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Police Science Technical Abstracts and Notes

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POLICE SCIENCE TECHNICAL ABSTRACTS AND NOTES

Joseph D. Nicol*

Classification and Identification of Criminal Handwritings in New South Wales—Detective-Constable 1/C P. F. Clark, *The Australian Police Journal*, 6: (4) 276-284 (October, 1952). The article describes how specimens of handwriting are obtained from persons arrested for frauds and for sex offenses, including the writing of obscene matter. The classification is done by the Lee and Abbey system, and files have been maintained since April 1946. (Submitted by Ordway Hilton)

Interviewing Persons and Interrogating Suspects—Detective-Inspector C. E. North, *The Australian Police Journal*, 6: (4) 286-297 (October, 1952). The article discusses in a practical way the problem of interviewing witnesses and of interrogating criminal suspects. The author considers in connection with interviewing the importance of tact, instinct, and psychology. Fifteen points which will assist the police investigator are set forth together with six reasons why people may not wish to be involved in a criminal action. In connection with the interrogation of suspects and accused persons Detective-Inspector North discusses the Judges' rules, which are applicable through the British Commonwealth, and then continues with practical suggestions concerning criminal interrogation. (Submitted by Ordway Hilton)

Weapon Information—The American Rifleman, according to M. D. Waite, National Rifle Association Technical Service, the N. R. A., 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., has amassed considerable information concerning domestic and foreign guns and will publish rifling data, where known, along with other weapon information in the Dope Bag section of the Rifleman.

S D-19a The World's Most Powerful Developer—B. Schwalberg, *Photography*, 32: 40-5, 118-21 (March, 1953). Police photographers who have attempted to photograph illegal activities by existing light will welcome this new formulation which permits ASA ratings of 1,000 for Kodak Super-XX and Plus-X without too much increase in grain. Solution A: 20 cc of 0.2% sol. Anti-Fog #2, 1.6 gm hydrazine dihydrochloride, water to make 30.0 cc. Solution B: 1 liter of D19. 30 cc of Solution A is used per liter of Solution B. At 68-72°F the working time for 35 mm. Super-XX is 9-11 min.

Setting Up a Latent Finger Print Index—O. O. Griffiths, *Finger Print Magazine*, 34: 3-12, 16 (January, 1953). The problems and methods of restoring the Latent Finger Print Index at Singapore, Malaya after the Japanese occupations are discussed. Of particular interest is a copy of the memorandum sent to investigators for whom a successful crime scene fingerprint search has been conducted. This reminds the investigator of his obligation to prove that the impression could not have been made by the suspect legitimately before or after crime, to prove ownership of objects bearing prints, to prove connection of print to scene, and to prove chain of custody.

Calibration of Projectiles Lodged in the Interior of the Human Body—C. G. Chabot, *Identification News*, 2:4-5, (June, 1952). In cases where the pro-

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jectile cannot be removed without seriously endangering the life of the shooting victim, the caliber of the projectile can be determined by X-rays. Lateral and dorsal pictures are used to locate the bullet, and then an X-ray photograph is taken of known specimens using the same target to subject to film distances. By comparing the known images with the questioned images the caliber and type may be determined.

Second International Conference on Alcohol and Traffic—*Test Talk*, 4:1 (December, 1953). The Second International Conference on Alcohol and Traffic is to be held at the University of Toronto on September 9th to 12th, inclusive. H. David Archibald, Executive Director, Alcoholism Research Foundation, 28 Avenue Road, Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada is the secretary of the conference planning committee.

Recognition, Collection, and Preservation of Physical Evidence—S. L. Stevens, *International Association of Arson Investigators*, 3:63-74 (October, 1952). A discussion of several cases of successful investigation of incendiary fires.

Developing Information in Investigations—John Kennedy, *International Association of Arson Investigators*, 3:43-55 (October, 1952). Suggestions are made as to procedure for investigating a suspicious fire; both as to fire scene and other sources of information.

Legal Evidence in Arson Cases—W. J. Davis, *International Association of Arson Investigators*, 3:12-21 (October, 1952). A survey of Law of Evidence.

Flash Fires? Foey—J. J. Ahern, *International Association of Arson Investigators*, 3:9-10 (October, 1952). Prof. Ahern questions the use of the term "flash fire" to describe many of the fires involving surface burning; only in the case of extremely fibrous material will the flame travel at a high rate of speed. A fire resulting from a room filled with combustible gas would be called a "flash fire".

How to Speed Up Ansco Color Film—E. F. Brewer, *Modern Photography*, 16:42-5, 83 (January, 1952). Police technicians using color film will welcome this article on a method for increasing the speed of Ansco Color to A. S. A. 40. This is accomplished by increasing the first development in the following degrees; 20% for $\frac{1}{2}$ lens stop speed increase, 35% for 1 stop increase, and 50% for $1\frac{1}{2}$ stop as in normal exposure development. Some sacrifice in color balance will be experienced, but this may be unnoticed at this level of increased speed. Also included with the article is a table of filters for correction of overall color of transparency.