

MARCH '71.

No. 24

Bravery in the mud leads to awards

TROPHIES presented annually for meritorious conduct in various aspects of police work were presented last month. These were for bravery and public relations work by regular policemen, and for the most noteworthy act by a traffic warden.

Mud flats rescue

About 6.15 a.m. one Sunday morning a year ago, Constables Ken Light and Murdo McInnes were directed to mud flats near Cormorant Creek, Walton-on-the-Naze, where two youths were reported trapped.



PC Bob Collett

Trophy, donated by Ald. Wilson for the bravest act each year by a member of the Force. The rescue has also been marked by the award of Testimonials on Vellum of the Royal Humane Society.

Youth work

The Millard Trophy, donated by Ald. Millard for the greatest contribution to police-public relations, goes to P.C. Bob Collett, residential beat officer at Vange.

Realising that young children caused a lot of trouble in that locality mainly through boredom he called a meeting of local residents out of which the Vange Play Area Association was formed.

Bob Collett became the chairman, a position he still holds, and both he and his wife take a leading part in this work. Turning his attention to older children, P.C. Collett approached the Basildon Development Corporation and with their help formed the Vange and Pitsea Youth Advisory Association. He's chairman of that, too.

Now they run a play area, a cafe, camp and a motor cycle track. Bob Collett's contribution to youth and to the image of the Force is well worthy of the award.

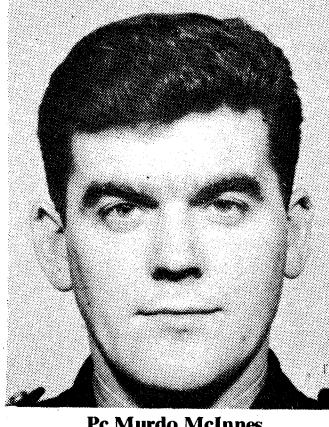
Not just parking attendants

Two traffic wardens who brought about the arrest of three shoplifters are this year's winners of the Betts Trophy awarded annually to the warden whose actions were of most assistance to the police.

Last June, Traffic Wardens Harry Morgan and Gilbert White were on duty in Chelmsford High Street when a store detective pointed out three persons suspected of shoplifting. Instructing the store detective to telephone the police station the wardens followed the suspects and kept them in sight until policemen arrived to deal with them.

The three were later found guilty of stealing goods valued at £22. This is Harry Morgan's second spell as trophy holder. In 1969 he won it for his work in connection with a serious road accident.

The constables receive jointly for their efforts the Wilson



PC Murdo McInnes

Constabulary Can-Can



Surprise performance at the Seaxes social last month was given by the high steppers of the Headquarters Musical Society chorus who repeated their number from the recent production of Oklahoma. The girls, from the left, Kim Atkins, Jenny Dyson, Norma Whymark, Brenda Jennings and Christine Gardiner, can be seen again in April when the Musical Society branch out into variety with a show at Headquarters.

—Photo by Essex Chronicle

GLOOM DISPELLED BY PAY AWARD

On February 25 the Force held its breath as the oft suspended pay talks came off. But after all the waiting the event itself seemed an anticlimax. The events of the day having been effectively "leaked" to the national press beforehand only left the very minor discomfort of waiting to hear the actual percentages, instead of the delicious agony of suspense it might have been.

And the Force seems to have taken the glad tidings as stoically as they did the bad news of previous months. No grim satisfaction, no elation that one could discern; but no dissatisfaction, and hardly a moan for that 35 per cent lost for ever.

The message is clear; we are still the silent service of old; the stiff upper lip is not dead; clearly we recognise that half a loaf is better than no bread.

Full account and scales on centre pages.



Wardens Gilbert White (left) and Harry Morgan.

Essex unaltered by new proposals

Government proposals for the reform of local authorities, announced last month, mercifully leave Essex county boundaries intact. The Maud-Redcliffe plan which would have chopped the county into several pieces has thus been sensibly set aside.

Indeed instead of the Force being upset by a further round of amalgamations or divisions to suit redrawn boundaries, the new local government areas fall into line with Police arrangements by merging the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea with the County of Essex.

Other counties are less fortunate, Suffolk for example losing territory to neighbouring counties, but for the most part existing boundaries have been retained.

Whether this amalgamation will be as drawn out as the last remains to be seen but this is unlikely. Proposals of this nature appeared in the government's election manifesto and are thus likely to be pushed through in a tougher fashion than before. Either way the upheavals should have no effect on the police.

Another 'first' for fair Dept.

Women Police scored another "first" this month when Woman Detective Constable Maureen Wildin started work with the C.I.D. at Southend. This blow for female equality follows the appointment of Wpc Jane Pepper to full-time traffic patrol duties last year.

Maureen, 23, is a Southend girl who has been in the job three years, six months of which was spent on the vice squad. Her comment on March 2, "It's my first day—chaotic." May it never change.

Peelers win

Thieves entered the Colchester home of Sir Jonathan Peel, former Chief Constable of Essex, on 6th February, and stole a small quantity of wines and spirits. Good work by the Colchester C.I.D. resulted in two men being charged with this offence. Sir Jonathan was on holiday in the Canary Islands at the time.

Decimal dilemma



"Fined five pounds er—eum—how many new pence might that be, Constable?"

Stanway Traffic Garage open evening success

by Derek Drew

You might think, by the way people from North-East Essex flock in, that it's the Palace of Varieties. In fact it's open night at the Stanway Traffic Garage, and the big problem is fitting them inside.

There were 250 drivers at the fifth open evening on February 4, from fleet vehicle operators to weekend motorists, pooling ideas. There's no doubt that these events have played a big part in police/public relations since Ps Wally Hammond, with Supt. Peter Skinner, organised the first a year ago.

And the Police Dependents' Trust Fund has benefited to the tune of nearly £50 from collections.

Personnel at the Colchester Sub. Traffic Division, take enormous pains to vary the evenings — that's why many local people go again and again. February's was rated the most successful so far.

Guests inspected a static show of the latest production cars supplied by dealers Candor Motors and Car Mart Limited, and contrasted them with the Merlyn Formula Ford local racing ace Bernard Vermilio drove to crack records last year at Brands Hatch and Snetterton. He also brought along his impressive display of trophies. They also saw Mr. Cyril Cornwell's 1913 Model T Ford and the 1912 Humber motor cycle on which he took a lap of honour as the first vehicle on Stanway by-pass, opened last month.

It was a full-time job for



Photo: By courtesy of Essex County Standard



Mr. "Spatts" Cornwell (in deerstalker) proudly demonstrates his 1913 Ford model T motor car to part of the crowd attending.

—Photo: By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times.

Left: Sergeant Wally Hammond gets down to earth on driving technique with an attentive audience not missing a word. In the foreground stands the Merlyn Formula Ford racing car in which local ace Bernard Vermilio put

up several records last year. Below: Colchester traffic typist Vivienne Clare at the wheel of the racing car with Bernard Vermilio giving instruction and Wally Hammond looking on.



Photo: By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times

parking marshals P.c Crosby and P.c MacPherson, and when the visitors arrived they were conducted around the building where P.c Pursey and P.c Paris explained maps, photographs and accident statistics. Ps Bassett and P.c Holland outlined procedure and demonstrated the breathalyser and specialist equipment and P.c Martin detailed out a black museum of defective vehicle parts.

Chief Inspector John Poston, welcoming the guests to the spotless main garage where a PAN signs display provided the backing for a fully-equipped incident vehicle, introduced Ps Hammond. The 60-minute Hammond lecture on driving techniques and safety is one of the biggest attractions to the open evening. And many claim that his points hit home

the harder with his down-to-earth, no punches pulled delivery. He got a special tribute from Mr. R. N. Hamilton, Colchester Telephones Manager and a regular customer when he heard that Ps Hammond was due for retirement this spring.

Colchester Road Safety Officer Ps Smith's series of films which followed the talk ended with an American production, Death on the Highway.

They even serve refreshments at these popular events, where policemen and motorists can chat and learn more of each other's problems over tea, coffee and biscuits. It's an event in which the whole garage staff, civilian and policemen alike, take a pride. They should. They put plenty of off-duty time into its preparation.

If the key fits

ON SATURDAY, 6th February, 1971, at 3 p.m. at St. John's Church, Great Clacton, P.c. Leslie Theobald was married to Rosemary Pope. Leslie was a cadet at Colchester and Clacton and is now stationed at Clacton having joined the force in April 1968. Rosemary was also a cadet at Clacton but now works at Clacton Town Hall.

The reception was held at the Kingsley Hotel, Clacton, and the couple spent their honeymoon at their Police house in Clacton.

The bride's father (P.c. Pope) had obtained a front door key with the intention of decorating the interior of the house in the traditional manner. This fact was discovered by the bride-groom who bolted the front door and retained the only back door key. In view of this he was not worried at the reception when he dis-



covered that certain guests had disappeared presumably to decorate the house.

His satisfaction at outsmarting the old man was short lived as when the guests returned, the bride's father informed him that like all good Police houses, different keys fit several other doors. In this case the outside

toilet key fitted the back door. This key had been put to good use and the bridal couple had to spend some time first gaining entry to their house and then putting it into some sort of order.

It's good to know the old ones are craftier than the young ones. Photo by courtesy of Roy Obia, of Clacton.

Walton section entertains



On February 5 Walton Section held their annual buffet dance at the Grand Hotel, Frinton. The dance was attended by over 100 people who had an enjoyable evening dancing to Geoff Dines Band. A raffle was held in aid of the Essex Police Orphans Fund and well over £30 was raised.

The picture shows from left to right, Supt. Pearson and Mrs. Pearson, Chief Supt.

Docker and Mrs. Docker, P.c. Len Saxby, organiser of the event, and Mrs. Saxby.

Photo by Putmans of Walton.

Another dance was held at the Cliff Hotel, Dovercourt, on February 17. This was in aid of a fishing boat for the Harwich section of Clacton Division Sports Club. Dancing was to Tom Collins' Jazz Band and Brian Hulls' Band.

The hall with the hole was in hand

During February the telephone book at Basildon prompt the mind to flights of fancy. "P.c. Aitcheson has this British Legion, 'Reporting in hand.' with a hole in the side of the hall."

The moral seems to be that

you have to hand it to the hall with the hole? Or, hand over the whole haul? Or, haul up the whole hand? Or, haul the whole hand over hand? Or . . .

Do you know your law?

1. Section 5 public order act 1936 can be charged if an incident takes place in a:

- Cinema
- Bowling Alley
- Dance Hall
- Shop
- Football Stadium

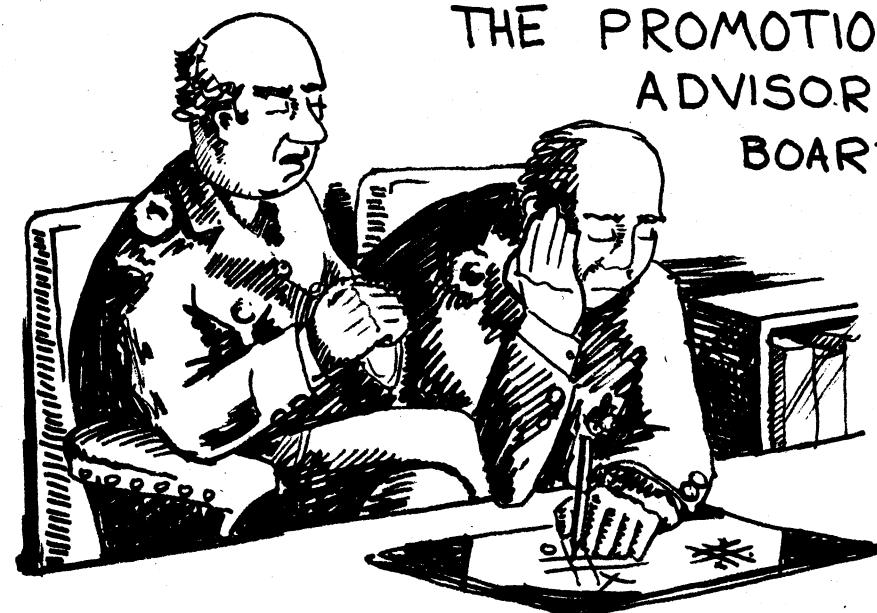
2. A justice's occasional licence may not be granted for a period exceeding:

- 3 days
- 7 days
- 14 days
- 21 days
- 1 day

3. Which of the following is not included in the definition of "conveyance" under the theft act 1968:

- Motor assisted pedal cycle
- Pedestrian controlled goods vehicle
- Hovercraft
- Steam Rollers
- Electrically operated vehicles

JOINT FORCE TYPES NO 22. THE PROMOTION ADVISORY BOARD



OF COURSE, THE IDEAL MAN WE'RE LOOKING FOR WOULD HAVE TOO MUCH SENSE TO BE IN THE JOB AT ALL.

A touch of the Softly Softlies

The recent decision that the branch of our organisation which like crime knows no frontiers, should occupy new premises, was the inspiration for the "operation order" printed below.

The spectacle of such unaccustomed labours reported pictorially would have provided much amusement but those taking part "refused to be photographed unless dressed in race walking kit, by infra red camera." In the interests of sport, this was ruled out.

OPERATION PICKFORDS

Reliable information has been received that during March 1, 1971, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., certain property will be removed from a large building, (Code Name "THE FACTORY") situated in Basildon, to a residential premises in another area (locally known as Peyton Place).

A number of men will be engaged in this removal and no doubt they will be well covered by associates keeping observation, who will be readily recognised as they will have their hands in their pockets and resemble senior officers.

For this operation to be a success a number of officers will be required to carry out "undercover" work to the extent of getting involved in this removal and a Conference has been held with the Director of Public Prosecutions as to the question of Agent Provocateur, which will be covered. This operation will require all officers to be present and suitably attired. Sticks will be carried discreetly.

For this operation to be a success it will require both diligence and expertise on behalf of each officer, who will not make any movement without prior explicit instructions from the officer in charge. It is possible that any disobedience of instructions in such a delicate operation could result in extreme danger to the officers engaged thereon.

At the conclusion of the operation, all injuries incurred will be reported to Det. Sgt. Waters who will be responsible for completion of the Industrial Injuries Book. Det. Sgt. Waters will be responsible for any First Aid required during the operation, including the issue of trusses.

Schedule I—Communication

| Officers Engaged | Call Sign |
|-------------------|----------------|
| D/Ch/Insp Johnson | Limp |
| D/Insp May | Super (vision) |
| D/Sgt Bridge | Rat |
| D/Con Judge | Cat |
| D/Sgt Grant | Met |
| D/Sgt Waters | Wart |
| D/Con Churn | Bear |
| D/Sgt Papple | Huff |
| D/Con Harris | Taff |
| D/Con Lewis | Louie the Lip |
| D/Con Nevin | Plonk |
| D/Sgt Bevell | Edgey |
| P/Con Mead | Eggy |
| W/D/Con Hawkins | The Pill |

Communication will be via megaphones, except Detective Constable Churn and D/Constable Lewis who will not require amplification of vocal cords.

Schedule II—Transport

A large van with blue light and extended aerial, with a uniformed motor cycle escort will be used as an observation vehicle.

It is expected that a removal van will leave the factory between 10 a.m. and 12 midday on March 1, 1971, and officers will use their own cars to follow this vehicle to Peyton Place.

D/Con Churn will position himself immediately behind the removal van, and a tow rope will be attached from the van to his car in order that at no time will the van be out of his view. In this way it will also be certain that the Morris Limousine arrives at Brentwood.

To the rear of D/Con Churn will travel D/Con Nevin and officers will not overtake D/Con Nevin in order that should he become lost. All other officers will take up position in height order behind D/Con Nevin—i.e. shortest front, tallest rear (obviously ex-borough men to the front).

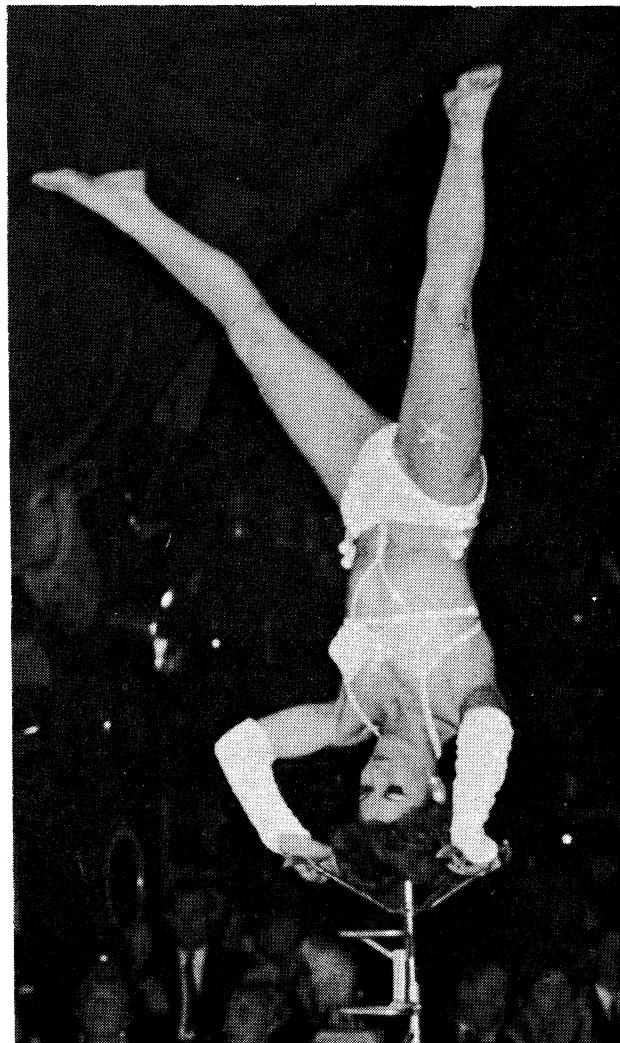
STOP PRESS

Later information suggests that a diversionary operation of a minor nature will emanate from a building (code name "The Kremlin") at Springfield Village, Essex. This diversion will be covered by Det Ch Insp Johnson who will be driving a blue 1600 Cortina and a blue Sunbeam Rapier.

Any communication to this officer should be made via satellite.

TIMELY WARNING

As the postal strike entered its 35th day on February 25 a letter from Home Office was received at Headquarters warning of the possible consequences of industrial action by the Union of Post Office Workers.



Bottoms up at Traffic Div. dinner

Traffic Division held their 19th annual dinner at The Barn Braintree, on February 22, when 230 guests, including Chief Constable and Mrs. Nightingale, attended. High spot of the evening for members of the division was the beer drinking contest which was won by Harlow's P.C. Webber (right, below) with Pe Radford, of Laindon, second. The entertainment included a balancing act by Astralita, seen above, upside down—she also juggles—and the whole evening was the usual Traffic Division success, organised by Peter Colbert and Rod Curtis.



PORTRAIT

Our new man in the paper factory, Mr. Thomas I. Abel



New Chief Admin. Officer appointed

THE Administration Department is pleased to welcome in their midst the new chief administration officer Thomas Ivor Abel who took up his appointment on 1st January, 1971.

Mr. Abel, aged 47 years, was born at Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham and commenced a bank career before serving in the Royal Navy from 1944-1947. Initially he trained as an interpreter in Japanese and later served in the supply branch.

On leaving the Royal Navy he studied at London University and the London School of Economics and gained a B.Sc. (Economics) degree.

He has spent several years in the dyeing and cleaning industry (Interpreter in a Chinese Laundry perhaps!) principally engaged in Sales Administration and General Business Management.

In recent years he has been employed as a Business Planning Co-ordination and Administration Manager with Standard Telephones.

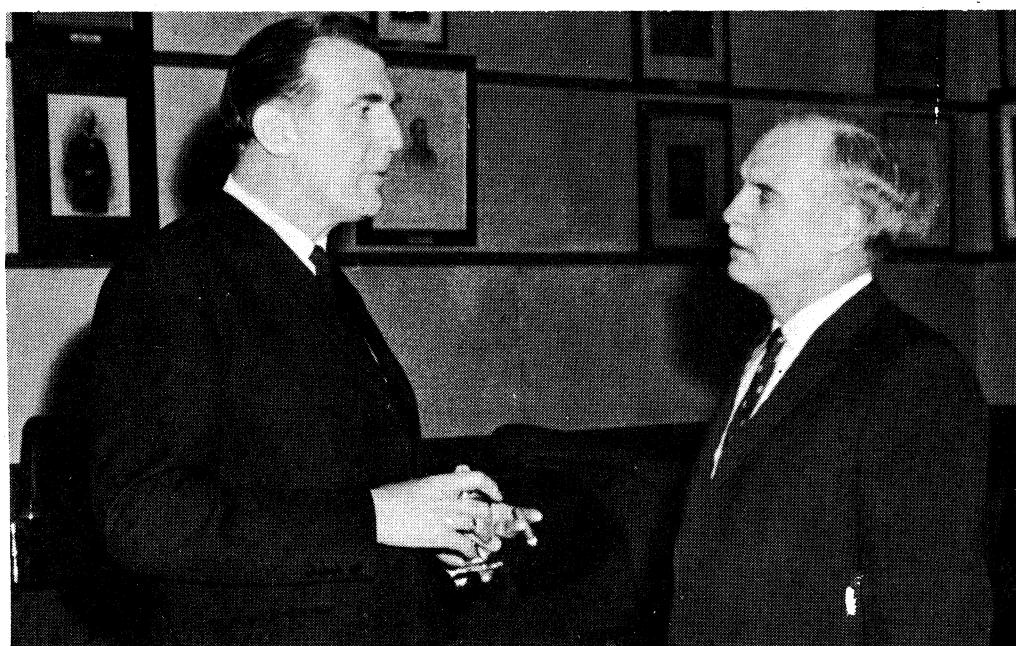
Mr. Abel was married in 1949 and has three sons, aged 20, 17 and nine and has enjoyed living at Westcliff-on-Sea since 1955.

In younger days Mr. Abel was an active participant in soccer and cricket but now is content to play tennis and occasionally enjoy a round of golf.

Not content with his present qualifications he devotes two evenings each week to furthering his knowledge in management studies at Danbury Management College.

This is a new appointment, made on the retirement of Chief Superintendent Ambrose and we wish Mr. Abel every success in his current brush with the

FORCE FEDERATION OPEN MEETING



Above, Sergeant Dick Pamplin chats with the Chief Constable before the meeting gets under way. Below, Mr. A. Goodson, Assistant Chief

Constable, seems lost for the right words to say to Chief Insp John Sutton, Chairman of J.B.B., centre, and Insp. Wilf Newnham, left.



NARPO

A thing of the past?

By Bert Brinkley

THE Chief Constable has had further thoughts on the question of notification of deaths of pensioners and has suggested one possible way of getting over the difficulty. The Secretary is to report the names and addresses (and where possible, telephone number) of two or three persons in each area or Division who would undertake the dissemination of messages concerning the death and funeral arrangements of pensioners. These names would be forwarded to Divisional Commanders who would be informed by teleprinter that these N.A.R.P.O. representatives were also to be informed.

It is appreciated that all persons are not connected by telephone but a provisional list, principally Committee members, has already been drawn up. But it is essential to spread the information as quickly as possible and necessary that all Members willing to take part in the "bush telegraph" system notify the Secretary with a telephone number if possible.

The teleprinter system is extended to more than 30 Stations and by this means it should be possible to keep members informed at an early date of the deaths of former colleagues and it is hoped all will endeavour to give the scheme a good send-off. It is understood that Colchester and Southend Branches who are somewhat different in their location, have already similar "grape-vines" in operation.

A.G.M. in May

Owing to circumstances beyond our control the date of the annual general meeting of the Chelmsford Branch has been fixed for Saturday, May 1, 1971, at 10.30 a.m. in the Assembly Hall, Police Headquarters (top of Traffic Block — four flights of stairs! Sorry about that). Agendas will be



"Never date a copper, Darling. The poor things are always skint. It's the wages, you know."

The Deputy Chief Constable (K. F. Alston Esq.) and Sergeant Stan Smith (Police Federation) have both kindly consented to address the meeting as in previous years so it is hoped Members will make a special effort to attend to support the efforts being made on their behalf.

The annual bowls fixture, four rinks, has been fixed for 3 p.m., Wednesday, July 14, 1971 — Regular Police v. Pensioners, on Headquarters green. All intending players are asked to contact the Social

Oliver Road, Shenfield, Brentwood. It is hoped this year to include one rink from the Southend Branch.

At a recent meeting of the Magazine Committee it was agreed to write to all pensioners inviting them to become subscribers to the Force Magazine (some already do). These forms

are being sent with our quarterly bulletins and should be completed and returned to C/Supt. Challis at Police Headquarters. The magazine will be published for 1971 (two issues) and a meeting will be

Informative speech at packed Shire

THE Force Federation open meeting took place in the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, on March 2, Headquarters assembly hall having proved too small to seat all those who had promised to come. And it says much for the interest that current problems hold for members of the Force that despite the heat having gone out of the pay issue, well over 300 turned up to pack the hall.

The speakers were Chief Inspector John Sutton, Chairman of the J.B.B., The Chief Constable, and Sergeant Dick Pamplin, Secretary of the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation.

The Chairman, in his review of 1970, mentioned the many subjects on which the Federation had held discussions. The J.B.B. had "consolidated our reputation as a responsible negotiating body," he said, and went on to pay tribute to the way in which the Chief Constable had consulted with the Federation on many matters connected with the efficiency and welfare of the Force.

Finally Mr. Sutton paid tribute to his predecessor Fred Paxman who last year, the worst feature of year finally declined to which, he said, was the continue in office after almost continuous service 125 leaving the Force and since 1956, and presented only 117 joining, a loss him with the Federation of eight. But he later re-

plate amid loud applause from all present.

The Chief Constable as Chairman, Sergeant also reviewed the past Fred Paxman who last year, the worst feature of year finally declined to which, he said, was the continue in office after almost continuous service 125 leaving the Force and since 1956, and presented only 117 joining, a loss him with the Federation of eight. But he later re-



ported that 39 additional civilians were taken on during the year and went on to say that civilians are now a permanent feature of police arrangements and must have a proper career structure of their own and integration with the Force,



decide its future for 1972. Everyone is asked to send articles or photos which they think would be of interest to readers.

As the postal strike has ended the quarterly bulletins for December, which have not yet arrived, may as a matter of expediency, be sent with the March quarter, thus conserving postage.

An acknowledgment of the letter to the Chelmsford M.P. (Norman St. John-Stevens) concerning our pension review has been received. He has enclosed the letter he received from Richard Sharples of the Home Office and it is reproduced below. Members will appreciate all that is written, we have done our best, we now look forward to a just and reasonable settlement.

Home Office
Whitehall, S.W.1.
February 3, 1971

My dear Norman,
You wrote Paul Dean on January 4 and sent the en-

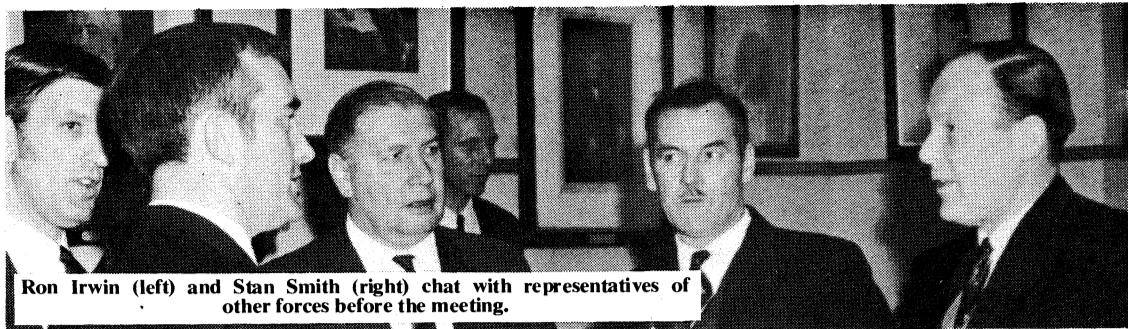
Brinkley about the review of public service pensions. I am replying because of the Home Secretary's responsibilities for police pensions.

Your constituent suggests that the increases in public service pensions which are to be provided for in the Pensions (Increase) Bill to be introduced later this Session should be paid with retrospective effect to April 1, 1971. Perhaps I should first explain why it is not possible to pay the increases any earlier than September 1, 1971. As Mr. Brinkley is aware, the first biennial review will necessarily cover the two-year period since the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1969, came into operation, i.e. the period April 1, 1969 to April 1, 1971. The review cannot begin before the end of that period since only then will we know by exactly how much the cost of living has risen in those years. Calculations of individual pensions (of which there are nearly a million) will then be pushed ahead as fast as possible, but I can hold out no hope that increases will be paid before September.

Taken as a whole, therefore, we believe that the Government's proposals will give pensioners a very fair deal and we hope they recognise it as such, particularly at a time when substantial economies in Government expenditure are being sought and achieved on all sides.

Sgt. I
retiring
Chair
his p
plate
socce

hes
all



Ron Irwin (left) and Stan Smith (right) chat with representatives of other forces before the meeting.

Dick Pamplin on pay award

"I would remind everyone of what we achieved in 1970. You all got 20 per cent at least. You all had a reduction of hours and three extra days' leave. That was achieved with no loss of public confidence, and not one of my members lost a day's pay over it."

Those were Sergeant Dick Pamplin's closing words at the end of his account of the pay negotiations. It was a quietly triumphant Secretary of the J.C.C., who outlined what went on throughout 1970.

Thinking began in January, 1970, when the J.C.C. decided to try to get rid of age pointing, and to seek an improvement in differentials and age increments. The end of statutory wage restraint and the severe manpower shortages made them think that they had a good chance of bringing off these goals.

The first success was the 8½ per cent back dated to January 1. This was followed by long, and at times frustrating negotiations, leading eventually to the offer of February 25 this year. On examining the offer the J.C.C. found that it included all the points they had asked for and so they took it. They were unanimous in their decision — a rare occurrence, said Dick Pamplin.

He stated that the J.C.C. are continuing talks on rank structure, the period for pay reviews, equal pay for women, overtime payment arrangements, and cadet pay.

Productivity

Noting that crime had risen by about 5% — and detections by about 3%, that there were many more vehicles on the road, that the population had increased and that we had gone through the year without any major disturbances of public order, the Chief said: "I think we have a pretty good productivity record. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is down to you."

By the end of the financial year, he went on, the Force will have 484 vehicles, almost one for every member on duty at one time, though "I don't expect anyone to go patrolling in a furniture removal van," he said amid general laughter.

Housing

Outlining the new housing policy Mr. Nightingale said that many details had yet to be worked out, areas, priorities, percentages, who could be allowed to become owner occupiers, travelling distances, and so on. He ended by thanking everyone in the Force for working well in 1970 and sat down to prolonged applause.

Dick Pamplin then rose to

give his usual authoritative account of the pay negotiations. He gave a blow-by-blow commentary of what had passed between the two sides and what had led the Staff side to recognise that they had pushed as far as they could.

He ended with the hope that pay might now be temporarily put on one side to allow all those other matters which have had no attention during the pay talks to be dealt with.

PUBLICATION of the results of last November's promotion examination to sergeant showed that a further 51 constables join the pool of those qualified on paper.

Those involved in staff appraisal and promotion advisory duties will find only partial consolation in the fact that 176 failed. There are now over 250 constables in the Force qualified by examination for promotion to sergeant.

Passes: P.c. 474 G. P. English, P.c. 604 M. R. Hollis, P.c. 1458 B. C. Taplin, P.c. 458 G. M. Nisbet, P.c. 1189 R. K. Jackson, P.c. 448 M. C. Jackson, P.c. 42 J. S. Hollington, P.c. 382 M. J. Brewer, P.c. 853 J. S. Cross, P.c. 481 C. E. Clark, P.c. 1347 J. D. Watts, P.c. 616 G. W. Lee, P.c. 1108 D. Burrell, P.c. 1426

The C.C. on housing

When he came to talk of the new housing policy the Chief Constable informed the audience that what he was about to say had not yet been approved by the Police Authority who would meet to consider the proposals on 15th March. In the meantime they had given him authority to tell the meeting what was proposed.

The Police Authority are to be asked to approve a liberalisation of housing policy thereby giving a long-term hope of increased owner-occupancy. In addition, said the Chief Constable, most of those with applications to buy pending should have permission granted by the end of the month.

The Chief Constable stated that he would want the J.B.B. to be associated with the planning of the details of this scheme. One disadvantage would be that the "liability to move, with greater numbers of owner occupiers, will be greater and will be a real liability, not a theoretical one." However, not in every case, he hoped, would it be necessary to move house.

Warning

Mr. Nightingale was careful to point out that it was the man's own responsibility where the money to buy came from. In the present state of the law, he said, no help can be expected from the Police Authority.

Police wives' lament

By Sue Armstrong

cheap wallpaper

ghastly patterns

hideous colours

changed all the papers as soon as was practical because they were dreary and old fashioned, even then.

A frantic phone call to the Divisional Surveyor's office brought forth permission to get a pattern book from any wallpaper suppliers and choose what we liked — under 8/6 (lower than that if you allow for 10 per cent purchase tax).

Round the bend

Our friendly neighbourhood do-it-yourself shop proprietor thought I had gone round the twist when I asked him if he could let me borrow a couple of books with cheap papers in them.

"How cheap is 'cheap'?" he asked.

"About eight or nine shillings" (I hadn't the heart to tell him just how cheap "cheap" was).

His disbelieving chuckle proved this a wise move: "You won't get much that cheap."

the decorators arrive without warning — on washing day.

MOTIONS PUT TO CONFERENCE WERE ADOPTED

THE Chairman of the Joint Branch Board, Chief Inspector John Sutton, in his speech reported that achievements were made during the past year by the Board at both local and national levels. For this he paid tribute to Fred Paxman, past Chairman, and Stan Smith, secretary.

As a result of a motion this Force took to Conference last year negotiations are in progress to increase substantially the pensions of widows whose husbands were killed as the result of an attack or while effecting an arrest. And as a direct result of work by this board the matter of police firearms and firearms training is being urgently researched.

Mr. Sutton stated that at the Central Conference this year the Board will be proposing:

- that averaging for pensions should be abolished;
- that rent allowance should be paid free of tax deductions;
- that time spent on duty and travelling when recalled from annual leave should be compensated at a double rate;
- that regulations should be amended to entitle a policeman to take two-thirds of his annual leave during the summer period.

Welfare

"It is a matter of some concern that less than 1700 officers are subscribing," said the Chairman, referring to the combined welfare fund scheme, launched last year. He hoped that any misunderstandings could be cleared up and that the Federation aim of 100 per cent membership of the scheme could be achieved.

clean and tell him the whole sorry tale.

His look of utter amazement mirrored my own opinion.

"Well, what about this one. There seem to be several at seven shillings and something," I suggested, hopefully.

"Are there? We don't have much call for those. Let's have a look."

Short pause for a flick through the book. "Oh dear. It's not surprising is it? Do you like this one? What about that?" Each was more dreadful than the last. Tan and sienna triangles on a beige background; salmon pink and emerald diamond shapes. All liberally despatched with the inevitable petrified gold threadworms.

At last I took a book home. I couldn't stand the comments any longer. We did a bit better this time, 216 papers and 23 of them in our price range.

By now I had almost decided to let them use the most hideous of the lot for the dining-room, just to be contrary. But then I thought of our nearly new curtains and carpets and decided to find the most innocuous instead; as for finding two contrasting papers — that was quite out of the question in the circumstances.

Mickey Mouse paper for the children's bedroom.

Not fair

But then, it's not really fair to inflict that on future tenants. They might only have teenage daughters, and goodness knows how long it will be till the room is next due to be decorated, at the present rate of progress. Perhaps we could choose something more expensive and pay the extra ourselves?

But the contractors were adamant. "The surveyors don't like that. They have to pay us more to hang more expensive paper." Very interesting; but stupid. Any idiot knows that the more expensive the paper the easier it is to hang.

And talking of hanging...

Very horticultural

A recent applicant for the Force, asked to describe in one word a person able to use both hands, wrote: "aspidextrose." Though this sounds like derivative of glucose, we understand it is more likely to be a cross

CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

Depleted team slips to fifth

MISFORTUNE dogged the cross-country team for their fifth leg League race at Brighton on February 3. First Mick Barlow was prevented from competing by raging toothache and then with less than two miles completed Chris Whiting turned his ankle over. In normal finishing order these are usually numbers two and four.

But an inspired last lap by Larry Britt, who gained five places to finish 15th, and a competent performance by the rest of the team, led in by Andy Down in second place, recovered the lost ground so well that the team scored only 10 points less than usual.

A score of 217 points was only good enough for fifth place but only six points more would have secured third so close was the scoring. The team retained fourth place overall.

Having all missed one race our leading three scorers are now in finishing order: A. Down 236, M. Barlow 195 and L. Britt 156. Close behind is T. Jeffs with 151 though he has had one run more than the others.

Results

Teams: 1st Sussex 298; 2nd Herts 276; 3rd Kent 222; 4th City of London 220; 5th Essex/Southend 217; 6th Thames Valley 147; 7th Hants 56. **Overall:** 1st Sussex 1,509; 2nd Herts 1,279; 3rd City 1,182; 4th Essex/Southend 1,093; 5th Kent 945.

Individual: 1st R. Randall T.V., 31m. 29s.; 2nd A. Down Es/S'end, 32m. 29s.; 15th, L. Britt; 24th R. Hammond; 28th R. Madden; 38th T. Jeffs; 42nd M. Fairweather; 43rd, J. O'Reilly; 45th D. Grimshaw; 46th J. Trott; 50th B. Jones; 51st M. Puttick; 55th P. Norman; 57th, J. Tompkins; 61st M. Grout; 63rd I. Scholfield; 68 started.

Two picked for P.A.A. Teams

In the best performance of his police athletic career Andy Down battled forward into 5th place in the national Police cross country championships at Maidstone on February 18.

This gained him selection for the P.A.A. team to run against the RAF later in the month. Also selected to represent P.A.A. is John Hedge-thorne who took 7th place in the 10 miles road walk.

Andy's 5th place is the highest ever achieved in this event by a member of the Force. Unfortunately a below strength team could only manage 23rd place out of the 27 who finished.

Result

Cross - country winner, Ernie Pomfret, Durham. **Force placings:** 5th, A. Down; 112th, J. Trott; 117th, M. Fairweather; 146th, J. Tompkins; 162 finished.

Walking winner, Bill Sutherland, Metro. Force placings: 7th, J. Hedge-thorne; 13th, K. Mann; 21 finished.

Representing the Police Athletic Association against the R.A.F. on February 24, Andy Down, stationed at Leigh, finished 11th in a classy field of 22 runners. The R.A.F. won the match by 31-48.

AGAINST the Leicester and Rutland police touring side the Force never got going and were defeated 27-0. The opposition were bigger and heavier but the game was enjoyable with the first half fairly even.

During February only two matches were played due to cancellation by opponents. The first, on 10 February, against P & EE Shoeburyness, resulted in a win for the Police side by 18 points to nil. The team settled down quickly and after some good rugby Mick Jackson opened the score with a try.

Colin Edkins and Harry Burrell also scored tries and Jackson scored again before the end of the match. Sparks was in good form and converted three of the tries. The match, however, proved a tragedy for Edkins — broken arm — and Jackson — broken nose.

On 24 February the team played old rivals in 36th

Injuries weaken team for match against tourists

Walking

THE last month has been the championship season with Force, P.A.A., and Essex championships all over 10 miles. The first two races are reported elsewhere but what a contest the Essex race, on February 27, turned out to be. The standard of walking in this county gets higher each year. In this year's race the winner clocked 69m. 35s., eleven men broke 80 minutes and Ron Hammond on a personal best of 83m. 58s. was as far back as 15th.

The team secured fifth place, one back on last year, and though the scorers' total time was better than then, the lower position is accounted for by a much faster race.

Ron's time was only five seconds outside John Hedge-thorne's year old Force record, and Brian Jones, Dermot Hawkins and Jon Hastings all put up personal best times.

League scores

Both the championship race and another over a stiff 10-mile course at Basildon on January 31, counted as league events. Through consistent scoring Police have held third place though losing a little ground on the second team.

In two friendly events at Bexley and Battersea the team was narrowly beaten. Times are always slow at Bexley but on the measured Battersea circuit best times were achieved by T. Cole and B. Jaggs.

The girls made another appearance here and it was only lack of racing experience that kept Susan Moss from winning. Elizabeth Allman improved and Margaret Cooper made her debut.

Most improved walker of the month, Brian Jones, whose six and 10-mile times are as fast as Ron Hammond's were last year—and Brian is a year younger. The long-term team building continues — watch this column.

Results

Basildon 10 miles: 31.1.71
15th, R. Hammond, 87m. 09s.; 19th, J. Hedge-thorne, 88m. 09s.; 24th, K. Mann, 94m. 09s.; 29th, M. Blackwell, 97m. 42s.; 31st, G. Lee, 98m. 23s.; 40th, D. Hawkins, 104m. 02s. 41 started. **Teams:** Southend 175; Ilford 140; Police 134; Basildon 72. Eight teams cored.

P.A.A. Maidstone: 10miles, 18.2.71
7th, J. Hedge-thorne, 82m. 47s.; 13th, K. Mann, 88m. 49s.

Bexley 10 miles:

4th, R. Hammond, 89m. 46s.; 5th, J. Hedge-thorne, 91m. 30s.; 8th, M. Blackwell, 96m. 56s.; 12th, K. Mann, 101m. 52s.; 13th, B. Jones, 103m. 34s.; 16th, J. Hastings, 105m. 43s. Twenty started. **Teams:** Cambridge Harriers 23; Police 32 (five score).

Battersea Park, 2 miles:

2nd, S. Moss, 20m. 33s.; 3rd, E. Allman, 21m. 51s.; 5th, M. Cooper, 24m. 42s. Six started. **Teams:** Police 9, Post Office 12, (3 score).

Battersea Park, 6 miles:

4th, R. Hammond, 49m. 37s.; 7th, J. Hedge-thorne, 50m. 34s.; 10th, B. Jones, 54m. 01s.; 16th, J. Shanahan and T. Cole, 56m. 20s.; 21st, B. Jaggs, 58m. 42s.; 22nd, D. Hawkins, 59m. 52s.; 23rd, T. Mildenhall, 60m. 19s.; 29 started. **Teams:** Met. Police 65; The Rest 65; Police 74; Post Office 9 (six score).

Essex 10 miles, Southend:

27.2.71
15th, R. Hammond, 86m. 58s.; 18th, J. Hedge-thorne, 86m. 21s.; 23rd, B. Jones, 91m. 42s.; 26th, K. Mann, 93m. 38s.; 32nd, M. Blackwell, 95m. 45s.; 37th, D. Hawkins, 101m. 32s.; 39th, J. Hastings, 102m. 50s. 41 started. **Teams:** Basildon 21, Southend 22, Beagles 60, Ilford, 64; Police 72.

League positions

Teams: Southend 1069, Ilford 849; Police 829; Basildon 737; Woodford 544. Ten teams competing: seven races completed.

Individuals: J. Hedge-thorne 190 (5th); R. Hammond, 168 (9th); K. Mann, 133; J. Hastings, 68; M. Eldred 67; M. Blackwell, 67; D. Hawkins, 47; J. Weatherley 38; B. Jones 34; G. Lee, 26; J. Shanahan, 22; M. Puttick, 16.

Rugby

AGAINST the Leicester and Rutland police touring side the Force never got going and were defeated 27-0. The opposition were bigger and heavier but the game was enjoyable with the first half fairly even.

During February only two matches were played due to cancellation by opponents. The first, on 10 February, against P & EE Shoeburyness, resulted in a win for the Police side by 18 points to nil. The team settled down quickly and after some good rugby Mick Jackson opened the score with a try.

On 24 February the team played old rivals in 36th



The team before the match on March 4.

SUMMER KNOCK-OUT COMPETITIONS 1971

Bowls 'A'

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| Colchester | ..... | Cricket | ..... |
| Clacton | ..... | Colchester | ..... |
| Chelmsford | ..... | Harlow | ..... |
| Headquarters | ..... | Clacton | ..... |
| Southend West | ..... | Southend East | ..... |
| Basildon | ..... | Chelmsford | ..... |
| Harlow | ..... | Southend West | ..... |
| Southend East | ..... | Headquarters | ..... |

Bowls 'B'

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Southend West | ..... | Rifle Shooting | ..... |
| Headquarters | ..... | Grays | ..... |
| Southend East | ..... | Chelmsford | ..... |
| Clacton | ..... | Southend East | ..... |
| Colchester | ..... | Bye | ..... |
| Chelmsford | ..... | Harlow | ..... |
| Harlow | ..... | Bye | ..... |
| Basildon | ..... | Colchester | ..... |
| | | Bye | ..... |

First rounds to be played off by 27 June, 1971. Semi finals to be played off by 25 July, 1971. Finals of Bowls 'A' and 'B' and Cricket to be played off by 22 August, 1971. The Final between winners of Bowls 'A' and 'B' to be played off during week ending 6 September, 1971.

In view of the small number of Divisions entering this Competition no dates have been fixed for the completion of the first round and semi-finals, but every endeavour should be made for the final to be shot off during the week 5 April, 1971.

New Colchester Hon. Sec.

Sergeant Fred Hagon, secretary of the Colchester Divisional Sports Club for the past eight years, relinquished this post at the annual general meeting in February. Fred, who is one of the few former Colchester Borough Policemen left in this force, retires later this year after 25 years' service. His successor is P.c. Dave Westrop.

Captains of the various sports elected at this meeting are: Football, P.s. B. Turner; Cricket, P.c. R. Cook; Snooker/Billiards, Det. Ch. Insp. G. Ambrose; Tennis & Badminton, P.c. D. Westrop; Athletics, Insp. M. Blackwell; Rifle Shooting, D.c. R. Woltton; Pistol Shooting, Insp. I. Saines; Fishing, P.c. C. Caffyn; Bowls, P.c. Barham.

weather's Clacton team were third.

Results

Force Championship

1. Hedge-thorne (HQ), 86m. 24s.; 2. Mann (Bas), 94m. 16s.; 3. Blackwell (Col.), 96m. 20s.; 4. Furnival (Clac.), 104m. 09s.; 5. Lawrence (Bas.), 105m. 11s.; 6. Tompkins (Col.), 109m. 09s.; 7. Miller (Chel.), 109m. 59s.; 8. Fairweather (Clac.), 110m. 40s.; 9. Spurgeon (Col.), 111m. 42s.; 10. Letch (Bas.), 112m. 54s.; 11. Reeves (HQ), 115m. 08s.; 12. Holloway (Bas.), 115m. 24s.; 13. Burrows (Har.), 115m. 37s.; 14. Weeks (Col.), 116m. 27s.; 15. Hepper (Chel.), 116m. 33s.; 16. Crowne (HQ), 117m. 24s.; 17. Street (Col.), 119m. 03s.; 18. March (Grays), 119m. 04s.; 19. Aves (Bas.), 119m. 15s.; 20. Adams (Chel.), 123m. 28s.; 21. Kebsell (Bas.), 126m. 45s.; 22. Goldsmith (Chel.), 127m. 38s.; 23. Higgs (Bas.), 134m. 55s.; 24. Travers (Bas.), 134m. 55s.

Cadet Championship

1. Hammond, 85m. 49s.; 2. Eldred, 92m. 34s.; 3. Jones, 94m. 58s.; 4. Britt, 99m. 31s.; 5. Cole, 101m. 08s.; 6. Shanahan, 101m. 51s.; 7. Grout, 103m. 20s.; 8. Mildenhall, 104m. 29s.; 9. Jeffs, 105m. 02s.; 10. Fielding, 105m. 45s.; 11. Reeve, 107m. 49s.; 12. Sitch, 109m. 45s.; 13. Barnes, 109m. 46s.; 14. Halsey, 109m. 50s.; 15. Govus, 109m. 46s.; 16. Buller, 110m. 31s.; 17. Grimshaw, 110m. 31s.; 18. Puttick, 111m. 34s.; 19. Hawkins, 111m. 39s.; 20. Bruce, 112m. 09s.; 21. Weavers, 112m. 44s.; 22. Sugden, 112m. 57s.; 23. Jaggs, 114m. 10s.; 24. Cross, 114m. 57s.; 25. McGettigan, 115m. 06s.; 26. Webb, 115m. 53s.; 27. Fletcher, 116m. 41s.; 28. Bohanan, 116m. 41s.; 29. Neale, 116m. 50s.; 30. Hurley, 116m. 51s.; 31. Kittle, 117m. 24s.; 32. Newton, 118m. 50s.; 33. Donkin, 120m. 51s.; 34. Norman, 120m. 51s.; 35. J. Hammond, 121m. 11s.; 36. P. Reeve, 128m. 38s.; 37. Cotter, 128m. 02s.

1. Basildon, 87; 2. Colchester,

Winter Athletics Championship

| División | 5 miles | 10 miles | Total |
|------------|---------|----------|-------|
| Colchester | 152 | 76 | |

Memories of things past

By W. H. B. CLARK

1925 and all that

THE year 1925: of memorable happenings: Cambridge win the Boat Race; Sheffield United win the F.A. Cup. London-Southend Road and Great West Road opened: and I join Colchester Borough Police.

Year also of non-happenings: No 30 m.p.h. speed limit (it was 20 M.P.H. everywhere, with the 10 m.p.h. limit through Witham). No by-pass roads: no roundabouts: no cats-eyes: no white lines: no Traffic Commissioners. No drug problem and no demos.

Not for me three months at a training school: my "training" consisted of six weeks "attached to the C.I.D." which meant that I sat all day in their office with a 1919 copy of Stone's Justices Manual and various other law books trying to find out what I could. As the C.I.D. were always very busy they could not spare me any time, and what I learned I picked up from the books.

After that, I was fitted with uniform and did three weeks on night duty, and since I was a recruit it was from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. An old constable (a different one each time) was detailed to show me round the beat and after the coffee break I had to work that beat on my own.

To get to our beats we were marched there in single file by the Section Sergeant on the outside of the footpath, and as we reached our beats, we walked over to the inside, that being the side we kept to on night duty.

We proceeded

We never knew which beat we would have to work until we were paraded for duty, when we were told by the Inspector and were handed the Beat Book. This showed the precise route we had to follow and where we had to be every 15 minutes so that the Sergeant would know where to find us at any time. Every street was shown and sometimes even on which side to walk (or should I say "proceed") and occasionally even gate-ways i.e. "... continue along South side of Lexden Road to water trough, cross over to North side and return to Sussex Road: proceed down Sussex Road to field gate and return to Lexden Road."

Usually, the constable would not start to work his beat until about 11 p.m. when the majority of people would have left the cinemas and public-houses and reached home, for it had been found long before my time that if there was going to be any fighting or other trouble in the streets it usually occurred between 10.15 and 10.30 in the crowds near the public-houses, as often as not between various groups of soldiers, when we and the Military Police had to wade in and sort them out. But in the main there was not a lot of trouble and we soon got to know the few civilian trouble-makers.

When we started working the beat we had to follow exactly the instructions given in the Beat Books and be at the various quarter-hour points dead on time. As it was night time we had carefully to examine all premises, including private dwellings, making sure all doors and windows which could be reached from the public footpath were properly secured. Lock-up premises and homes vacant on account of holidays received special attention. Since it sometimes happened there might be as many as 20 such

start day duty which consisted of one week late turn and one week early turn with an occasional 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. duty. As on night duty, we were paraded in the police station and given details of our beats, but they could not be worked properly between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. because the two traffic points had to be manned at Headgate and Barratt's Corner, the latter being the junction of High Street and North Hill. These points were worked by two men, one actually on the point for one hour while the other worked a nearby beat, and then changed places for another hour, and so on through the tour of duty.

On point duty, troops on the march, the electric trams, and funeral processions had to be given priority, as also did Magistrates, Councillors and various other V.I.P.s, and we also gave priority to driven cattle and sheep otherwise the drovers would see to it that there was a real snarl-up. Also we had to salute, military fashion, all Magistrates and members of the Watch Committee, never mind how busy we were. One such V.I.P. always turned his head away as he passed us, but he was really watching our reflection in a shop window to see if we did indeed salute him. If we did not, there would later be talk of a discipline charge for "failing to exercise proper observation."

But the early-turn "beat" everyone hated was known as "dust hole" which meant cleaning out fires, laying them, chopping kindling wood, sweeping and dusting at Headquarters in Trinity Street — seven rooms and six fires, and it all had to be done between 6 and 8.15 a.m. Then he had to return to the station, clean himself, have his breakfast and be on point duty by 9 a.m. It took some doing, and that went on until years later when civilian cleaners were at last employed.

Know your law answers

1. (e) 2. (d) 3. (b)

Snap Add

Does your camera need repairing? Then contact P. Colbert, Traffic, HQ ext. 348.

Carried the can

I was also assured that the 30-minute refreshment break spent in the police station was new — previously this break had to be spent in any convenient doorway drinking coffee brought round in cans and eating such food as he could carry on his person. What happened to the empty can I never did know: I suppose it was carried round, fastened to the lamp belt, until reporting off duty.

There was of course, the usual seven-day week of 56 hours with a weekend every six weeks. This meant an average week of six days or 48 hours which I worked for the whole of my service, although in the factories the working week had long since been reduced to five days or 40 hours.

Helmet plates of white metal were not worn at night, and on a dark night a constable could not be seen for more than a few feet.

Before leaving his beat at 6 a.m. he had to make absolutely sure that all his shop property had been inspected, because if the man following him on the early morning shift found any door or window insecure, the night-duty man was aroused from sleep and had to attend the station to make out a report showing the time he had last inspected that property and the condition it was then in. As it was considered a serious disciplinary offence not to inspect a property, everyone was careful to carry out that part of their duty.

Route march

An eight-hour tour of duty on a night beat meant walking a distance of about 15 miles.

After three weeks on night duty I was considered fit to

Smith & Billings - film makers economical

By Mike Blackwell

Colchester's Road Safety Officers — Ps John Smith and P.C. Stan Billings — are always searching for new ways to assist them when lecturing to school children. After much thought they decided they would like to make a road safety film suitable for children of primary school age. Police expenditure being somewhat restrictive, they had to put aside all thoughts of a multi-million dollar Warner Bros.-type epic.

They approached the head of the Art Department at the North-East Essex Technical College who kindly agreed to allow his students to assist with the filming. The headmistress of St. George's Primary School, Colchester, gave the project her blessing and a pupil from the school, seven-year-old Janis Frost, was selected to play the major role. Janis also speaks the commentary and sings a song at the end of the film. The end product is a pleasant 35mm colour film depicting Janis crossing roads in Colchester under varying traffic circumstances.

The film had its premiere at Headquarters in February when it was shown to the annual conference of Force Road Safety Officers. It is hoped that the film will be shown to children throughout the county.

The Law Shop

FOR HIRE: 12ft. four-berth touring caravan, Sprite Alpine, 1970 model. Contact Det. Con. Roger Phillips, Grays CID.

FOR SALE: New World 43X gas cooker, excellent condition, £15 or near offer. Apply, P.C. Bowman, Corringham or W.P.C. Bowman, Grays. Home telephone No. Stanford-le-Hope 3734.

FOR SALE: Philips TV set, 21in. screen, 2 years old, BBC 1, 2 and ITV, including aerials and leads, £30. Apply, P.C. Wakefield, Horndon-on-the-Hill, Telephone Stanford-le-Hope 3187.

WHAT'S ON

Life saving dates 1971

April 17: West Riding Cup (Cadets) eliminator — Sandhurst.

May 15: West Riding Cup finals — Hendon.

May 22: Allington Cup (Girl Cadets) — Blackpool

June 19: Police Baton (men) eliminator — Hendon.

September 4: Allington Cup (policewomen), southern region eliminator — Hendon.

October 3: Allington Cup finals — Walsall.

October 23: Police Baton finals — Newport, Mon.

First Aid

May 4: Chief Wardens (First Aid) Cup at Cadet School. Rules now permit police-women's team and participation by lay instructors.

May 16: Salter and De Rousmont Cups (Special Constabulary) at Cadet School all day.

Federation News

By Stan Smith



The Open Meeting at the Shire Hall, on March 2, must have been one of the most successful staged: 380 members attended and some were obliged to stand. Considering that the Pay Review had been settled in a manner which many considered reasonable, it was a very good turn-out. Surprisingly, there were only three women members there, and these were all Branch Board representatives. From the platform it seemed to me that the majority of those in the hall were very interested in the speeches made, as unlike other meetings I have attended, there was no fidgeting or talking. A large part of the credit for the success of the meeting was due to both the Chief Constable and Dick Pamplin for their excellent addresses. I have yet to hear of Dick refusing a call to attend a meeting and we have much to thank him for, especially when one considers the strain upon his private life that these functions must impose.



have not been fully understood. Since the scheme was launched a further 100 officers have joined the scheme after the initial 1600. It is my earnest hope that the majority of the dissenters will now join so that a useful fund may be built up to cater for the needs of those who fall on hard times. The greater the number of members who contribute, the more the fund will be able to pay out to widows and dependants. Forms of entry are available at Divisions.



The gathering of evidence to place before the Police Authority for an increase in the maximum limit rent allowance, is well under way, and it is to be hoped that a substantial increase is obtained as a result. The negotiations necessary are very complex but we are pressing ahead as fast as possible.



I hope that questions about the Combined Welfare Funds have been answered. It is obvious that in places, the workings and aims

OFF-BEAT ESSEX



Bob Bruce's picture of the old lighthouse at Harwich will be, for many members of the Force, the first glimpse of this view, tucked away as it is in one of our further flung outposts. Not for many years has it been used as a light-house and indeed it stands by the main road well away from the water and, having been "done up" by the Council, is let as a dwelling at a small rent.

During the last war Bob's uncle, an old sailor, lived in the tower.