

# The Sheriff's



# STAR

PUBLISHED FOR AND DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF GOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT IN FLORIDA

Vol. 1, No. 11

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

JANUARY, 1958

## Eyes of Ohio Sheriffs on FSA Projects

KEY WEST—Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottswood said Ohio sheriffs indicated a strong interest in the accomplishments of the Florida Sheriffs Association he outlined to them when he addressed their convention in Columbus, Ohio, last month.

He said they are particularly anxious to learn full details regarding the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, a state-wide crime fighting agency which the Association created; and the Association-sponsored 1957 law which removed 48 Florida sheriffs from the antiquated fee system and placed them under a new budget-salary system.

He said Ohio Attorney General William Saxbe shares the interest of the Buckeye State sheriffs in these projects.

Spottswood, who is president of the Florida Association, was the featured speaker at the Ohio convention banquet. He conferred with Saxbe and Ohio Governor C. William O'Neill during his trip.

He said he left Key West on a non-stop flight to Columbus with the thermometer at 78 degrees. When he arrived the temperature was 18 degrees, there was eight inches of snow on the ground and the runways had to be cleared by snow plows before the plane could land.

## Wheels of Justice Greased by Bureau

TALLAHASSEE—The records and identification section of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau greased the "wheels of justice" in circuit court here when a convicted burglar was sentenced to the state prison by Judge Ben Willis.

Leon County Deputy Sheriff Raymond Hamlin was able to get the burglar's past criminal record from the Sheriffs Bureau files within a matter of minutes and enabled the judge to waive the usual pre-sentence investigation, which could have caused a delay of several weeks.

Charges were filed against the defendant one day and he was sentenced the next day.

## Deputies Nab "Pirate" Trio

ISLAMORADA — Sea-going Monroe County Sheriff's deputies captured three teen-age "pirates" after the trio had commandeered a 40-foot yacht and held the owner and his family as hostages.

The deputies chased the yacht in a speed boat, boarded it, placed the youths under arrest and saved owner Richard Sias of Winter Park, and his wife and four children, from possible serious harm.

The officers learned of the "piracy" case through a note smuggled ashore to a fisherman.

Sheriff John Spottswood said the boys boarded the boat at Craig Key and held the terrorized Sias family at gunpoint while they headed out to sea.

## Plans Completed for St. Augustine Conference

ST. AUGUSTINE — Host Sheriff L. O. Davis Jr. has completed plans for the Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association which will be held here January 23 and 24 at the Hotel Ponce de Leon.

He said highlights will include addresses by State Senator Verle A. Pope of St. Augustine; Arthur Dozier, State Director of Child Training Schools; and R. O. Culver, Director of the State Department of Corrections.

Sen. Pope will address a banquet scheduled for the night of Jan. 23. A fish fry and a luncheon for sheriffs and their guests are also on the program.

A major portion of the conference will be devoted to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a permanent home for needy

and worthy boys the Sheriffs Association is building on a 722-acre site on the Suwannee River, near Live Oak.

A progress report on this project, which is supported by the dues of the Association's Honorary Members, will be presented by Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn Jr., executive director of the ranch.

Director Don McLeod will give a similar summary on the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, a state-wide crime fighting agency sponsored by the Association.

Installation of 1958 officers will be held on Jan. 23. They are: Pinellas County Sheriff Sid M. Saunders, president; Pasco County Sheriff Leslie Bessinger, first vice president;

(Continued On Page 4)



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS—State Sen. Verle A. Pope of St. Augustine (left) and Arthur Dozier, State Director of Child Training Schools, will be among the speakers at the Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Assn., in St. Augustine, Jan. 23 and 24.

## Who Will Be Eligible?

## Boys Ranch Admissions Policy Being Drafted by 9-man Group

How will boys be selected for admission to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch?

Who will be eligible?

Answers to these questions are being developed by a nine-man Admissions Committee composed of Arthur Dozier, State Director of Child Training Schools, chairman; Juvenile Judges O. D. Howell of Hillsborough County, Bowden Hunt of Polk, Robert McCrary of Jackson and Dorr Davis of Broward; Sheriffs W. P. Joyce of Leon County, Hagan Parrish of Polk and Ross E. Boyer of Sarasota; and Marshall Dutton, from the Child Welfare Division of the State Welfare Department.

In its initial meeting, in Jacksonville, last month the committee was told by Martin Gula, group care consultant for the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, that the Boys Ranch is a "very realistic program which will serve boys not now served by other programs."

Work was also started on the drafting of a formal admissions policy. Tentative regulations would require boys to be:

1. Residents of Florida.
2. Recommended by the Sheriff of the county in which they reside.
3. In the age range from 12 to 15 inclusive.
4. Physically and mentally able to participate in the Ranch program and benefit from it.

## Tallahassee Man, Wife Make Large Bequest to Boys Ranch

TALLAHASSEE—A Tallahassee man and his wife have willed practically all they own to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a permanent home for worthy and needy boys the Florida Sheriffs Association is building on the Suwannee River, near Live Oak. They asked to remain anonymous.

The bequest was made through Leon County Sheriff W. P. (Bill) Joyce, endowment chairman for the ranch.

He said it includes the couple's residence and property valued at \$80,000, their bank account, stocks and other assets.

Only a few possessions, such as furniture and personal belongings were excluded from the bequest, he added.

Joyce said this is the first bequest under the new endowment program which he heads, but there are indications that many others will be established by citizens interested in the welfare of Florida's Young people.

The ranch is being built on a recently-acquired 722-acre site and initial work is being financed by the dues of the Sheriffs Association's Honorary Members.

The endowment program is designed to provide supplemental long-range financing, Joyce explained.

The ranch is part of the Sheriffs Association's "Fight Delinquency Campaign." In a companion project the Association is providing scholarships for outstanding students released from the Florida Industrial School for Boys, at Marianna, to attend universities and technical schools.

## Dunn Appointed To Ranch Post

TITUSVILLE — Brevard County Sheriff James W. Dunn is East Coast Chairman for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

He was appointed by Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottswood of Key West, president of the Florida Sheriffs Association and chairman of the Boys Ranch trustees.

He will be responsible for coordinating the activities of East Coast sheriffs in planning and raising funds for the ranch.

## Court Nixes Splitting Of Sheriff's Job

TALLAHASSEE — You can give your Sheriff a fancy title like County Director of Public Safety (provided you pass the necessary constitutional amendment).

And (with the same authority) you can even remove him from the control of the people by making him an appointive rather than an elective official. But you can't split up the duties and functions guaranteed to him by the state constitution and handed down to him from as far back as the days of the Roman Consuls.

This, in effect, was the decision of the Florida Supreme Court when it ruled on the constitutionality of Dade County's controversial home rule charter.

The ruling can be interpreted to mean that a sheriff by any other name remains a "sheriff" in function. The sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in each county in Florida.

The court held that an ordinance designed to strip Dade County Sheriff Thomas J. Kelly of all but his process-serving powers was unconstitutional.

The court said that the Dade County Metro Government Commission, if it is going to take any power away from the Sheriff under the charter, cannot take it away piecemeal, but must remove all of his powers and keep them intact.

These powers, the court said, must remain vested in one individual who would be subject

(Continued on Page 4)

## 45 Stills Hit In 1957 Raids

MACCLENNY—A total of 45 moonshine whisky stills were destroyed in Baker County during 1957, according to a year-end report issued by Sheriff Ed Yarbrough.

Yarbrough, who pledged to end moonshining in the county when he took office last January, said 11 persons were arrested during the raids. Nine of the defendants have been convicted and two are awaiting trial.

Yarbrough said a total of 54,415 gallons of mash and 493 gallons of moonshine was destroyed as a result of the raids. The 54,415 gallons of mash would have produced 6,795 gallons of moonshine, according to his report.

Seven vehicles were seized at the site of the stills and the county received \$1,304 from sale of miscellaneous confiscated items.

Yarbrough said much credit for the success of the raids was due federal and state beverage agents who worked closely with his office during the year.

Yarbrough proved fleet of foot as well as persistent in the year-long crackdown since he caught seven of the 11 defendants in footraces.

## Contest Winners

The following winners were selected in the "Highway Zoo" traffic safety contest which appeared in the December issue of The Sheriff's Star:

FIRST PRIZE (\$50) — Brooke Broderick, Crestview.

SECOND PRIZE (\$35) — Lucille Weeks, Quincy.

THIRD PRIZE (\$15) — Carl P. Jensen Jr., Dundee.

HONORABLE MENTION (sorry, no prizes)—Evelyn P. McDonald, 5 Broderick Bldg., Lakeland; and Mrs. Carol Bird, Lake Worth.



# THE SHERIFF'S STAR

Published For and Dedicated To the Advancement of  
Good Law Enforcement In Florida

By  
THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION  
At Tallahassee, Fla.

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## Teen-Agers In Trouble

These teen-agers in trouble made headlines around the state:

**TALLAHASSEE** — Arrest of three teen-age boys and an attractive 18-year-old Jacksonville housewife at New Orleans has cleared up a dozen robberies between Jacksonville and New Orleans, and possibly here, it was reported.

The sheriff's office has started a check to determine whether the boys and woman were connected with any local robberies.

**GAINESVILLE** — Petit larceny charges have been filed against two youths, Sheriff Joe Crevasse reports. The boys were charged with taking a purse from a Negro woman. The purse contained \$15. The boys tried to return \$12.50 of the money.

**DELAND** — Three teen-agers and a juvenile from the Boston, Mass., area, were arrested on vagrancy charges by Deputy Sheriff Hardie Daughtery and Orange City Constable Alva Hartman.

The boys were travelling in a car owned by one of the arrested youths. They had two cents among them when taken into custody to await action by Massachusetts authorities.

**WEST PALM BEACH** — The sheriff's department reports a juvenile extortion plot involving two youthful bicycle thieves has been uncovered.

Deputy Sheriff Charles Root learned that a 10-year-old and a 12-year-old boy took two bicycles. The 12-year-old reports two other boys knew about the theft and demanded payment of one dollar—apparently "hush money."

The young thief started to cry and the extortionists lowered their price to 30 cents. The money was paid back after the boys were questioned before their parents.

**MIAMI** — Four Negro children aged 10 to 14, are in custody in connection with a long string of burglaries in Perrine, the sheriff's office reports.

The children accidentally left some of their clothing in a house and gave deputies a clue. When arrested, the children were playing with a stolen loaded revolver. They had \$20 in cash and had admitted spending more than \$250.

**HOLLYWOOD** — Olsen Junior High School was

cleared of students after a false "bomb" report. The Broward County sheriff's office reported Police Chief George Williams of the Dania police department called and wanted the building searched. Deputies Howard Spangle, Ben Bacon and Sam Hartland searched the building.

**TAMPA** — County commissioners asked the sheriff's office to post a deputy at a railroad crossing to stop boys from throwing rocks at the railroad blinker lights and using a borrow pit for a rifle target. The lights cost \$16 and must be replaced.

**HOLLYWOOD** — It cost the parents of two West Hollywood boys \$100 for "boyish pranks." The boys smashed the windows and the doors of a trailer, took the wheels off a wheelbarrow and mixer.

**ARCADIA** — Sheriff Lloyd Holton has ended a post office rifling game which started here in October.

The mystery came to an end with the arrest of a 14-year-old boy who reportedly admitted he was the one responsible for removing mail from approximately 25 boxes.

His job was made rather easy as persons would leave keys in their boxes. The boy would reach through the box and reach mail in adjoining boxes.

**SARASOTA** — Two 15-year old Sarasota youths narrowly escaped bad burns when the car they had stolen caught fire as they were filling the gas tank.

Deputies Jack Royal, Lonnie Selph and Lon Collins acting on a tip of the State Highway Patrol, caught the youths after the car was sighted in flames in a secluded spot in a subdivision.

**TAMPA** — Two youths admitted several crimes which had not been reported to sheriff's deputies.

The boys, Joe Mathew, 17, who said he escaped from a Minnesota prison where he was serving time for auto theft, and Edward Stanley Miller, 18, were nabbed when a store clerk saw them rummaging in his car.

Both were booked on breaking and entering after making the mistake of running through the yard of Deputy Oscar Wages in their haste to escape.

# ROLL CALL

News Items From Sheriffs' Departments All Over The State

**ARCADIA** — The De Soto High School Band now has a Confederate flag and standard to go along with their new Confederate gray uniforms, compliments of De Soto County Sheriff Lloyd Holton.

**KEY WEST** — Bids will be let during January for a sheriff's sub-station in the Upper Keys. Monroe County Sheriff John Spottswood said the sub-station will be a four-cell structure with living quarters for a deputy.

**SARASOTA** — Sarasota County deputies in search of a 40-year old man wanted for assault and battery found their man—and promptly added another charge to the list. Deputies Russell Mize and Harold Wilson found their quarry driving his car, intoxicated and without a driver's license.

**CRESTVIEW** — The alertness of two Crestview merchants and fast work by the Sheriff's Office resulted in nabbing an alleged bad-check artist in the act. The first merchant, J. S. Moulton, of Moulton's Department store, became suspicious when the suspect, Mark Brooks, of Los Angeles, attempted to cash a check in his store. He called his brother, who called the Sheriff's Office.

Brooks was arrested while attempting to cash a \$58 check in a nearby florist shop. His car was loaded with merchandise apparently purchased with bad checks in other communities.

**DE LAND** — Volusia County Sheriff Rodney Thursby reports 100 percent compliance in Volusia County with the new State law requiring gasoline price signs to be set back from the highway and the small numerals to be at least half the size as the larger numbers.

**FORT PIERCE** — When a large, round black object with a glistening metallic strip attached, floated down from the sky and lodged in a tree, curious neighbors called the Sheriff's Office.

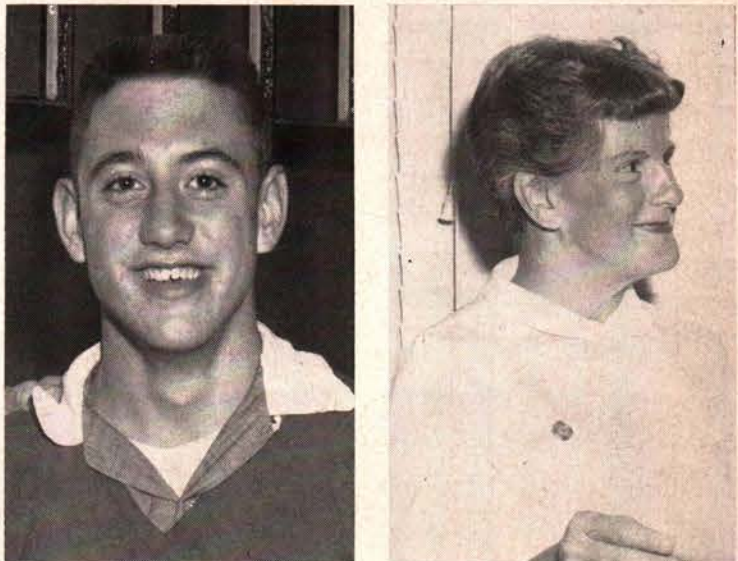
A quick look by Deputy Richard Waugh and a call to the CAA confirmed his diagnosis. It was a weather balloon — no sputnik!

**JASPER** — Hamilton County Sheriff Charlie Rhoden and Federal and State Beverage agents captured the owner of a still just as he finished lighting his first fire under the mash. Explained still operator Ashley Daniels: "I just wanted to use it just this one time."

**VERO BEACH** — Indian River County Sheriff Sam Joyce served as chairman of the Vero Beach Kiwanis Club turkey shoot. Proceeds from the shoot went to the club's underprivileged children's fund.

**ZEPHYRHILLS** — When Pasco County Sheriff Leslie Bessenger and State Beverage agents raided a still in Zephyrhills, they thought they were seeing double. There was nothing wrong with their eyes, though. The still, a 322 gallon operation, was being operated by a pair of twins.

**GAINESVILLE** — Alachua County Sheriff Joe Crevasse has a special reason to nab a bad check artist who operated in Gainesville recently. The check-passer forged the name of the sheriff on three \$20.15 checks!



**BRADENTON—CONTEST WINNERS**—Christmas came early for three Manatee County residents who won cash prizes in the Star's "Highway Zoo" traffic safety contest series. In the top photo Sheriff Roy Baden is shown presenting a \$50 first prize award to Dr. M. L. Warner of Bradenton. The other winners are Todd A. Kuhn, Jr. (\$35), and Marie Booth Kuhn (\$15), both of Palmetto.

## Key West Sheriff Wants Fire Bell On Courthouse

**KEY WEST**—Monroe County Commission has been asked to rig a fire bell in the tower of the courthouse.

The request was made by Sheriff John Spottswood, who also is director of Civil Defense. The sheriff pointed out that the old fire bell had been removed when the city hall tower was taken down.

"Volunteer firemen, residents and business people in the downtown area have been concerned ever since the bell atop city hall was silenced," the sheriff wrote the commission.

Money for the project would come from civil defense funds.

## \$2,000 Hay Fire

**TAMPA**—A group of teen-agers is being sought in connection with the burning of nearly \$2000 of balled hay used to mulch soil on road shoulders, the sheriffs office reports. Fires were started on two occasions, according to Deputy Bob Strickland.

## Wastes No Words On Robbers

**PHILADELPHIA** — Miss Catherine Withers, 60, clerk in a cleaning shop doesn't believe in wasting words on robbers.

A holdup man walked into her shop carrying a pistol and wearing a mask.

"Gimme the money," he said. "Get out of here," said Miss Withers.

He did.



**BARTOW—TRAINING SUPPORTER**—Polk County Sheriff Hagan Parrish is an active supporter of the Polk County school system's on-the-job training program. Here he is shown at an employer-employee fish fry with (from left) Mary Louise Brooks, Frankie Sumner and Tula Wadsen. (Photo by Identification Division, Polk County Sheriff's Department.)



# WANTED PERSONS

**As Compiled by the  
Florida Sheriffs Bureau  
Don McLeod, Director**

THESE MEN AND GIRLS ARE BELIEVED TO BE TOGETHER



**RAFAEL VASQUEZ and**

Vasquez described as Puerto Rican, age 21, 5 feet 5½ inches, weighs 130 pounds, smoky complexion. Social security No. 580342729. Figuero, Puerto Rican, age 23, weighs 155 to 157 pounds, black kinky hair. Social Security No. 581-32-2459.



**OSCAR FIGUERO**

These men are with two runaway girls. Subject No. 1 FRAN TABOR, white female, age 13, 5 feet tall, weighs 100 pounds, golden brown hair, brown eyes. Subject No. 2 SYLVIA GELDRICK, white female, age 13, height 5 feet, weighs 99 pounds. Subjects driving stolen car, 1953



**FRAN TABOR, 13**



**SYLVIA GELDRICK, 13**



**CLYDE R. ROBINSON**

Alias GUY, white male, age 24, 5 feet 9 inches, weighs 145 pounds, reddish hair, odd looking mouth. Heavy drinker with preference for Vodka. Last seen in Miami Sept. 12, 1957. May be enroute Saginaw, Mich. Warrant issued, charge Breaking and Entering and Grand Larceny. Wanted by PD Vero Beach, Florida, or notify Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

Ford Sedan two door, light blue bottom, dark blue top, 1957 Florida License 20-3204. Right headlight has been knocked out of car. They were last seen in St. Augustine 11-2-57, headed south on A1A. Both men worked at one time on a farm near Homestead, Fla., and are believed to be in the Miami or Fort Myers area. Warrants have been issued for Vasquez and Figuero, charge Larceny of car, and if apprehended with the girls, more serious charge will be filed. Any information contact Sheriff Davis, St. Augustine or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.

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**CHARLES WHYTE**

Also known as CHARLES ALFRED MARSHALL, white male, age 55, 5 feet 4 inches, weighs 162 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes. Born in Canada, but will claim to be an American if apprehended. Usually works as short order cook or bartender. Any information call collect Investigator Jesse D. Edwards, Jr., EL 4-7111, extension 496 or RA 4-0090, U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Jacksonville, Fla., or notify Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.



**WILLIE LANIER**

Colored male, age 27, 5 feet 6½ inches, weighs 120 pounds, slender build, black hair, brown eyes, brown complexion. Escaped from Gadsden County Road Camp 11-2-57. His wife, Ophelia Lanier, lives at 4105 Chase Ave., Jacksonville, Fla. His girl friend, Retha Martin, by bus to Mulberry, Fla., 11-27-57, and it is believed she went to meet Lanier. Notify Sheriff Edwards, Quincy, Fla., or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.

## Moral Persuasion No Safety Tool

COLUMBIA, S.C.—The traffic safety director of the Association of Casualty and Surety Companies said no amount of moral or other persuasion will ever get motorists to comply with traffic safety practices. Paul H. Blaisdell told a South Carolina Citizens Safety Conference that only education and enforcement can achieve these goals.

He said the necessary education must be provided in schools and colleges and through well directed publicity and promotion.

He also urged "relentless and impartial" traffic law enforcement, and removal from the highways of "those who have no regard for the public welfare and those who cannot or will not live by the rules."

Another crazy way to try and get ahead is to pass the car in front on hill or curve.



**VERNON CAPRON**

Colored male, age 27, 5 feet, 10 inches, weighs 180 pounds, born in the Bahamas. He is driving Chrysler Sedan, about 1948 model, chocolate top, grey body, with Pennsylvania license, numerals unknown. Any information call collect Investigator Jesse D. Edwards, Jr., EL 4-7111, Extension 496 or RA 4-0090, U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Jacksonville, Fla., or notify Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.

## BAD CHECK ARTISTS' GALLERY

FROM THE FILES OF THE  
FLORIDA SHERIFFS BUREAU  
DON McLEOD, Director



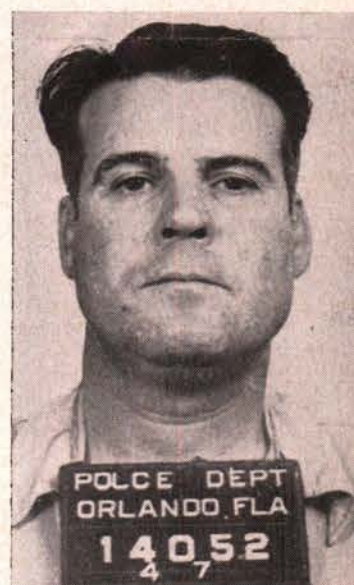
**ROBERT C. DECKER**

White male, age 30 to 36, 5 feet 8 inches tall, weighs 150 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes, ruddy complexion. His method of operation is to check into a hotel by first telephoning for reservation, stating he is calling from airport. He subsequently arrives at the hotel without luggage, claiming it was mixed up in transit and will arrive later. He uses 1534 Sawtelle Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., as home address and is allegedly connected with M & L Cabinets there. Wanted on charge of Worthless Checks. Notify Police Dept., Miami Beach, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.

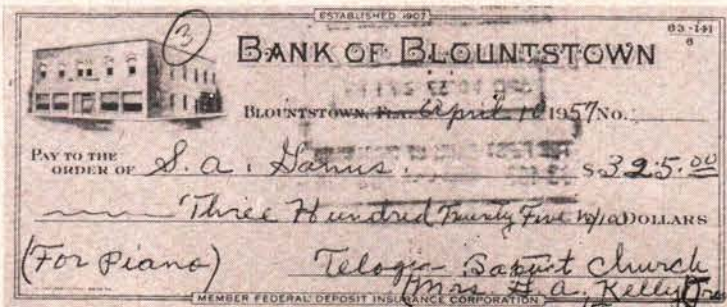


**OTIS RICHARD GORDON**

Also known as R. O. Gordon, O. R. Gordon, Richard Otis Gordon, white male, tall heavy set, appears to be out door type. Well dressed, looks like business executive. Represents self as being employed by various firms, such as Atlantic Coastline Railroad, Florida Power and Light Co., The Telephone Co., etc. Has served time in State Prison for Forgery, from Marion County, now wanted for Parole Violation. Marks and scars: Tattoo of dagger upper left arm, tattoo of rose and rooster with names "Lena Mae" inside left forearm, large tattoo of American flag and "U.S.N." dated 1922 on upper right arm.



Place of birth Ludowici, Ga., home Vidalia, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla. His method of operation is to purchase foodstuff at Super Markets, claiming he is gathering material for Barbecue, that his employer is giving. Presents check, requesting balance in cash. Any information concerning this subject notify Sheriff Pellicer, Palatka, Sheriff Parrish, Bartow, Constable Kinchen, Daytona Beach, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau. Subject originally carried in October Star, still at large.



**Sample of check passed by S. A. GANUS**

**S. A. GANUS**

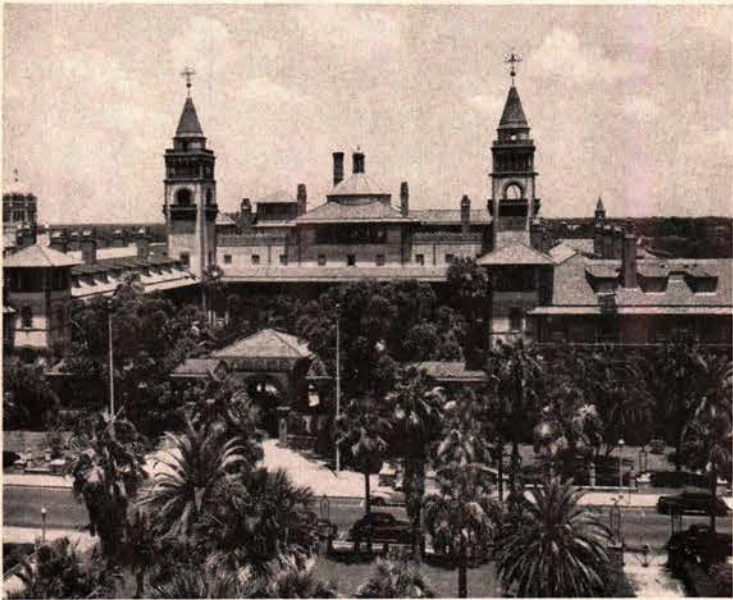
White male, age 65-70, 5 feet 11

inches, weighs 180-200 pounds, grey hair, close cut, grey eyes. Walks with a limp. Driving 1956

Ford with Florida License 25-2616. Music teacher. Represents self as a chairman for Starck and Bremen Piano Co., Chicago, Ill. This firm denies he is their representative. Tells victims he is able to get pianos at half price. Makes a sale, accepts money, fails deliver piano. Warrants have been issued in Liberty and Jackson Counties charge embezzlement, and worthless checks. If apprehended notify Sheriff Rankin, Bristol, Fla., or Sheriff Roberson, Marianna, Fla., or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Fla.



## Historical St. Augustine



Hotel Ponce de Leon conference headquarters.



The old gate is historical landmark at St. Augustine



St. Augustine's old slave market is a tourist attraction.



The oldest wooden schoolhouse in the U. S. is in St. Augustine.

# St. Augustine Conference Plans

(Continued from Page 1)

### Honorary Members Invited to Attend

Honorary members of the Florida Sheriffs Association are invited to attend the Mid-Winter Conference of the Association in St. Augustine, Jan. 23 and 24.

However, it will be necessary to notify Host Sheriff L. O. Davis in advance if you plan to attend so that adequate arrangements can be made.

Executive sessions will be open only to Sheriffs, but other program events will be open to guests.

### Ponce de Leon, Convention Hotel, Is City Landmark

The Hotel Ponce de Leon is one of St. Augustine's most famed landmarks, a lasting tribute to Henry M. Flagler, one of Florida's earliest pioneers and developers.

When Henry Flagler, as a visitor to the city, "discovered" St. Augustine, he decided to provide the city with a luxurious hotel, one adapted to the climate and of an architectural design that would gracefully harmonize with the city's rich historical background.

The Ponce de Leon was a year in the planning. Construction was begun in 1885. The hotel officially opened January 10, 1888.

The Hotel Ponce de Leon is a palatial palace-type building, designed in the style of the Spanish Renaissance, with sunny courts and cool loggias, sparkling fountains and graceful towers. It is one of the first large structures built of poured concrete, combined with brick and terra cotta. The material used on the outer walls is coquina, a shell rock formation used by the Spanish in the Castillo de San Marcos.

The main lobby is entered through heavy, four-inch thick oak doors, and the center of the lobby is open for three stories to the roof. Murals and standing figures decorate the rotunda. The oaken columns are hand-carved.

A broad staircase of onyx and marble leads to the great dining hall. With its high-vaulted ceilings, it is a hall of truly noble proportions, with murals and panels created by the famous artist, George W. Maynard, whose works hang in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in the Library of Congress.

Throughout the Hotel Ponce de Leon, in the halls, the parlors, the ball room, the bar and the drawing rooms, are famous works of art by world-famed artists, collected by Henry Flagler especially for the hotel.

### Quick Action By Deputies Prevents Robbery Attempt

DAYTONA BEACH — The next time Donald Cook, 43, West Palm Beach, decides to break into a store he'll no doubt select a place far removed from the sheriff's office.

Sheriff's Deputies Davis and Greene reported that a telephone call sent them rushing to a local firm's place of business. When they arrived they found Cook, with a soft drink bottle in hand, standing in front of the place and amid broken glass from jalousie panes.

The place is located only a short distance from the sheriff's office in Holly Hill. Cook was taken to the county jail and held under \$500 bond for attempted breaking and entering.

Sarasota County Sheriff Ross E. Boyer, second vice president; Clay County Sheriff John P. Hall, treasurer; and McLeod, secretary. The outgoing president is Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottswood of Key West.

Here is the complete program:

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

- 3 P. M.—Board of Directors Meeting, Hotel Ponce de Leon, St. Augustine.
- 5 P. M.—Registration, Lobby, Hotel Ponce de Leon.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

- 8 A. M.—Registration, Lobby, Hotel Ponce de Leon.
- 9 A. M.—Meeting called to order.  
Invocation by The Rev. W. Howard Lee, Pastor, Memorial Presbyterian Church, St. Augustine.  
Addresses of Welcome by The Hon. Clyatt Powell, Mayor of St. Augustine; and the Hon. Earl Byrd, Chairman of the St. Johns County Commission.  
Response by St. Johns County Sheriff L. O. Davis Jr.  
Recognition of Honored Guests by Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottswood, president of the Florida Sheriffs Association.
- 10 A. M.—Report on Florida Sheriffs Bureau by Bureau Director Don McLeod.  
Report on Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch by Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn Jr., Executive Director.  
Address by R. O. Culver, Director, State Department of Corrections.
- 12 Noon—Meeting Adjourns.
- 12:30 P. M.—Fish Fry for Sheriffs and guests, sponsored by Donald S. Lavigne, Inc., of Miami.  
Demonstration of Concealed Contraband by Mr. Ivan Creel, Supervisor, Personnel Training Office, Florida State Prison, Raiford.
- 2 P. M.—Executive Session (For Sheriffs Only).
- 4 P. M.—Installation of 1958 Officers.
- 5 P. M.—Executive Session Adjourns.
- 6:30 P. M.—Hospitality Room opens, sponsored by Florida Power and Light Company.
- 7:30 P. M.—Banquet for Sheriffs and their guests, sponsored by Rose Printing Co., of Tallahassee.
- 8:30 P. M.—Address by The Hon. Verle A. Pope of St. Augustine, State Senator from the 31st District.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

- 9 A. M.—Executive Session.
- 12 Noon—Session Adjourns.
- 12:30 P. M.—Luncheon for Sheriffs and their guests, sponsored by Motorola Communications & Electronics Inc.  
Address by the Hon. Arthur Dozier, State Director of Child Training Schools.
- 2 P. M.—Executive Session.
- 5 P. M.—Conference Adjourns.

#### FOR THE LADIES

St. Augustine offers many attractions and it is our desire to make them available to the ladies attending the conference. An official guide will be on duty to arrange sight-seeing trips, shopping tours, or any other types of entertainment desired.

## Court Nixes Splitting . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

to all of the laws and regulations governing the Sheriffs of Florida, regardless of his title or mode of selection.

By virtue of the court's ruling, Sheriff Kelly was successful in preventing the Dade County Commission from giving his law enforcement powers to a metropolitan public safety department and leaving him with only civil duties.

However, the court held that the Metro Commission does have the power to abolish the Sheriff's office completely by simple ordinance.

Justice T. Frank Hobson, who wrote the majority opinion in a 4-2 decision, stated that: "We cannot conceive it to have been intended that the shell of

an old office would remain while less than all of its functions were transferred to a new office."

Concurring with Justice Hobson were Justices Elwyn Thomas and Stephen O'Connell; and District Appeals Court Judge John Wigginton, sitting as an Associate Justice.

Chief Justice Glenn Terrell and Justice Campbell Thornal dissented. Justice B. K. Roberts, who was ill when the case was argued, did not participate.

Justices Terrell and Thornal took the view the home rule amendment and metropolitan charter must be interpreted liberally. They would have permitted the ordinance splitting off a part of the sheriff's powers to stand.



## Host Sheriff Issues Welcome

ST AUGUSTINE—St. Johns County Sheriff L. O. Davis Jr. issued a statement welcoming all sheriffs and guests to the annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, which will be held here Jan. 23 and 24.

He said: "The citizens of Saint Augustine and St. Johns County have assisted me in preparing for you a program of enjoyable events.

"It is my sincere hope that you will have an abundance of fond memories to carry home with you and that you will come back to see us again soon."



SHERIFF L. O. DAVIS, JR.

## St. Augustine Offers Many Historical Points of Interest

St. Augustine is rich in historical lore and offers the visitor many hours of fruitful and rewarding rambling back into the pages of the romantic and exciting past.

Here are some of the principal points of interest:

Castillo De San Marcos — the oldest standing fortification in the United States, begun in 1672 by the Spaniards. (End of Bay Street.)

Zero Milestone — coquina sphere marking the start of the first continental road, "The Old Spanish Trail." (Between Bay Street and the City Gates.)

Old City Gates — for many years guarded the drawbridge across the moat, over which the city was entered from the North, part of the old city wall which ran across the peninsula. (St. George and Orange Streets.)

Old Huguenot Cemetery — first Protestant burying ground of the city. (Outside of City Gates.)

"Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse" — built as a residence, this old house was early used as a school. (14 St. George Street.)

Governor's House — home of the family of Don Pablo de Hita y Salazar, Governor of Florida in the 1670's. (37 St. George Street.)

Old Spanish Inn — two-story coquina-stucco building believed to date from the first Spanish occupation, or before 1763. (43 St. George Street.)

"Old Curiosity Shop" — built as a home in the early 1800's, its walled garden restored by the St. Augustine Historical Society. (54 St. George Street.)

The City Building — built by the late Henry Flagler in 1890 to house the city government. (St. George and Hypolita Streets.)

"Old Spanish Treasury" — example of the later Spanish period, its treasury room housing relics of the Spanish inquisition. (St. George and Treasury Streets.)

Post Office, Customs House — rebuilt in 1937 to conform to the Royal Governor's Palace of 1764, embodying part of the building going back to 1690. (St. George Street, opposite Plaza.)

Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church — oldest Episcopal Church in Florida, cornerstone laid 1825. (King and St. George Streets.)

St. Joseph's Academy and Convent — established in 1858 by the Sisters of Mercy. (241 St. George Street.)

Prince Murat House — former home of Prince Achille Murat, nephew of Napoleon. (250 St. George Street.)

Llambias House — one of the earliest Spanish homes, erected before 1763. (31 St. Francis Street.)

"Oldest House" — owned by the St. Augustine Historical Society. Their headquarters, the Webb Memorial Library, Museum and Indian exhibit

also housed here. (14 St. Francis Street.)

St. Francis Barracks — site of the first monastery of the Franciscans, 1576. (Across from The Oldest House.)

"Kings' Bakery" — erected by the British, serving as bakery for their troops about the time of the American Revolution. (Marine Street.)

National Cemetery — military burying ground, resting place of 1,400 men who fell in Indian War, including men of Dade Massacre. (Marine Street.)

Sanchez House — later Spanish style. (Bay and Bridge Streets.)

Potter Wax Museum — along the lines of Tussaud's famous London museum, with life-like figures of historical personages. (King and Bay Streets.)

Bridge of Lions — spans Matanzas River to Anastasia Island and A1A. (Foot of Bay Street.)

Treasury Street — narrowest street in city, only 6 feet wide. (Between Charlotte and Bay Streets.)

Ponce de Leon Monument — replica of monument in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (Between Plaza and Bridge of Lions.)

"Old Slave Market" — site of St. Augustine's public market, where ships unloaded in earlier days. (Edge of Plaza.)

Plaza de la Constitucion — oldest public square in the United States, laid out in 1598.

Cathedral of St. Augustine — records of this parish go back to 1594, cathedral begun in 1793. (North side of Plaza.)

Aviles Street — this street contains some of the city's most historical old homes. (Southward from the Plaza.)

Lightner Museum of Hobbies — Spanish Renaissance structure, built by Henry Flagler, given to the city by late O. C. Lightner along with his vast collection of hobbies. (In former Alcazar Hotel.)

Cordova Building — Moorish-Spanish architecture, formerly a hotel. (Corner King and Cordova Streets.)

Ponce de Leon Hotel — one of finest examples of Spanish Renaissance architecture in the United States, opened for business in 1888. (King Street.)

Villa Zorayda — city's first "monolith" structure, mixture of sand, cement and coquina shell, resembling a part of the Alhambra in Spain. (83 King Street.)

Flagler Memorial Church — built in Venetian Renaissance style by Henry Flagler in 1890 in memory of his daughter, presented to the Presbyterian Church Society of St. Augustine. (Valencia and Sevilla Streets.)

Old Spanish Cemetery — opened in the late 1700's, above-ground tombs and crypts containing historic inscriptions. (Cordova Street.)

Ripley Museum — collection of drawings and curios of late Robert L. Ripley. (San Marco

## St. Augustine Is City of Old World Charm

Few cities possess such a wealth of historic interest and Old World charm as does St. Augustine.

It was founded in 1565, forty-two years before the settlement of Jamestown, Virginia, and fifty-five years before the Pilgrims landed in New England.

For the first two hundred years, St. Augustine remained a Spanish colony, the little capital and citadel of "La Florida," which at that time embraced a territory vast in extent.

It was in the late 1600's that the Spanish built moat-surrounded Castillo de San Marcos to defend St. Augustine against the English, whose settlements were creeping down the Atlantic Coast. (The fort is now a National Monument in the custody of the National Park Service.)

At the end of the Seven Years' War, in 1763, Florida and St. Augustine were ceded to England and for the next twenty years, the English inhabited its quiet streets.

Then, in 1783, it was returned to Spain and languished in the hands of that nation until annexed by the United States in 1821.

The original settlement extended only a few blocks back from the bayfront.

St. Augustine maintains the charm of the Old World — many of the old Spanish homes still stand, their balconies overhanging on the original narrow streets of the older section, horse-drawn carriages taking the visitor back into the storied past.

## Joyce Heads Boys Ranch Endowment Fund

TALLAHASSEE — Appointment of Leon County Sheriff W. P. Joyce as chairman of endowment funds for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch has been announced.

The Florida Sheriffs Association is establishing the ranch as a permanent home for worthy and needy boys on the Suwannee River near Live Oak.

Joyce was named by Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottwood, chairman of the Boys Ranch trustees and president of the association. It will be Joyce's responsibility to establish an endowment fund from bequests and other contributions.

The endowment fund will provide the long-range financial resources which are needed to insure success of the project, Spottwood explained.

## Juvenile Problem Said Overrated

SARASOTA — The juvenile problem is overrated and is not as serious as the public is led to believe, according to Juvenile Judge Russell D. Thomas.

He told a parent-teacher meeting that "The bulk of the offenses here are traffic violations and we have between 48 and 60 juveniles who are now on probation."

"We usually impose fines for traffic violations which we insist be paid by the offender and parents cooperate by paying these and then collecting from the child."

A report showed that Sarasota County had four boys enrolled at the Florida Industrial School for Boys at Marianna, and one was awaiting acceptance.

Avenue).

Shrine of Nuestra Senora de la Leche — called the "Shrine of American Motherhood," commemorating the first Roman Catholic Mass on these shores, 1565. (Ocean Street.)

## Interesting Points at St. Augustine



Nothing adds more atmosphere to St. Augustine than the surreys.



St. Augustine's newest attraction, old Spanish cannon.

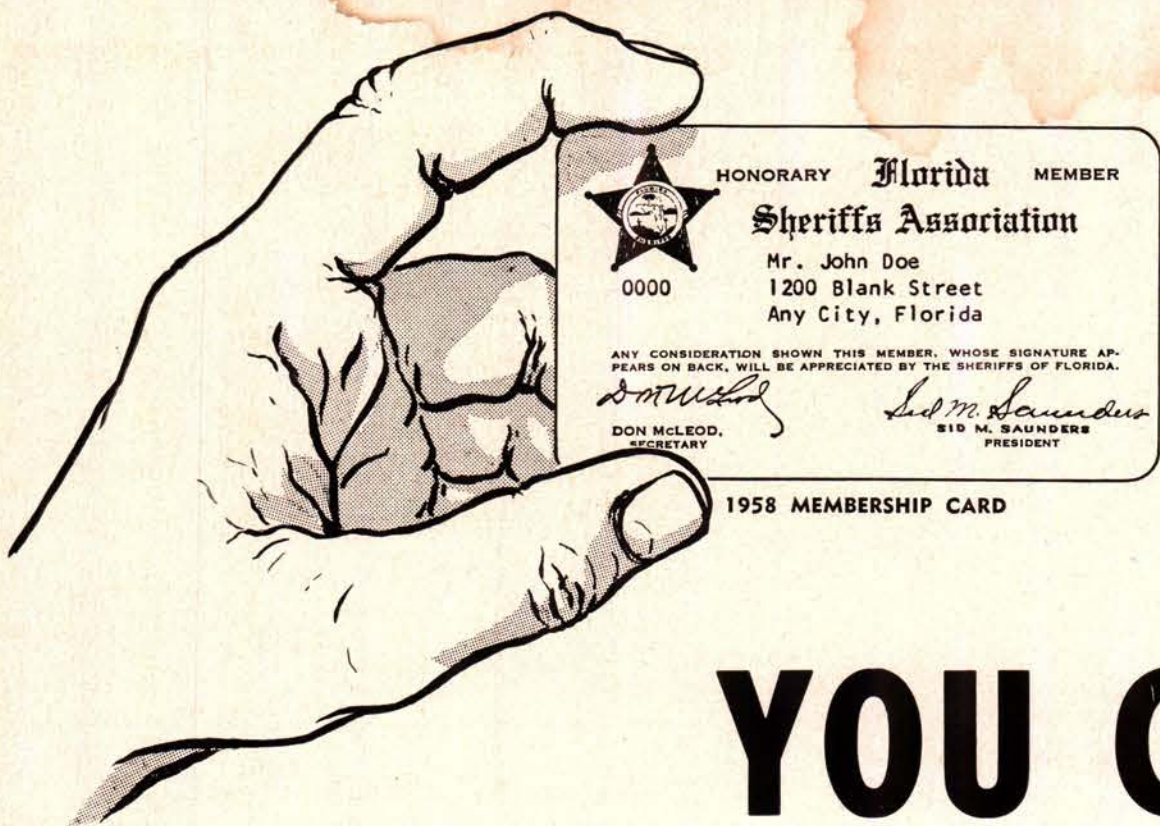


The Llambias House, one of the oldest in St. Augustine.



The waterfront adds beauty to historical St. Augustine.





# YOU CAN HELP FIGHT DELINQUENCY

**By Applying for Honorary Membership  
in the Florida Sheriffs Association**  
(IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER, SHOW THIS AD TO A FRIEND)

## Dues

### OF HONORARY MEMBERS WILL BE USED TO:

★ **BUILD THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS BOYS' RANCH  
ON THE SUWANNEE RIVER, 11 MILES NORTH**

of Live Oak, Florida, as a permanent home for worthy and needy boys who are in danger of becoming juvenile delinquents—those from broken homes, the underprivileged, the neglected, the homeless. A 722-acre site has been acquired and construction of facilities will begin as soon as sufficient funds are available.

★ **PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUTSTANDING  
BOYS RELEASED FROM THE FLORIDA**

Industrial School for Boys at Marianna to take specialized college and technical school training. Two scholarship recipients are already enrolled in a university and a third is attending a technical high school. This rehabilitation program will be expanded as funds become available.

**Both of these projects are part of the Florida Sheriffs Association's state-wide "FIGHT DELINQUENCY CAMPAIGN."**

**FILL OUT AND MAIL  
THIS APPLICATION FORM**



Florida Sheriffs Association  
Box 344  
Tallahassee, Florida

Gentlemen:

I hereby apply for Honorary Membership in the Florida Sheriffs Association and I am enclosing \$10.00 as payment of my 1958 membership fee, of which \$1.50 is for a year's subscription to The Sheriff's Star.

I understand that acceptance of my application is subject to the approval of the Florida Sheriff Association Screening Committee, and that my membership fee will be returned in the event such approval is not granted.

PLEASE  
PRINT OR  
TYPE NAME

STREET AND  
NUMBER

CITY OR  
POSTOFFICE

DATE OF BIRTH			RACE	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
MO.	DAY	YEAR					
OCCUPATION			COMPANY				

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION  
IS TRUE AND CORRECT

SIGNATURE

#### AS AN HONORARY MEMBER YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- ★ Honorary Membership Wallet Identification Card,
- ★ Honorary Membership Decal for Your Auto,
- ★ Honorary Membership Wall Plaque for Your Home or Office,
- ★ A Year's Subscription to The Sheriffs Star,
- ★ A Copy of the 1958 Florida Sheriff, Yearbook of The Florida Sheriffs Association.



# St. Lucie Sheriff Norvell Brings Department to Peak Performance



FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County Sheriff J. R. Norvell has brought his department up to peak performance with forest-green and gray uniforms, smart western-style hats, county-wide radio communications

and high-powered late-model patrol cars.

The picture above shows the patrol cars and uniformed deputies, with Chief Deputy Lanie Norvell in the center foreground. The deputies are

(from left) George Christian, Dick Waugh, Al Test, Warren Alford, Wallace Higgs and Pat Duval.

The improvement program, completed at a cost of approximately \$16,000 has given the

sheriff's radio transmitter an effective range of 40 miles and provides instant contact with seven radio-equipped patrol cars.

Sheriff Norvell said: "The efficiency of this radio system

is excellent. We find we can really work as a coordinated unit when the need arises. (News-Tribune Photo by Len McNulty)

## Major Crimes Hit Record Total During 1957; FBI Report Shows

WASHINGTON—FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover reported a record number of serious crimes were committed in 1957.

He said preliminary figures indicate there were 2,756,150 major crimes this year, an increase of 7.5 per cent from 1956, the previous high.

Hoover said preliminary reports by law enforcement agencies reflect increases in all major categories except murder. The largest increases were in burglary, larceny and auto theft, known collectively as crimes against property.

"Convictions in FBI cases increased approximately 300 over the 11,074 which were returned in 1956," Hoover said. "Preliminary figures also reflect that fines, savings and recoveries in cases investigated by the FBI will total 100 million dollars."

Hoover said that during the year "subversive enemies of the nation grew increasingly bold."

"Heartened by a growing public complacency toward threats to America's internal security and encouraged by its

success in invoking legal technicalities and delays, the Communist party, U. S. A. has emerged from hiding with renewed confidence and determination," he said.

"The Communists started the year by holding a national convention in New York City which was an important aspect of their intensive campaign to dupe the American people into believing the party is a legitimate political organization. This campaign of deceit continued throughout the year while the party accelerated its program of purging its ranks of dissident elements and further subordinating itself to Moscow."

In a report to Atty. Gen. Rogers on FBI activities during the year, Hoover said law enforcement agencies across the nation had cooperated effectively with the FBI.

"Working together, America's law enforcement agencies have reached new heights of efficiency, public service and protection of civil rights," he said.

## Word Feud Ends In Arrest of Two Vehicle Drivers

STARKE — Deputy Sheriff Riley Sweat reports a running argument between three boys in a car and the driver of a trailer-truck ended with charges against both drivers.

The vehicles collided after a word battle that started at a stop sign here when F. J. Matthews, of New York, got out of his cab, walked to the car in front and smashed the rolled up rear window with his fist.

He was charged with malicious mischief and posted a \$75 bond.

The car driver also posted a \$75 bond and was charged with failure to have his vehicle under control after his car hit the rear of the truck.

## Mandatory Tests For Drunk Drivers Being Considered

CHICAGO — A proposal to strengthen drunk driving laws is under advisement by the National Safety Council, following evidence that approximately half the automobile accidents in which death or personal injury occurs involves some degree of drinking.

One suggestion being considered would compel an arrested motorist to submit to a blood test or lose his license. Four states now have such a law on the books.

## Pheuuuuuu !

ORLANDO — Orange County Deputy Don Elms this report at the end of a recent investigation:

"Mr. Stanley Wilson advised that as he passed a pool on Dahlia Drive, a group of boys threw an object against his car which splattered over the side window.

"Examination of Wilson's car revealed that the object had been an egg of questionable age.

"It had been a direct hit.

"On checking the Dahlia Drive location, was unable to locate any boys or eggs.

"The boys were in the 12 to 14-year age group.

"So was the egg."

## Stolen Car Found By Irrigation Pump

FLORIDA CITY—An irrigation pump on a Florida City farm brought up a waterlogged auto tire that led to a submerged and stolen car.

The silt-filled 1955 auto was stolen more than 18 months ago, according to the Dade County Sheriff's Department.

## Sheriff Says Rural Merchants too Trusting; Victims of Thieves

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Being a "trusting soul" is causing the average small county merchant to become the target of thieves and bum check artists.

The warning comes from Clay County Sheriff John P. Hall who asks the merchants to plug up their defenses in an effort to stop an increase in burglaries and forgeries.

While the sheriff believes the increase is due to the influx of transients, he also feels it is due to the fact it is easier to break into places of business operated by rural merchants as compared with the cities.

Sheriff Hall points out the loot is smaller but the "odds against detection or capture aren't nearly as great." He cited several recent burglaries investigated by his office as proof of his statement.

"The doors or locks on several of the buildings were so flimsy it was a simple matter to either pry open the door or spring the lock with a piece of metal," he explained. "One thief entered a store through an unlocked window and we figured the back door was left

open in another store that was burglarized."

A number of merchants turn off the lights which should be left on to detect anyone in the store and frequently the merchants leave money in cash registers overnight, the sheriff stated.

The sheriff urges rural merchants to take the steps necessary to keep out thieves, and he cited one case in which a burglar alarm aided in the capture of one of two thieves.

In conclusion, the sheriff urges merchants to demand proper identification before cashing checks and compare signatures. Never cash a check when in doubt.

"We can't halt all thefts," Sheriff Hall emphasized, "but at least we can make it as difficult as possible for thieves."

## Hitchhiker Gets Lift Into Jail

BARTOW—A Frostproof man landed in jail because of mistaken identity.

Thomas Wilson, 26, was tracked down by "Red," a new trail hound trained by Deputy Sheriff Carl Andrews of Alturas, but the deputy and four other deputies thought they were on the trail of an escaped prisoner.

Deputies Andrews, H. S. Fitzgerald Jr., Stuart Caudill, Roscoe Thornhill, N. A. Blitch and Jimmy Bowen were called to Sebring to chase another man who had shot a Highlands County deputy.

On the way home Fitzgerald spotted a hitchhiker north of Lake Wales. He stopped to give him a lift but the hitchhiker had vanished. The deputy summoned the other officers.

When Wilson was caught in a clump of bushes Fitzgerald discovered he had a warrant for Wilson on an assault and battery charge.

## New Sub-Station May Be Expanded

WEST HOLLYWOOD—Sheriff John A. (Quill) Lloyd is considering adding additional shifts to the recently opened sub-station No. 2.

Business is increasing at the sub-station and Joe Whittcamp, deputy in charge of the office, said quick service offered by local handling of complaints has resulted in efficient answering and disposition of calls.

The office is open from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. If a shift is added it would be from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.

A Broward County citizens group has commended Sheriff Lloyd for opening the sub-station.



THIS GUY IS LOADED—Ivan Creel, shown here undergoing a search, will demonstrate how criminals conceal weapons, narcotics and other contraband, when he appears on the program at the Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, in St. Augustine, Jan. 23 and 24. He is supervisor of the Personnel Training Office at the Florida State Prison.



## Taxpayers Are Hard Hit By Dade Vandalism

(Editor's Note: The following story was printed in a recent issue of The Miami Herald.)

Greater Miamians are sinking more than three million dollars a year down a bottomless rathole that is lumped by various police departments under the general heading of teenage vandalism and petty theft.

The skyrocketing loss caused a Miami psychologist Sunday to pose a question:

Are we raising a generation of youngsters who get their kicks out of senseless destruction?

The answer from the psychologist was no, because the young vandals are a small minority of adolescents. But the damage is mounting at an alarming rate.

Miami police, winding up a study, reported 280 cases of vandalism in the last six months.

About a half was damage to automobiles — slashed tires, broken windshields, battered fenders and scratched paint.

But the list also includes damage to a church, wanton destruction at a new-made grave, 51 raids on residences and eight cases of destruction at clubs or fraternity houses.

Miami's study showed vandalism by teenagers is four times as prevalent at night and that, curiously enough, is fairly light on weekends. Mondays and Thursdays are the worst nights for police.

The sheriff's office, which recently assigned a plainclothes squad in unmarked cars for night duty against vandals and youth gangs, is also making a study. Preliminary results indicate 300 reported cases a year in the unincorporated area, increasing at an alarming rate.

"The thing that shocks us is that many of these are serious offenses," said Sgt. L. B. McKim of the sheriff's Juvenile Aid Bureau.

"We've had seven recent cases of arson involving juveniles from five to 14 years old. A lot of this type of crime doesn't show in the statistics. It involves very young kids without records, and we hate to process the cases through Juvenile Court."

Neither city nor county figures include car stripping and thefts of hubcaps, fender skirts, spare tires, radios and gear.

## Benefit Rodeo, Large Gifts Boost Ranch

Plans for a benefit Rodeo and reports of two large cash donations highlighted fund raising activities in the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch project this month.

The Rodeo will be sponsored by Marion County Sheriff F. L. McGehee and held in the Southeastern Livestock Arena, Ocala, Jan. 17, 18 and 20.

Sheriff McGehee said Bill Ross of Fort Pierce will stage the Rodeo and has signed up a number of top notch performers. All profits will go to the Boys Ranch Trust Fund.

The following large donations were reported:

Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn Jr. received a check for \$1,000 from J. C. Valenti Co., Inc., of Tampa.

Levy County Sheriff J. W. Turner received a check for \$1,000 from Dixie Lily Milling Co. and its president, Former Road Board Chairman Cecil Webb.

Contributors who give \$1,000 or more will be made lifetime Honorary Members of the Florida Sheriffs Association.



FERNANDINA—NEW FLEET—Nassau County Sheriff H. J. Youngblood (left) and his deputies are shown here with a fleet of new patrol cars recently placed in service. The deputies are (from left) George W. Courson, John A. Bodine, Ernest Stokes, Seth J. Howard and Curtis Telfair.

## Tipplers Offered Free Yule Rides

PUNTA GORDA — Holiday party-goers here got a special Christmas offer from Charlotte County Sheriff Travis Parnell — a free ride home for those who indulged too freely in yuletide spirits.

"Just telephone my office any time, day or night, and I will see that you are delivered home, and will also make arrangements for your car," the Sheriff said.

Then he added that no one would have an excuse for driving while intoxicated.

## Deputy's Kindness Wasn't Forgotten

FORT PIERCE — Two years ago a young man was released from the St. Lucie County Jail — flat broke.

Feeling sorry for him, Sheriff's Department Dispatcher Frank Kiernan gave him a dollar for cigarettes and coffee.

Kiernan promptly forgot the incident, but the youth didn't. Recently he returned to the jail and repaid the money — and, according to a local newspaper, "you could have knocked Frank to the floor with a folded dollar bill."

## MISSING



GEORGE A. HOWARD

White male, age 28, height 6 feet, weight 175 pounds, light brown hair, grey eyes. First joint of middle finger, left hand missing. Disappeared from his home, Walton, Ky. July 7, 1957. Prior to coming to Kentucky he lived in Fort Lauderdale for three months. Believed to be somewhere in Florida, possibly Cocoa, Orlando, Fort Lauderdale. Shortly after his disappearance complications developed in his wife's pregnancy, and doctors advise it is most imperative to find him. If this subject's whereabouts known, notify his mother MRS. HELEN C. HOWARD, Route 2, Walton, Ky., or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee.

## "The Lawyer's Corner"

A Digest Of Attorney General's Opinions of interest to law enforcement officers  
Edited by JOHN A. MADIGAN, JR.  
Attorney, Florida Sheriffs Association

### COMPETITIVE BIDS

A sheriff within the purview of Chapter 57-368, Laws of Florida does not have to comply with the provisions of Section 125.08, Florida Statutes, which requires competitive bids; however, public policy indicates that competitive bids should be taken even when not required by law. (057-369)

### BOAT TRAILER DIRECTIONAL SIGNALS

Where a boat trailer or other vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent the hand and arm signal from being visible, both to the front and rear, they are required to have directional turn signals within the contemplation of Section 317.38, Florida Statutes. (057-379)

### BEVERAGE SALES BY MINORS

In light of the limitations placed on the authority of municipal corporations to regulate the alcoholic beverage business, the City of Tampa is without authority to prohibit minors from making sales or deliveries of package beer or wine from drug stores, grocery stores or filling stations holding beverage licenses for sale by the package only. (057-380)

### INDETERMINATE SENTENCES

In the light of certain cited supreme Court opinions the proper procedure for the trial judge to pronounce sentence where a defendant is convicted of or pleads guilty of two or more felony counts of equal degree for violations of the lottery laws is to adjudge the defendant guilty of all lottery felon counts to which he has pled guilty or of which he has been found guilty, and then pronounce one sentence under said counts. (057-381)

### PAYMENT OF FINE AND SENTENCE

When a fine is imposed the court should also sentence the defendant to serve a period of imprisonment as an alternative if default is made in payment of fine; a sentence is incomplete when it merely imposes a fine without requiring alternative jail sentence in default of payment and the court may at a later time procure the presence of the defendant before it and complete the sentence by adding a provision for an alternative term of imprisonment; a trial court has no authority after imposing a fine and an alternative sentence to then release the defendant from custody under an order stating the time for future payments of the fine and where the court makes such an order it is void and the clerk has the authority to issue a commitment and the sheriff has the authority to imprison the defendant under such commitment for failure to pay the fine; if the sheriff accepts a ninety day bond to secure the payment of the fine and if default is made in paying the bond the sheriff and clerk should follow the provisions of Section 921.14, Florida Statutes. (057-370)

### SURRENDER OF DEFENDANT

The Sheriff of a county is not required to accept surrender from a bailbondsmen of a prisoner who was originally arrested in that county based on a capias issued from another county. (057-375)



WEST PALM BEACH—SHERIFF'S PATROL—This boat is used by Palm Beach County Sheriff John F. Kirk for patrol and rescue work on lakes.

## Baker County Mystery Is Still Unsolved

MACCLENNEY — This is the second anniversary of the mysterious disappearance of two Macclenny boys.

The boys are Bobby Alvin Combs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Combs, and Earl Fred Jones, son of Mrs. Lewis Jones. Bobby was 18 and Earl was 16.

The case is perhaps the biggest unsolved mystery in the history of the county.

Sheriff Ed Yarbrough, who took office early in 1957, is of the opinion that foul play was involved.

"We have pretty conclusive evidence," he said, "that one of the boys had information that could have been detrimental to the South Georgia-North Florida moonshine syndicate."

The sheriff also offers another reason to support his opinion it was foul play. He explained that Combs suffered from epilepsy and was quite sensitive about his condition. The youth took medicine faithfully three times a day to guard against attack, Yarbrough said.

"He had never left home for any great length of time, and even if he planned to leave for good, he certainly would have taken along the prescription," the sheriff added.

The sheriff said he had uncovered evidence during the last month which may shed light on the case but would not elaborate on his findings.

The two boys left home on Dec. 3, 1955. They were last seen together the next morning at 3 o'clock in a Macclenny cafe. They were using a pickup truck which never has been found.

An air-search of a four-county area was instituted by former Sheriff Asa Coleman, Jr., who was in office at the time.

"Somewhere, there is someone who has knowledge of the fate of the youths," Sheriff Yarbrough said, "and for the sake of decency and to help ease the anguish of these mothers, I urge him to come forward with this information. I pledge that any information given me will be kept in strict confidence if the party so desires."

## Soapy Water Proves Poison Taste Cure

MIAMI—Sgt. Stanley Hartles of the Sheriff's Road Patrol is certain he has cured one little boy from taking roach poison.

Danny Ritchie, 11, called the sheriff's dispatcher and said he had taken the poison. He was home alone and didn't know what to do.

Sgt. Hartles was first on the scene. He immediately started mixing a glass of soapy water to give the boy while waiting for the ambulance.

"I got two full glasses down him and he threw up some," the sergeant reported. "But just to make sure I started mixing a third glass with plenty of soap."

Danny cried: "Don't make me take another one, I didn't take that much poison."

Sgt. Hartles questioned the boy and learned Danny had only touched his finger to the roach paste and applied it to his tongue. When Danny read the poison warning on the label he got frantic.

The sergeant reported Danny recovered at once "but he won't ever taste poison again."

We dream of super-highways and perfect drivers! How optimistic can a nation be?