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# POLICE SCIENCE

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## DOGS IN WAR, POLICE WORK AND ON PATROL

CHARLES F. SLOANE

The author, until recently, was Senior Personnel Technician (Police Examinations) of the police examining unit of the New York State Department of Civil Service. Our readers will recall two previous articles of Mr. Sloane's dealing with other phases of police work. His present article is based upon research and reference material that he has collected for a number of years and presents an interesting insight into the value of dogs in military activities and law enforcement work.—EDITOR.

It is possible that we will never know exactly when man's best friend, the dog, attached himself to the human race. However, we do know that the dog was already a part of the family life of the cave-man, in Europe, more than 12,000 years ago.

Perhaps the association came about on a cold, cold night, when an ancestor of our beloved *genus canis* crept nearer and nearer to the fire used by our cave-man ancestors as a protection against wild animals and as comfort against the bitter weather. Perhaps, as the dog crept alongside the fire, the cave-man threw him a bone, as a token of friendship. Who knows! However, early in this association, man learned that the dog, whose very life depended on hunting for his food, would assist man in hunting those animals that provided food for man and his family.

It has been said that the attachment of the first dogs to man, helped in the domestication of the human race. Be that as it may, it is entirely within the realm of possibility that the Stone Age breed of dog, taking pity on the cave-man, helped him not only in the protection of his family, by giving warning of the approach of an enemy, but also in vanquishing the sabre-toothed tiger, the bear, and other dangerous animals.

### DOGS IN WAR

It is little wonder then that man, in the dawn of history, used the dog to assist him in his military activities. The extraordinary acuteness of his senses, his friendliness toward his owner, his watchfulness, his speed, and whenever necessary, his viciousness toward the enemy, all of these made him valuable as an ally in war.

The use of dogs in theatres of war extends back many thousands of years to the very beginning of recorded history, for wall-drawings and bas-reliefs found among the tombs of Egypt, Greece, and Assyria clearly show that the Egyptians, Assyrians, and Grecians made use of dogs in repelling the enemy. Herodotus, the great Greek historian (484-424 B.C.), records that Cyrus (Cyrus the Great, founder of the Persian Monarchy 600-529 B.C.) used them while conquering a large portion of the world. According to Plutarch (Greek biographer, 46-120 A.D.), dog sentinels once saved a Corinthian garrison from annihilation by giving warning of the approach of hostile forces. These early dogs of war were often equipped with collars fitted with sharply

pointed spikes. Dogs, when armed in this fashion and trained in the art of attack, were capable of inflicting terrific damage to an enemy's cavalry formations.

The "Legions" of the Roman Empire used large dogs, similar to the present-day mastiff, for sentry work and to harass the enemy during their conquest of the known world. In their military expeditions across mountains and through forests, the Romans quickly learned that a dog could carry an unbelievable load of provisions when, because of inclement weather and treacherous going, their horses foundered and died. Thus, during these expeditions, they used horses as long as possible, then fed the dying horses to the dogs who would then easily travel over the snow and mud.

During the Middle Ages, the use of dogs in war continued. In those days of chivalry, the dog was used not only against men but also against horses. Clad in either plate or chain armor, these war dogs were not only used to defend convoys of troops and supplies but were taught the art of attack. The Knights of Rhodes had their war dogs, and at the time of the war between France and Spain, King Henry VIII of England sent some 400 English Mastiffs to the aid of Charles V of Spain's Army. Fitted with coats of armor, many of these dogs were especially trained to spring at the horses of the opposing enemy cavalry and, with remarkable tenacity, grip these animals by the nose. This action frequently caused great consternation and panic in the ranks.

Dogs played an important part in the Napoleonic wars. Napoleon himself recommended their use as guards at the City of Alexandria. An interesting story has been told about a mongrel dog attached to the French army who succeeded in disclosing the presence of a disguised Austrian spy who had managed to work his way into the French camp. This is the first reported incident of a dog distinguishing itself as a spy detector.

World War I saw the use of more dogs on active military service than in any previous campaign. Both the Allies and opposing forces had their trained dogs of war. Germany alone placed more than 30,000 war dogs into the field during that period. It has been estimated that more than 7,000 dogs perished during the four terrible years of World War I, and at least one breed nearly became extinct because of the terrible losses sustained in battle. The Briard, used by the French Army for messenger work, sentry duty, accompanying patrols, and as pack animals carrying food, supplies, and ammunition, became sadly depleted because of losses suffered in frontline warfare. Strange as it may seem, the American Expeditionary Force had no dogs officially attached to them. The American soldier, however, was not slow to express his appreciation of the services rendered by dogs in locating the wounded and performing other tasks of a similar nature.

Several years before the beginning of World War II, the German military authorities, again foreseeing an approaching conflict, began to build a canine force to be used in the front lines of warfare. As a result of this planning, the Nazis had, in 1939, what was probably the largest, the best-trained, and best-equipped canine army in the world. It was estimated that they had 50,000 Pinschers, Sheepdogs, Alsations (German Shepherd dogs), and Rottweilers trained for active service as pack-carriers, first-aid scouts, and messengers, while others of the same breeds were well trained for carrying out reconnaissance with patrols. When the shooting war began, these specially trained dogs quickly found the positions of the Allied forces and, thus, fre-

quently made it possible for the Nazis to annihilate these positions. The majority of these dogs were trained at the Military Kennels at Frankfurt, established in 1934, where some 2,000 animals were constantly being trained. When fully trained, the dogs were shipped out and replaced with another 2,000.

Even though Germany has made more use of dogs in military operations than any other country, Sweden, Finland, and Poland had similar training facilities for dogs of war. Poland, in fact, established a military dog school a year before Germany took up the idea.

Despite the fact that the United States Military Forces were armed with the knowledge that dogs of war were successfully used not only by Germany but also by our Allies in World War I, and further that Germany, prior to the outbreak of World War II, had trained tens of thousands of dogs to be used in military operations and, several years prior to the outbreak of war, had transferred hundreds of dogs of the type suitable for training to the Japanese military authorities, nothing was done about training dogs to be used as an aid to our military operations. It was in March, 1942, several months after Pearl Harbor, that the War Department finally recognized our four-footed canine friends as allies in our greatest war effort. The civilian organization, "Dogs for Defense," was appointed the official procurement agency for our war dogs. From the initial request for 200 dogs grew the famous K-9 war dog reception centers under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Quartermaster General, where thousands of dogs were trained for specialized duties to aid in the gigantic military operations ahead. At the K-9 centers, dogs were trained in one or another of the following five duty categories; sentry, attack, messenger, scout, and casualty.

Stories of the success of these dogs and their handlers have been told in various publications. Throughout the world, on every front, our dogs performed duties impossible to be performed by man and, by their extremely acute sense of hearing and smell, saved countless lives.

Shortly after the beginning of the K-9 program, the Coast Guard, alert to the tremendous task of policing the many thousands of miles of our Coast, organized a separate beach patrol division in July, 1942 and assigned alert, smartly trained war dogs to assist in that tremendous task.

The Marine Corps, fighting in the Pacific against well-camouflaged Japanese who were masters of the ambush, found that snipers, so concealed, were difficult to locate. As a result of frequent and expensive delays due to such sniper tactics, the Marines experienced difficulty keeping to their timetable, and this problem was relayed to Washington for the "brass" to mull over. It was decided by the Marine Corps to experiment with war dogs. It hoped that these dogs, trained in locating the hidden enemy, would reduce casualties and materially assist in maintaining contact with the enemy. Based on this decision, a War Dog Training Company was organized at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and the Doberman Pinscher was selected as the Official Marine combat dog. By January, 1943, several dogs were inducted and with increasing momentum the program got under way. The success of these dogs under actual battle conditions was immediate. The dogs proved themselves as scouts, messengers, and as night guardians against infiltration. Giving adequate warning when ambush was near, our four-footed friends more than lived up to expectations.

At the conclusion of the war, all military activity regarding the training of dogs closed. The dogs used by the various branches of service were demilitarized. That is, a process of unlearning the habits acquired during their training for military service was instituted. After thorough indoctrination into the ways of civilian life, our four-legged friends were returned, where possible, to their original owners. Where this was not possible, they were sold to people desiring a dog that was fully trained in obedience. Thus, slowly, our canine forces began to return to a peacetime level. Before this could be completely accomplished, however, the Korean War broke out, and once again dogs were used by our armed forces. At this writing, dogs are attached to our forces wherever they may be stationed, from Alaska and Korea to Germany.

### DOGS IN POLICE WORK

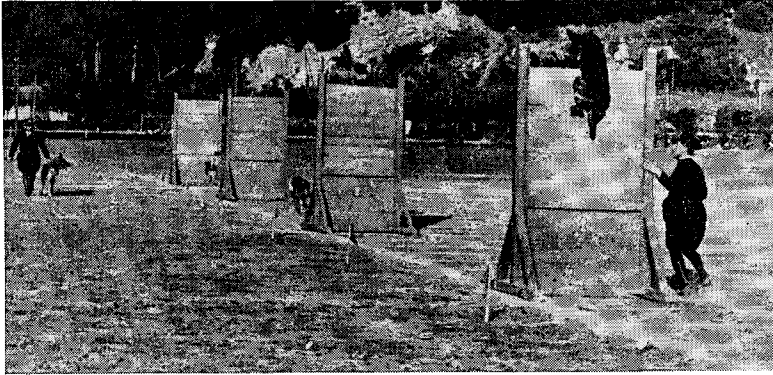
There can be no doubt that, early in man's association with dogs, he used dogs for hunting wild animals. Man was quick to sense the value of such a hunting companion, since certain of dog's senses were of higher development than man's. As far back as 5,000 years ago, three types of dogs were used for hunting; one type, the Saluki, a predecessor of the modern Greyhound, was used in areas of vast expanse and these dogs, having wonderfully keen eyesight, ran down their game. Others, with less keen eyesight but having the ability to follow scent, were used in those places where vegetation was thick, thus the hound type of dog was developed. In the hunting of big game, powerful dogs were needed to track down the lion and the tiger, thus the third type was similar to the present day Mastiff.

At what point in history man first used a dog to track a criminal is not known. We do know, however, that dogs were used for this purpose in England in the fifteenth century.

If one gives some thought to the subject, there is but little difference between fighting an enemy in a declared war and fighting an enemy, the criminal, at home on the crime front. Both are comparable battles for the very existence of civilization, for without the thin wall of police protecting the people from criminal depredation, the world would soon revert to savagery and bestiality.

It is an interesting fact that in the fifteenth century a tax was levied upon the English people for maintaining hounds used for tracking criminals, and a law was in existence at the time that whoever denied entrance to one of the dogs would be treated as an accessory to the crime.

The use of dogs in tracking down escaped criminals and slaves has been commonplace in the United States for the past two centuries. The book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, gives a dramatic portrayal of the use of bloodhounds in recapturing runaway slaves. This setting is more than 100 years old. Relative to the use of dogs solely for tracking or the following of a human spoor, most of the world-famous rural police forces are equipped with dogs trained for this type of work. In this field, the Bloodhound is the most famous tracker of the canine kingdom. Such is the Bloodhound's reputation that his is the only "canine" testimony to be admitted as evidence in a court. Evidence submitted that a Bloodhound followed the human spoor from the scene of the crime until the defendant was apprehended is one of the circumstances which tend to connect a defendant with the crime. One of the greatest of dogs, his unerring olfactory organs enable him to pick up and follow cold and half-dissolved scents.



*Figure 1*

German Shepherds being put through their paces at the Italian Police Dog Training Center. (Photograph courtesy of the Italian Police, Rome)

However, since this is possible with greatest success in rural or semi-rural areas, where the scent has not been mixed with those of countless other humans plus the exhausts of thousands of cars, his services are best utilized by rural police.

In the eastern portion of the United States, perhaps the best-known and most renowned dogs used for tracking humans are the Bloodhounds used by the New York State Police. Working out of Troop "K" Barracks, Hawthorne, New York, under the direction of Sergeant Bill Horton, they are constantly being called to render assistance in locating criminals and missing persons in New York and neighboring states.

The Bloodhound is not, however, the only type of dog used for work of this type. The German Shepherd and the Doberman Pinscher have also been trained to very successfully perform that difficult task. The English police, the Mounted Police of Canada, Australia, South Africa, and Southern Rhodesia have been most successful in their use of dogs for trailing the spoor of a human.

Perhaps the most famous of police Training Centers for dogs in the world is located at Quaggaapoort, six miles from Pretoria in the Union of South Africa. The South African Police Dog Training Depot had its beginning in 1911 with the importation of three Doberman Pinschers from Europe, and their success in tracking criminals was immediate. The Dog Depot has approximately 140 dogs in training at all times and as soon as a pair of dogs, male and female, are certified as ready for the field, they are shipped out with their trainer, or Dog Master as he is called, to a Dog Station in one of the outlying states. There are at present 36 Dog Stations located throughout the Union at each of which there are two dogs. In some cases a Dog Master with his dogs must travel as much as two or three hundred miles to get to the scene of the crime.

At Quaggaapoort, it has been found that about 12 months of intensive training, beginning at about four months of age, is required before a dog can successfully complete the course given. The main emphasis in this training is to teach implicit obedience, climb obstacles, scale walls, jump through windows, walk over high and low beams, jump long and high, and retrieve. (Figure 1.) Other than these men-

tioned, the balance of the training is designed *solely as an aid in the detection of crime* and not as a protection for the policeman. The dogs are trained to follow human scent only, and for all practical purposes are a very valuable aid to the police located in rural areas away from the cities, large villages, and urbanized communities.

Shortly after the present Depot was built in 1923, experiments were conducted with several different breeds of dogs to ascertain which type was best suited for the type of police work required in that great rural area. Doberman Pinschers, Rottweilers, German Shepherds, Airdales, Setters, Pointers, and Rhodesian Ridgebacks all were carefully trained and used. It was found that when consideration was given to all factors, climate and type of work to be done (following of spoors), the Doberman Pinscher and a cross with the Rottweiler, whose origin is found in the cattle-dog of the ancient Roman Empire, the percentage of Rottweiler blood being not more than one-quarter, gave the best results. Their experiments with the crossbreed shows that crossbreeding settles the Doberman and makes him more reliable when required for identification parades. The trainers at the Depot say that there is no difference in the training ability of male and female dogs and that none of the female dogs are sterile. When fully trained, a Police dog is valued from \$500 to \$1000.

The reputation of the South African Police Dog Training Depot has circled the world. There are today men and dogs in many of the countries of the world who have either been trained at Quaggapoort themselves or have learned their skill from Quaggapoort trainers sent abroad. Dogs have been supplied to many countries, and the results very carefully watched and analyzed with the view of ever-expanding the use of dogs in that specialized field.

The training of dogs at Quaggapoort is considerably different from the training of Bloodhounds. Bloodhounds are trained to follow scent; the police dogs of South Africa are trained in high and long jumping, climbing ladders, and walking high and low beams. The Police dog is trained to jump through windows and to go over and through obstacles likely to be met on criminal trails, such as fences, walls, and drain pipes. He is taught to retrieve articles dropped by the fleeing criminal. He also learns whistle exercises in which he is controlled by varying blasts on a whistle. During this course of training, the dog is extensively trained to work on identification parades. In this he picks out, with almost uncanny accuracy, one person, whose scent he has been given, from an identification line of six to ten persons. (Figure 2.) Apparently paying no attention to any of them, he runs from one end of the line to the other, and it is only on the return trip that he picks out his man, standing on his hind legs with forepaws on the culprit's shoulder and barking until called off by the Dog Master. Throughout the rest of its life, the dog is regularly exercised on obedience and trail work and identification parades in order to keep fit for the job it may be called upon to perform for the South Africa Police.

In far off Australia, the mounted police of the Northern Territory, Queensland, and Western Australia are accompanied on their long patrols into the Never-Never land by dogs. The police have found them to be particularly valuable when the police task is to track down the aborigines who have committed some crime. On many occasions the mounted troopers have voiced their appreciation and praised their dogs for giving warning when vengeful aborigines have attempted to surround the police camp at night, hurling their spears in the darkness, but the bristling hair



*Figure 2*

South African police dog at identification parade pointing out a tracked person by placing paws on his shoulder and giving voice. This highly trained dog is a Doberman-Rottweiler cross. (Photograph courtesy South African Police)

of the dogs and their warning growls warned their masters in time to avoid serious casualties.

#### DOGS PATROLLING WITH POLICE

The year 1895 brought forth the first serious attempt made to train dogs to accompany foot patrolmen on their tour of duty. The police of France began the experiment, and it was an immediate success. The once notorious Parisian apache gangs, whose "toughs" terrorized whole neighborhoods, were the first to feel the efficiency of the police dog. When one considers the courage and skill of a well-trained police dog, is it any wonder that these gangs were practically wiped out in a few short years?

In 1896 Germany, with her usual thoroughness, adopted the idea and experimented with various breeds to ascertain which breed possessed the most intelligence and adaptiveness for the police purpose. Ultimately, the German Shepherd was selected and is to this day predominantly used for this type of work, although the Doberman Pinscher is also used quite extensively. In the early 1920's Germany, so impressed by the valuable work done by dogs in their daily police rounds, began the famous police dog training school located in the heart of the pine forests at Grunheide. The following is an outline of the type of training given a dog who is considered sufficiently intelligent to grasp it.

In the elementary lessons, the dog is taught to bark on command and to bark without command upon observing suspicious objects. He is taught to use his nose to find his master by the aid of scent. He is trained to obey and come instantly when ordered "come" or when called by whistle. This latter lesson is mastered completely and thoroughly. The dog is taught to follow his quarry and also to stop pursuing his quarry when ordered, or whistled for. These are the elementary lessons.



When the dog has shown his capabilities and progressively advanced through the more advanced courses which follow, he must learn to bring and carry various objects; to search for and find objects hidden by the dog-master; to find and bring objects belonging to strangers, whether hidden or thrown away, which prepares him to recognize, by means of scent, criminals or stolen objects. Further, he must learn to report to police headquarters and to bark when doors are closed in order to announce his arrival. He is taught to go for assistance when help is needed. Thorough indoctrination is given the dog to guard objects without leaving them, no matter what tempts or threatens. He learns to refuse food from any but his master in order that he may not be enticed to give up his charge and to avoid being poisoned; to search for stolen property inside a house; to attack his quarry upon command; not to be gun-shy. He masters the art of throwing down a criminal by jumping on his back or running between his legs; to watch the criminal and, without actually biting, to prevent his escape during his master's absence. He is taught to attack and throw into the open a criminal who assaults either him or his master and to assist his master in taking the criminal to the police station. He learns how to attack the running criminal who shoots and to stay with him until assistance arrives. He learns how to examine carefully and search systematically streets, gardens, yards, and surrounding areas and, on finding anyone concealed, to bark until his master arrives. The course as outlined above consists of more than eighty lessons, each requiring thorough mastery before moving on to the next lesson. It is the aim of all police dog training schools to keep the dog as gentle as a lamb when not interfered with, not to bark or growl except when it knows that danger is near, but when the command "Fight" is given, to quickly subdue the criminal.

In the middle 1930's Britain's police, realizing the immense value of the use of dogs in aiding a foot patrolman in his duties, began training dogs for this work. They were an immediate success. In 1938 Scotland Yard, that world-famous Police institution, added dogs to the official strength of its force. Britain's dock police added trained dogs to assist in policing the piers, docks, and wharves and found them extremely valuable in apprehending criminals and preventing thefts. British police constables on patrol, accompanied by their well-trained dogs, are outspoken in their praise of the police dog. They have found that with a dog's assistance, it is of little consequence for one constable to arrest and bring to headquarters several men, no matter how tough they might be (the English "Bobbie" is not armed) if he is accompanied by his dog. One menacing growl is usually sufficient to cower any tough criminal.

Instance after instance has been related regarding the bravery of these police dogs. In one such situation a man was seen one night under suspicious circumstances and, upon being ordered to stop by the patrolman, the man took to his heels. At a word the dog went in pursuit and caught the man's flying coattail. His efforts to dislodge the dog gave the patrolman time to come to the scene and a violent struggle took place. The patrolman's assailant, armed with a heavy club and being a very powerful man, gave the patrolman a difficult time. However, with the aid of the dog darting in and out of the affray and barking furiously for help, eventually the man was subdued. The patrolman later stated that without the aid of the dog, the

burglar would have either escaped in the first instance, or if apprehended by the patrolman alone, would have severely injured the patrolman. Instances such as this are so commonplace in the police records of England that the English "Bobbie" is loud in his praise of his police dog.

During the devastating "blitz" attacks on London, in World War II, the dogs attached to the Metropolitan Police saved countless lives. Some of these dogs were especially trained to search through the rubble of demolished houses and buildings and to indicate to the Dog Master those places where humans were buried. One such dog is credited with saving more than forty lives by indicating that the person buried beneath the timber, stone, and earth was still alive, thus hurrying rescue workers to his aid. These dogs were able to detect persons buried beneath as much as thirty feet of earth.

The European police of Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Sweden, Spain, and Italy all use the dog in assisting the foot patrolman in covering his beat and also have dogs assigned solely to track down the criminal by his scent. One of the most celebrated dogs in recent years was Marion, a German Shepherd, attached to a police precinct near Charleroi, Belgium. On dozens of occasions the dog solved mysteries which baffled the unaided skill of the police.

In 1934 the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, recognizing the advantages to be gained by the use of dogs in their work, purchased a German Shepherd. The immediate success of this well-trained animal in assisting the "Mounties" in criminal investigation sold the force on the idea. Now, a number of dogs consisting of German Shepherds, giant Schnauzers, and Doberman Pinschers, are trained at the Regina Barracks, Saskatchewan, the famous training center for all Mounties. These cleverly trained dogs equal the men of that famous force for alertness. The "evidence" of these dogs, given in testimony by their masters, has been accepted by the Canadian courts. If the Mountie says the dog uncovered liquor in a certain barn, the court believes the constable, and therefore the dog.

The following is an example of the work of these dogs and how the corroborative evidence, supplied by the dog, in this instance was upheld in court. In the case of *Rex v. Stokes*, the accused was charged with arson, was convicted of that crime on corroborative evidence supplied by Police Dog "Wolf." It seems that the R.C.M. Police, having received advance information as to the probable activities of an arsonist, kept watch over some barns on a moonless night. The accused was seen to approach the barns, which subsequently burst into flames. Stokes was recognized by means of flashlight but eluded capture. His house was immediately placed under observation, and after midnight Stokes returned, was arrested, but was minus an overcoat he had been seen wearing prior to and after the fire. He denied having been in the vicinity of the crime.

Police Dog "Wolf" then took over. He was given scent at the spot where the accused was seen near his home, returning from his stroll, as he described it. With no trouble, "Wolf" back-tracked through the fields, woods, and swamps and halted at a tree stump not far from the scene of the fire. The missing overcoat was unearthed at that spot, and a pair of gloves saturated with kerosene were taken from the pocket. From here the dog continued towards the burned barn to the point where the accused had been seen by means of the flashlight.



*Figure 3*

German Shepherd watchdog on new man-and-dog patrol team stops at one of thirty reporting stations in Marshall Field and Company warehouse, Chicago and with its paw sets off an "all clear" signal to watchman waiting at central post. (Photograph by J. D. Jones, courtesy of Marshall Field and Company)

In spite of objections by the defense, the judge admitted the evidence offered describing the dog's actions and held that it was corroborative.

The only black mark against any dog working for the Mounties, was committed by Black Lux, a beautiful German Shepherd. He went over the hill and was A.W.O.L. for two days. He has, however, since that time fully redeemed himself. The dogs of the R.C.M.P. are kept at a central detachment in each province and are rushed from point to point, where needed, by car, train, and plane.

Quick to realize means by which depredation, burglary, and theft could be efficiently but inexpensively stopped, the merchandising industry was the first to pioneer in the use of watchdogs in the United States. In January, 1952, Marshall Field and Company, Chicago, after some months of experimentation and training, successfully placed watchdogs in the service for specialized, supplementary guard work in their warehouse. (Figure 3.) Since that time the dog-guard force has been expanded to include their retail and suburban stores in the Chicago area. These dogs are trained to tour a warehouse or store from floor to floor with a watchman; to patrol individual "beats" on each floor while the watchman waits at a central station, and to report an "all clear" on schedule from various posts on each beat. At each post the dog sounds an "all clear" by setting off a signal with its paw. He is trained to sound an alarm, by barking, at any sign of fire, smoke, water leakage, or prowlers and has proved to be invaluable. Depredation and theft have dropped to a minimum since

it is impossible to hide from a trained watchdog. Dogs being able to sense danger more quickly than a man, prowlers, burglars, and thieves have been practically non-existent since the watchdogs have been used.

Trained watchdogs are now used in a number of large retail stores, warehouses, and famous museums. Factories are using them to augment the guard forces. Business places are beginning to use these dogs to circumvent holdups, and it is the experience of all who are in any way associated with a trained dog that here is protection at its best.

#### SUMMARY

It seems to the writer that, in the police field, other countries have inaugurated new ideas, have formulated strategic plans and have found ways and means to cope with their criminals and other police problems, while we seem to brush aside many ideas that would tend to make us more efficient. Our national crime record would seem to indicate that many police administrators want to continue fighting crime in the old-fashioned manner and have the idea that what was good enough for the community years ago is good enough now. Certainly, if other countries find an ally in police dogs, we in the police field in the United States could at least take up the idea *and try it*. One police officer saved from severe injury, or possible death, at the hands of the criminal by the use of a police dog would be well worth the effort of adding dogs to the roster of any city police department.

How many times during a year do we read of some criminal or insane person barricading himself in a house and standing off a number of police with gunfire until some of the police are injured or dead? This occurs only too frequently. Such an incident occurred recently in Detroit, and newspapers around the country carried the story of "75 Policemen Kill Barricaded Wild Gunman". In this instance three policemen were shot before the gunman was slain. Another headline, "Crazed Man Shoots 8 Policemen, Wife Before Being Killed", electrified the country on July 1, 1954. This incident, occurring in Indianapolis, need not have resulted in 8 policemen getting shot. A well-trained dog, thoroughly indoctrinated in the method of dislodging barricaded gunmen, whether sane or insane, would have quickly resulted in an unarmed, thoroughly cowed individual. When a well-trained dog is sent into such a situation the dog knows the dangers inherent in the job he is about to take on. He takes advantage of cover, he is stealthy in his approach, and a streak of lightning when the time comes to act. Good dog trainers are unanimous in their opinion that these dogs can properly perform this difficult task, adding to the prestige of the police department and avoiding injury to the police officers.

This writer contacted several major city police departments to ascertain whether present or future plans included the use of dogs in police work. The several replies received indicated no present or future plans to use dogs in the police field. Information has now been received that the police department of Dearborn, Michigan, has purchased four young dogs and are employing a trainer to train these dogs for work on beats and in prowler cars. This experiment should be watched closely, since good results obtained in Dearborn may supply the incentive necessary for other departments to follow their example.