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## Police Science Section

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## EDITORIAL

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### POLICE SCIENCE SECTION

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At a recent meeting the Board of Editors of this Journal adopted a resolution affecting the form of the Police Science Section, edited by Col. Calvin Goddard.

Hereafter that section will include extended notes and abstracts on subjects that pertain to the work of the police and detective forces. Such contributions will take the place of whole articles such as have been published there in the past.

The Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory in Northwestern University is continuously engaged in research of a scientific character. Reports on some of this work have been published in our Police Science section. Beyond this we have drawn upon other sources.

Our new plan is expected to appeal to a larger range of interests than we have reached heretofore because we shall be able to enlarge the variety of subjects that we are able to treat. Moreover, it is anticipated that in every instance a reader, by addressing this Journal, can be promptly put into possession of the complete report on any subject that appears in our Police Science section.

From every laboratory that is really performing its function, in whatever field of science it represents, there are bound to emerge reports upon highly technical subjects. The members of the community outside the particular specialty of the laboratory in question do not understand these reports. They cannot be expected to do so. Indeed, if they could all grasp the meaning of every output of the laboratory we should have, in that fact alone, evidence that the laboratory is falling short of its full obligation to delve into what for the present is unknown.

This is a situation that narrows the group of readers of the full details of laboratory investigation. Under our new plan all have an opportunity to know what progress is being made and the technical reader is made acquainted with the source from which full information can be had.

ROBERT H. GAULT.