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Police Science Technical Abstracts and Notes

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POLICE SCIENCE TECHNICAL ABSTRACTS AND NOTES

Joseph D. Nicol*

Eyestrain and the Fingerprint Classifier—K. D. Leaver, *The Police Journal* (London), 26:112-5 (April-June, 1953). The high incidence of eye trouble among identification technicians is a problem to technician and administrator, alike. It is suggested that some remedy might be derived from the use of green tinted fingerprint forms with purple fingerprint ink.

Gemstones and Jewelry—Robert Webster, *The Police Journal* (London), 26:150-9 (April-June, 1953). Ideas are given for accurate descriptions of stolen jewelry. Styles of cutting, metals used for mounting, and settings are treated. The following procedure is recommended in describing an article of jewelry: (1) Nature of article (Ring, brooch, etc.), (2) Metal of which article is made, (3) Stones (Color, name, and style of cutting), and (4) Setting (Claw set, millegrain set, etc.). A drawing, however rough, may be of more assistance than a wordy description. A short bibliography is included.

Police Statistics of Cincinnati—The 1952 Annual Report of the Division of Police of Cincinnati, Ohio, is now available.

Single Finger Prints—James Brown, *The Finger Print Magazine*, 34:15-20 (May, 1953). A discussion of the single finger print system in use in the Finger Print Bureau, West Riding of Yorkshire Constabulary, Wakefield, Yorkshire, England. It is claimed that the overall time consumed in classifying, filing, and searching is reduced by this system. A perforated card is used to obtain the file prints.

Fall 1953 Term—Southern Police Institute—The Southern Police Institute will hold its Fall session from September 21 through December 11, 1953. Applications should be made at least one month prior to the beginning of term.

Some Remarks on Police Interrogation—L. E. Louwage, *International Criminal Police Review*, Eighth Year, 114-21 (April, 1953). Various approaches to interrogation and the methods of reporting statements of the accused are reviewed.

Methods of Marking Playing Cards—R. Taupin, *International Criminal Police Review*, Eighth Year, 122-8 (April, 1953). Different methods of marking cards by altering their shape or applying varnish or coloring matter to their backs are explained.

Police Education at Brooklyn College—Brooklyn College will offer in its School of General Studies a two-year, 64-credit, undergraduate program leading to the degree of Associate in Applied Science with specialization in police science. The curriculum leading to this degree provides the student with

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a background of general education as well as with course work in the specific subject matter of his vocation.

The courses in general education include the usual college offerings. The educational philosophy behind this program dictates that a student should have a broad awareness of the American heritage and the world about him.

The courses in law enforcement are not designed to produce specialists in this highly complex field. They are, rather, intended to provide the student with a knowledge of the fundamentals of police work.

Specialists will teach courses which reflect their own fields of interest and experience.

An Advisory Committee composed of leaders in public life will meet with the faculty to discuss immediate problems and to advise the college concerning the curriculum and the entire area of police education.

Psychological examinations are required of applicants for admission who are not already members of a law enforcement agency. Physical examinations will also be used.

It is believed that the background of general and specific education derived will be of considerable help to the student on civil service examinations. It is the aim of this program to equip police officers to meet the increasing problems created by the growing metropolis of New York.

Wire Tapping—William S. Fairfield and Charles Clift, *The Reporter*, December 23, 1952, and January 6, 1953 issues. (Published by Fortnightly Publishing Company, Inc., 220 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.)

These articles take up the various phases of the practice of wiretapping—its history, its legal aspects, its technique, its use by some of the government agencies and local police departments, its use in political feuds, its exploitation by all kinds of private interests.

The first issue includes the following parts: I. Who's Listening—And to What? II. Some Law-Evading Enforcement Agencies. III. How to Tap A Telephone. IV. Little Politicians Have Big Ears.

The second issue includes: V. Listening In With Uncle Sam. VI. Cops and Robbers, Doxies and Dicers. VII. Lone Wolves and Private Ears. (Submitted by R. C. Steinmetz, Mutual Investigation Bureau, Chicago.)

Wire Tapping—*The Vermont State Trooper*.

Editor A. H. Monti observes it has been definitely established that evidence obtained by wire-tapping would be inadmissible in a Federal Court. However, the same question in a State Court has been open to considerable debate. Decisions which are included give some justification to the admittance of such evidence in State Courts. But the dissenting opinion of Mr. Justice Douglas, in a case cited, makes application to wire-tapping as a search in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution. (Submitted by R. C. Steinmetz.)

Unusual Gassing Fatality in a Ship—J. K. McLellan, *The Police Journal* (London), 26:115-9 (April, 1953). The reduction of the oxygen content of a sealed compartment of a ship to 3.8% resulted in the death of two men, victim and would-be rescuer. This reduction resulted from the rusting of wetted iron in the ballast tank. Evidence of asphyxia was found at the autopsy.

Lifting Fingerprints—Anon., *Spring 3100*, 24:No. 6, 4-6 (June, 1953). A review.

Second International Conference on Alcohol and Road Traffic—A continuation of the studies begun in 1950 at Stockholm will be held at Toronto, Canada, September 9-12, 1953. Three symposia will be presented on the following topics: (1) Functional Tests and Alcohol Levels, (2) Comparative Legislation and Enforcement, and (3) The Effectiveness of Educational Procedures. Further information can be obtained from H. David Archibald, Esq., Secretary, 2nd International Conference on Alcohol and Road Traffic, 9 Bedford Road, Toronto 5, Canada.

The Johnson Semiauto Rifle—J. S. Hatcher, *The American Rifleman*, 101 (6) : 34-8 (June, 1953). The loading, unloading, stripping, and assembling operations of the Johnson semiautomatic rifle are described. No rifling data is included.

Decker Revolver—M. D. Waite, *The American Rifleman*, 101:66 (June, 1953). The Decker is a 5 shot, German revolver chambered for the .25 ACP cartridge. The octagonal barrel is rifled with six narrow lands inclined to the left. The weapon fires double action and possesses a thumb safety.

A Simple Iodine Fuming Gun—L. M. Shupe, *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 22 (6) : 12-13 (June, 1953). A Liebig condenser with a train of glass wool, iodine crystals, glass wool is used as an iodine fumer. The inlet and outlet tubulatures are closed with rubber tubing and pinch clamps. When the outer jacket is filled with warm water (110°-130° F) copious fumes are produced as air is blown through center tube.

Proper Handling of Explosives in Law Enforcement—Anon., *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 22 (4) : 7-10 (April, 1953). Instructions are given for the safe disposal of dynamite, nitroglycerine, and blasting caps.

New Products

EDITOR'S NOTE: It is the purpose of this additional service to the readers of the Journal to call their attention to new products deemed helpful in police fields. The mention of any product in this Journal, however, is not to be construed as a recommendation by the Journal.

Auto-Photo Identification Unit—The Auto-Photo Model 10, manufactured by the Auto-Photo Company, 1444 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles 15, California, takes four identification pictures in 30 seconds. The prints are developed and dried within two minutes. The camera has an f.2.9 lens, and the optics are coated. A magazine has a capacity of 300-450 strips of pictures at one loading. A strip of four pictures costs approximately three cents. Push button operation permits identification pictures being taken by inexperienced personnel.