive spectators in the immediate vicinity of that place, to confirm their alibi and to prove the presence of these obstinately lying criminals at the place of occurrence which, otherwise, would have been well-nigh impossible. Thereby an irrefutable index of evidence could be provided through photography.

The photography of the place of occurrence of bloody crimes or incendiary acts, serious burglaries, crimes involving the use of explo-

sives, railway and other traffic accidents etc., is now-a-days the order of the day with the investigating machineries and organs. In this connection it need scarcely be emphasised that the filming of the place of occurrence of a crime in all details and from different angles for the recording of all circumstantial evidence, which for the time being might escape the notice of an eye-witness for being considered as unimportant and as such not worth mentioning, can still assume the significance of an important index later.

—Offentliche Sicherheit
(Austria).

The Law's Delays

The need for speedy justice is emphasised by Mr. E.J. Dodd, the Chief Constable of Birmingham, in a comment on the continued rise in crime. What he is concerned about is the length of time which elapses between arrest and trial. Prisoners released on bail, as the police know only too well, frequently celebrate their freedom by committing further crimes while awaiting trial, and the longer they wait the more likely it is that yet another crime will call for investigation and report. It is in the interests of the community that persons accused of serious crime should stand their trial at Sessions or Assizes without being given this opportunity for a final fling, and many police officers will share the view expressed by Mr. Dodd that a speeding up of trials might well have marked effect upon the incidence of crime. In Birmingham there is urgent need for any measure which will check the rising tide of crime. A further increase of 16.6 per cent in reported crimes was recorded in 1958, bringing the aggregate increase during the past three years to 47 per cent. The number of indictable offences per 1,000 population is now 15.6 compared with 10.4 in 1955 and 7.8 in 1939. If the law's delays are contributing to this sombre record the authorities now considering the reform advocated by Mr. Dodd should themselves lose no time in taking steps to make the administration of justice more effective.

—Notes and Comments
Police Review (U.K.)

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One thorn of experience is worth a whole wilderness of warning.

—Lowell.

Swimming The English Channel

DR. BIMAL CHANDRA, a 31-year-old doctor from Calcutta became the second Indian to cross the English Channel on the 10th of September 1959. He was to take part in the Cross-Channel race which started on the 27th of August 1959, but had to drop out of the swim as his pilot boat did not turn up at the starting point at Calais due to rough water and bad weather, which also prevented 16 out of 38 competitors to reach the starting point at Cap Gris Nez (France).

Setting out from Calais at 5.50 a.m. (I. S. T.) in the midst of mist which reduced visibility to about a mile, Dr. Chandra landed on the rocks a mile west of Dover within 14 hours and 50 minutes.

Crossing the Channel was a glorious climax to a 22-year swimming career of Dr. Chandra. Considering his swimming background, his performance was very creditable. Prior to his preparations for crossing the Channel, Chandra's swimming records had been confined to free-style events from 100 to 1500 metres in tanks and pools. He had never participated in any of the long distance races in the river Hooghly near his home-town. He had not done any serious swimming since obtaining his medical degree in the year 1953. He came to England only in July 1959, and had therefore only about six weeks for practice.

Dr. Chandra got his first lessons in swimming in 1937 when he was only eight years old. He won several junior titles the same year, although his grandmother used to tell the coach Shri S.P. Goswami that he would "drown him." It became a family joke when he became a champion swimmer.

Dr. Chandra made rapid progress as a competition swimmer. In 1944, he won the 800 and 1500 metres free-style titles in the All-India University Aquatics. He set up new records in 400 and 1500 metres events in the National Championships and dominated the free-style events from 1947 to 1952. In 1948, he represented India at the London Olympic Games and at the Asian Games in 1951 and stood third in the 400 metres. He was then the Champion of Bengal. He weighs 192 lbs. at present and is 5 feet 11 inches in height.

Another Indian competitor Miss Arati Saha, who took part in the swim on August 27, 1959 retired after remaining in the choppy water for 14 hours. Arati, who is 19-year-old, also hails from Calcutta. On 29-9-59, however, in spite of bad weather, she crossed the Channel within 16 hours and 20 minutes struggling against fast current. She started from the French Coast Cap Gris Nez at 6.05 hours in the morning and reached the English Coast at 10.25 hours in the night. She is the first Asian woman and also youngest to cross the English Channel.

Ahmedabad To Have Police Chief

Council Passes Bill

THE Bombay Legislative Council on Tuesday (September 8, 1959) passed the Bombay State Commissioners of Police Bill, creating a Commissioner of Police for Ahmedabad. At present, only Bombay City has a Police Commissioner.

The passage of the Bill was highlighted by a spirited defence of the police force put up by the Chief Minister, Shri Y.B. Chavan, who deprecated the tendency to run down the police.

Moving the Bill, the Chief Minister said that sometimes it was feared that giving more powers to a police officer would run against interests of civil administration. Old prejudices had persisted among some people regarding the police force.

From his own experience, he could say that the fundamental and basic qualities required for the I.P.S. were the same as those called for I.A.S. So, there was no reason to fear giving more powers to the police. In many cases, a person was found successful in both the examinations but was taken in the I.P.S. for one reason or another.

POLICE POWERS

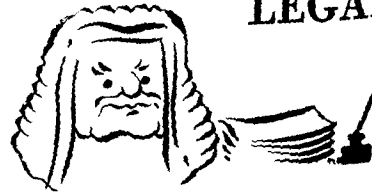
The Chief Minister said that some sort of confusion had been made in certain quarters about the powers of the police, for which there was no reason whatsoever. The police officer was certainly a serious man who had gone through thick and thin and was very much experienced.

Regarding the creation of a Police Commissioner for Ahmedabad, the Chief Minister said that the problems of law and order of this city were much the same as those of Bombay. Ahmedabad had become a big industrial centre and there were labour problems as well. The District Magistrate was the Collector as well and he could not attend to developmental activities along with his police duties.

After Shri B.S. Vyas (Jan Sangh) and Shri C.P. Mehta (P.S.P.) had spoken, the Chief Minister said that the Government wanted to remove whatever old stigma was attached to the police force. He felt that the police were as much Civil as the Collectorate. He had, in fact, come across some police officers who were somewhat better than collectors.

—The Free Press Journal

LEGAL NOTES



Police Inquiry

Where, on receipt of a complaint, a Magistrate directs a police inquiry under S.202, the police are bound to make a report under S.202, on the truth or falsehood of the complaint and, if they like, they could also take separate action under S.145, but it is not open to the police to decide that they prefer an action under S.145 Cr. P. Code only. By this failure to carry out the order of the Magistrate they render themselves liable for contempt of authority of the Magistrate. (1959 Cr. L.J. 742)

Confessions made to Customs Officers

Section 25 of the Evidence Act the term police officer is not confined to any strict technical sense but according to the popular sense. The powers conferred upon the Customs Officers are clearly analogous to powers of a police officer. The confessions made to the Customs Officers are therefore not admissible in evidence. (Case Law reviewed. 1959 Cr. L.J. 754)

Keeping of Surveillance Register

Surveillance Register kept under Police Rules is no more than a confidential Police record which enables the Police to perform its duties more efficiently. Maintaining such Register is not unconstitutional. There is no doubt that to apprehend a person who is alleged to have committed a crime or to restrict his liberty in any way would be illegal but to keep watch over a bad character cannot be said to infringe any right given to him under the Constitution or by any law. The rules quite clearly lay down that the surveillance register is a confidential document and an entry made in it does not affect the personal liberty of the individual in any way. Therefore, it is not necessary that any notice should be given to the person concerned.

before his name is entered in this register. If his personal liberty is at any time interfered with, then the aggrieved person has a clear remedy under law.
(1959 Cr. L.J. 900)

Forms Of Abetment

According to S. 107 a person abets the doing of a thing when he instigates any person to do a thing or engages with one or more other person or persons in any conspiracy for the doing of that thing or intentionally aids, by any act or illegal omission the doing of that thing. In either of the first two cases it is immaterial for the conviction of the abettor whether the person instigated commits the offence or not or the persons conspiring together actually carry out the objects of the conspiracy.

In the case of abetment by aid a person can be said to abet by aiding only when by the commission of an act he intends to facilitate the commission of the offence and does facilitate the commission thereof. Therefore where a person is charged with abetment by aid of an offence under S. 161 and the person charged with the offence is acquitted on the ground that he had not committed the offence, no question of intentionally aiding by any act or omission the commission of that offence arises. Therefore whether the acquittal is right or wrong the conviction of the abettor also cannot be allowed to stand in the circumstances.
(1959 Cr. L.J. 917)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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2. The Police Review (U.K.)
3. F.B.I. Law Enforcement Bulletin (U.S.A.)
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18. Road Safety Notes
19. The New Zealand Police Journal
20. The Police College Magazine (U.K.)
21. Garda Review (Ireland)
22. Hong Kong Police Magazine
23. Singapore Police Magazine

Inland

1. C.P.T.C. Magazine
2. Madhya Pradesh Police Patrika
3. Arakshi (Bihar Police)
4. Madras Police Magazine
5. The Indian Journal of Public Administration
6. The Bombay Police Quarterly
7. The Patna Journal of Medicine
8. The C.R.P. Magazine

"The life of law has not been logic: It has been experience."

—Justice Holmes.