

The Newspaper of The Essex and Southend-on-Sea Joint Constabulary.

Dicey for the Essex Police Force next April

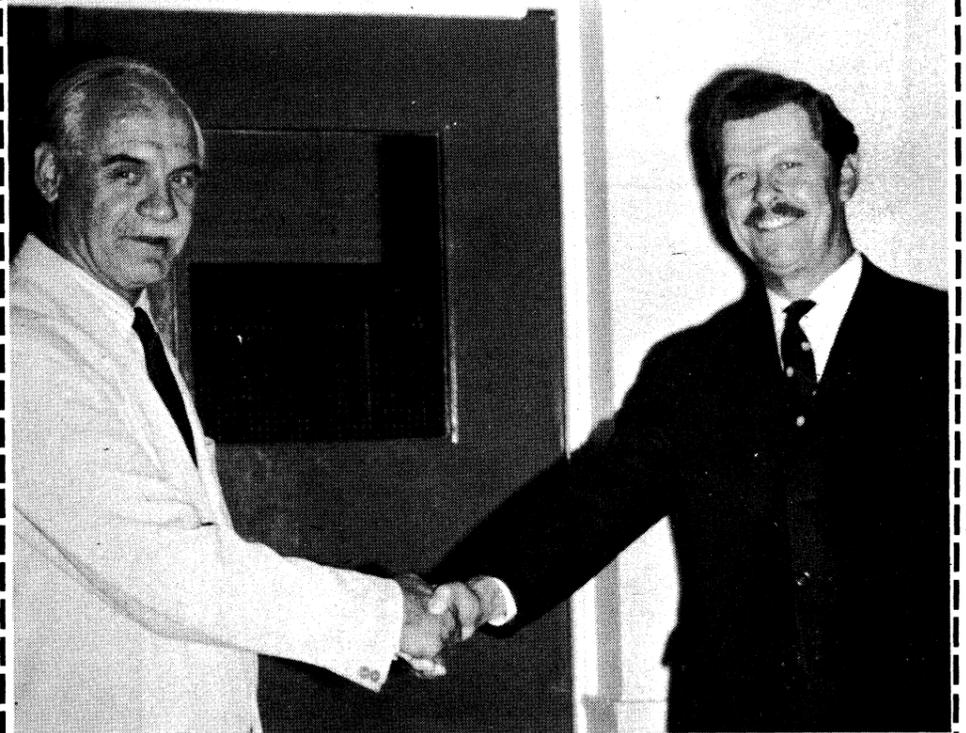
AT THEIR meeting at County Hall on 17th September the new-style Police Authority, which will have charge of police affairs in the reorganised local government area of Essex from April 1974, decided that the present style of uniform would continue with the exception of diced cap bands.

There is no question of the helmet being taken out of use but where caps are worn they will be adorned with a navy-blue and white band. This falls into line with national recommendations.

The men thus follow the policewomen's department a year after their new bonnets came into use with a diced band.

At the same meeting the Authority decided that the Force would be known as the "Essex Police Force" from 1st April 1974. This simplified title, apart from necessitating the eventual replacement of all items with the force title on them will bring in another new front page heading for The Law — but we are not asking for suggested designs.

FAREWELL GIFT PRESENTED TO TRAFFIC DIVISION CHIEF



DESCRIBED by the Chief Constable, at a gathering in the HQ canteen, as a "very old and faithful servant", Chief Supt. Harry Smith replied that he would now say very little. This was despite his "reputation of never being lost for words", he said.

The occasion was the presentation to Mr Smith of a nest of occasional tables

subscribed to by members of all HQ departments as well as Traffic Division. Handing over the gift the Chief remarked that Traffic Division had an excellent reputation and for this Mr Smith must take great credit.

Mr Smith will remain in the area as he will do his new job from home.

Jenny goes down under



OFF to the Antipodes after a spell at Headquarters Stores, Jenny Hudson left the service of Police Headquarters on Friday, 14th September.

Presenting her with mementoes of her colleagues and place of work Mr Duke told the assembled company that he personally would be sorry not to see Mrs Hudson around the building any more.

In reply Mrs Hudson said "I've enjoyed my work at Headquarters but the really sad thing about going is leaving all my friends behind."

To keep her well protected the final gift from her female colleagues was a large bottle of sun tan lotion.

Mrs Hudson has asked some of her friends to keep in contact with her in order that she can keep abreast of happenings at HQ.

Chief asks for more

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE reported to the Police Authority at their September meeting that he needed an additional 140 men to police the county efficiently.

This will bring the Force establishment to 2,480. And now a recruiting campaign will be needed to bring in the additional men because the establishment increase raises the current deficiency to 334, present strength standing at 2,146. Met. recruitment over wastage so far this year has been under 70, less than half the establishment and a rate of recruitment which if continued would entail a 5 year stint to bring the Force up to establishment.

Complaints against police have turned into such a paper mountain that two superintendents and two inspectors are included in the increase specifically to deal

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To Sandgate as Commandant

ANOTHER of the bright boys of the Force has been seconded.

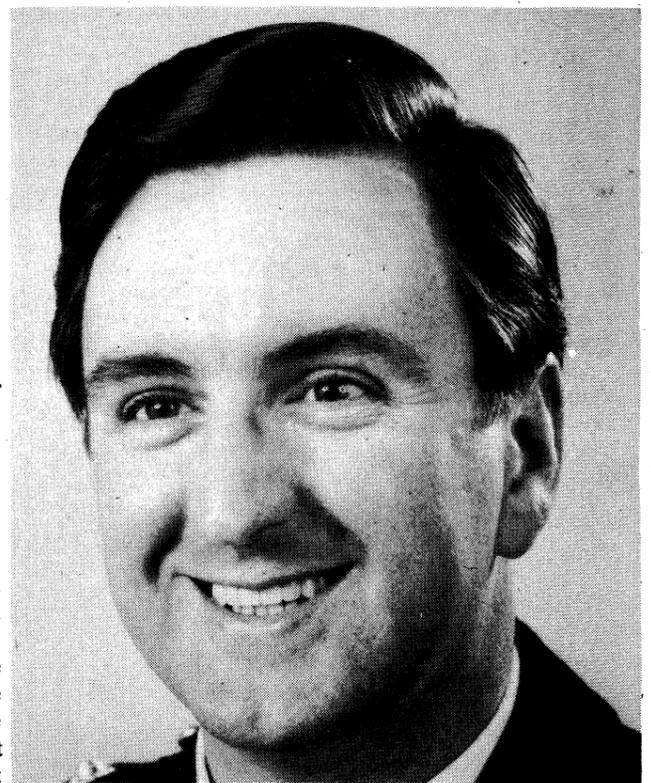
This time Chief Inspector Keith Hunter, B.A., who has been appointed as Commandant of the Police Training Centre at Sandgate.

Mr Hunter, who has recently returned from America where he represented the Police College on exchange of staff, at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, takes up his appointment on October 22.

He was a Police Cadet in the West Riding Constabulary from 1950 to 1952 when he then completed his National Service in the Scots Guards.

Returning to the Police Service and West Riding he performed beat duties in the muck and grime of the West Riding, among the mills at Elland, near Halifax, and the collieries at Darfield, near Barnsley, until 1964, broken only by a spell of duty as a Grade II Instructor at Pannal Ash.

In 1963 he attended a Detective Training Course at Wakefield and then from 1964 until 1966 he was a Section Sergeant at Harewood, in mid-Wharfedale in West Yorkshire, followed by a spell at the training school at



Bishopgarth, Wakefield, known to many detective officers in Essex.

In 1967 he transferred to Essex County Constabulary and was posted as an Inspector to Chelmsford Town Sub Division. The following year he was i/c Chelmsford Rural Sub-Division.

1968 saw him reading Modern History at University College, London, on a Bramshill Scholarship.

He became the first member of the Inspector's Course to gain a First Class Honours degree, and is believed to be, at the time, the oldest Bramshill Scholar.

The following year he was promoted to the rank of Chief Inspector and in 1971 became the "gub'nor" of Corringham Sub Division.

The Law hopes to cover Mr Hunter's report on his trip to America in next month's issue.

Two more VASCARs to be provided

DESPITE protests that the money could be better spent "on providing additional police patrol cars" — County Council Chairman, Alderman Mrs. Elizabeth Coker — the Administration of Police Committee has given the green light to the purchase of two more Vascar speed indicator sets.

This new aid to law enforcement, featured in last

months edition of The Law, came in for sharp criticism at the Committee's September meeting. Alderman Norman Harris of Southend said there was little object in checking motorists at 2 a.m. driving 5 mph above the limit. "What they (the police) should be doing is checking the activities of some maniac drivers who habitually travel at

exceptionally dangerous speeds."

Evidently the Committee agreed and, moreover, felt that this laudable aim might be better achieved using Vascar, and in their corporate logic agreed to spend £1,300 on two new sets. But an amendment by Councillor James Sabine to double the order to four sets was defeated.

EDIVIEW

Feminine infiltration

WE HAVE BEEN infiltrated. After all the opinions expressed in this column about policewomen leaving their own specialist branch to join others we have been invaded. Even the infiltrator seems bewildered at the speed of events having muttered something about training at an interview only to find herself posted to the Cadet School where the training is, perhaps, rather more physical than anything she had in mind.

Woman Constable Maureen Scollan not only brings a much needed feminine guiding hand into cadet training but also we hope a useful pen into the production of The Law. How could such an authority on the history of policework in Essex escape for long?

What's in a name?

THE COST to the ratepayer of changing the title of the Force in April 1974 will not be astronomically high but the fact remains that money spent as a result of such changes is a waste of funds.

But in the long drawn-out struggle which preceded the Essex and Southend-on-Sea amalgamation it was expeditious to make what was, after all, a small concession to perpetuate the names of both forces even if the result was rather tongue twisting. And who could foresee at that time that the Joint Force title would last only five years?

The new title, "Essex Police Force" is short and distinct though we wonder if the final word is necessary, particularly as policemen serve rather than force nowadays. But this is academic.

The second decision made by the new Police Authority at the September meeting to take diced cap bands into use next April has hardly more impact than the first, though it will be more quickly noted by the public.

Indeed, it is for the benefit of the public that the Force is following national recommendations in adopting distinctive headgear. The helmet, of course, is unique but in these motorborne days with a larger proportion of the Service wearing caps they too closely resemble doorkeepers, gate security men, money carriers, and even Special Constables, for the public good.

And as it seems not to have been possible, even by legislation, to make others dress unlike the police, the constabulary must change. The cap bands will add a splash of colour to what has become a drab blue outfit unrelieved, nowadays, even by a chest of colourful medal ribbons.

Five grand coppers

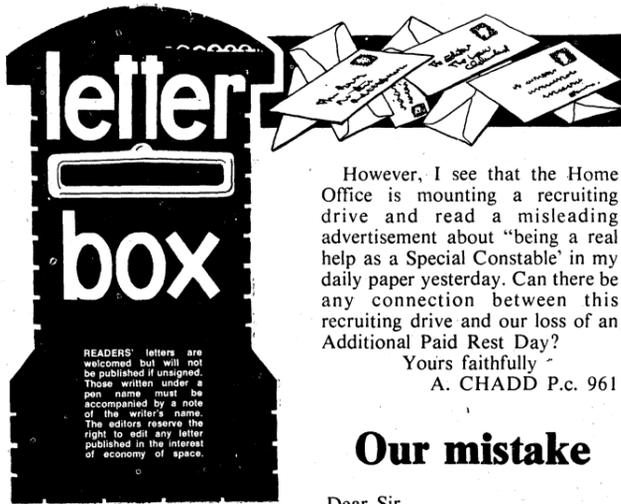
IT WAS A PITY that, for the sake of impact on his listeners, a speaker at the Superintendents' annual conference at Bournemouth had to assert that constables are taking home £5,000 per year. The point he was making, which has now been lost amid Federation bleating that such assertions will damage their pay campaign, was that superintendents, who cannot supplement their salaries with ARD and other payments, draw less than their subordinates.

Of course this is wrong: he who carries the can should get commensurate pay. But it is also wrong for blue collar Federation members to draw more cash for fewer hours work than white collar Federation members. The Federation's record in working to correct the imbalance of constables and sergeants receiving payment for overtime worked while inspectors do not, is not above criticism.

Power of the Press

WE DO NOT propose to nurse any ideas about the power of the press but the postponement of the Maplin project a matter of days after we had featured some guesswork on the consequences for the Force was a remarkable coincidence. If such a minor work as the Channel Tunnel, which has after all been on the drawing board in one form or another for 170 years, could bring about the airport's postponement one may be forgiven for wondering just how essential Maplin really is. It may never happen. But even so many of our speculations could be partly right because, as we said last month, The Strategic Plan for the South East envisages a population growth of over a quarter of a million in South Essex by the end of the century.

This column should not be interpreted as expressing the policy of the Chief Constable nor that of the Police Federation, and the views may be those of the writer alone.



VASCAR can reduce road accidents

Dear Sir,

As a traffic officer I am becoming increasingly aware of the intense human suffering surrounding road traffic accidents and their enormous cost to the community. Without doubt, excess speed is a fundamental constituent factor of these accidents, confirmed perhaps by the relative importance afforded to deducing speed in an accident investigation. With cars travelling at lower speeds on the road, quite a larger proportion of dangerous situations would perhaps be negotiated with less injury and damage or even without collision at all.

I feel that one of the greatest efforts made by the Police in this field in recent years has been the public relations exercise centred round the VASCAR car computer, a miraculously simple and effective piece of equipment. Such publicity can only have a deterrent effect on drivers inclined to ignore speed limits. With this in mind, I was disturbed therefore to read in the Daily Mail on Thursday, September 20, this year, that Alderman Norman Harris of the Essex and Southend Police Committee had questioned the value of the device as a means of improving the conduct of drivers. He states: "I believe it is a waste of time to pinch speeding motorists in perfectly safe conditions." He further says that he thought Police Officers should spend more time catching villains than trapping people who drive at 35 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone.

I am sure that such ideas relating to the priority of "catching villains" over speeding and moving road traffic offences are shared by many people. It is only when they are involved in road traffic accidents and the accompanying suffering that they can put the two aspects of police work on to a more even keel.

We should therefore welcome VASCAR as a deterrent so any comments harmful to the public relations methods, vital in themselves to the creation of the deterrent effect, should at the very least be kept from the public eye, such comments being even more harmful when originating from the very constitutional hub of a Police Force.

A. S. WARREN, Pc 639
Laindon Traffic

Geordie says thanks

Dear Friends,

Now that I have come down to earth again, after Friday, I would like to say thank you which seems a very small word for such a lovely present, as it is something I never dreamed of, and I do appreciate it very much.

(Now I don't have to ask a Policeman the time.)

So once again I say thank you to everybody.

Sincerely
M. WIGHTMAN (Mrs)

Specials and that lost ARD

Dear Sir,

I had assumed that the role of the Special Constable in the Police was fast diminishing as the dwindling band of Specials in this division seem to serve little purpose other than to perform duty at

However, I see that the Home Office is mounting a recruiting drive and read a misleading advertisement about "being a real help as a Special Constable" in my daily paper yesterday. Can there be any connection between this recruiting drive and our loss of an Additional Paid Rest Day?

Yours faithfully
A. CHADD P.c. 961

Our mistake

Dear Sir,

With reference to your article on the lady 'watchdog' at Southend, I always understood that Hector's main battle honour was on the Plains of Troy, not on the Tiber Bridge, where Horatius held the bridge.

Yours faithfully,
A. CHADD, P.c. 961

Mr. Chadd is quite right of course, and we apologise for offence given to all students of these mythological times. At least we got the initial letter right. Unfortunately we did not do too well with that piece at all — just as well we put it on the back page — and we take this opportunity of begging Mrs. Sanfleben's pardon for spelling her name wrong. — Ed.

Band notes
by Harry Rossiter

NO DOUBT most of you are aware that any organisation has to conduct its own business affairs in which all concerned in that organisation take part. Sounds most elementary, but Brass bands are no exception to the rule. What this relates to is our Annual General Meeting which took place on the 12th September, 1973. Business was conducted mostly in accord and it proved a workmanlike AGM with the committee re-elected with one or two notable changes. Bob Giles (mind my dog) is now the keeper of the purse strings and Brian Tyrell (get my name right) has agreed to shoulder some of the burden off the back of Jack Ripley our very hard-working secretary. He has certainly done a magnificent job and we hope will continue so to do.

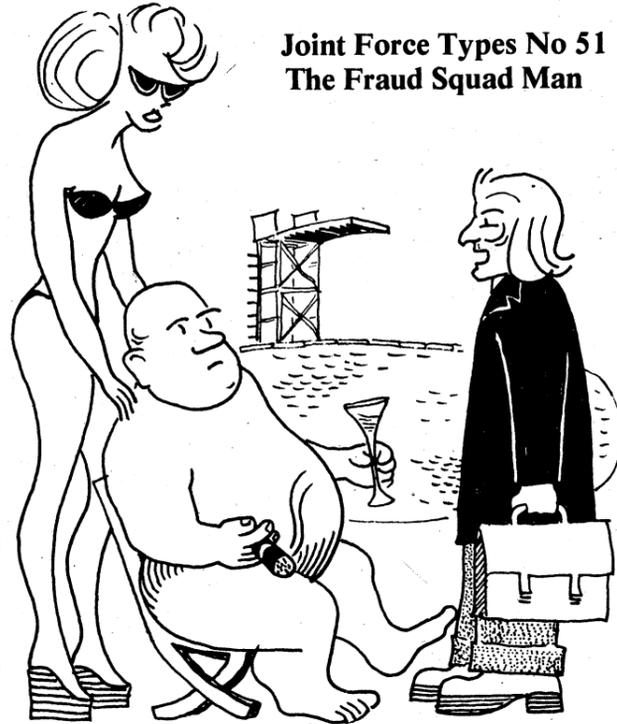
After a bit of 'arm-twisting' Bob Palmer agreed to serve another term as Chairman. He is another who has not just been a figurehead and has worked continuously on our behalf. When he misses a concert it is news. Well anyhow, the band carries on and the engagement book continues to fill up with requests for its service. More about that when we know for sure if these requests can be met. We had ourselves a very pleasant afternoon in the bandstand in Halstead public gardens on Sunday 9th September and played to an audience some 200 strong. We wore the new uniform for outdoors on this occasion. A police style uniform with silver epaulettes and lanyard which certainly has more of a band look about it. There were several favourable comments about our appearance. (and playing).

I would like to take this opportunity to acquaint our friends who have donated amounts of cash to band funds just what we intend to spend them on. Nobody who wishes us well enough to give money, would want to remain ignorant of where their money will be going. I can certainly assure all concerned, that firstly we are very grateful for your support and secondly, that the cash is urgently needed to purchase new instruments. From a distance on the concert platform the

HOLIDAY FUND

Great inconvenience is being caused by officers not returning the receipts sent to them with their Holiday Fund cheques. These receipts are required for production to the Auditor and should be returned immediately upon receiving a cheque. There are still a number outstanding so, please, turn out your wallets and send those missing receipts back to the Secretary, Sgt. Easlea, Holiday Fund, Police Station, Southend-on-Sea.

Officers are reminded that Holiday Fund cheques can only be cashed at a branch of the Trustee Savings Bank (London, Essex or East Anglian). They cannot be passed through officers' own bank accounts.



Joint Force Types No 51
The Fraud Squad Man

Let me take you away from all this, Mr Goldfinger

brightly in the hands of their players, who have spent time cleaning and polishing them up for the public occasion in question, but on closer inspection, one would see that one or two at least have defects. Others have other faults that come from age and having been acquired about fifth hand or so. Did you know that we had some instruments very kindly donated to us from a mental hospital. They were very welcome gifts at the time and sorely needed. But they were old then and are still in use. These and others need replacing and believe me, they are quite expensive. I can give more details in our next issue when certain transactions have been put in hand. A small sub-committee was formed and is investigating

among other things, the best price we can get on trade-in value for the instruments we need replacing: 4 cornets, 2 trombones, a euphonium, probably 2 tenor horns: all very costly.

We really need a decent indoor (concert) type uniform, but that is not essential and we are concentrating on better instruments so that our status and playing will be improved. So rest assured, fans, your money is much needed and is being put to its best use. With your help we can do more to give the name Essex Police Band a top reputation in the brass band world.

By the time you read this we will have performed at the Thameside Theatre at Grays on 26th September. Tell you all about it in the next issue.

THE Force Band has accepted the following engagements and would welcome support from members of the Force.

Wednesday, September 26	7.30 to 10.00	Thameside Theatre, Grays
Wednesday, October 3	7.30 to 10.00	Broomfield Hospital
Sunday, October 7	6.15 to 09.00	All Saints' Church, Hutton
Wednesday, October 17	7.30 to 10.00	Dunmow Senior Citizens
Wednesday, November 7	7.30 to 10.00	All Saints' Hall, Maldon
Wednesday, December 19	7.30 to 10.00	Police Headquarters
Monday, January 21	7.30 to 10.00	Civic Theatre, Chelmsford
Wednesday, February 6	7.30 to 10.00	St. Luke's, Tiptree
Wednesday, March 6	7.30 to 10.00	Witham Public Hall
Wednesday, March 27	7.30 to 10.00	Chelmsford Samaritans

Clactons Divisional Sports Sec. retires

YET ANOTHER WELL-KNOWN character retires from the Force after 26 years' service. "Jock" Kermath, a stalwart of the Clacton Division for many years retired on 26 September, having served as a station officer for the past nine years and prior to this was detached beat officer at

He gave valuable service to the Divisional Sports Club at Clacton as Secretary for some time.

He is retiring to live locally with his wife and family and recently his colleagues gathered at Court No. 3 to make a presentation to him and wish him well in his retirement.

FIREARMS TRAINING IS NO WILD WEST SHOW **C.F.U.**

ALTHOUGH not one shot has been fired in action, the work of the Central Firearms Unit goes on to make certain that if the time comes when gunfire is unavoidable, only the target will be hit.

WITH the criminal use of firearms becoming more widespread each year, and with the extensive Press coverage given to the recent cases in London, in which a total of three armed criminals were shot dead by Police Officers in the course of their duty, The Law has considered it is now the time to let a little more light fall on to this subject as it applies to our Force, to show the Central Firearms Unit in its true perspective and to give a brief history of the unit, its present composition and its intended functions.

The forerunner of the Central Firearm Unit (C.F.U.) was formed in the mid-1960's and named the Armed Besieged Criminals Squad (A.B.C. Squad).

Under the watchful eye of Sergeant Basil Shoulders, gas masks were issued to the ten members of the squad and the rest of the afternoon was spent in checking their efficiency. The session ended with each member firing one C.S. practice cartridge from a converted 37 mm Verrey Light pistol.

With Force Firearms Training still in its infancy the squad was intended as a "back-up" unit to reinforce armed divisional officers in a siege situation.

The year 1968 saw eight officers from this Force attending a Firearm Instructors' Course and the beginnings of realistic firearms training before the following year.

The old A.B.C. Squad came under the microscope, its shortcomings recognised, and was re-organised, enlarged, updated and equipped with .38 pistols and .303 rifles, and, under the command of Inspector John Page, was renamed the Armed Emergency Team (A.E.T.).

The A.E.T. took over the responsibilities of the A.B.C. Squad and increased its capabilities as a team by tactical training on one day per month, in likely situations which they may have been called on to deal with.

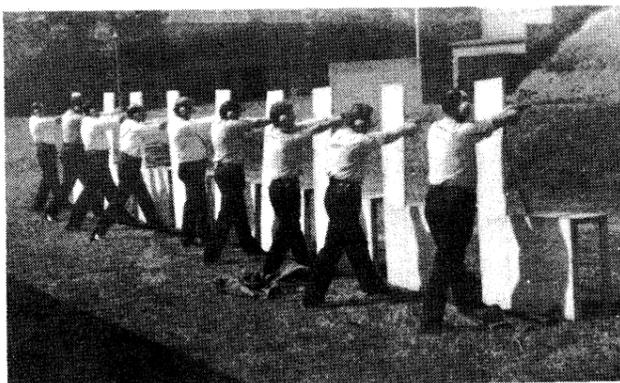
The A.E.T. lasted in that form for only about one year and it was during this time that its potential was fully realised. Further improvements were made in equipment and tactical training and further recruits to the team brought its total membership up to about 16.

Late in 1971 the A.E.T. was again reformed and partially re-equipped, and took on the new title of the Central Firearms Unit (C.F.U.).

Again a period of intensified training and further recruiting to the team brought its total membership up to about 16.

Today the C.F.U. consists of some 25 officers, 10 of which reside in the immediate vicinity of Headquarters. Eight are members of the Police Support Unit and seven are divisional officers.

The C.F.U. has no full-time members. All officers perform normal police duties except on training days and are available on 24-hour call-out on every day of the year other than annual leave days.



A group of officers firing from right of cover, whilst attending a Firearm's Training Officers' course, in Yorkshire. The objects on their heads are not "radio earphones" but ear muffs to deaden the noise of the weapons.

The second-in-command of the C.F.U., Sergeant Mick Brangham, assists the commander and takes over his responsibilities as necessary, in his absence.

The Force Firearms Instructors, Sergeant Gus Gowers and Constable Monty Montgomery are responsible for the training of the unit and join it as ordinary members on operational work where this does not interfere with their training duties.

Entry to the unit is by one of two means — either by invitation of the commander or by application approved by the commander. Entry is always followed by a probationary period in which the new member performs all training duties but is not called out on operations.

Following his successful probationary training period he becomes a full member and goes on to the call-out list.

All members of the unit are volunteers and may leave at their own request at any time, and may also be required to do so by the commander when he considers that such action is necessary.

The abilities of the individual member are difficult to define, but are nevertheless absolutely essential. The emphasis is on teamwork with each member having a clear understanding of police tactics, an appreciation of danger and a strong sense of responsibility to the public and of loyalty to the team and the police service.

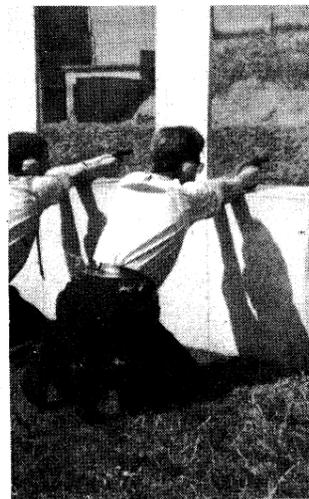
It is not surprising that several of the present C.F.U. members can recall up to about eight years continuous service to the unit and its fore-runners. It is also quite natural that a strong team spirit develops between such officers and this counts strongly towards the success of the unit as the emphasis is on organised teamwork and not individual heroic action.

The sole object of the operation of the unit is precisely the same as the definition of a constable as learned by all recruits in the police service. All operations are directed towards the arrest of the criminal without a shot being fired and without any member of the public being placed in danger either by the actions of the criminal or those of the unit. The unit is now a well-

trained and well-equipped team of officers, capable of handling any situation which can be envisaged in the immediate future.

As criminal behaviour patterns change so must the tactical training and equipment of the unit and in this context a close watch is kept on such developments, both in this country and abroad, in order that the unit may continue to fulfill its present role with confidence in the future.

Inspt. John Page, the unit commander, in a recent interview with The Law, said: "I am against the outdated thinking of many officers who believe that it is better to send one armed Police Constable to deal with armed bank raiders than to send more armed officers. This form of thinking still goes on. It is believed that if two weapons are issued the dangers will be doubled. I have heard of cases recently where officers have been armed but told not to load their guns. There are too many men in the Force, who either through



Firearm Training Officer Pe "Monty" Montgomery, target firing in kneeling position.

ignorance or misdirected bravery, are willing to put themselves in danger where armed criminals are concerned. With the proper training the element of risk is reduced to the minimum."

Inspector Page's words echo present policy on the use of, and training in the use of, firearms. This is wholly against the universal arming of the police in which all fractions, Chief Officers, the Federation and the Government, agree. Instead a small percentage of the Force, readily available in emergencies, are trained to a high degree of efficiency, in police methods.

And this is the important point. The military, by and large, although they have learned a lot in Ulster, have no conception of the use of firearms in a police role. Firepower is less important than the unobtrusive conclusion of the incident — without firing if necessary.

It is interesting to note that in the recent history of firearms in policework in Essex and Southend, although on occasions weapons have been carried, not one shot has been fired in action.

Pistol team win at Bisley



TO WIN a shooting competition is great but to win at Bisley, the Mecca of the shooting world, means so much more.

And that is exactly what the Force pistol team did in September, defeating 18 other police teams from all over Britain. The team, John Sutton, Mick Brangham, Graham Harvey and John Page made it by one point from Northumberland.

The contest was a "Practical Police Pistol" event and consisted of 50 rounds fired at ranges varying from 7 to 60 yards and including barricade shooting and fast loading.

One section had a time limit of 2 mins. 45 secs. in which contestants had to draw their weapons and fire five rounds from a sitting position, reload and fire five rounds from prone, reload, five rounds from the left of cover and finally reload and fire five rounds right of cover.

The individual maximum total was 250 of which John Sutton scored 238 to take 10th place. Right behind him were John Page and Mick Brangham with 237 each, and Graham Harvey with 226 consolidated a winning total.

REG CALVER RETIRES IN CREDIT

THE WELL KNOWN Harlow Division threw a party at Divisional Headquarters and presented him with a set of travelling cases, and his wife with a vanity case. These should come in very handy for Reg and his wife for they are

To mark his retirement

Harlow Division threw a party at Divisional Headquarters and presented him with a set of travelling cases, and his wife with a vanity case. These should come in very handy for Reg and his wife for they are

keen members of the I.P.A. and travel a lot.

The Harlow branch of the I.P.A. also made a presentation of an engraved silver salver and a silver cream jug and sugar bowl.

During his service Reg has move around the County having served at Headquarters, Romford, Epping, Chelmsford, Pitsea and Hatfield Heath.

**That bumper fun annual
the Station Telephone Book
has brought forth another**

The Law Shop

FOR SALE by Harlow Divisional Sports Club: Five pairs of curtains, each curtain 4ft. deep and 7ft. wide, together with rails. The colour is rusty orange and the material folkweave, washable and unshrinkable, one year old, cost new £34. No reasonable offer refused. Offers to PS Wadley, Harlow Station, extension 7.



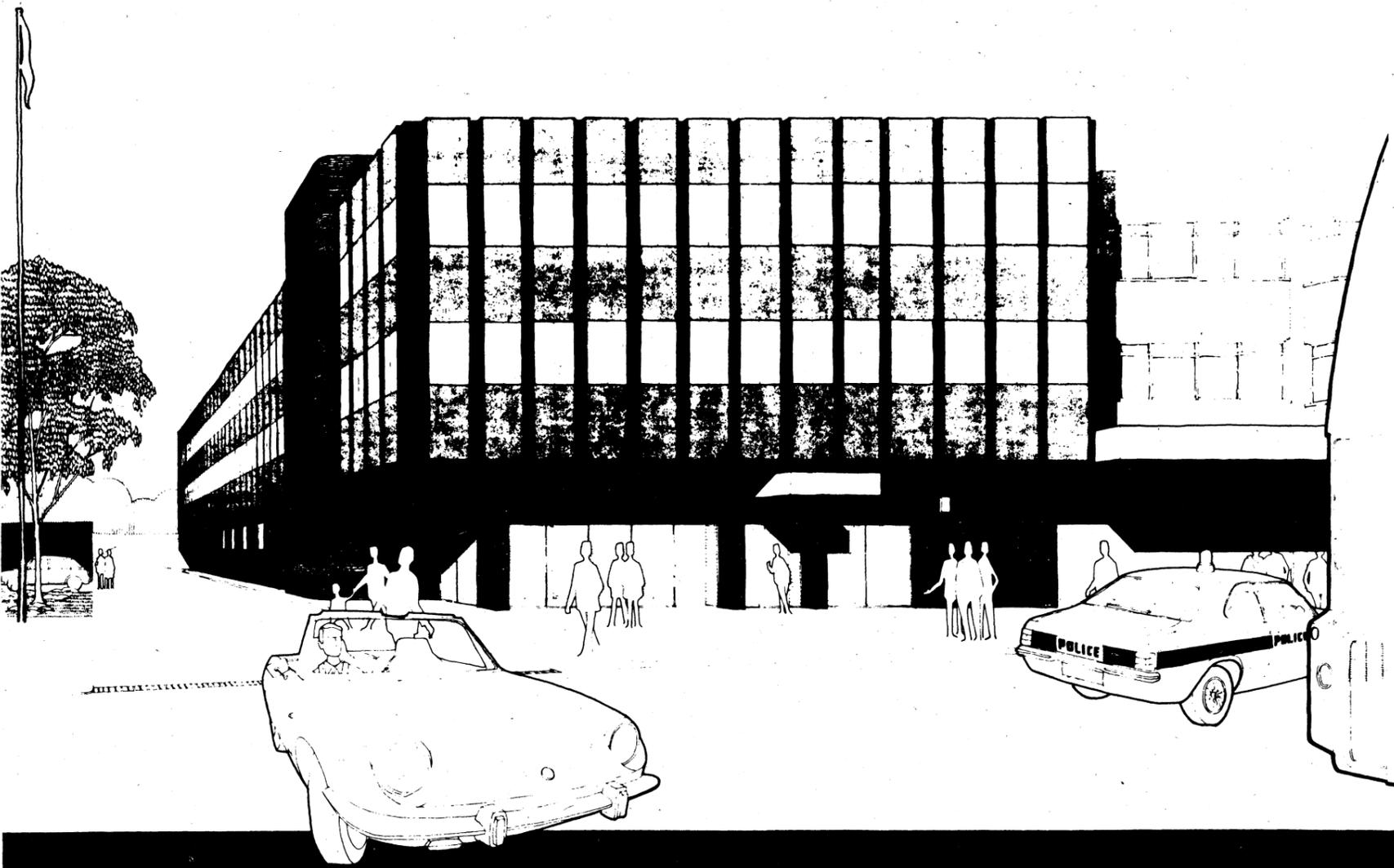
Support Unit practising with gas gun.

A TELEPHONE message recently received at Corringham Police Station brought forth guffaws of laughter from the incumbents.

The message read: "Somebody

has damaged my organ! It would also appear that they have removed part of it."

It was later explained that the complainant was the caretaker of a local church.



Artist's impression of Rayleigh's new Police Station seen from the High Street

Newest batch of recruits scattered County-wide last month



PICTURED are the new arrivals from Training School to swell the numbers combatting the common enemy; from left to right: "Dee" Hawkins (Harlow); Kevin Maleary (Colchester); Wally Appleby (Chelmsford); Laurie Bergin (Rochford); Dianne Parker (Southend East); Trevor Burdett (Colchester); Tricia Cooper (Harlow); David Gilbranch (Billericay); Barry Wright (Ongar); Roger Morgan (Clacton); Andy Wood (Clacton); Barry Barlow (Basildon); and Al Hurley (Basildon).

Five of these recruits are no strangers to the Police Service as three have served in the Force Cadet Corps, one is the daughter of a serving officer and one was a clerk at New Scotland Yard prior to joining the job.

National Association of Retired Police Officers



by Bert Brinkley

STEPS are being taken to ascertain the possibility of delivering the magazine to those members who live within the Chelmsford Town area, excluding at present, those who are already subscribers and receive the publication by post. Any pensioner who would like to avail themselves of this facility should communicate with P.S. H.

Rossiter, Police Station, Danbury. The next issue of the Magazine will be early in 1974.

Association Ties

No requests have so far been received to support a tie, as called for in the last quarterly bulletin. The question was discussed by the Committee who were not in favour of the idea.

Association Badges

No suggestions have been received upon the proposal for a revised badge. The Committee also discussed the idea as requested in the last quarterly bulletin and agreed the Motif of the badge should be more easily distinguishable to be of any value. If it was decided to revise the design of the badge the Committee submitted the following for consideration:

N
A
NARPO
P
O

brooch design, with a longer pin than on the present brooch. Both decisions have been passed to the General Secretary of the Association.

An inquiry has been received asking if any pensioner is desirous of taking temporary employment for about two months in the roll of Storekeeper/clerk, Chelmsford area. Aged 65-68 years. Salary £1,143 p.a., £22 per week approximately.

The position was investigated in the case of one member and this could apply to many similarly placed, and the ultimate conclusion was as follows: Salary £22 per week. Income tax would claim 30 per cent, £7, leaving £15. A pensioner under 70 is allowed to earn £9.60 per week before his retirement pension (old age) is interfered with. As the weekly wage is £22 (above the £9.60 limit) his old age pension of £9 per week is forfeited in full. No allowance is apparently given when the weekly earning is in excess of £9.60. So in short by losing his retirement pension of £9, he is left with £6 take home pay. There is just one bright spot — his wife's retirement pension is not interfered with, a very comforting thought. If it was not

serious it would be a huge joke and one wonders what Civil Service brain box conjured up this situation. Of course, one is told, a pensioner having reached his three-score and 10 years can earn as much as he can get his hands on and no reduction is made to his retirement pension. The moral therefore which is two-fold, (a) do your homework before accepting a "plum job" and (b) do not earn more than £9.60 a week until you are 70, and good luck!

Subscriptions 1974

A timely reminder that subscriptions for 1974 should be paid by December 31, 1973. The amount is 48 pence for pensioners which automatically includes wives. Widows remain at 12 pence. Another year has passed all too quickly and time for my begging request regarding postage which was increased to 3p and 3½p from September 10, this will mean an additional £5 per annum for our own Branch, so that any donation above the amount for subscription will be greatly appreciated and enable the Branch to function effectively without

Obituaries

THE deaths of three pensioners were announced during the past month.

Oldest of these was Ex-Pc A. J. Asker who died on 28 August aged 82. He was formerly a member of the Southend force. Also an ex-member of the Borough force was Ex-Inspector G. Harman who was 74 when he died on 19 September.

On 14th September Ex-Chief Inspector H. R. Kemp, formerly a member of the County force died aged 73 years.

having any financial difficulties. I thank you all in advance. Reminders will be included with the next bulletin, which due to the Annual Conference on Friday, September 21, will most probably be delayed.

The result of the Annual Conference is awaited with interest, (a) confirmation of 9.3 per cent increase from December 1 next and (b) the new calculus, if agreed upon, for determining a more relative annual increase in Public Service Pensions.

ALTHOUGH the five capital building plan has survived in the published in The Law year nothing has actually cut out, only back.

But the programme extensive and will bring benefit to members of Force in the form of working conditions. Over next few issues The Law feature some of the buildings projected for coming years and being extended.

Ever since the amalgamation the and has existed of has Southend West Divisional Headquarters Southend Eastern Division. The difficulty was partly Southend Western Division was an amalgam of borough and county areas and for a site for the new

TV
LOU
ASSEMB

What's



Who's

IT FELL TO ME to a "mob" to visit a factory and it fell to Hampshire to receive

The saga commenced on September 11 when to arrive at Head finished for me, at following day when I get the last local resident.

I have heard some in my time but the biscuit. There was a to get some sleep in our canteen who tell they heard was screaming ain't you comin' then and "Cor, a Merc come time that we went for

I managed to pull on the course that you of visiting coppers from than the stiff upper Isles. I'm still not believed a word of it, on the head and a and they were nodding no time.

The chaps arranged aforementioned premises at 1.15 p.m. owner thought he

buildings on the drawing board will improve working conditions

iv HQ for Rayleigh

proved difficult. Finally the solution of using the Rayleigh site, which was large enough and which the Police Authority already owned, was arrived at.

Four alternative schemes were floated in the first place by the County Architect one of which included the retention of the existing station. At an early stage these schemes were discussed with officers of the District Council and County Planners Department and the most acceptable development decided.

This will involve the demolition of the existing station to permit the redevelopment of the site. The new station will front on to Rayleigh High Street and could well be the most imposing building in the town. It will provide pleasant working conditions for

divisional and sub-divisional personnel. While work is going on three houses at the rear of the site will become a temporary police station.

In deciding what accommodation should be provided a watchful eye was kept to the future and the station is planned to support a staff of over 200.

Operational accommodation includes a communications suite, a large cell block, parade and conference rooms. In addition to office accommodation particular attention has been given to providing adequate storage space. Welfare amenities consist of a large assembly hall, bar lounge, TV area, games room and dining facilities.

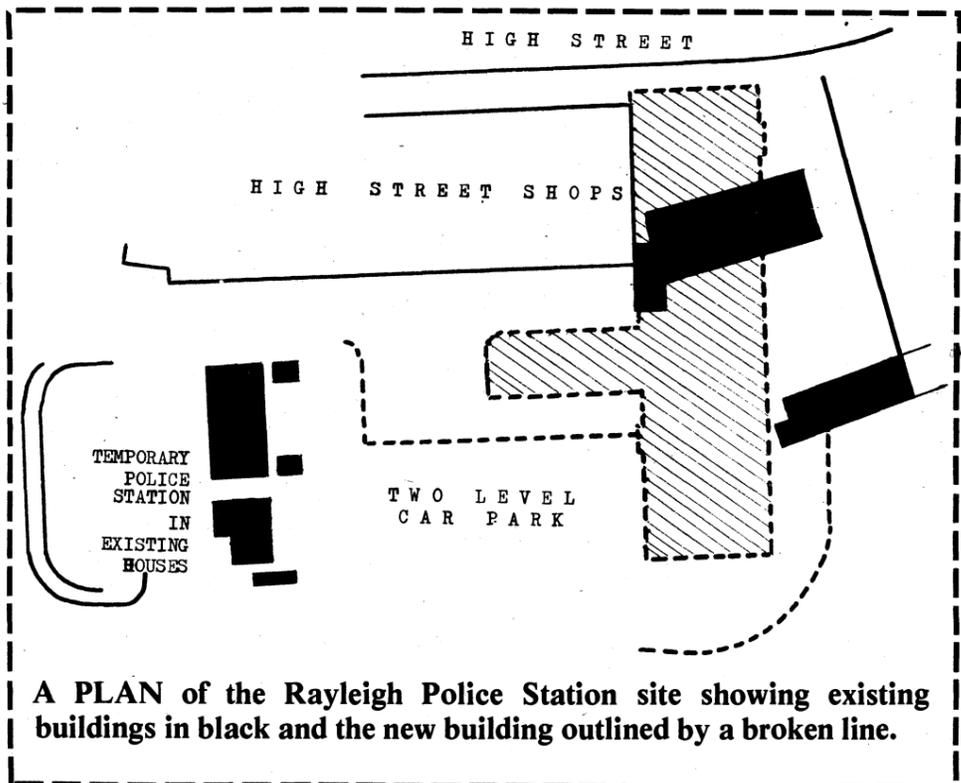
The rather irregular and sloping site has been used to advantage in that car

parking will be located at two levels — the lower level being covered.

And the planners seem to have looked even further ahead than to have merely planned a building with all mod cons. The possibility of even further expansion has been foreseen and the three houses forming the temporary police station and their gardens will be retained to provide space for extensions later.

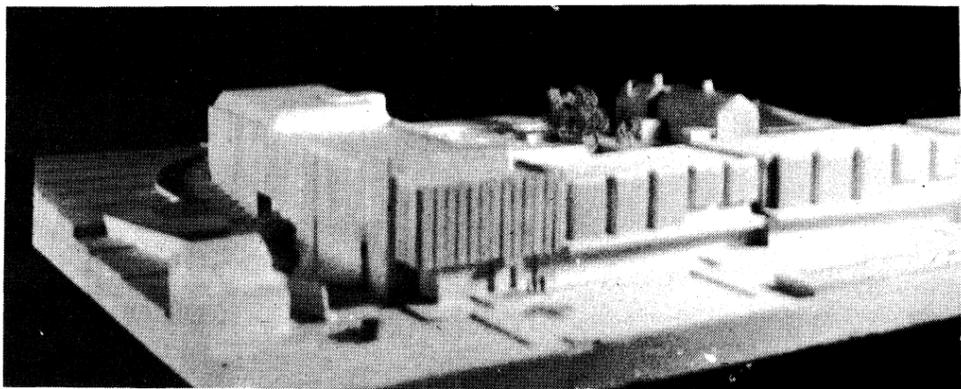
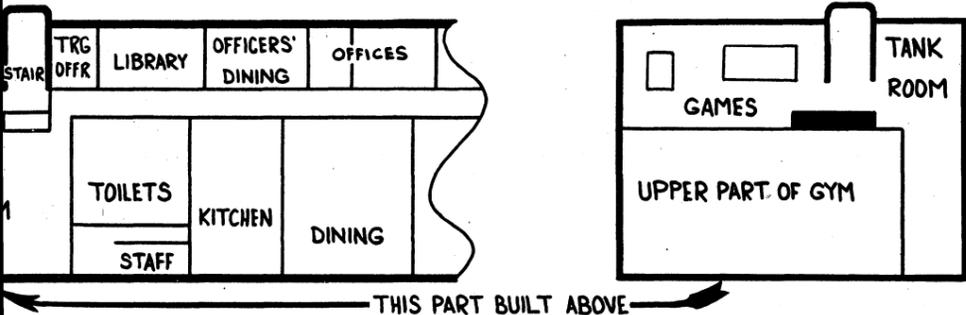
In the meantime work should commence on the new station towards the end of the present financial year, that is within six months.

Detailed plans are held in the Research and Planning Office at Headquarters and any force member wishing to see them will be made welcome by Supt Peter Nobes or Insp John Eady, Research and Planning staff.



A PLAN of the Rayleigh Police Station site showing existing buildings in black and the new building outlined by a broken line.

n of top floor showing amenity facilities



AS IS usual in these cases the Architects Department produced a plan of the building.

able to talk him out of committing suicide when he saw what he had let himself in for. Not only did they talk him out of doing himself in, but they talked him into buying the lot of them a meal and beer in a nearby pub!

For the first time we permitted one of the four wheeled fuzz to attend a function to which he normally would not have been allowed. He, of course, upset the lads by making off with the only apple pie and custard sweet in the pub. This was WAR.

He was assisted (strapped on to) a 750 c.c. Rickman Police Motor Cycle and it was started, placed in gear and released from the chocks at a high rate of knots towards the exit of the plant and he vanished for the remainder of the visit.

The remaining lads then proceeded to test the baby 125 c.c. bike and found that it performed quite well up to about 60 m.p.h. Apart from Frank catching his beard in the side balance wheels, nobody came to grief.

It seems that this plant makes all components by hand, even down to the wheels. There is a small section set aside for the production of the Police machines and most of the lads thought the way work was carried out quite impressive. I hope they all enjoyed the day out. Apart from the next outing, when the meeting place will be in the middle of the sports field, no criticisms.

So much for that... now as you all know, the replacement machines for the "H" registration bikes are arriving. A great deal of thought had been given on your behalf to the setting out of the equipment.



Approval has been sought to have the red and blue stripes placed along the side of the fairing and the rear pannier. The compressor for the air horns has been placed in a metal frame at the rear of the pannier and is mounted upright. The obsolete "Police Stop" sign has

been replaced by a reflectorised sign on a metal plate. Even the loudspeaker for the radio is attached to the set itself on the tank.

All these changes have been brought about for your benefit and from remarks that I have heard (excluding the usual rude ones) have been good. Therefore on your behalf I express our thanks to all those who made the changes possible and to say that I think we will have a fleet of motor-cycles to be proud of.

It is with pleasure that we announce that "Larynx" has had another one of his famous knock offs.

It would seem that he was moving at his usual 25 m.p.h. in top along the fast track of the Boreham By-Pass when he sees (much to his dismay) a fellow rider who was wearing the latest style crash helmet, namely an old Fatherland Metallic Bonce Cover. "THINKS" . . . I'll 'ave 'im . . . "But wot charge goes with that I wonder" . . . However, not to be talked out of it our hero makes a DECISION and reports same rider with Fatherland Metallic Bonce Cover.

On gleefully arriving at H.Q. to a full brass band welcome playing "How do you do it Stanley?" he was received with open arms by the sergeant and ushered into the inner sanctum. He re-appeared later with a puzzled look upon his infamous brow.

He was asked . . . "Was it approved by the British Standards Institute?" . . . "Was what approved?" replied our hero . . . "The ***** helmet of course!" . . . "Well it's unlikely cos it was made by the enemy, Sarg!" At this point the brass band stopped playing, the ticker tape was cleared away and the sergeant fainted.

If anyone can answer this question, then send it by A.56 to the aforementioned confused lad. He thinks that he ought to chat up and cop a statement from the designer and can't see why he should have any problems.

Recently there were a few folks from overseas and they were shown around the H.Q. buildings by a certain well-known senior officer. I

Now it's fishing off the end of Southend Pier in aid of the Police Dependants' Trust

Southend Joint Divisional Sports Club dangled the bait in front of local fishermen recently when they held a two-day fishing competition on Southend Pier.

With a portable television set and a cup presented by Trumans Brewery as first prize competition was keen.

Held on-15th and 16th September the competition brought in somewhere in the region of £100 to help swell the amount raised within the Force for the Police Dependants Trust, it was won by a local fisherman, Rick Hudson, seen holding the cup. Bill Redfern, Trumans representative, is pictured about to present the television, with Ed Easlea in the centre.



Vascar. "Dis ist einer Vascaren fur catchen und schpeeden wagenfuerhers. Und ist meiner ideeen du muckenuppen dere humpen unendowen und strasses mitt dis clockenwerken. Diss haben der effecten of pushenupenfiguren fur statistics und upsetten der ain't gonner let 'em 'ave them on their bikes . . . Whilst sitting here and writing this, the weather is somewhat damp and all that wet stuff is falling from the skies. "Going thin on top" and Larynx have just walked in looking like drowned rats and I was going to say something funny but had to threatening me with soaking wet gloves. The smile is fading slowly from my face as a dirty great fist gains ground between my nose and "Going thin on top's arm". So to finish up with I shall say that the league remains unchanged with the Colchester lads way out in front. Keep it up lads, the beer is on-

SPORT

Athletics

Good run for Down

COMPETING in the P.A.A. ten miles road running championship last week, Andy Down clocked a useful 55m 00s to take 11th place. This excellent performance shows that his build up for the Harlow Marathon in October is going well.

The race was won by D. Lem (Leics) in the fast time of 49m 43s. He was just a minute ahead of Surrey man R. Bean, second, whose team mate, M. Wayland, also ran well to secure 7th place.

Earlier in the month Andy Down, competing at Southend for Thurrock Harriers, clocked a new force record for 3000 mts steeplechase, 9m 44.6s.

Gala

The Force Swimming Gala will be held at Chelmsford Swimming Pool at 7 p.m. on Saturday October 27 Chelmsford Station Bar will open afterwards.

Best start for years to soccer team's season

Training sessions pay off

THE FORCE FOOTBALL TEAM have carried on their good start to the season by winning two more league matches.

The first, against Writtle, was won by a 2-1 margin, the team playing well for this result.

This success was brought about by Bragg and Whitehill, who scored from the penalty spot.

The second match was away against Essex County Council Staff, with the Force fielding a weakened team, with Gamble and Wilkinson being missing through injury.

A good start led to a goal through Cannon. The opposition soon equalised when Clarke put the

ball into his own net.

However, further goals from Cannon, Jiggins, and Rhymes brought a 4-1 victory.

The Force are still third in the Olympian League, three points behind the leaders with two games in hand. The Force are one of four teams who are unbeaten since the beginning of the season.

On September 22 the team were at home to Bowers in a League Cup match. This was an even match played cleanly but hard.

Bowers soon took a one-goal lead which was equalised by a good goal from Clarke. The half-time score was one goal each and the Force then took the lead with another well taken goal from Rhymes. However, Bowers fought back and equalised bringing the full-time score to 2-2 and extra time was needed to try to beat the deadlock.

Bowers scored a penalty to go ahead but then the Force team were awarded a penalty which Clark converted and saved the day forcing a replay.

Four days after this match the Force travelled to Hertfordshire Headquarters for the first round of the National P.A.A. Cup.

This match was played on a small pitch which did not suit the Force skills. The opposition played fairly well but the Force were well below par.

In the first twenty minutes of the second half Herts took a two-goal lead which made the Force fight harder and a goal soon came from Peter Hudson.

The equaliser came four minutes from full-time, Johnny Rhymes being the scorer.

Soon after the kick off for extra time Rusbridge made a good run down the left wing and put over a cross which John Cannon met with a flying header putting the ball firmly into the net.

The result, 3-2 to the Force team, now puts them into the next round when they meet Norfolk.

CADETS SCORE WELL

ESSEX POLICE CADETS started where they left off last season with a win over Chelmsford Division on Wednesday, September 5.

Fielding a weakened team, the Cadets took an early lead through Carpenter after a good through ball by Gamman. Scott, who was making a guest appearance in goal, made some fine saves which helped keep the Cadets slender lead at half time.

At the start of the second half Chelmsford equalised with a shot that gave Draper, who replaced Scott at half time, no chance. Chelmsford surprisingly took the lead a few minutes later and looked to be getting on top of the opposition. It was that one — two again from Carpenter and Gamman, with Gamman scoring, that put the Cadets level half way through the second half.

From then on the stamina started to tell and the Cadets were able to score twice more through Carpenter before the end of the game.

It was a well earned win for a team with two untried players, Rowe and Coates, in the back four.

On September 19 the team, again playing at home, faced Colchester Division. Once more the Cadets were forced to field a weakened team with Warriner, Golding and Cook making first team appearances.

Colchester started facing into a strong wind and took the lead early on from a hotly disputed penalty.

After some good football from both sides, despite the wind, Gamman was set up for a goal which he took well from 20 yards. Half-time came round with both sides at two each.

Early in the second half the Cadets took the lead again through Gamman's diving header, after a cross from the wing.

A few minutes later Gamman completed his hat-trick after Sear had put him through with a pass that split the defence open. Colchester were finding it hard to score with Warriner playing a fine game in goal and Ellison holding the defence together.

After a goal line dribble by Carpenter, beating three men, the ball was crossed to Gamman who put the ball into the back of the net.

Sear, scoring his first goal of the season, increased the Cadets lead to 6-2 before Colchester

scored their third goal. Newcomer, Rowe, completed the scoring for the Cadets with a well-taken goal a minute from full-time.

On September 26 the Cadet team turned out to play a return match against Gwent Cadets, whom they played last year in the area semi-final of the P.A.A. Cadet Football Cup. The result then was a 2-1 win in favour of Essex, after a very hard and cleanly fought match.

Essex Cadets started the game with a quick burst into the visitor's goal area, only to miss an open goal after thirty seconds.

With the home team defence finding it difficult to settle down, the big Gwent forwards took advantage and scored from a fine effort.

With 30 minutes of the game gone Essex started to come into the play with a shot from Gamman just clipping the top of the crossbar. With half-time rapidly approaching Gamman who had slipped his keeper, received the ball, turned and hit a powerful shot, only to see a Gwent defender punch it over the bar. From the ensuing penalty Gamman made easy work of scoring and levelling the score.

As the second half progressed, Essex Cadets began to take control of the game. Warriner, in goal, was pulling off some fine saves, although he still has to learn to move earlier, Golding playing like a terrier in defence, and Carpenter playing what could well be his best game for the team. The defence started laying on some good balls for the forwards and it was from one of these moves that Carpenter received the ball, turned inside the Gwent defenders and slid the ball underneath the advancing goalkeeper into the corner of the net.

Essex now started to turn the heat on and went close a few times with shots from Austin and Sear.

After a long touchline run by Gamman, who evaded two lunging tackles on the way, he put the ball across to Carpenter who only had to stroke it into the net. This was the final nail in the coffin of the Gwent team and they never really regained the style of play that they started with.

However in a last minute goalmouth scramble an incredible save from Warriner prevented Gwent from narrowing the final score line.

WICKFORD WIN CHALLENGE SHIELD



By COLIN DAVISON

Nobody really knows who or what started it all and I doubt if anybody cares. All that we can recollect is Dave Letch walking around justifying his existence with a rather tatty dog-eared piece of paper in his hand making top level enquiries as to whether there was anybody on the station who could play cricket.

Having established that there were at least 11 men at Wickford who actually knew what a cricket bat was, he threw out a challenge to Billericay to a "friendly" match.

Having accepted the challenge, a somewhat motley crew arrived at Wickford Cricket Club's ground led by those two stalwarts, Chief Inspector "Taffy" Manning and Inspector Alan Levey. Although very keen to get on with the game, nobody told them that a cricket team comprises of 11 men and not eight. However, with a little jiggery pokery we managed to get two full teams.

Billericay opted to bat first and got off to a good

start with the able assistance of Sgt. John Greedy, who knocked up a very reasonable 18 runs. With the overs restricted to two per man on the fielding side, Wickford soon started to get into the wickets and Billericay finished with their score of 91.

The only real bit of excitement in Billericay's innings came when Jack "Mohammad Ishmael" Dean walked to the crease complete with rolled umbrella, "L" plates, Fez and blanket accompanied by his "boy."

Wickford's reply for the 20 overs was 131 for 2 wickets with Pc Mick Benning retiring at 54 not out.

The only casualty of the match was Inspector Alan Levey who, in trying to stop a ball with his foot, received a cut on his "Pinkey." Although it did not appear serious, there have been mutterings coming from Billericay about the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

After the last "Ball was Over," the bar at the club was opened and a few pints were sunk.

The challenge plaque which had been made for the occasion was presented to the Wickford team by ex-Sergeant Bill Lemon.



Baddies win Tom & Lil Trophy



WEDNESDAY, September 5 saw the third "Five-a-Side" Soccer Tournament for the Tom and Lil Clack Trophy, held at the indoor pitch at Francis Sports Ground, Southend.

The competition is open for teams entered by all stations within the two Southend Divisions, and this year over 100 players and 50 spectators were at the tournament which started at 6 p.m. and did not reach its climax until 11.30 p.m.

With teams such as "Estudiantes 'D' Vestcliff, Leigh Dynamo, Benfleeca and The Railway Sleepers (a guest team from BTC) a good standard of play was expected and this proved so with the preliminary round where three Southend teams, including the CID masquerading under the title of A.C. Detections were knocked out.

In the first round proper The Baddies made their first appearance when they overcame the Bar Five. The all Rayleigh clash was decided by the only headed goal of the evening from 'Sniffer' Seymour, the CID alias The Mill

Billies, providing unexpected tough opposition. Real edged Benfleeca out by the odd goal, as Estudiantes did the Castaways. Dynamo passed through with one more penalty than Traffica after a drawn game.

The Baddies, in the second round, proved that they had some football ability when they beat the Exiles by the odd goal in three. In the next match Criterion Athletic and Banjax drew without scoring. The tie breaker was by penalties when the Rayleigh team (Banjax) only managed to score one while the CID Criterion Athletic netted four. In a high scoring match Dynamo defeated Triumph Ants by 5-4. The big clash came in the next match with the trophy holders in 1971 and 1972, Real faced the younger and lighter Estudiantes. The game was close and well played resulting in a win for Estudiantes, giving them a place in the semi-final and the first ever defeat of Real.

Estudiantes disposed of the second Leigh team in the form of

Dynamo ending that station's dominance of the tournament with the score line at 2-1.

The game between The Baddies and Criterion for a place in the final was marked by the heavyweight clashes between "Basher" Bambury and "Squeejee" Edkins. However the issue was decided by the goalkeeping of Graeme Ginn who kept The Baddies net clear for the match whilst the remainder of his team put four in to the opposition's goal.

Two tired evenly matched teams played the closest and most entertaining match of the evening. Two Bambury goals for the Baddies were matched by two from Horseman of Estudiantes, the second being rated as the best goal of the evening. The winning goal from John Hastings (alias Hot Shot) gave Baddies the trophy, with both teams being presented to Shirley Clack, daughter of Tom and Lil.

Pictured are the winning team after a hard evening's activity. Pic. by Evening Echo.

100 mile Daymond so close to 20 hrs at Bristol

MOST people make careful preparations for a car journey of 100 miles — some even decide against it — but this was the distance that Colchester's Barry Daymond tackled on foot in August.

The occasion was the Bristol Open 100 miles race starting at 6 p.m. on 21st September and continuing for 24 hours, the time limit. New to the distance, Barry made a steady start and was halfway down the 40-strong field after five miles.

Attended — driven might be a closer description in the later stages — by John Hedgethorpe, who won the last Bristol 100 four years ago, Barry began to move up and at the quarter distance was 16th. By halfway, reached in about 9½ hours, this had been converted to eighth. Now the race was on.

Dawn came — 12 hours walking — with the police walker still seventh but at 80 miles he was sixth and by 85 miles had moved through to fourth.

The leading three had gone too far away to catch and those following were shattered so now it was just a matter of time. Delving deeper into his reserves of strength than ever before Barry even accelerated, each lap from the sixth to the ninth being faster than the last.

But the target of 20 hours was just out of reach and the clock stood at 20h 13m 42s as he crossed the line.

This great fourth place is obviously the high spot of Barry's 18-month career, very short for anyone tackling the hundred, and enables him to justifiably take his place among the Centurians — walkers who have raced 100 miles in 24 hours — as number 509.

Other events

OTHER races this month were mainly short sharp affairs, several on the track contested by large fields — over 50 on one occasion. This gave every chance for newcomers to the section to get the feel of competition.

Form fluctuated considerably with some doing well in one race, others in another. In the first event of this year's Essex League campaign the section had every difficulty in raising the requisite six competitors to ensure the maximum possible score.

John Hedgethorpe, at that time building up for 50 kilos, led the team in. Denis Sheppard began his recovery of lost form and by the end of the month at Steyning was walking much more smoothly.

Success of the month has been Martyn Faulkner who has come through strongly to score well for the team. Trevor Williams, too, has laboured well, borne down by an arm in plaster.

RESULTS

Woodford 5¼m: 8.9.73. 11th J. Hedgethorpe 45.15; 21st D. Sheppard 47.20; 35th M. Faulkner 49.57; 46th T. Williams 52.38; 54th I. Brown 54.31; 56th A. Armstrong 54.47; team placed 5th.

Welwyn 5000m: 11.9.73. 5th J. Hedgethorpe 24m 43.6s; 7th D. Sheppard 25m 23.2s; 13th A. King 26m 6.7s; 21st L. Berry 27.19; 22nd R. Sheppard 27.20; 23rd P. Blois 27m 58.4s; 29th G. Matthews 28.35; 30th M. Faulkner 28.40; 33rd I. Brown 29.14; 39th N. Wiseman 30.47; 41st M. Coleman 31.04; 42nd J. Topolewski 31.08; 43rd P. Warriner 31.35; 44th W. Stephen 31.38; 46th T. Crow 31.55; 48th A. Trebilcock 32m 21.4s; 49th D. Dutton 35m 38.2s; 52 started.

Enfield 5000m: 18.9.73. 2nd J. Hedgethorpe 25.32; 4th D. Sheppard 25.50; 5th A. King 26.30; 9th R. Sheppard 27.35; 10th L. Berry 27.37; 11th G. Matthews 27.38; T. Williams 28.03; M. Faulkner 28.49; M. Thornton 29.20; I. Brown 30.25; J. Topolewski 30.30; P. Warriner 30.30; W. Stephen 30.40; D. Dutton 30.42; D. Coleman 32.21; A. Masson 34.00.

Highgate Hour: 22.9.73. A. King, 11.198 mts; D. Sheppard 11.028 mts; I. Brown 9.744 mts; P. Warriner 9.355 mts. Boys mile, 5th R. Sheppard 7m 57s.

Bristol 100 miles: 21/22.9.73. 4th B. Daymond 20h 13m 42s.

Enfield 3000m: 25.9.73. 7th D. Sheppard 14.52; 9th A. King 15.05; 11th J. Hedgethorpe 15.26; 13th R. Sheppard 16.02; 16th M. Faulkner 16.31; 17th L. Berry, T. Williams, G. Matthews, P. Blois, 16.38; 22nd I. Brown 17.00; 24th M. Thornton 17.25; 25th B. Jones 17.26; 26th D. Dutton 17.27; 27th W. Stephen 17.44; 28th J. Topolewski 18.06; 29th P. Warriner 18.07; 30th A. Masson 18.28; 31st A. Trebilcock 18.35; 32nd D. Coleman 18.52.

Steyning 5m: 29.9.73. 9th D. Sheppard 42.48; 17th T. Williams; 18th M. Faulkner 46.22; 23rd I. Brown 51.16; 25 finished.

Hamburg 50 kilo: 29.9.73. 3rd J. Hedgethorpe, 4h 57m 21s.

SEAXES DANCE

12th October 1973
8.30 p.m.-12.30 a.m.
H.Q. Assembly Hall
Dancing to
Triple Tones
50p including supper

Veterans 50 Kilos in Hamburg

CONTINUING the walkers' policy of showing the flag by racing anywhere John Hedgethorpe took himself off to Hamburg last week for what the organisers described as a competition of the world's best veteran walkers.

Competing in the 50 kilometers in the 39-46 age group John faced opposition from Germany, Sweden, Finland, Holland and Denmark, including a member of Sweden's Mexico Olympic squad.

After leading the field of all age

groups together — 32 years upwards — out of the Stadium the Force Walking Secretary was back in 8th place at the half distance — 50 kilometers is 31 miles. Then one by one the opposition came back until John crossed the finishing line in 4th place overall but 3rd in his group.

Despite having no intermediate time calls and the weather being a little cold and wet Hedgethorpe was happy with a clocking of 4h 57m 21s.

Bowls season ends with one-shot win

LAST month the bowls section played four games in their run to the end of the season. The first was against Braintree Bowls Club at Headquarters which finished as a convincing and satisfying win for the Police at 95-47. This was followed by a match at Dunmow on 5th September where the Force team lost by five woods with the final score at 78-83.

Another defeat for the team was experienced at Princess Marie Louise Club, Chelmsford, playing against many officers both past and present. This time the deficit was ten woods, the score being 78-68.

The final match of the season was a friendly match at Headquarters against Hertfordshire Police when the Force team finished the season in a grand style by beating the opposition with the score line at 90-58.

In between all the activity the section were also engaged in the finals of the P.A.A. South East Region single rink and three triples competitions finals. Both finals were staged at the Metropolitan Police Sports Ground at Chigwell on 20th September.

In the single rink, played in the morning, our opponents were Hampshire. As holders of the trophy the force team were fairly confident and the match started off with Essex in devastating form, gaining a 13-2 lead after eight ends.

The Hampshire team showed signs of worry if not despair and it appeared possible that they were ready to give in if the game continued in the same vane. Then like a bolt from the blue Hampshire scored an eight, something which had seemed impossible.

This put them right back in the game and from then on they played like demons. Our four stuck manfully to their task but the Hampshire tails had been raised so high that they were not to be denied. A six on the 15th end put them in the lead and they never looked back, winning 24-19.

Congratulations to Hampshire who took full advantage of their good fortune.

The three triples in the afternoon provided a drama so rare as to be almost unique. With the weather conditions varying from brilliant sunshine to pouring rain two groups finished the allotted 18 ends with the scores at 15-15 and 16-15 respectively, giving the force a one shot lead over Sussex.

The remaining rink had three ends to play and held an advantage of five shots. However, as always with the game of bowls, the unexpected happened and the Sussex bowlers scored shots until the last end when they needed three to draw and force a play off.

With the rain pouring down the Sussex skip took out numerous woods leaving his team with four shots and the Essex skip with one more wood to bowl. The atmosphere was electrifying with no-one leaving the rain soaked green. The skip bowled. Two easons, three wicks and a shoulder later he laid third wood. Sussex scored two. The rink score was level and the Force Triples team had won the cup by one shot.

Don't forget the social on the 9th November. By the time you read this tickets will be with Divisional Representatives. The success of the evening rests with you.

Roy Clark drops out



CHANGING his role from lecturer in police law to students at Training Department to that of student at the Essex University, Roy Clark is pictured in what he jokingly refers to as his student uniform.

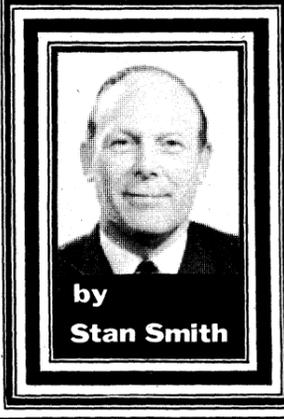
Roy, who is the Editor of the Seaxes Magazine and has for a long time been their correspondent for The Law, starts at the University in October, when he will study Sociology.

Not only will his finesse in teaching law be lost to the Force for three years but also his first class abilities in First Aid.

With him will be Insp. John Chidwick who will have to travel only the short distance from Clacton daily.

Federation

Notes



by
Stan Smith

THE Joint Branch Board are very concerned over the increasing dangers to which members of the Force, and the general public are being subjected by the ever-increasing volume of traffic using the roads of this Force area carrying dangerous loads. It is not the obvious high or heavy load which one can take steps to keep out of the way of, but the insidious danger of toxic chemicals which are being carried not only in tanker vehicles, but in unmarked normal freight containers, which are the cause for concern.

Although local publicity has been given to incidents involving dangerous chemicals, the majority of the Force may not be aware of recent events which have caused the Joint Branch Board to demand that some urgent action be taken to protect members whilst they are performing their normal duties.

In recent months there have been at least two incidents where highly corrosive acids have leaked from motor vehicles on to the road, one in Chelmsford and the other on the A12 between Chelmsford and Colchester. In the latter case the vehicle travelled about 15 miles from the time the leakage was spotted until it could be stopped and isolated. These cases bring to mind a fairly recent accident on a motor-way when an unfortunate lady driver came upon a tanker laden with hydrochloric acid which had been involved in an accident. She stepped out of her car into a pool of the chemical with horrible results which proved fatal.

Another incident involved a vehicle with a dangerous load which was stopped by the driver as the chemical had become unstable and the lorry had to be parked out of the way until preventive measures could be taken.

Perhaps the most dangerous case in this area was at Elmstead Market in August when a container vehicle carrying fifty metal drums, each containing a highly dangerous chemical, was stopped by the driver who noticed that a leakage of the chemical was melting the paintwork of the trailer. He had the good sense to seek assistance and Pc Wardle, the local man, acted most commendably and had the vehicle removed from the village to a country lane where it could be isolated. At that time the extent of the danger involved was not known because the driver, who had instructions to pick up the load at Harwich and take it to Oxford for onward transmission to the Bristol area, was not aware of the full nature and properties of the load. He had merely been told the weight of the load and the name of the chemical. Not unnaturally this meant very little to him but he is an obviously intelligent and responsible individual in that he kept a close watch on the load and raised the alarm at the earliest possible moment. If he had delayed action and the leakage had become worse, we could have had a very bad incident in a densely populated area somewhere along the journey.

In all Control Rooms of the Police Service and Fire Brigades, information is kept on dangerous chemicals with action to be taken in case of accident. Unfortunately there are so many chemical compounds being introduced almost daily that it is impossible for these to be kept up to date. In the incident referred to there was a card in the file at Information Room concerning the basic chemical elements being carried but no information on the exact formula which appeared to be a derivative. The basic chemical compound was dangerous enough as it had a very low flash point, was toxic, inflammable and corrosive, and if inhaled, could cause lung damage. Heating would cause a pressure rise with severe risk of bursting and explosion, and the use of water on the chemical was not advised.

When one considers that the day in question was one of the hottest of the year and two of the metal drums, each with 45 gallons of the chemical, were leaking as a result of them being bounced about within the container ever since the load had left Italy several days previously, it doesn't need an expert to know that things are very dodgy indeed.

Some twenty persons, including twelve police officers who were engaged in the incident suffered various effects from exposure to the chemical and were taken to Hospital for a check up on the advice of the consultant there. They were all allowed to leave after

several hours observation and advised to report to the hospital again if any ill-effects were noticed. The seriousness of the situation also recognised by the owners of the chemical because they sent two sets of chemists to the scene, some from as far away as Bristol, arriving very late at night after a very fast journey with police assistance. It took almost two days to decontaminate the two drums and the vehicle, the specialists using full protective clothing and breathing gear.

It is obvious that with the increase in container traffic from the Continent, firms dealing with chemicals are able to pour very large quantities of highly dangerous liquids through the very large hole in the regulations governing the carriage of dangerous chemicals on our roads, and we have taken steps to add our voice to those who are trying to get something done about this menace. There is a Home Office Committee studying this problem and I am aware that they are still taking evidence, including that obtained through the Association of Chief Police Officers. Your Joint Branch Board finds it strange that the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation do not feel it worth while to send the views and recommendations of the police officers actually involved in the danger to the Committee with a demand that some urgent interim measures be taken to protect the public and the police.

It seems ludicrous that an innocuous combine harvester, merely because it is wider than a normal vehicle should have its movement notified to the police in advance, yet a vehicle carrying the potential of a block-buster bomb can be permitted to move about freely on our roads without any other road user being aware of the dangers should an accident occur.

We have asked that the movement of all vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals should be notified to the police, that all vehicles and containers be very clearly marked, and all drivers should be in possession of the procedures to be carried out in an emergency. In our opinion, this is the least we can expect and the Joint Central Committee have been asked to reconsider their decision to do nothing apart from sending a letter to other Forces drawing attention to the dangers, and to make urgent representations to the Home Office Committee whose report may take months to emerge.

Members are advised to report all similar incidents in which they are involved for inclusion on their personal file because the long term effects of exposure to some chemicals are not known.

Pay

Although the working of one ARD was stopped at the end of September, members who are entitled will receive payment for two ARD's in their October cheque because we have been paid for such overtime in arrears, so the full effect of this loss of overtime will not be felt until November. At the Police Authority Meeting on 17 September, the Chief Constable informed the Police Authority that he considered the Force to be about 643 below strength to meet the real police needs of the police area. We are already 243 short of the present authorised establishment, so he considers that the increase in population and industry since the figure was set in 1965 now require a further 400 officers to be able to carry out their normal day to day duties. I am sure that many members of the Police Authority will find it strange that the

cessation of one working day a month overtime, together with a stricture to Divisional Commanders to reduce overtime worked is the way to get the police area efficiently and properly policed. We constantly hear the cry from members of the public that they never see a policeman these days, and it would appear that unless there is a massive increase in recruitment in a very short time, they will see even fewer. From my observations of work passing through the Information Room it would seem that the Force get busier every day, and I wonder if perhaps a change of heart is required to enable those officers who are willing to work to get on with it.

One hopeful note on overtime is that notice has been given of a request for arbitration on the question of payment of overtime incurred by Inspectors. Once that is out of the way perhaps we can have another go at the very thorny question of CID overtime. The Joint Branch Board will be discussing next Monday how pressure can be brought to bear to get this matter settled.

Housing

The Housing Committee of the Joint Branch Board have made recommendations that the Force Housing Policy be amended. Now that there is virtually no waiting list they have recommended that recruits joining the Force who own their own houses should be permitted to retain them and receive rent allowance provided they are prepared to travel at their own expense to their place of duty. Where this is not possible they will be offered a police house. Very few people will be affected by this change of policy and it will reduce hardship in cases where a recruit has to sell his house to join the Force and then be in a position of trying to get a council house if he leaves or his probation is not confirmed.

The Joint Branch Board will be drawing up proposals during the coming months to put before the Police Authority whereby some kind of assisted house purchase scheme can be introduced. There are a number of schemes operating at present and we hope to be able to recommend the best scheme available. It is probable that very few new purpose-built police houses will be completed from now on. If a system of purchase of existing houses is adopted by the police authority it could well solve the problem of housing the officer with a large family or those who would like something smaller than the three-bedroomed standard house. Provided a high standard of housing is insisted upon it should prove advantageous.

The programme of modernisation of existing police houses is to be stepped up and a reduction in the period between decorations will be recommended.

One existing provision in the housing policy is worth re-emphasising. Those officers who are nearing the end of their service can make application for a posting to an area in which they intend to retire with a view to getting the tenancy of a hired house transferred to them or for the purpose of qualifying on the housing list of the local council.

Rent allowance

Those anonymous gnomes within the Home Office at Whitehall must be suffering from a strong case of writer's cramp or paper constipation because our application for an increase in rent allowance still remains unanswered. One wonders how many hands this piece of paper has passed since it arrived at the Home Secretary's office and how long it will take to get off the roundabout and be decided upon.

At the next police council negotiations will take place with a view to operating a new system of assessing rent allowances which will do away with the necessity of District Valuers visiting every house to determine the allowance for that property.

This "instant assessment" will have the advantages that figures will be kept up to date instead of the three-year review as at present; an occupier will know what his new allowance will be immediately he gets a new rateable value following any improvements; it will do away with a vast amount of work in calculating arrears; a prospective purchaser can determine before purchase how much rent allowance any property will attract, and in low rated areas occupiers will be able to appeal to the Rating Authority for a higher valuation if their rateable value is so low to make their rent allowance well below the maximum.

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Sportsmen also do well in exams

WHEN the results of 'A' and 'O' level examinations in the General Certificate of Education taken by members of the Cadet Corps in May and June, had been collated last month a pass rate of 88 per cent in the

higher grade examination was revealed.

Of the 31 members of the passout course, nine sat either one, two or three 'A' level subjects, and out of a total subject entry of 17 only two failures were registered. Top qualification was gained by Cadet Denis Sheppard, whose name appears more often on the sports page, he gained three 'A' level passes.

Although the 'O' level pass rate was lower, at 63 per cent, the percentage of passes was still comfortably



Cadet Stephen Youngman.

above the national average, 84 passes resulting from a subject entry of 134.

In this field the top student was Stephen Youngman who passed all his five subjects. Stephen is also a regular games player, holding a place in the soccer and athletics squads and being holder of the Cadet Corps "Fitness Cup" awarded for the highest level of all round fitness achieved in the previous year.



Cadet Denis Sheppard in his more usual role of race walker.

Now you can watch Telly at HQ — AND be the star



ARE THE TRAINING STAFF BEING MADE REDUNDANT? At the beginning of 1973 Closed Circuit Television and Video Tape equipment was purchased by the Force.

The equipment consists of two cameras, two monitor sets, sound and vision mixers and other miscellaneous items such as microphones, battery chargers, tripods etc.

The outside world is brought into the classroom with the aid of the new equipment and a 45-minute lecture can be reduced to five

minutes viewing with the ability of analysing what has been shown.

At present a 10-week course is being held at Headquarters for budding Felini's, under the guidance of the Visual Aids Department of the County Council, and nine officers drawn from various departments within the Force are attending.

Uses for this equipment will possibly include the making of training films and role playing exercises, traffic and communication work

and scenes of crime studies.

When it is understood that 40 minutes viewing can be made by a tape costing £8.50 and that tape can be used time and time again for showing the film or, as in the use of tape-recorders, the tape can be used for filming other events, the use of the equipment will be a great saving in time in lectures and for analysing major incidents.

The training department would be glad to hear from any member of the Force who is also a card carrying member of Equity.

DETMOLD POLICE VISIT H.Q.



Pictured on their arrival at Chelmsford the Detmold I.P.A. party.

IN mid-September a party of German I.P.A. members from Detmold who were staying with hosts in the Suffolk force spent a day at Police Headquarters.

After lunch and a visit to the Driving School

they fell, inevitably, into the clutches of the Cadet Corps who gave them the treatment. As several of the guests spoke no English the Corps had its own interpreter, Cadet Michael MacDonald who is bilingual, on hand to

translate the speeches of welcome.

The Springfield Young Ladies took the Detmold policemen and their wives on a tour of the School and ended up with an impromptu drill display which has gone back to Germany on film.



THE CEREMONIAL exchange of helmets obviously cuts no ice with Tostig who seems utterly bored by the proceedings having been roped in to help welcome the guests in his capacity as mascot to the School.

Herr Clahsen, Deputy Chairman of the Detmold I.P.A. resplendent in Force headgear crowns the Cadet Commandant with a now-obsolete German police helmet.

Others in the picture are from left Mrs. Blake and Ken Blake of the Suffolk Driving School, and a member of this Force until six years ago, Sgt. Dick Giggins and Cadet Bernadette Cussen.

Bazoo rescues children



A HEADACHE for the Driving School has arrived. How do they classify the Driving ticket for the new vehicle that has arrived at Southend.

For the last three weeks a six wheeled mini monster has been seen prowling around the beaches of Southend. Orange in colour with a rear engine the Bazoo as it is called by the makers, a Canadian firm, has been supplied by the Home Office Research and Development Office for a trial period.

Used by the Police Sea Rescue Patrol Section at Southend it has already proved it's worth by bringing five children under the age of eight years, who have strayed into danger on the dangerous

sections of beaches around the Shoebury area.

It has also been used to give parties warning of the incoming tide and sudden fog patches which cause so much danger in this part of the Essex coastline.

Usually crewed by one man in radio contact with both Headquarters and the Local Coastguards, it is driven by a 225cc engine mounted at the rear of the vehicle and is capable of 31 mph land speed.

It is also capable of 2.3 mph when waterborne, under its own propulsion. The overall weight of the vehicle, which is mainly constructed of fibreglass is 450lbs and it has a carrying weight of 500lbs.

Although the vehicle is amphibian it should only be used in calm water as the propulsion whilst waterborne by the revolving of the wheels through the water and anything more than a calm sea would halt its progress. It is capable, however, of covering marshland with consummate ease, with its six wheels independently sprung.

It is understood that another vehicle of this nature but larger in engine capacity will soon be arriving at Southend so the Sea Rescue Station will now be able to cover for twenty-four hours both at high tide and at low tide around the marshes that abound round the Maplin area.

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The present system of a purpose built house being valued on its rental value to set the maximum for the Force will remain. In the present case now awaiting ratification by the Home Office, the house at 2 Partridge Avenue, Chelmsford, is assessed at having a rental value of £475 per annum to which is added the £102.80 rates payable on that property — this brings a figure of approximately £11.11 weekly as the maximum for the Force.

The new system will be based on the valuer's estimation of the rental value of the selected house (£475)

defined by nett rateable value (£290). This will give a figure (the multiplier) which in our particular case will be 1.64.

To work out your own allowance all you have to do is to multiply your nett rateable value by 1.64 and then add your annual rates. If the resultant figure is the same or below the Force maximum then that will be your allowance, but you cannot get more than the maximum.

Provided there are safeguards to ensure that the Force maximum is reviewed at regular intervals and that those presently awaiting a review with arrears are able to get their back pay then the system

should be better than the one we have at the moment.

This new system will not help officers who live in low-rated areas as the common denominator is the rateable value of the property occupied. We shall now have the anomaly of a police officer trying to get his rateable value lifted to enable him to get a higher rent allowance, while his neighbour is probably trying to get his reduced. A high rateable value will be beneficial to those officers with several years service to go, but those towards the end of their service will be better off with a low rateable value ready for when their rent allowance ceases.

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with complaints. And the Support Unit will be strengthened by one chief inspector, one inspector and four sergeants.

The special branch, dealing with security and port duties will be doubled to a strength of 26 and the squad dealing with drugs, frauds and stolen vehicles is also to be augmented.

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