

# THE MADRAS POLICE JOURNAL

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## EDITORIAL.

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The main purpose of the Journal is to educate Policemen with a view to improve their professional efficiency. Articles of technical interest and those of a general nature with mottos or morals to stimulate thought and to steer action through right paths are welcome. While those of the latter category have been generously contributed, there is dearth of technical matter. We dare say that there are quite a number of Policemen who have been keeping abreast of technical developments here and elsewhere: we request them to share the benefits of their study with others through this Journal.

“Public Reporting”, “The Old Order Changeth” and “Public Relations” are articles in this issue which should prove very useful. The Junior officers of the department whose articles are published in this Journal are congratulated on their efforts. Thanks are due to Mr. C. R. Stanley of Leicestershire and Rutland (England) Constabulary for his interesting article “Collecting Police Insignia” and for his readiness to contribute more.

Special lectures delivered by Senior Officers to Cadets under training will be published in future issues of the Journal.

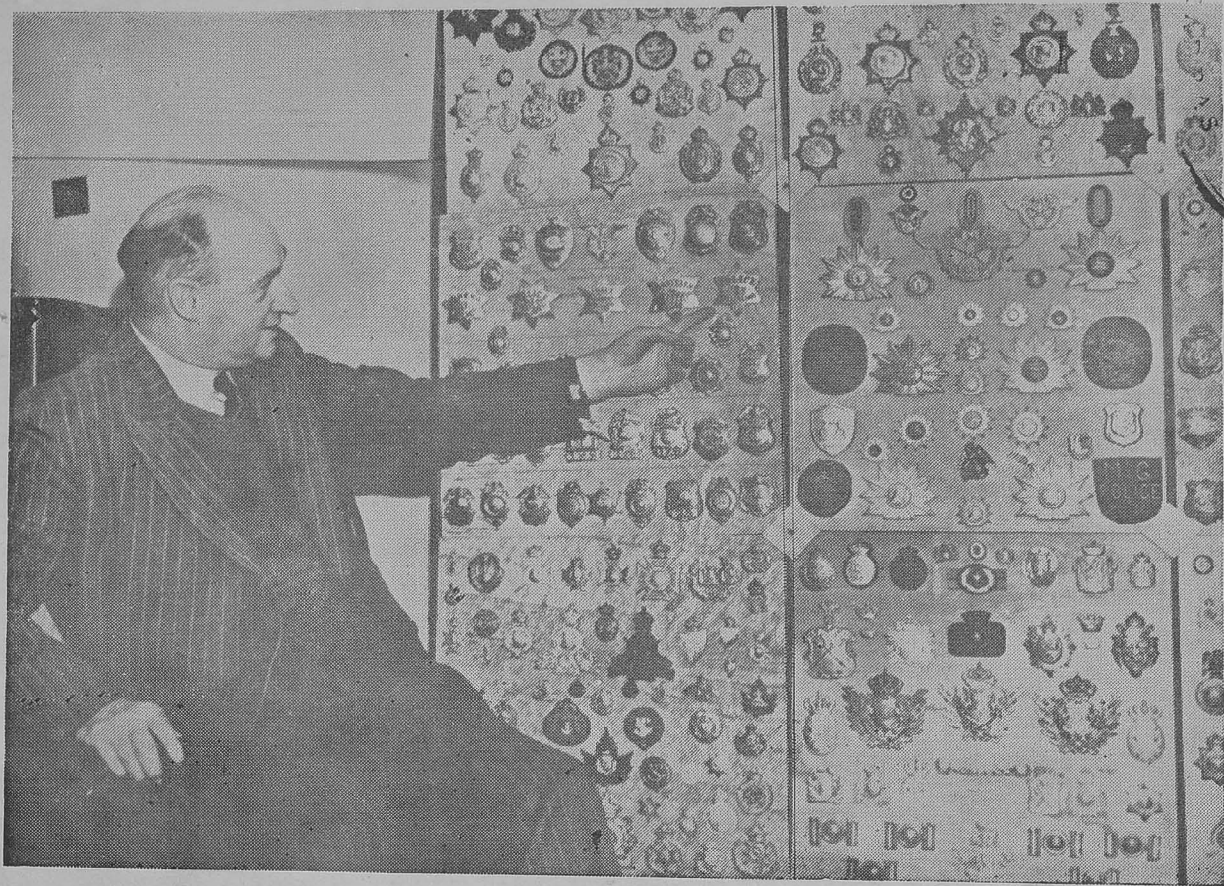
(Sd.) M. BALAKRISHNA MENON,

P. T. C., Vellore,

Editor,

Dated 30-10-52.

Madras Police Journal.



(Copyright photograph of Ex-Inspector Grimshaw's  
collection republished—by courtesy.)

Ex-Inspector Grimshaw pointing to his Pan-American Collection.

## COLLECTING POLICE INSIGNIA

BY CONSTABLE C. R. STANLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND  
CONSTABULARY.

“The fruit of toil is the sweetest of pleasures.”

Vauvenargues.

Reflections No. 200.

Collecting is an Art which implies a capacity for organisation, persistence, and a wise utility of spare moments. The great collector is a man who sees in advance what objects in each age deserve to be rescued from decay, and ex-Inspector Harry Grimshaw, Manchester City Police, and Sergeant Alf England, Leicestershire and Rutland Constabulary, are two men who have had the foresight and great patience to develop a specialised interest in this direction which has resulted in two separate and distinct world-wide collections of constabulary helmet, cap and collar badge insignia.

Both these very unusual collections are of high standard of achievement and contain badges of many lands differing from each other in form, colour and definition. Some are almost classic in design, some are used for effect with a solid colour, others are ornate and ugly, but all are symbolic of law and order. Advertisement, hard bargaining, disappointment, achievement, mutual exchange: all are represented in these two glittering arrays of remarkable police badge specimens, the very multiplicity of which is overwhelming. The chief failure so far has been with the Iron Curtain countries: letters of enquiry are often ignored and many are returned marked, “unaccepted”, but apart from this set-back police badges of every conceivable kind from remote parts of the world are gradually finding their way into the hands of one or other of these ardent collectors.

In the front room of Mr. Grimshaw's house at 8, Hoscarr Drive, Burnage, Manchester 19, is a display board which sparkles with 400 police badges of all shapes and sizes—and that's just a sample of his

total collection of 1,700. There is a complete set (in pairs) of collar badges of the Austrian Police ranging from Police probationer to Police General. Three hundred badges are from the American Police Forces whose officers wear parti-coloured shirts or windbreakers with the name of the Force embroidered on the shoulders, the universal badge of office being the gold or silver shield engraved with the name of the Force and the office held by the wearer. Mr. Grimshaw's Pan American collection includes numerous badges of this kind including 10 American State Chiefs', not to mention others from such faraway places as Kalamazoo, Winnemucca and Walla-Walla: 30 from American Railway Police Forces and one from Illinois State Police which bears the unmistakable and tell-tale dent of a revolver bullet. There are badges worn by Marshals, Deputy Marshals, Sheriffs, Deputy Sheriffs, and one from one of the smallest of American Police Forces, the City of Plymouth (Michigan), which boasts a Force of 9 men and 2 women to look after its 6,650 citizens. Among 8 which Mr. Grimshaw has received from Media (Pennsylvania) are 3 which were worn on the helmet back in the 'eighties: and a breast shield worn in 1874. When he heard that Newfoundland was to be policed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Mr. Grimshaw wrote at once and received a badge worn by one of the 66 Rangers there.

This remarkable and dazzling gallery of police symbols includes insignia from such widely scattered places as the Jewish Republic of Israel, Sarawak, Jamaica, the Ascension Isles and from unsettled, bandit-ridden Malaya. His United Kingdom collection alone totals 1,000 silver, nickel, chromium-plated and black-enamelled badges of all sizes, designs and styles and has the distinction of containing some of the rarer specimens associated with constabularies long since absorbed by their larger neighbours.

Every badge, every design, has its own tale to tell.

Not very long ago a badge sent by the obliging Police Chief of Rocky Mount (North Carolina, U. S. A.) bore the number 13. With it

was a message saying that it had been worn by the present Chief Officer and two others when they were pounding the beat as patrolmen. None of them had ever come to any harm and the sender hoped the recipient's luck would hold in the same way.

Every man on the Island of Pitcairn in the South Pacific is a policeman in the absence of an official Force. Each able-bodied man takes a turn in preserving law and order. After 12 months on duty, he hands over to the next man. That's what was found recently when one of Mr. Grimshaw's friends wrote to the Island to ask if he could have one of the badges worn by the police there. He got a letter back from the Island's nurse - wife of the man on duty at the time. As I write I am reminded that this tiny island - its area is only 2 square miles - is occupied by descendants of the mutineers of H. M. S. Bounty (1790) and was annexed by Great Britain in 1839.

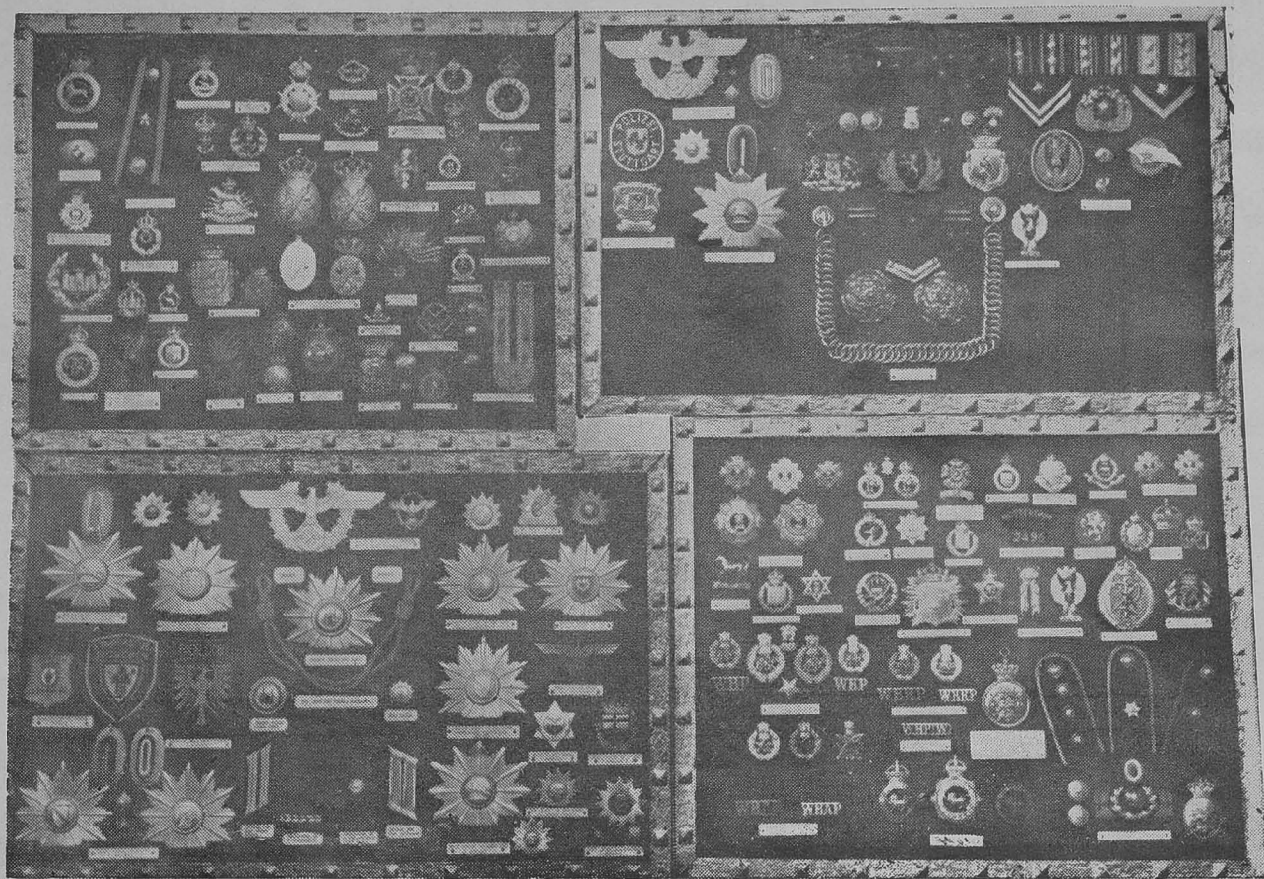
Reminiscent of Ripley's "Believe It or Not" series, the strangest story of all began three years ago when Mr. Grimshaw received from a fellow collector in Durban, South Africa, a strange circular badge bearing a kind of reversed cypher used as a central device, which the sender could not identify. Mr. Grimshaw was equally perplexed and sent it across the world to another collector in Australia for identification, with instructions to retain if unsuccessful. A few months ago a small package from a Canadian collector was delivered at Mr. Grimshaw's home enclosing the very same badge sent to Australia. But this time the mystery of the strange badge was solved - it was a Zanzibar Police Badge - and the puzzling cypher was that of the Sultan. \*

\* In the 19th century the Island of Zanzibar (25 miles off the East Coast of Africa) was an Arab State under a Sultan. In 1890 it was declared a British Protectorate but the Sultan retained his position on the island. The Government is administered by a Resident.

The extreme interest shown by police visitors and the public in collections of police insignia was most evident in the autumn of 1950 when Sergeant England's impressively-arranged assemblage formed part of a Crime Prevention Exhibition sponsored by the Home Office, which toured the principal localities of Leicestershire. Their popularity as an exhibit was reflected in the subsequent loaning, subject to insurance-cover arrangements, to the Chief Constables of Northampton and Kingston-upon-Hull. And more recently, on their attractive display in a series of specially prepared green baize show cases, to the Chief Constables of No 4 District on the occasion of one of their periodical conference held in April 1952 at Beaumont House, Oadby, near Leicester. This conference coincided with a Senior Officers' Course organised by the Chief Constable of Leicestershire and Rutland, John Taylor Esq. M.B.E.

Some of the finest of Sergeant England's praiseworthy collection of 750 badges are undoubtedly those from the German cities and districts of Hamburg, Frankfurt-on-Main, Westphalia and Schleswig-Holstein - to mention but a few - whose bold Germanic emblems cannot fail to impress even the most indifferent viewer. A number of badges have been supplied through the courtesy of the German Police Chiefs in the British Occupied Zone, each badge bearing the crest of the region concerned.

To enhance this fascinating post-war Teuton collection there are silver braid epaulettes resplendent with artistic crests and ashen-grey cap cords from the British Occupied Zone of Berlin, all exquisitely mounted on German field-grey cloth. Grouped with them are representative badges from the British Control Commission, the Special Police Corps and the now defunct Nazi Organisation of the German Military Police bearing the German spread-eagle grasping in its talons the sinister swastika.



Sergeant England's foreign collection.



Less flamboyant, but equally impressive, are badges from the Dominion of Canada, neatly positioned around the shaded gold-coloured emblem of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. "The Mounties" incidentally are the direct descendants of the famous North West Mounted Police who were established in 1873 when the authority of the Hudson's Bay Trading Company was transferred to the Crown. In 1919 the field of operations of the N.W.M.P. was extended to cover the whole of Canada and in 1920 the title of the Force was changed to that of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the headquarters transferred from Regina to Ottawa. Representative badges from the province of Manitoba, the Game Department of British Columbia, the Canadian National Railway Police, the large manufacturing cities of Toronto, Winnipeg, Quebec, Vancouver, London (Ontario) and the great seaport of Halifax, Nova Scotia, all combine to create charm and attraction.

Sergeant England's collection of helmet plates, cap and collar badges from Forces at home is worthy of mention, for excluding those of the many counties and boroughs, there are some striking specimens from Guernsey, the second largest of the Channel Isles, the four former Railway Companies' Police, the Isle of Man, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, and an imposing array of Service Police badges, particularly the globe and laurel badge of the Royal Marine Police and the fowl anchor of the Admiralty Police. Even the badges of such private police forces as the Nuffield Security Police, the Wolseley Motor Organisation, and the De Havilland Aircraft Corporation are included.

Many of the British badges, while doubtless of local designing, are of great historical and heraldic interest. A former badge of the Kinross-shire Constabulary, for example, depicts Loch Leven Castle where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned during an invasion of Scotland by the English (1568). The Castle is built on a small island in Loch Leven. Her followers were able to obtain possession of the

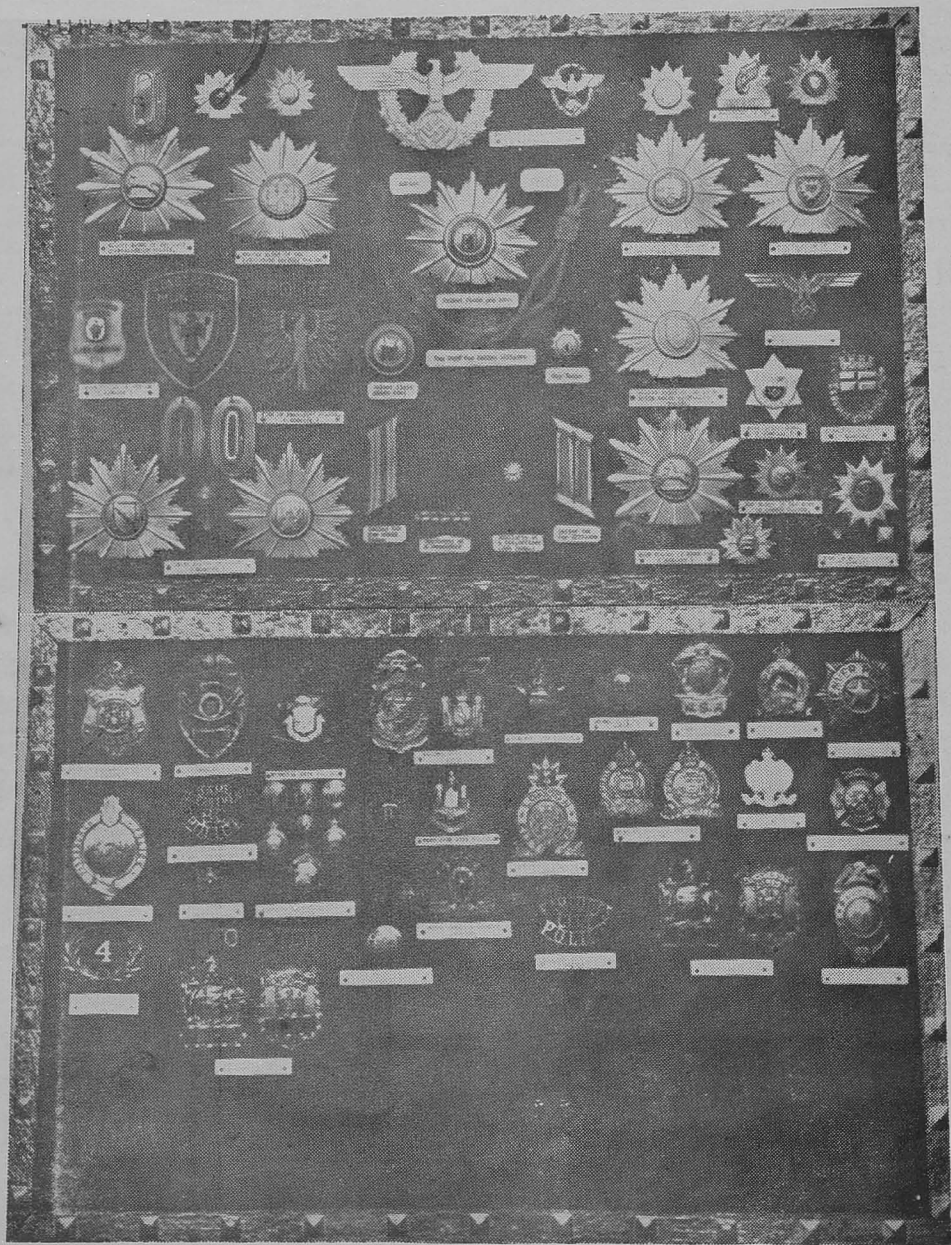
Castle keys and she was able to escape. The keys are alleged to have been dropped into the Loch but were later recovered and are now in Kinross Museum. Argyllshire's badge shows a boar's head, the family crest of the Campbell family, an Argyll clan, the head of which is the Duke of Argyll.

Symbolic of the splendour of the Orient is a complete set-13 in all - of cap and shoulder insignia (of all ranks from Chief Officer downwards) lush in bright golden yellow braid richly embroidered with gold sequins upon striking backgrounds of peacock-blue and black fabrics - a recent acquisition from the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police of Japan.

More interesting to others perhaps, are the shaded gold emblems of the Danish, Swedish and Dutch Police. All surmounted by a royal crown and of a dull gold colour, they create an effect of great richness. In sharp contrast there is the plain silver-coloured Pontifical badge of the Vatican State Police, Rome, graciously supplied on the direction His Holiness Pope Pius the 12th.

And as I take a last look at this colourful display of ornamentation, the richly coloured badges of Glubb Pasha's Arab Legion, Republican Turkey, the Icelandic Police, the National Gendarmerie of Paris, the Italian State Police and New Zealand take my eye. Colour and sparkle abound. Soft creamy white, emerald green, peacock-blue, rich gold and glowing vermilion appears before me and I am reminded of the light and brilliance of a bouquet of fresh flowers. For, like flowers, this impressive array of international police insignia harmonises happily with its surroundings.

Finally, a word on behalf of both assiduous collectors. No doubt there are many badges or emblems lying discarded and forgotten in places where new insignia has been taken into use during recent years. The collectors cannot be expected to be au fait with these



Another view of Sergeant England's collection.

changes but they would be very appreciative of any assistance which could be rendered by people who are aware of the changes.

It is appropriate, I think, to mention at this juncture, that the most recent example of such a change, is that in the writer's own Force. Consequent upon the amalgamation of the former Leicestershire and Rutland Constabularies in April 1951, the designing of a new badge became necessary. On the 3rd January 1952 the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Police Authority obtained a Grant of Arms from the English Herald's College. The Coat of Arms consists of a gold shield, in the lower part of which is a sprig of oak with acorns, within a black horseshoe: the upper part or 'chief' of the shield, which is green, bears a running fox. The horseshoe represents Rutland's traditional history and hunting as the unique collection of horseshoes presented by royalty, peers of the realm, and other noblemen passing through the County, which hangs on the walls of the famous Castle Hall at Oakham, the County town, bears silent testimony. Apart from the allusion to the name of the County town, the acorn represents Rutland's former forest land, which in the past covered much of the County, especially on the south side. The fox is symbolic of the long-standing hunting fame which is synonymous with Leicestershire, and the new joint design, recalling these traditions, associates the past with the present.



**CRIMSON JUGGERNAUT (Short Story)**

BY

SUB - INSPECTOR D. M. REDDI OF THE DIST. SPL. BRANCH,  
VIZIANAGRAM.

The dull red afternoon sun had slipped over the horizon and darkness was fast approaching. Attendant Ramaswamy sat by the large front window in his little Petrol Bunk contemplating passing vehicles. Customers were few that day in the usually busy filling station and Ramaswamy's watchful eye scanned the almost deserted road lest a customer drive in unnoticed.

Had he been able to foresee the events of the very near future, Ramaswamy would have observed the hooded figure of Death, cloaked in dark black robe, standing on the road before him, pointing a bony finger to a spot barely fifty feet away. For it was the street into which Ramaswamy gazed that Death had selected as the scene of a tragic killing.

Ramaswamy stirred from his seat and went to attend a large sedan that had just slid past the window and come to a halt beside his petrol pump.

Before he could adjust the hose in to the petrol tank of the car, the sudden shriek of brakes and the sickening thud of steel against flesh cut him short. A speeding automobile was thundering across the road from east to west. As Ramaswamy looked a shapeless bundle that, a few seconds before, had been a buxom woman crossing the street, hurtled through the air and landed almost at his feet. The attendant stared. Grotesquely sprawled in the centre of the street another bundle huddled. The car sped on. Then grasping the situation, he shouted at his customers: "Get the number of the car!"

Seconds later Ramaswamy's grimy hand was clutching at the telephone as he rang up the local Police Station and reported

the incident. He dashed outside and found that the customer could not get at the number of the fleeing automobile. The rear end of the car was covered with mud and the registration number was not legible. The car was of dark colour - that's all he could see.

Sub - Inspector Balaramarao answered the telephone call and rushed to the scene of accident with an ambulance and a couple of men. The street that a few minutes before had been almost deserted had been transformed itself into a scene of activity. A crowd was gathering. People were talking heatedly, cursing the hit-and-run demon. Women and children viewed with horror the devastating scene before them. As the constables managed to keep back the crowd, the ambulance picked up its pitiful cargo and was screaming its way back to the General Hospital.

This done, the Sub-Inspector set about examining the scene of accident inch by inch. Ramaswamy told him what he had exactly seen. Two women had apparently been crossing the street from the South to the North. The S. I. measured the distance from the sidewalk to the place where one of them landed - exactly sixty feet. The other woman had landed exactly forty-two feet from the walk. The automobile that had roared out of the semi-darkness and hurled the two women must have literally been flying.

Further search of the spot revealed a bright object close to where the second woman's blood was now drying on the pavement. The S. I. hurried over to examine it. A bit of metal was his find. It was about a quarter of an inch square at the large end and tapered down and rounded off almost to a point. Along one side was a groove and directly on the opposite side was another groove to match. It was highly polished on all sides except where it has been broken off a larger portion. What was this small object? Did it play any hand in the case on hand? Was it a clue to the identity of the car that had so ruthlessly plunged into these two women and then sped away? It might

be. The S. I. seized it under a mediators' report as also the blood-scrapings from the pavement.

The thing that puzzled the young S. I. most was the total absence of glass in the street. He had investigated many automobile accidents in his service and could not recall a single instance where glass had not been broken and scattered about. But here was the exception. Obviously the car had been travelling at high speed. It hurled the bodies of the two women to considerable distances. Ramaswamy had said that the car struck them head - on. If this were true, would not the headlight lenses be broken? Would it be possible for a car to strike that hard and not break glass? It did not seem so but there was no glass to be found.

The S. I. recorded the statement of the Petrol Bunk attendant and registered a case. He drew a plan of the scene of offence.

The S. I. then made his way to the hospital to inquire about the injured. Both the women were alive but still unconscious. They were traced to be Padmini - 35 year old wife of a corporation clerk, and Sushila-19 year old wife of a vegetable vendor. Padmini had suffered what appeared to be the most dangerous injuries. Her right leg was broken and she had sustained injuries to her entire right side. Sushila had only a head wound. The car had struck Padmini first, thrown her against the younger woman and the force of the impact had hurled both of them to their respective positions on the pavement. The S. I. went back to the scene of offence, examined a number of persons, recorded their statements, checked up the movements of the two women till the time of accident and made enquiries for the fugitive car. No information about the car was, however, forthcoming.

Next morning while writing up his case diary, the little piece of bright metal found at the scene engaged the S. I.'s attention. He took it out of his pocket and surveyed it. Suddenly it struck him that it must have been broken off from the radiator cap of a car with a bird ornament as it appeared to be a beak. The S. I. recalled several of the

popular make cars that had such type of radiator caps. Listing these on a scrap of paper, he left the Police Station and began a systematic search of the automobile sales agencies. He found that the ornaments on the 1943 and 1944 standard Chevrolets had beaks similar to the tiny bit of metal picked up at the scene of offence. The S. I. also learnt that ninety percent of the Standard Chevs. for those two years were black. Ramaswamy and his customer had said that the car that struck the women was dark in colour! The S. I.'s blood was racing. He believed he could reasonably narrow down the field to 1943 and 1944 Standard Chevrolets! His lead had come!

Then followed a systematic and methodical search for a Chevrolet with a damaged front and a broken radiator cap. Parked cars, garages, parking lots and outlying community centres had all been inspected without result. The minuteness of the bit of evidence was a help in one way and a hindrance in another – a help in that it could easily be overlooked when the damage was repaired and a hindrance in that it was so tiny that it could not be detected without close inspection.

The entire town was divided equally and every Constable of the traffic squad was assigned an area with instructions to check every garage, used car lot, parking lot and taxi stands, and to keep a lookout among the cars parked along the street and passing in traffic. Patrol men were given the same information with instructions to inspect every car in their beats.

Before noon on the third day two automobiles of the type sought were found, on each of which the beak of the radiator ornament was broken in a manner similar to that of the car in question. Hopefully the S. I. rushed to examine these cars, only to find that the tiny bit he had in his possession did not fit perfectly in either case.

The search went on relentlessly.



Sushila died on the evening of the third day. The bad fracture at the base of her skull proved fatal. An inquest was held and a verdict of death due to being hit by a fast moving unknown car was recorded. Her death seemed to come as a challenge to the Police after their fruitless efforts to find the car that had roared out of nowhere, crashed into her and then vanished as suddenly as it had appeared. The condition of the other victim, remained still critical. Her right leg had to be amputated.

S. I. Balaramarao became desperate. He did not like to take a defeat in this case in which a human being behaved like a monster.

Going round the town that evening with informant Rasheed on the pillion of his 350 CC Matchless, S. I. Balaramarao spotted a black Chevrolet parked in front of a cloth store on the main road. "There's one just like we are looking for," said the S. I. to Rasheed stopping his bike behind the car. Both of them walked to the front of the chevrolet. Rasheed was just a step ahead of the S. I. but they both saw the same thing at the same time. The beak was missing from the bird that adorned the radiator cap!

The S. I.'s heart pounded as he fished out the tiny nickel-plated bit of metal from his pocket. His hand trembled as he held it up to the face of the bird. It slipped from his shaking fingers and rattled down the hood and on to the pavement. He retrieved it quickly and again held it up to the bird. Would it fit? Was the S. I. jumping at another conclusion only to be disappointed again or could it be possible that they had found the fugitive car just 6 furlongs from the scene of offence? When the S. I. finally got the beak into the right position on the bird, he could hardly believe his eyes. It fitted to the smallest detail! *The ruthless hit-and-run car had been found!*

Elated from their find, they failed to notice a man and a woman step out of the store with their purchases. When questioned, the man admitted that the car was his and that he was a travelling organizer in a big insurance company. The woman by his side was his wife and

they lived in a near-by suburb. The man's name was one Prabhakar. He was taken to the Police Station and interrogated. He expressed surprise when his attention was invited to the broken radiator cap and stated that he had not noticed the same. He denied all knowledge of the offence. A man of such status and respectability as his would not have liked the cad in the accident, he said.

The S. I. inspected the car minutely. The right fender had been dented slightly and had been repaired, and one of the bumper bolts was new. The hood also showed evidence of a recent dent which had been straightened and the left front headlight lens was cracked. An examination of the right front headlight explained at a glance why no glass pieces were found at the scene of offence. On the rear of the bullet shaped light was a rough spot which had been recently a deep dent. A corresponding dent was found just under the light in the front fender. When the car crashed into the two women, the right headlight had been bent backward and pushed deep into the fender. That had pointed the light itself skyward so that it formed a container for the shattered lens. The death car had carried the broken glass away with it!

But these things, convincing as they were to the Sub-Inspector, were useless unless it could be definitely proved beyond reasonable doubt that Prabhakar's car was the death car and that he was the driver. As yet the S. I. had nothing but circumstantial evidence and a good defence lawyer could find numerous reasons for the dents, the new bumper bolt and the broken beak.

Further examination of the front of the car revealed three tiny spots—obviously of blood, on the left front fender and two on the front number plate. The S. I. knew that these spots could prove but two things - whether they were blood stains and if so of human blood. The S. I. put chalk marks round the stains, had them initialled by mediators and photographed. Then he scraped the stains to be sent

to the Imperial Serologist for test. Not content with that, he took the car to a mechanic's ramp, got under and inspected meticulously the bottom of the car. He discovered a hair several inches long clinging to the right fender. Here was something definitely identifiable. Science would be able to prove whether or not this strand of hair came from one of the women and if so, the case against Prabhakar was shaping up nicely. The S. I. carefully removed the hair and put it away. On the drive shaft housing, buried in the dirt and grease, another hair about eight inches long was found. The bottom of the transmission case was found to have a cleaned spot - the remainder of the case thickly coated with grease and dirt. The bottom of the dustpan on the left side of the crank case also showed a spot where the grease and dirt had been wiped away. These spots were photographed and the hairs from the drive shaft housing and the fender preserved.

The S.I. was in time to get samples of hair from the dead Sushila already taken by her bereaved husband and sorrowing relatives to the cremation ground. He took samples of hair from Padmini in the hospital. These samples together with the hairs from the car were sent to the State Pathologist for examination.

Prabhakar was arrested on a charge of causing the death of Sushila and grievous hurt to Padmini due to rash and negligent driving. His activities prior to the hit-and-run episode were checked up and when the Police began to pry into his movements during that day, they began to understand why Prabhakar remained silent. He had been out with a woman not his wife

Back-tracking from the hit-and-run scene, the S. I. found that the accused had been out with a student-nurse, Luxmi, that evening. This girl, when the gravity of the situation was brought to her realization, gave out that after spending the evening in the beach Prabhakar was taking her back to the hostel when the accident occurred. He

lost his nerve at the prospect of getting entangled in a police case and sped on without stopping his car soon after the accident occurred and reporting the incident to the Police. After dropping her at the hostel, he swore her to secrecy and went home.

The S. I. pursued his investigation further and traced a suburban garage where the accused had got his car repaired and the store where two headlight bulbs and a headlight lens were purchased.

Chemical analysis and the Pathologist's examination proved that the blood stains found on the accused's car came from human blood and the hair picked up from his car came from the head of the dead woman - Sushila !

On the evidence collected by S. I. Balaramarao, the accused was chargesheeted and duly convicted u/s 304-A, I. P. C. and 338 I. P. C.

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### CRIMINAL HUMOUR—GRIM JESTER.

... But for sheer diabolical humour Voirbo, the French murderer, had few equals. He had murdered his friend "Papa" Boudasse, and dismembered the body which he made up into parcels. One night, while on his way to dispose of the parcel containing the legs, he was stopped by a policeman who asked what he had so nicely wrapped up.

"These ?" laughed Voirbo. "They're two hams I've just brought up from the country. They'll do fine for Christmas. Feel them." And he actually allowed the policeman to handle his grisly parcel. The Law was satisfied and Voirbo walked off grinning. He was grinning when at last Commissaire Mace arrested him, and he was still grinning when his head fell under the stroke of the guillotine.

Jack Drum.

## Of Numbers.

BY R. NARAYANASWAMY

POLICE SUB-INSPECTOR, THIRUVIDMARUTHUR.

There is significance in the Count ;  
From Absolute Zero to Infinity mount ;  
The Creator of all is only One,  
In the Global Opera for his fun.

Births and Deaths are Mysteries Two ;  
Sun and Moon speak these true.  
Light and Shadow seem to tell,  
Life is a mixture of Heaven and Hell.

In triple points work Divine ;  
No one would wish *Three*, as thine.  
Creation, Protection, and Destruction, - Three,  
Baffle men from Barbarian Tree !

There is no safe corners Four,  
Though Big Powers do Peace Parade more.  
The Four Cardinal Virtues clearly spell,  
For Power, Peace, Plenty and Harmony well.

Divine missiles are always five,  
The Alchemists' theory did not live ;  
Now the Atoms Explode blasting Earths.  
Ray of Invention for destructive Mirths !

Singular Tastes are varied Six ;  
No one wish to enjoy all the Six,  
The Six Cycles of Seasons even tell,  
Nature's Supremacy over all, so well.

It is plucky, lucky number Seven,  
That tunes sweet Music in Heaven ;  
The Seven Colors in Rainbow shine,  
The seven Ages of Man, so fine.

Alas ! It is for number Eight,  
 People all explore and Fight,  
 For Existence, wealth, Food and Life.  
 Amidst Toil in Dangerous strife.

Who will not wish for Number Nine ?  
 Juno's exquisite number as Mine.  
 For the Nine Planets above us tell-  
 Number Nine will always do well.

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### IT WAS NOT SAID BY A POLICEMAN.

Frank Hembree was always bragging about his goose gun, an eight bore with 44-inch barrels, which killed game at phenomenal distances. One afternoon a flock of wild geese came over very high, and Frank fired both barrels. Then he did his chores, went to bed, and enjoyed a good night's sleep. Next morning he came out just as two fine geese came crashing down into his garden patch. "That just goes to show," said Frank, "how high them geese was a-flyin'!"

The weather in this part of the world is often freakish. At a village in eastern Oklahoma an old man told me about a dust storm that was so bad the chicken hawks had to wear goggles an' fly backwards to keep them from choking to death. "It got so dry that the trees was a-follerin' the dogs around," he said, "an' people had to prime the mourners at funerals before they could git 'em to cry. When a raindrop fell on old Tom Burnside he fainted dead away, and they had to throw three buckets of dust in his face to bring him to."

Once a hunter in the Ozarks caught a big mosquito in a bear trap. Reckoning that may be he could train it to drill wells, he buckled a mule's harness on to it. But the critter broke loose, seized a cow and flapped away with it through the treetops. That is an exaggeration, however; it actually takes *two* Ozark mosquitoes to fly off with a cow.

## THE LIGHT-FINGERED GENTRY.

BY SRI P. NARAYANA KURUP

SUB-INSPECTOR OF POLICE, RECORD SECTION, MADRAS CITY.

It is believed that while intelligent investigation and intense vigilance are enabling the police to minimise almost all types of crimes, the pick-pocket with the dexterity of hand, agility of feet and good address still maintains his unpleasant eminence as 'public enemy No. 2' in almost all Cities in India. For, of all crimes, pocket-picking is the easiest to commit. It involves minimum labour, time and risk in comparison with other types of crimes.

Of late, there is an increase in pocket-picking cases. The amazing growth of fast moving conveyances such as Electric trains, buses etc in the City for the swift movements of criminals, combined with such phases of modern life, as the increasing arrivals of people from the mofussil into the City with heavy cash for making their purchases or some such jobs are circumstances which have made 'pocket-picking' one of the major problems of the Police. Detection is achieved mostly in red-handed arrests, for the tangible reason that the property involved are mostly cash.

Decently dressed, the pick-pocket moves about the place for the prospective victim looking like cat at the milk. When the unwary victim's attention is directed to purchasing ticket or getting into a bus in a crowd, the criminal dexterously dips his nimble fingers into the victim's pocket and calmly filches the purse. However, observations at these vulnerable points by experienced plain-clothes men has frequently resulted in the detection of well-known pick-pockets.

More often than not, the victim is an outsider. For the criminal knows too well that only an outsider will have a sumptuous purse in the pocket. The criminal instinct and his x-ray eyes enable him to understand the victim's psychology, when he is in a crowd. If one

could successfully pretend to be an outsider, and carefully observe, one would see that pick-pockets swarming around like flies on a lump of sugar.

In crowded centres such as bus stops, the pick-pockets operate in a bunch. After marking the victim, they would innocuously close upon him like intending passengers. One of them dashes against the victim, and while the victim cranes his neck to locate the person, another from the gang instantly removes the purse, and passes it on to a third, who decamps with the loot.

A wizard pick-pocket would usually stand shoulder to shoulder of the victim in a crowd. He would pass his left hand through his gorgeously draped upper cloth, and would coolly thrust his tapering fingers into the victim's pocket.

When not in a crowd, he would commit the offence single-handed by distracting the victim's attention.

One day a respectable looking moffusil merchant with a glaring purse in the pocket was walking on the pavement of Rattan Bazaar road. Following him, a stranger drew his attention to a speck of night-soil on the back of his shirt (the stranger had slyly applied this). The poor merchant could not by any stretch of imagination understand how it happened to be there. However, his fingers verified it, and felt very awkward. To clean the dirt, he walked to a nearby water tap. A little later, he was amazed to find that the purse was missing and so also the stranger.

Another moffusilite was hoaxed in a different fashion. He had a heavy purse in one pocket, and the fellow pocket of the jubba contained some 'guntur cigars'. He was smoking and moving gingerly on Audiyappa Naicken Street. A stranger accosted him and requested him for a cigar. In order to ensure the safety of the purse, he had tied an upper cloth coverly both pockets of his canvassy jubba. The merchant untied his upper cloth, and removing a cigar, handed



the same to the stranger. As there was no match box with them, the merchant allowed the stranger to light the cigar from the one the merchant was smoking, in a kissing posture. This plan had evidently worked nicely. It afforded opportunity for the criminal's confederate to remove the purse. The victim found that he had been the dupe of a well-dramatized bit of trickery.

In some cases, pick-pocket operates with a razor blade.

A very cautious person kept his money purse in the inside pocket of his shirt, and was engaged in getting 'off ration sugar' on a Deepali day in Kothwal Bazaar. The pick-pocket thought that this was a sinister and direct challenge to his ability. A little later, the victim found that the pocket was ripped and the purse extracted.

There are many funny stories about pick-pockets, and their capacity for crime fascinates people.

Sometime ago, there was an entertainment in a prison for the benefit of the inmates. Among the performers was a conjuror. As usual, the conjuror asked one of the audience to assist him in his performance. With enthusiasm, a young fellow helped the conjuror, and came down to his seat. A little later, the conjuror proud of his achievement asked the audience - Any Questions? His erstwhile assistant shouted - "Will you please let me know the time by your watch? "Certainly", said the conjuror, and he fumbled for the pocket watch, but was surprised to find that it had vanished from his pocket. The questioner immediately returned the watch. He was a pick-pocket ex-convict.

Recently, "The Mail" published a news item under the caption - 'Gets back lost pass-book, not money. Crime and Occurrence Sheet No. 157 dated 5th June, 1952 - under the heading - "An honest pick-pocket'". A pick-pocket removed cash and a pension pass-book from a railway passenger's pocket. He returned the pass-book to the victim

anonymously by post. This incident came under the searching scrutiny of 'Ananda Vikatan', which made some ethical and psychological comment, that the idea behind the miscreant was that he would not get further chance of picking the pocket of the very same victim had he not returned the pass-book. Let us not comment on this ambiguous honesty.

Nonetheless, let us turn our attention to possible preventive measures to guard against this ingenious crime.

Reporting of crimes generally in news papers is not satisfactory as in foreign countries by experts. Except some sensational court cases, there is no proper information on crimes and criminals in journals. If this is done efficiently, it would be of great service in creating a real public understanding of the problem.

Nine out of ten cases of pocket-picking are due to extreme carelessness, and this is one of the most prolific incentives to pick-pockets. One should avoid to be in crowds, while queuing would help one. One must also develop a sense of acute observation of the behaviour of persons moving around while in a crowd.

A skilfully directed propagandist campaign by impressive exhibition of pick-pockets' photographs in buses, trams, banks etc as is being done in the City would achieve concrete results. Lantern-slide lectures would also create salutary effects.

There is a general apathy among the public to keep quiet, if only their purses are restored. They would not be a willing party to prosecution of the culprits to avoid attendance in Courts. Public should be educated on right lines to report a case or give information to the Police. In this regard, a good deal of public co-operation is needed.

Now, it may not be out of place to refer briefly to aspect of punishment. Due to 'Prison reform' etc, some criminals deliberately

commit offences just to be sure of some good accomodation and food—something they would find difficult to obtain outside. I came across with an instance in which a bad charactor told me that he would be returning to the Penitentiary in a few days after meeting his parents. Two or three days later, it became true. So reforms must be within practical limits, and based on wisdom and experience.

The theory according to reformist is to 'catch a thief, treat him kindly and improve his mind'. Moralists and politicians encourage it. But mind culture and psychoanalysis or scientific treatment would not alter a professional criminal to be a member of society. To sum up the whole issue of punishment, the panacea for the eradication of crime is to introduce dietary punishment, hard labour etc, as nowadays convicts think that prison life is a rest cure. Some believe in rough justice—eye for an eye—should be the only penal code for incorrigible criminals, to afford protection to society.

Public frequently hears of praise-worthy efforts to improve the lot of the convicts. Should it not hear also praises for the services of those who were responsible for guaranteeing the security of society by putting such criminals behind the bars?

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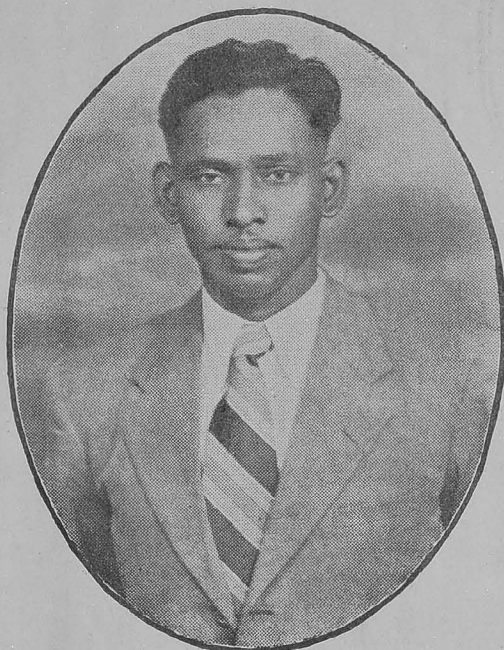
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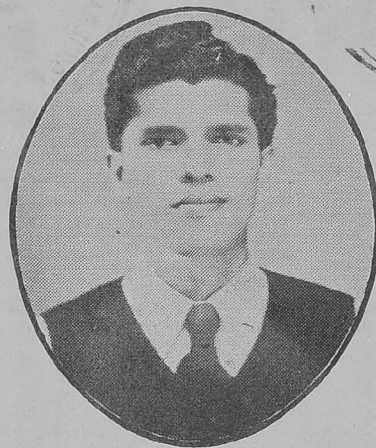
### "A POLICEMAN'S LAMENT"

"As I went through the suburban street and saw the lights in the upper windows go out, one after another, I pictured the inmates, men with regular jobs, eight in the morning to five at night, clerks, shop assistants, engineers, labourers, motor drivers; all knew what they had to do, got on with it and at the end of the day had accomplished something and were finished, whilst a detective even after fourteen hours a day had nothing to show for all the hard work..."

*(The Police Review, May 30, 1952).*



Jemidar  
R. FRANCIS.



Jemidar  
IVAN JACOB.

## MADRAS POLICE REPRESENTATIVES AT THE WORLD OLYMPIC GAMES, HELSINKI, 1952.

BY SRI F. V. ARUL, B.A., I.P., DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,  
LAW AND ORDER, MADRAS.

The unique fact that two members of the Madras Police Force represented India at the World Olympic Games at Helsinki this year has passed unnoticed among large sections of the Police Force in this State. Never in the history of the Madras Police have two members at any one time represented India in an International competition. The two members who brought this great honour to the Police Force of this State are Jamedar Ivan Jacob and Head Constable R. Francis of the Madras City Police Armed Reserve.

2. Jamedar Ivan Jacob hails from Quilon in Travancore. He had a distinguished athletic career in School and College and was recruited as a Jamedar in the Madras City Police Armed Reserve in July 1951. He represented the Madras State Police Athletic Team at the Madras Olympic Games in January 1952 and won the 400 metres event creditably in 51 seconds. As a result of this success he was selected to represent Madras State at the 15th All India Olympic Games held at Madras in February 1952. He ran a wonderful race in the 400 metres to win it from the Punjab Champion in the excellent timing of 49.8 seconds, thereby equalling the All-India record set up 15 years ago by E. Grantzer of Bengal. By reason of this excellent performance he was chosen to represent India at the World Olympic Games at Helsinki this year. He was sent to Kasauli in North India for a course of training under the guidance of the Indian Olympic coach Mr. E. Dhawan. As a result of this training he was able to reduce his timing in the 400 metres race to 48.9 seconds. He flew to Denmark in July this year and underwent further training. During this training he

suffered an injury unfortunately and this affected his performance at Helsinki a fortnight later. He was able to cover the distance in 51.3 seconds which was 2 seconds outside his best performance. However, he has gained valuable experience in competing in an International competition which I am sure will stand him and the Madras State Police in good stead in the future. There is no doubt that he will distinguish himself at the ensuing State Police Sports, Madras Olympic Games and the 3rd All-India Police Sports at Bangalore.

3. Head Constable R. Francis was recruited as a Constable 13 years ago. He knew nothing of hockey when he joined the Police. He was, however, quite proficient in Foot Ball, having learnt the game in Burma in earlier years. He started learning his hockey in the Police Force and soon showed promise of a first class Goal-Keeper. He represented the Madras City Police Hockey Team in all the major tournaments of Madras, and by reason of his excellent performance was selected to represent the Madras State Hockey Team on several occasions. With every passing year he showed more and more improvement until he showed himself to be quite distinctly of all-India standard. In 1948 he was selected to represent India at the World Olympic Games in London. He played his part in India winning the Championship from Great Britain. He was again included in the Indian Hockey Team which went to East Africa on a tour. He continued to maintain excellent form and played a notable part in the Madras City Police Hockey Team winning the M. U. C. Gold Cup, the S. I. A. A. Willingdon Cup, the Ever Merry Hockey Cup and the League Championship in 1951. He was selected to represent Madras against the Japanese Hockey Team in December 1951 and in the Inter-Provincial Hockey Tournament in April 1952. As a result of his performances he was selected to represent India at the World Olympic Games at Helsinki. He acquitted himself

worthily and helped India in retaining the World Championship for the fifth successive occasion. On his return to Madras he was accorded a warm welcome by the Madras Hockey Association. In recognition of his services he has been promoted as a Jemadar. There is no doubt that he will continue to be an asset not only to the Madras State Police but also to the Indian Nation. It is but right that we of the Madras Police should be proud of both Jamedar Ivan Jacob and Head Constable R. Francis.

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### IT WAS NOT SAID BY A POLICEMAN.

Old Blue, the biggest catfish in the world, has been discussed for years around camps in the Ozark country. One time, knowing that a big flood was on the way, Old Blue benevolently put his great tail under an old boatman's shanty that was moored on the shore and moved it up to higher ground. "He done it so gentle-like," said the riverman, "that my skillet didn't even fall off its peg."

Old Blue was landed by a fisherman only once, and the lake fell 14 feet when Tom Reeves dragged him out. Launches and sailing-boats were stranded high and dry, and shoreside cottagers found half a mile of mud between their cabins and the water. Seeing the future of the summer-resort business in danger, local businessmen finally prevailed upon Reeves to return his prize to the water, whereupon the lake promptly rose to normal depth.

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### IT WAS NOT SAID BY A POLICEMAN.

The boys in an Arkansas lumber camp tell of a fog so dense that when they cut a tree it didn't fall down—the fog held it upright. "The choppers cut about 60 pines in foggy weather once, and nary a tree toppled until the next mornin', when the sun come out an' the fog lifted. Then you could hear them trees a-crashin' down all over the place."

## THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH.

BY SRI K. SREE KUMARA MENON, B.Sc., DY. S. POLICE, RAJAHMUNDRY.

*“The old order changeth yielding place to new  
And God fulfills himself in many ways,  
Lest one good custom should corrupt the World”.*

More than any other department it is the Police who have to ponder deeply over these profound words. Ever since the dawn of freedom, a great change has occurred, in the mutual relationship between the Government and the people. Where formerly it was a question of rulers and the ruled, now the former category practically ceased to exist, and the people took on the responsibility of governing themselves.

The task of the Police in this new set up no doubt is a bit difficult. In days of old the main task of the police was to help the ruler to rule and it cannot be denied that the reins given to the police were long and elastic. This was perhaps one of the main reasons why the police were looked upon with disfavour, as they put down all movements directed to the attainment of freedom. Such a policy led naturally to the police being more feared, distrusted and suspected than loved or respected. It cannot be denied that in the old regime the police had a false sense of pride and an exaggerated view of their own status and power. This was only a reflection of the attitude of the then power in authority. These can be best illustrated by giving a few examples. No man for instance would in former days go in front of certain police stations with a turban on his head or a cigarette in his mouth. Cyclists and bullock cart drivers would get down from their stately perches, remove their turban and walk past till the danger zone was over. I was surprised when one officer on seeing someone smoking in a public road in front of a police station let loose a string of unhealthy words. This portrayed in true colours what I have been



driving at—that false pride and sense of authority that the Police felt would not be established without slapping a person or using unpleasant and dirty language. Very often a poor individual who came to report that all his property has been stolen is met with abuses. These practices so degenerated the good name of the police that the ordinary man dared not risk coming to the Police station. The respectable man considered it an indignity to even step into a Police station.

It might be argued that in the olden days the police commanded greater respect, and that even the visit of a H. C. or S. I. to a village was a great event for the villagers. It might be true the hearts of the entire village would start going a bit faster or even stop beating. All the same it would be wrong to say that all these things were because the Police were loved and respected. This respect was only an outcome of fear and nothing else. These are the things that now require a thorough over-hauling. There is no harm if the police for a change follow the paths of humility and earn the love of the public, by this. A writer has remarked "*Humility is not a weak and timid quality ; it must be carefully distinguished from a grovelling spirit. There is such a thing as honest pride and self respect. Though we may be servants of all, we should be servile to none*".

With the advent of Freedom the entire picture has changed. The Police too have to move with the times and completely change their outlook both in respect to their duties and to their attitude to the general public. How then are the police to effect this change ? The main thing is for the Police to realise that they have suffered so to say a reversion, from that of master to that of servant. No one can deny that this "reversion" has been for the better. As far as duties are concerned one may ask "But what changes are there in the duties ?". There may not be any changes

in the duties as such but there are innumerable instances where the method of performing such duties can be bettered. The first requisite for every policeman would be to be above board. He should set before himself the motto to be "Pure in thought, word and deed". Let all the old and crooked ways be buried deep down never to rise again. Let no one book a poor innocent for some private grudge or let a real accused off, for some private gains. Let no one stray away from the paths of honesty however tempting the bait. It is only then that the public will start having faith in the Police. It was Hazlitt who wrote "*Nothing gives such a blow to friendship as detecting another in an untruth - It strikes at the root of our confidence ever after*". So let the police avoid all untruth and thereby earn the confidence of the public. Honesty, humility, justice, these are some of the qualities that will go a long way in putting an end to the hate and distrust of the public towards the police, and help to build the foundation for a new era in which the Police can hope to enjoy the confidence and love of the public, which in itself would be the greatest detective power the police have yet seen.

The Police should never forget for a moment that no other organisation has such an opportunity as they to serve the public. They should all be thankful for this. There is a pleasure that comes out of helping one in distress. Let us see what the ways are in which they can be done. The first and foremost way in which this can be done is by being courteous and speaking kindly and gently to one and all. "*He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love*". These words should be in the minds of every policeman. When a complainant having lost all comes to the station to prefer a complaint there is no use jumping at him for the trouble caused or for his carelessness in leaving the doors open or not putting his valuables in his safe. This is only increasing his agony and decreasing his faith in the police. If

instead consoling and encouraging words are spoken to him, he would atleast have that consolation even though the case remains undetected. In day to day contact with the public there are numerous occasions that arise when the police can do some good turn or other. Let them make full use of these opportunities. Wordsworth has written that

“Small service is true Service while it lasts  
Of Humblest friends bright creature scorn not one,  
The daisy by the shadow that it casts  
Protects the glistening dew drop from the Sun”.

So let every one try to do a good turn to some one whenever an opportunity arises. Let us take the advice of Dickens too, to

“Have a heart that never hardens, and a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts”.

Another important factor that helps to increase the faith of the public in the police, is their justness and impartiality, and once the public feels that this is wanting they will have nothing but distrust. The police should be absolutely straight and impartial so that big and small alike should feel that they will never deviate even slightly from the straight path of duty. Once the public realises this, that the policeman is their friend ready to set right grievances, justly and honestly and without fear or favour, they are sure to repay this trust with co-operation and goodwill. This is what is most needed by the police force to-day, and every policeman from top to bottom should strive to attain this end.

It would be a bit difficult at first to adjust oneself to the new times and circumstances. With a little humility, a strong sense of duty and a spirit of service this should not be difficult. By honesty and justness in their duties the good-will and co-operation of the public can be gained. The day will not be then far off when everybody would speak about the police force in this land, with faith, hope and pride as being as good, if not better, than any, anywhere in the world.

**PUBLIC REPORTING—No. 93.**

~~BY SECRETARY~~ V. ARUL, B. A., I. P., DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
OF POLICE, LAW AND ORDER, MADRAS.

If the Police are to function successfully the active interest and participation of individual citizens and groups is vital and in so far as the Police are concerned it is their duty to deliberately seek to arouse, promote and maintain an active public concern in their affairs. We therefore wish to bring to the notice of the public of Madras that we have a system of communication whereby Police assistance to the public can be furnished instantaneously. This communication is telephonic and by dialling the number 93 contact can be established with a special Police Organisation known as the "Control Room" which will furnish Police assistance instantaneously. An armed party with the necessary transport is available at the Control Room, every single minute, every single hour and every day of the year. It is, however, unfortunate that large sections of the public including the intelligentsia are not aware of these arrangements which have been made for their succour in all times of need. It is therefore our purpose to educate all sections of the public on the use of dial No. 93.

2. The special feature of the emergency squads at the Control Room is that the Vans and Lorries in which they are transported are fitted with a two-way radio system by means of which constant touch is kept with the Control Room where is situated the Central Wireless Station and the information and operation rooms from which dissemination of information to the Wireless cars is regulated. The emergency squad and the Wireless patrols do not exist merely for the purpose of chasing motor bandits or catching smash-and-grab raiders. They are for the prevention as much as for the detection of crime and are to be

regarded as the most effective branch of bringing succour to the general public in their hour of need. The public must therefore stretch forth their hands and meet the Police half-way. All that we request of the public to do is to dial No. 93 in times of emergency. Private telephones can be used for the purpose as also the large number of public telephone boxes all over the City, from which the Control Room can be contacted within a few moments. This telephonic system if resorted to readily by the public can make life very difficult for the criminal. News of him can be spread with the utmost rapidity and motor patrols can be ready for him everywhere. It is therefore requested that if any member of the public sees, suspects or is informed that a crime has been committed or is likely to be committed he should telephone immediately to No. 93.

3. The following illustrations will show of the wonderful manner in which assistance can be rendered to the public by the Police when No. 93 is dialled in emergencies.

i. Mr. Vincolie, a Student of the Medical College and resident at the Medical College Hostel on Kelly's Road was burning the midnight oil on the 7th of March this year in preparation for his examinations. At 3-35 A. M. in the morning he glanced at the Road opposite his window on hearing the noise of a car coming to a halt. He saw a Taxi MSC. 3354 drawn up opposite a shop near the 'Bala Mandir' and four persons got out of the taxi and attempted to break open the lock of the shop. Mr. Vincolie obviously possessing civic sense of a high order rushed to the telephone in his Hostel immediately and telephoned to No 93. He gave details of the taxi and of the attempted burglary by the four persons who arrived in the taxi. In the matter of a few seconds an armed party shot out of Control Room in a wireless Van and rushed to the scene of occurrence. The culprits having completed their job got into the taxi and drove on to Poonamallee

High Road via., Millers Road and Flowers Road. The Police Party in the van who were watching every vehicle on the road recognised the taxi by its number and in a moment they stopped it and arrested all the culprits. This arrest led to the detection of several other burglaries which have been committed by these culprits. All praise and credit are due to Mr. Vincolie.

ii. There is yet another classic instance of the immediate assistance rendered to the public by the Police when the former contacted No. 93. A merchant was proceeding along Harris Road in a Rikshaw, on 7th of April 1952 at about 10 P. M. He was carrying with him various articles of groceries with which he intended to open a Coffee hotel the next morning on Poonamallee High Road. He was accosted by a robber who took him to Pantheon Road, deprived him of his goods and sent him away walking. The victim contacted Nehru Taxi Company which is nearby and getting into the Taxi drove to the Control Room immediately. He laid information of the robbery at the Control Room and in a matter of a few seconds an armed party set out in a wireless van. Within 5 minutes the armed party located the robber in Monteith Road and arrested him and recovered all the properties intact.

4. These illustrations should dispel any doubts that the public may have about the utility of the communication system styled as 'No. 93'. The public are therefore requested once again to stretch forth their hands and meet the Police half-way by dialling No. 93 for the purpose of helping themselves and helping the Police to maintain Law and Order.

## GLEANINGS

BY SRI K. SREE KUMARA MENON, B. Sc., Dy. S. POLICE,

RAJAHMUNDRY.

“No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main— any man’s death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee”.

—*Donne.*

“One can sometimes catch more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a hogs head of vinegar”.

—*Hall Cain.*

“Life is merely froth and bubble  
Two things stand like stone;  
Kindness in another’s trouble  
Courage in your own”.

—*Gordon.*

“The best doctors in the world are Dr. Diet, Dr. Quiet and Dr. Merryman.

—*Swift.*

“Courtesy lives by a multitude of little sacrifices, not by sacrifices of sufficient importance to impose any burdensome sense of obligation. These little sacrifices may be both of time and money, but more of time and the money sacrifice should be just perceptible, never ostentatious”.

—*Hammerton.*

“To be humble to Superiors is duty, to equals is courtesy, to inferiors is nobleness, and to all is safety; it being a virtue that for all its lowliness commandeth those it stoops to.”

—*Sir Thomas Moore.*

“The tale bearer and the tale hearer should be both hanged up, back to back, one by the tongue, the other by the ear”.

—*South.*

“Trust not yourself, but your defects to know,  
Make use of every friend and every foe”.

—*Pope.*

**HEREDITY.**

(From "THE READER'S DIGEST", July 1952.)

" U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson tells this one :

The No. 1 pickpocket of New York was riding in the subway when he felt a hand on his wallet. He whirled about and confronted a pretty female face which, it turned out, belonged to the No. 1 pick-pocket of Chicago. The discovery of their respective identities provoked a lot of technical talk, and she admitted that her technique had been bungling.

One thing led to another. They met frequently, and finally they got married. Pretty soon a child was expected. Of course, coming from such distinguished forebears, this child could not miss being the No. 1 pick-pocket of America. But, alas, the baby was born with a deformity. Its right hand was tightly clasped, and nothing could make it open. Obviously with such a handicap it could never become a great pick-pocket. The best medical men and surgeons could do nothing.

In desperation, the parents took the child to a psychiatrist. After trying all the conventional methods for relaxing such a tension, he decided to discard the scientific stuff and try something primitive. So he took a gold watch on the end of a gold chain and, holding it six inches or so over the little closed hand, swung it back and forth. Gradually, the hand began to open, bit by bit

You should have seen the amazed expressions on the faces of the astonished parents. For in the hand was an object—the midwife's wedding ring."



## PUBLIC RELATIONS.

BY SRI M. A. PARASURAMAN, M. A., SUPERINTENDENT,  
C. I. D., MADRAS.

### 1. GENERAL :

The protection of the life and property of the citizens of a country is a primary function of Government. As the Government represent the people as a whole, Police Officers have been appointed by them to perform this important task. The Police are paid for this service and as such there must exist a proper relationship between them (employees) and the people (employers) from whom the Government has derived its authority. The lack of such a relationship was due to the failure on the part of the Police to understand that their duty is to *serve*. As public co-operation is the foundation on which Police efficiency rests, the co-operative spirit of the public should be moulded and built by the police themselves. If that were done the Police will be able to receive from the public the respect that is due to them. The following are the main steps that are being taken to ensure that the Police of this country deserve the co-operation from the public which they have a right to expect.

### 2. TRAINING OF THE POLICE :

So far the subjects taught to Police Officers and men have been academical. Arrangements have since been made to hold classes for them and lectures are also delivered by competent Police Officers of wide experience about the way how they should conduct themselves with the public with whom they will be coming into contact from day to day in the discharge of their duties. The attitude of "officiousness" so widely predominant in the Police ranks is bound to disappear, and willingness to serve will very soon take its place. While the police man must be firm in his duties, he should not forget at the same time that he should be courteous

as well and avoid all appearance of rudeness. The essence of the teaching in these classes should be to inculcate in the cadets and the recruits the idea that co-operation of the public is very necessary to make their career a success. All members of the public irrespective of their station in life are to be treated in a civil and courteous manner whenever they seek the assistance of the Police, although in doing so the public may expect much more than the Police man would be able to give, but he should remember that his behaviour towards them even in such circumstances should be in such a way as to give the impression that there was a real desire to be of assistance.

### 3. STANDARD OF RECRUITMENT :

To enable the nature of the training of the Police, both academical as well as the social side of it, to be imbibed, the standard of recruitment of the personnel has been raised recently. In this country service as a police man has for long been considered as only fit for those who cannot go up for higher education or to other branches of the public service. The percentage of well educated young men even in the rank of Sub-Inspectors has therefore been negligible. Sub-Inspectors of Police, who form the very back-bone of the Police administration are being carefully selected as far as possible from amongst men of culture and education and those who belong to families of long established reputation. By these changes in the very near future there will rise a group of police officers who would raise police efficiency to the expected standard, and also know how to conduct themselves with the public in general, so that the antipathy of the public for the Police may gradually give room to unstinted public co-operation and public support. Their example will also make the common man view Police service as one of the most dignified walks of public life.

#### 4. ° THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED :

Unless the public are kept informed about the needs and difficulties of the Police as also the main features about their work and procedure they will not be in a position to appreciate the real responsibility of the Police. However well intentioned certain of the activities of the Police may be, they are likely to cause resentment in the general public if the necessity for such a course is not explained to them beforehand. It is in this connection that the facilities afforded by the public press are being fully harnessed. Although traffic enforcement in certain directions may be an excellent job and it may be a genuine service to the public by which lives are saved, damage and injury to property are avoided, still if the public is not informed of the programme it will call forth their resentment. In such circumstances the public is entitled to know the true situation and only by informing it of facts can the Police avoid resentment and secure the support so necessary to success in such campaigns.

#### 5. VILLAGE VIGILANCE COMMITTEES :

One of the greatest difficulties the police had to contend with was lack of co-operation on the part of the general public. In many respects there were strong local feelings. Any suggestion of a public spirit to put down abuses or for the common welfare was conspicuous by its absence. The public entirely failed to realise the cordial co-operation necessary especially in this country of great distances and indifferent facilities for communication. In these circumstances the idea of getting together a party of selected villagers headed by an influential man to patrol the area and to keep a sharp look out for night prowlers was conceived and introduced in selected districts. Following the idea of village vigilance parties regular committees were formed, and it was extended throughout this State, especially in those

localities where undetected crimes had been occurring for long periods. The scheme which has been working for over 30 years has been a success at those places where the Police and the Public connected with its administration had the proper regard for its efficient functioning. This organisation is being re-organised on up-to-date lines taking into account the present political condition of the country, and the authority of the Committees is also widened so that the members thereof may discharge their duties with a sense of real responsibility and as a means of properly serving the country.

#### 6. TREATMENT OF WITNESSES :

Members of the public have an abhorrence which is almost chronic to figure as witnesses in Courts in criminal cases. This has been the main reason why they generally have not been disposed to assist the Police in the investigation and detection of crime. It may be that in the past Police Officers in charge of investigation paid very scanty attention to the inconvenience that will be caused to those giving evidence, and expected them to attend Police Station whenever called upon to do so. Similarly the way in which witnesses have been treated in Courts where they appear to give evidence has also been unsatisfactory. The provision of a room in the Courts in which witnesses called in to give evidence can conveniently wait until called upon to get into the witness box will be a distinct improvement. Similarly in Police Stations separate accommodation should be provided where respectable witnesses can wait until their work with the Police is over.

#### 7. LECTURES :

Apart from the information given to the public through the Press responsible Police Officers are now appearing before the public to explain matters of interest to them. There are also well organised clubs like Rotary Club, the Toc-H etc., the organisers

of which are prone to seek interest in such speakers. As no subject is of such keen general interest as Police work, experienced Police Officers can with advantage use these forums to improve the relations between the Police and the Public by introducing in their lectures details of actual police duties to make the talk interesting.

#### 8. PUBLICATIONS :

The police administration report is so technical in its nature and the contents are so academical as not to interest the common man. Therefore the Police Journal has been the medium through which the interest of the public is being cultivated in the day to day activities of the Police. All possible efforts are being made to secure contributions from the leaders of public opinion who have had a thorough knowledge of what goes to make up Police efficiency and the responsibilities of the policeman and the difficulties with which he has to encounter in doing his work effectively and without causing resentment.

#### 9. PROPAGANDA THROUGH FILMS :

In view of the present popularity of films in general, it is likely that in the near future increasing use of the film, to give advice to the public on police procedure and technique so that they may become interested in the work of the police in combating crime, will be made. Although the Press can do this, still the use of films in such things as the best means of protecting one's premises against house-breaking, and shop breaking, theft from motor cars, road traffic problems and other existing frauds, will be much more beneficial to the common man.

#### 10. POLICE AND THE PRESS :

Steps have also been taken by which the relation between the work of the Police and that of the newspapers are co-ordinated. By such an arrangement the Police and the Press have come into closer contact, leading to a state of relationship between them

that will be a great asset in promoting the smooth relations between the Police and the Public.

#### 11. POLICE SPORTS :

Every opportunity is now being availed of to hold athletic competitions of all kinds, fire brigade and First Aid displays. By these public displays and police demonstrations which are always of great public interest, the common people are being informed about the many sided activities of the Police.

#### 12. PUBLIC VISITS :

The increasing visits to the important centres of police activities by public leaders are giving them an insight into the machinery through the means of which the Police do their day to day work. Thereby Civic leaders, members of Civic Clubs have been able to appreciate the importance of providing adequate facilities to the Police in that they have had an opportunity to know them at first hand. It will be a good step towards the public co-operation if leading citizens are invited to ride in patrol cars to see them actually at work. By so doing citizens will be able to determine at first hand exactly the treatment accorded to the public by the police and that will be the best answer to give them if they have been erroneously informed that the police are unreasonable or are unnecessarily harsh.

#### 13. CONCLUSION :

Although the above points cover only some of the main methods by which the co-operation of the public is being cultivated by the police of this State in their day to day work and their general activities, the aim of the police is always to cultivate good-will. It is being impressed on them individually on all possible occasions that they should combine dignity in deportment with friendliness, kindness, good humour and constant readiness to give their help to any member of the public who requires it and become the common man's friend.