

MAR 1958

## The Sheriff's



## STAR

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

Vol. 2, No. 1

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

MARCH, 1958

## Judges Praise Ranch Project

JACKSONVILLE — The Florida Council of Juvenile Court Judges at its annual meeting here Feb. 25 passed a resolution commending the Florida Sheriffs Association for establishing the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch—a permanent home for worthy, needy and neglected boys 11 miles north of Live Oak.

In the same resolution the Juvenile Judges also praised the late Pinellas County Sheriff Sid Saunders for the active interest he took in the ranch project, both as president of the Sheriffs Association and as a member of the ranch trustees.

At the time of Saunders' death, Feb. 19, his county was leading the state in providing financial support for the Boys Ranch through the dues of Honorary Members of the Sheriffs Association.

The action of the Juvenile Judges at their meeting here reflected the keen interest they are taking in the ranch project.

This was further evidenced in a question and answer period which followed an address by Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn, Jr., executive director of the ranch.

He said the Sheriffs Association wants and needs the support and advice of Florida's Juvenile Judges in its ambitious undertaking. He also brought the judges up to date on the progress of the ranch.

## Sheriff Plans Stock Round-up

CRESTVIEW — Okaloosa County Sheriff Ray Wilson announced plans for a livestock "round-up" for the benefit of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

He said his local radio station will cooperate with him in making an appeal for farmers in this area to contribute livestock to the ranch during the period from March 15 to April 1.

The animals will be impounded in a pen near the radio station and transported to the ranch, 11 miles north of Live Oak, when the drive is concluded.

A full-scale program of diversified agriculture is being developed on the 722-acre ranch site, and the round-up here is part of a state-wide campaign to collect livestock.

## Auditors Pleased

TALLAHASSEE—State auditors commended Monroe County Sheriff John Spottswood and Calhoun County Sheriff W. C. Reeder for well kept records, after auditing their departments.

## No Charge Filed

CRESTVIEW — No charge was filed against a 13-year-old boy who shot and killed his father. Sheriff Ray Wilson said testimony of the boy's mother and sister confirmed the boy's story that he shot in defense of his mother.



"Well Done, Thou Good and Faithful Servant."

(Reprinted from the St. Petersburg Times)

## President Passes

## Death of Sheriff Saunders Termed "Tragic Loss" by Fellow Sheriffs

Members and officials of the Florida Sheriffs Association termed the death of Pinellas County Sheriff Sid Saunders, Feb. 19, a tragic loss to Pinellas County, the State of Florida and the forces of progressive law enforcement.

A career law enforcement officer of widely recognized ability, Sheriff Saunders was serving as president of the Sheriffs Association at the time of his death. He was also a member of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Trustees and the Florida Sheriffs Bureau.

He was elevated from first vice president to president on Jan. 24.

In a formal resolution passed by the Association's Board of Directors, Sheriff Saunders was described as an "outstanding citizen and civic leader of his community, county and state."

The resolution went on to say that his "calm judgment, sound advice and progressive leadership will be sorely missed by the Florida Sheriffs Association he served so well."

Keenly interested in the welfare of youth, Sheriff Saunders was one of the leading supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a home for worthy, needy and neglected boys the Florida Sheriffs Association is building on the Suwannee River, near Live Oak.

As a direct result of his efforts, Pinellas County is currently leading the state in providing financial support for the ranch through the dues of Honorary Members of the Sheriffs Association.

Following Sheriff Saunders' death, many persons made

contributions to the ranch in honor of his memory and in lieu of flowers.

During his long law enforcement career, Sheriff Saunders served with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad police department for 10 years; as a deputy sheriff in Pinellas County for six years; and as a constable for 12 years.



**NEW PRESIDENT** — Pasco County Sheriff Leslie Bessenger was automatically elevated from first vice president to president of the Florida Sheriffs Association following the death of President Sid Saunders, Sheriff of Pinellas County. He is one of the state's veteran sheriffs and is currently serving his fifth four-year term. He was installed as the Association's first vice president on Jan. 24.

## What Was "Cooking?"

## Can of Water Leads to Break-up Of Florida Safe Cracking Ring

TAMPA — On patrol in a wooded area near here, Deputy Sheriff Norman Bedenfield wondered what was "cooking" when he saw Roy Raker and J. C. Vause heating a can of water over an open fire.

He stopped to check and touched off a far-reaching investigation that cleared up some 40 safe burglaries in 15 Florida counties and put nine accused safe crackers behind bars in four states.

Hailed as a tribute to Bedenfield's "bird dog instincts", the big crack-down also provided an excellent example of teamwork between the Florida Sheriffs Bureau and local law enforcement agencies.

Bedenfield suspected that Raker and Vause were heating water to boil nitroglycerine out of dynamite—a time-honored technique among safe-blowing burglars.

His suspicions were justified when he found dynamite and burglar tools in a car parked nearby, so the two men were taken into custody for questioning.

Then the Hillsborough County Sheriff's office called the Sheriffs Bureau into the investigation and the noose of evidence began to tighten. The Tampa police department gave valuable assistance.

Bureau agents found that the tools Bedenfield confiscated had been used in cracking a safe in Wakulla County, 250 miles from here. A typewriter found in Raker's home was also identified as one stolen from a Brooksville school—in fact the Bureau had been looking for this typewriter and had listed it in the Sheriffs Crime Bulletin which goes to hundreds of law enforcement agencies all over the south.

Confronted with this evidence Vause broke down and confessed, implicating Raker.

It was January 30, just six

days after the pair had been picked up, but officers discovered that their investigation was only beginning.

Vause's confession loosed a flood of information about safe jobs and safe crackers and the Bureau went into action checking out every possible lead . . . digging up pictures of suspects from its identification files . . .

(Continued on Page 8)



ALBERT B. GROUND  
Fingerprint Expert

## Fingerprinting Expert Hired By Don McLeod

TALLAHASSEE — Director Don McLeod announced the appointment of Albert B. Ground, one of the outstanding fingerprint experts in the nation, as supervisor of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau's New identification section.

Ground pioneered in the establishment of the identification division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1924 and will be doing a similar job for the Sheriffs Bureau here.

Over a period of 30 years he conducted fingerprint classes for FBI agents and the National Police Academy. For 15 of these years he was recognized as the number one man of the latent fingerprint division.

Ground, who retired from the FBI January 1, 1955, has qualified as a fingerprint expert in 37 states and the District of Columbia.

No stranger to Florida, he was a key witness in a 1947 Pinellas County "sack murder" trial and identified the dismembered body of the victim through fingerprints. His qualifications in fingerprint identification work have been recognized by federal, state, municipal and military courts, and he holds many letters of commendation from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

A World War I veteran, he is president of the trustees of the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Widows and Orphans at Eaton Rapids, Mich.

He is married and has four children and eight grandchildren.

## Bold Intruder Invades Home of Sheriff Watts

CHIPLEY — Ben Watts, 10-year-old son of Washington County Sheriff George Watts, Jr., has a kind heart — and thereby hangs the tale of a bold intruder.

The culprit was a pet opossum which Ben brought into the house one night to protect him from the extremely cold weather.

During the night the animal broke out of the peach crate in which he had been secured, and ransacked the kitchen in search of food and freedom.

He scattered kitchen utensils, food and broken dishes over the floor, then tried to climb a venetian blind which broke under his weight.

When the sleepy-eyed sheriff discovered the havoc next morning he organized a search and found the opossum asleep (or playing possum) in a dark corner.

Cold weather or no cold weather, he promptly stunned the pet and sent it back to its home in the wilds.

P.S. Ben is still fond of wild animals, but not as house guests.



# 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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## Alcoholics Top Population in Increase Rate

GAINESVILLE—The number of excessive drinkers in Florida is growing faster than the state's population, with white women alcoholics leading the field, according to data assembled by Dr. John M. MacLachlan, chairman of the department of sociology and anthropology at the University of Florida.

"In Florida, the South and the United States as a whole," Dr. MacLachlan reported, "the indicated increases in the alcoholic population since 1940 have proceeded at a rate about three times that of the general population."

He said the drinking habit is spreading faster among women in Florida, and most rapidly among white women.

MacLachlan said the drinking problem "is among the most serious confronting Florida at the present time." However, he pointed out that the trend in Florida is part of a "national tendency and is not unique."

MacLachlan's figures were projected through 1955. At the latest count, he said, there were 100,110 excessive drinkers in Florida, a 150 per cent increase over the 1940 figure. During the same period the population increased 92 per cent.

"The white female drinker rate has risen almost continuously and consistently during the past 15 years," he said. He added the "white rates of increase for both sexes combined have been uniformly higher than the non-white figure."

From 1950 to 1955, MacLachlan said, the rate of increase in female excessive drinkers almost doubled the rate from 1940 to 1950. In Florida from 1940 to 1950, he said, the "number of male excessive drinkers grew by 67 per cent," while the number of "female excessive drinkers grew by 156 per cent."

## Officers Reject Man's "Fish" Tale

STUART—Law enforcement officers are exposed to some pretty tall tales.

For example, when Martin County Sheriff Roy Baker and State Beverage Agent W. V. Eddy found copper tubing and other suspicious paraphernalia in a Salerno man's home, the man told them he had used the apparatus for frying mackerel.

He said it destroyed the odor—but the officers detected something "fishy" about his story.

Further checking revealed some fermenting mash, and the man was promptly charged with operating a moonshine still.

## Sheriff Aids Drive Against Molesters

MIAMI — An educational campaign against child molestation conducted by the Dade County PTA Council, with assistance from the Dade County Sheriff's Department, was described by the press as one of the outstanding accomplishments of local organizations for the year 1957.

The campaign was designed to warn parents and children of the dangers children could be exposed to in this area. Representatives of the Sheriff's Department helped to emphasize the "do's and don'ts" of child safety.

**CROOK'S FAVORITE**—According to Orange County Sheriff Dave Starr the style of numerals on Florida's auto license tags is preferred by crooks because the numbers can be easily altered (changing a three to an eight, for instance) with the use of adhesive tape. As president of the National Sheriffs Association, he is spearheading a nation-wide campaign to get Florida and other states to adopt numerals similar to those on the Michigan and Mississippi tags shown here. He says these would be much more difficult to change.



## This Driver Was Really Loaded

TAMPA — A man arrested for drunken driving by Hillsborough County Deputy Sheriff Charles Graham and Lloyd Simmons was really loaded!

As he came reeling out of his car he threw away three sticks of dynamite. Later in court he explained: "I just wanted to get rid of it," and the judge responded by relieving him of his driver's license and \$300.

## "Littlest Thief" Biggest Headache

FT. PIERCE — The biggest headaches comes in the smallest packages.

At least that was the experience of Deputy Sheriff Pat Duval in his frequent encounters with St. Lucie County's "Littlest Thief", a 10-year-old boy who stands only four-feet high but boasts a man-size criminal record.

This diminutive lad kept getting in the officer's hair by one means or another—all of them larcenous.

One time he stole a briefcase from a parked car, emptied it and sold it for 75 cents.

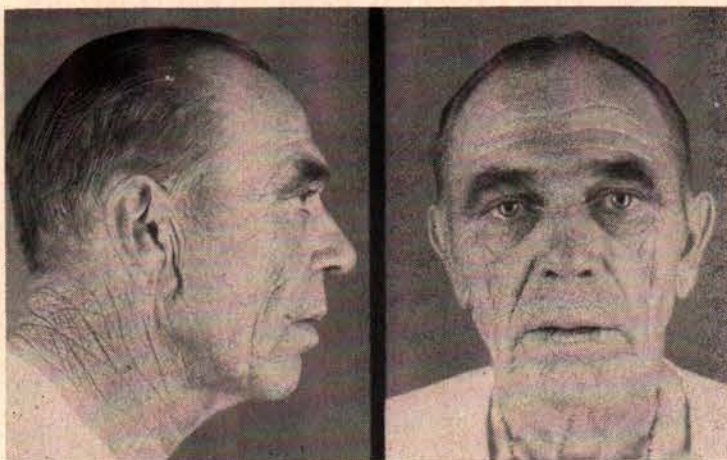
Another time he terrorized a Ft. Pierce woman by prowling around her bedroom in the dead of night.

Finally, in desperation, Deputy Duval found temporary relief from the little pest. He simply turned the youngster over his knee and administered a sound spanking.

"There," he said, when the treatment was over, "maybe that will keep him out of my hair for at least a week."

# BAD CHECK ARTIST'S GALLERY

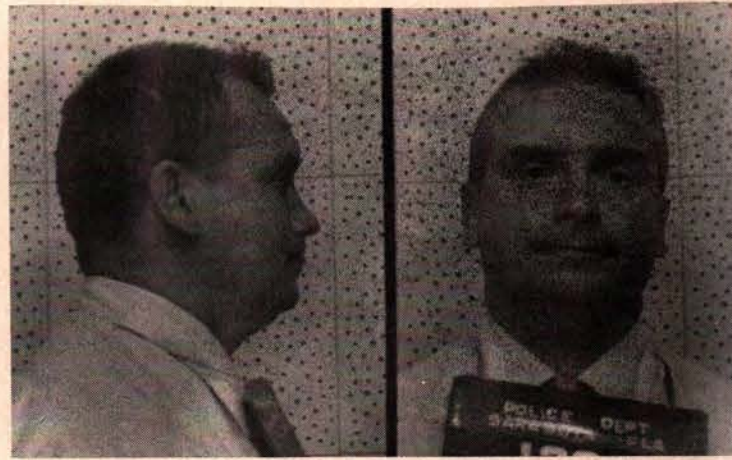
AS COMPILED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS BUREAU — DON MCLEOD, DIRECTOR



**JAMES J. ROBERTS**

White male, age 58, 5 feet 10 1/2 inches, weighs 175 pounds, brown-grey hair, hazel eyes, ruddy complexion, medium build. Occupation: Plasterer.

Heavy drinker, Capias issued, charge Worthless Checks. Notify Sheriff Genung, Clearwater, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**RAY ARTHUR OVERPECK**

White male, age 50, 5 feet, 7 inches, 170 pounds, stocky build, brown hair and eyes. From Wichita, Kansas. Believed employed as Insurance adjuster in

Miami Beach. Warrant issued, charge Worthless Checks. Notify Police Dept., Sarasota, Florida or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**MURRY ROBERT KRONGOLD**

White male, age 60, 5 feet 6 1/2 inches, weighs 120 pounds, slender build, salt and pepper hair, brown eyes. Neat dresser. Deep voice. Ardent horse player. FBI #132342. In December of 1957, subject stole twelve (12) company checks from the Leonard Shoe Salon, Fort Lauderdale, where he was working as a salesman. He disappeared on 12-18-57, and since that time five of these checks, ranging

from \$94 to \$175, have been forged and cashed. Subject makes these checks out to himself and signs them David Levy, who is the owner of the above shoe store. Krongold has a 7 page FBI record, practically all as result of bad checks, and forgery counts, many of them in Florida. Warrant issued, charge Forgery. Notify Police Dept., Fort Lauderdale, Fla., or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**GORDON BERCOVICI**

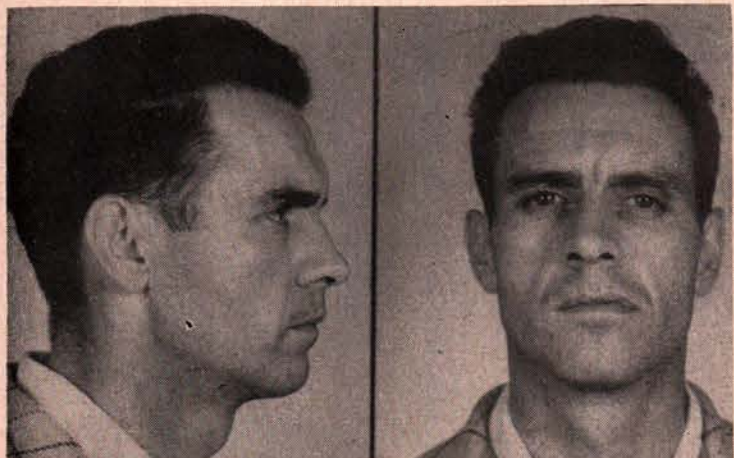
Also known as DAVID GORDON, DAVID BRETT, DAVID ZACHARIAS, GORDON LESLIE BERCOVICI, FBI #29238-03, white male, probably of Jewish or Italian descent, age 51, 5 feet, 6 inches, weighs 162 pounds. Has brown hair, balding, grey eyes, swarthy complexion. Wears heavy mustache. Subject is excellent newspaper reporter, has worked on large

papers in the East. Frequents Press Clubs, and places where newspaper reporters gather. Convincing talker. Writes stories of sensational nature as a side line. Warrant issued, charge Fraudulent Checks. If apprehended ascertain if he will waive extradition, if not he will be extradited. Notify sheriffs Office, Casper Wyoming, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



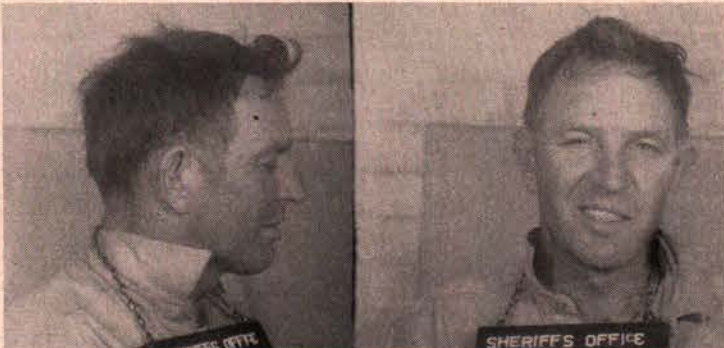
# WANTED PERSONS

As Compiled by the  
Florida Sheriffs Bureau  
Don McLeod, Director



**ROBERT PINKERMAN**  
White male, age 36, 5 feet 10 inches, 144 pounds, black hair, brown eyes, dark complexion. Tattoo of heart under left forearm, name "Ruth Jean" tattooed left upper arm. Occupation:

Salesman, lawn maintenance. Capias issued, charge of Grand Larceny of \$6000 worth of ladies diamond studded wrist watches. Notify Sheriff Kelly, Miami, Florida or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

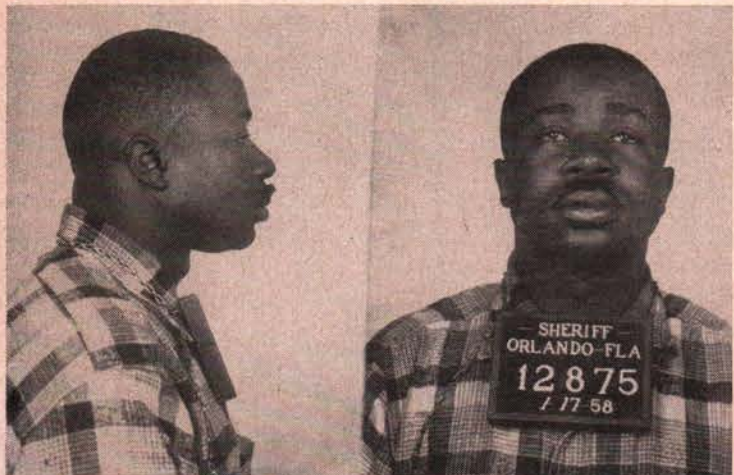


**WALTER FRANCIS HOWELL**  
Alias BENNIE F. ATKINS, white male, age 37, 5 feet, 8 inches, weight 172 pounds, brown eyes, ruddy complexion. When arrested by FHP in Tampa 1-4-58 on traffic charge, he was driving blue and white Chevrolet station wagon 1947 Florida License 10-16368, registered to a 1950 Pontiac. Posted bond

same night. Claimed he was working for The Florida Power and Light Co. He is wanted by North Carolina State Prison, as an Escapee. He was serving 30 year sentence of second degree murder. If arrested advise, so warrant can be forwarded. Notify Sheriff Blackburn, Tampa, Florida, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

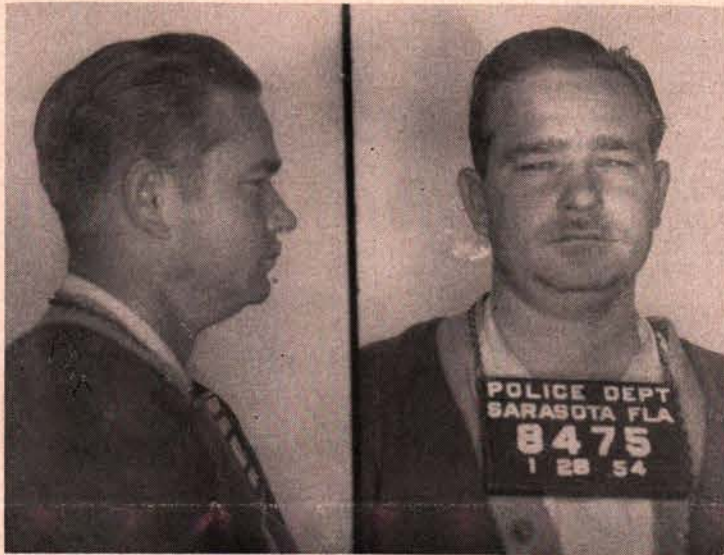


**ROBERT L. RANDALL**  
White male, age 31, 5 feet, 8 inches, light brown hair, hazel eyes. Is a diabetic. Frequents bars. Driving black 1948 Oldsmobile with 1957 Mass. Lic. K-61977. Believed to be in the Miami area. Wanted for Non-support of wife and children. Notify Constable Marosites, 7th JP District, Ormond Beach, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**JOHN PRIESTER**  
With alias SAM WASHINGTON, and others, colored male, age 30, 5 feet 8 inches, weighing approximately 180 pounds, stocky build, black kinky hair, dark brown complexion, wears mustache. Trade: Construction worker. Has kind and agreeable

nature, but slick. Warrant issued, charge Breaking and Entering and Escape. \$100 reward offered for information leading to arrest of this subject. Notify Sheriff Turner, Bronson, Florida or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**ELTON ROSCOE WILLIAMS**  
White male, age 32, 5 feet, 4 inches, weight 180 pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, fair complexion. Occupation: Carpenter. Wanted

for Breaking and Entering, and Grand Larceny. Notify Police Dept., Sarasota, Fla., or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**HENRY CLIFFORD BEARD**  
White male, age 40, 5 feet 8 inches, weight 145 pounds, slender build, blond hair, crew cut, grey eyes, thin face. Scar on left leg. Has worked as a carpenter, mechanic, watch repairman, diamond setter. Proficient in all these professions. When subject left Pensacola he was driving 1953 Studebaker, red top, beige bottom, with 1957 Alabama License, numerals unknown. Has friend in Inglewood, Calif., and is believed headed for that state. Warrant issued, charge Desertion of wife and child. If subject located, arrest, notify Sheriff Shelby Pensacola, Florida, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

# MISSING PERSONS

AS COMPILED BY  
THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS BUREAU  
DON McLEOD, DIRECTOR



**JUTTA BOCK**  
White, female, age 16, 5 feet, 2 inches, weighs 135-140 pounds, blonde hair, grey eyes. She is a German alien, speaks very broken English. When last seen was wearing blue dress carrying three other dresses and a blanket. She was staying with her grandmother who operates a rooming house. She left with J. H. JONES, white male, age 40, 5 feet, 10 inches, weighs 150 pounds, blond hair. He was driving a 1949 Hudson, bearing 1957 Florida License 1W-1139-40. They left Wauchula on 1-4-58. A warrant has been issued for the girl as delinquent, and felony warrant issued for Jones with reference to carrying this girl off. If located notify Sheriff Carlton, Wauchula, Florida, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**JOAN WISENER**  
Joan is described as white female, age 16, about 5 feet, 5 inches, weighs 100, blonde hair, blue eyes. Mary Jo is white female, age 16, 5 feet, 6 inches, weighs 105 pounds, black hair, brown eyes. These girls believed to have left Winter Haven area Saturday, January 4, 1958, accompanied by three white



**MARY JO ANDREWS**  
males, driving white over black 1953 Mercury with 1957 Florida License 5- rest unknown. Warrants issued for the males for Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. Any information notify Sheriff Parrish, Bartow, Florida, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**BILL T. SASSER**  
White male, age 31, 5 feet 11, inches, weighs 165 pounds, light brown wavy hair, green eyes, light complexion. Last seen wearing turquoise long sleeve sport shirt, gold colored tight fitting jacket, beige slacks with blue design threads through same, black oxfords, bare headed. His location is desired, so authorities may further investigate the recent robbery of a loan company of which he was manager. Notify Police Department, Lakeland, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



**JOE SCHLOTFIELD**  
With alias JOE STEWART, white male, date and place of birth 2-20-09, Omaha, Neb., 6 feet, 1 inch, weight 177 pounds, brown hair and eyes. Hangs around cheaper bars. Sometimes wears cowboy clothing. His method of operation is to steal letters from mail boxes at houses and apartments. Was in Miami in December of 1957. He is wanted for Mail Theft. Any information call Postal Inspector Campbell, Franklin 9-5431, Miami, Fla., or notify Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



# LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR ACTION ON THE LAND, ON THE WATER OR IN THE AIR



**ON FOOT**—Lake County Sheriff Willis McCall (extreme right) with uniformed deputies (left to right): Malcolm McCall (sheriff's son), Bill Brooks, Douglas Sewell, N. E. Griffin, Jr., Lucious Clark, Clarence Jones and Leroy Campbell.



**ON HORSEBACK**—Sheriff McCall and his deputies also qualify as horsemen and frequently use this ancient mode of transportation in searches for escapees and missing persons.



**PATROL CARS**—These radio-equipped patrol cars enable the Lake County Sheriff's Department (county seat, Tavares) to swiftly apprehend law breakers and answer emergency calls.



**AFLOAT**—Sheriff McCall and son, Malcolm, use sheriff's department patrol boat to test special stretcher rig used in recovering badly decomposed bodies from Lake County's many lakes. The rig, designed by Sheriff McCall, prevents contamination of boat and equipment.



**AIR PATROL**—With Deputy Griffin at the controls, Sheriff McCall inspects four-place plane his department uses for searches and other vital law enforcement missions. It facilitates coverage of a large county which contains many lakes.

## The Sheriff's Wife

By Mrs. Broward Coker

Now a Sheriff's job is an unhappy lot  
But he's in there giving all that he's got,  
His time and effort, his brain and his brawn,  
He'll give till it "hurts" and even the "hurts" gone.  
Regardless the cost, it's his chosen life,  
But stop and think now — what of his wife?

\* \* \*

There are butchers and bakers and furniture makers,  
Plumbers and carpenters and just ticket takers,  
Consider the work, the hours, the pay,  
And see what the woman you married will say,  
"No, dear, if you're happy, I guess it's alright ----  
But - - - couldn't we plan something, just one night?"

\* \* \*

You're late for meals, can't come, don't call.  
Your hours at home are too terribly small,  
But whenever you come, she's usually there,  
And trying to ease the burden of care.

\* \* \*

Consider the hours she spends all alone,  
The number of times she answers the phone,  
Think of the troubles your children must have  
How often she says "Quiet now, here comes Dad".  
The hours of anguish, "is he alright"?  
Whenever you go on a call in the night.  
Oh, plumbing is fine and carpentry too,  
But you picked this life, so she leads it with you.

\* \* \*

She always looks nice, belongs to all clubs,  
Smiles at the voters, a name never flubs,  
Her training's a process we'll just not discuss  
But, now she can smile, while wanting to cuss.

\* \* \*

So brag all you want about what you do,  
But don't forget credit, where plenty is due!

(Editor's Note — Mrs. Coker is the wife of Highlands County Sheriff Broward Coker).

## Burglars Now Use The Phone

OKLAHOMA CITY — Burglars have gone modern in Oklahoma, State Crime Bureau Chief O. K. Bivins reports.

The old fashioned way of pounding open a safe and then trusting to luck for the getaway has gone out with the horse and buggy, Chief Bivins says. And the telephone has become a standard part of the burglary kit.

Here's how it works:

After casing the store to be burglarized, the gang lays a telephone line from the safe to a vantage point outside the building where cars can be covered in both directions. The telephone is powered by dry cell batteries.

The "peeler" or "driller" can then work comfortably, assured that he won't be surprised by an officer who might slip in through the back of the building. The lookout communicates all information from the outside. When an automobile passes, the man operating the torches and drills stops work.

## Wanted

The Sheriff's Star wants news items and pictures from Sheriff's Departments and other law enforcement agencies all over the state.

Please address all contributions to Editor, The Sheriff's Star, Box 344, Tallahassee.

## Charge Misfires

STARKE — It was lucky for Norman Jackson that his pistol was old and rusty.

County Judge T. A. Yawn found it in such poor condition that he decided not to sentence Jackson on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

## Old "Pigeon Drop" Still Effective

OCALA—"The Pigeon Drop" is one of the oldest flim-flam schemes in the annals of law enforcement, but an Ocala woman fell for it to the tune of \$32.

Two men made a deal to split the money they had found in a pocketbook with her if she would put up an equal amount of cash to show "good faith."

She did so, then the men, pocketbook and money disappeared and she was left holding the bag.

## Curious Boys Find Moonshine Still

FERNANDINA—Two curious small boys reported they peeked through a window into a garage and saw "troughs filled with water with a lot of sawdust floating on top."

Officers investigating the report found a big moonshine still; and the troughs the boys had described turned out to be five vats containing 2,500 gallons of fermenting mash.

## False Alarm

ORLANDO — The Orange County Sheriff's Department received a call that there was a "pool of blood on the floor" of an untenanted house.

Sheriff Dave Starr quickly closed the file on the case when the pool turned out to be coffee.



# Staff Picture of Marion County Sheriff's Department



OCALA — This is a recent staff picture of the Marion County Sheriff's Department, with Sheriff F. L. McGehee kneeling in the center. The others are (from left):

Kneeling — W. M. Coward, criminal investigator; Lee McGehee, records clerk; Charles Miller, deputy; Reginald Coop-

er, deputy; Glenn Smith, special deputy; W. L. Parker, deputy; George Smith, captain; W. K. Owen, criminal investigator.

Second Row — Betty Costin, radio operator; Shirley Brown, file clerk; Curtiss Johnson, secretary; Henry Laird, chief office

deputy; Douglas Willis, chief deputy; Charles Kammerer, sergeant; Frank Holloway Jr., special deputy; David Melton, special deputy; W. V. Clayton, sergeant, identification division; Don Moreland, deputy; and Horace Monroe, deputy.

Third Row — Grady Grimes,

deputy; Bruce Williams, Johnnie West and Vernon Johnson, special deputies; Junior Gayle, radio operator; Barry Berrian, deputy; O. R. Lewis, special radio operator; Charles Costin, jailer; Lewis Grubbs, deputy; and Timothy Howard Jr., special deputy.

## Sheriff Carson Appointed as FSA Director

PANAMA CITY — Duval County Sheriff Dale Carson was appointed to the Florida Sheriffs Association's board of directors at an Association meeting held here Feb. 19.

He will fill a vacancy created by the suspension of Duval County Sheriff Al Cahill.

In other meeting action the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Trustees declined to accept the resignation of its chairman, Monroe County Sheriff John M. Spottswood, and he said due to the death of Association President Sid Saunders he would be willing to continue to serve.

Spottswood, who is the Association's immediate past president and a member of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, had earlier asked the trustees to accept his resignation because of the pressure of other duties.

Orange County Sheriff Dave Starr, originally appointed to fill the vacancy anticipated due to Spottswood's proposed resignation, will instead fill the trustee vacancy created by the death of Sheriff Saunders.

The meeting here, with Bay County Sheriff M. J. (Doc) Daffin as host, had a three-fold purpose. It included a meeting of the Association's board of directors; a meeting of the Ranch Trustees and a district meeting of West Florida sheriffs.

Association officials congratulated Sheriff Daffin for the fact that 15 of the 16 sheriffs in the West Florida district were present. The only absentee was unable to attend due to illness.

In the district meeting, the West Florida Sheriffs were brought up to date on the Boys Ranch project by Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn Jr., executive director of the ranch.

Sheriff Daffin is West Florida chairman for the ranch, which is being built on the Suwannee River, 11 miles north of Live Oak, as a permanent home for worthy, needy and neglected boys.

## Destitute Family Finds Shelter in St. Lucie Jail

By SCOTTY CAMPBELL

FORT PIERCE — It is not uncommon for St. Lucie County jail to play host to penniless transients for a night's lodging and a breakfast.

But it is rare when a full-sized family appears at the office for aid, as happened on a bitter cold night in February.

Given warmth and food were a young mother, her daughter, about 13, a son, 10, and the woman's nephew, 14. The woman had sought employment in South Florida, in vain, and was trying to return to South Carolina.

After a night's lodging and meals, they were helped on their way. Said a deputy: "They are not bad people, nor are they the kind you usually find on the road. Just a family that needs a little temporary help."

Because of lack of a Salvation Army, welfare mission or similar agencies here to help the destitute, Sheriff J. R. Norvell's jail often holds temporary "guests" stranded along busy U.S. 1.

## Boys Find Treasure

ZEPHYRHILLS — Rodney Carver and William Murphy were allowed to keep \$240 in silver coins they found in a plowed field. The money had apparently been buried in glass jars years ago, and law enforcement officers were unable to locate the owner.

## ROLL CALL

### NEWS ITEMS FROM SHERIFFS' DEPARTMENTS ALL OVER FLORIDA

EVERGLADES — Collier County Deputy Sheriff Joe Hunter switched temporarily from law enforcement to the underworld when he was signed for a part in the movie, "Across the Everglades", filmed in this area. He was cast as a member of a ruthless gang of early twentieth century bird plume hunters.

\* \* \*

FT. LAUDERDALE — Broward County Sheriff J. A. Lloyd was publicly commended for the fast service his department rendered. In a letter published in the Ft. Lauderdale Daily News, Nicholas J. Margaritis said he had barely hung up the phone after reporting a prowler to the sheriff's dispatcher when a patrol car pulled up in front of his home.

\* \* \*

DAYTONA BEACH — A special 38-week course in law enforcement technique will be conducted by Emory Clapper, criminal investigator for the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, at the civil defense control center.

\* \* \*

PENSACOLA — Wild game was the price of admission to a hunter's banquet at which Sheriff Emmett Shelby was the toastmaster. So, the Sheriff had to go out and bag two quail before he could qualify to bang the gavel.

\* \* \*

MIAMI — Teamwork between the Dade County Sheriff's Department and the North Miami police was credited with solving the slaying of a 51-year-old real estate broker by a 21-year-old mother of three children. "If everyone had not worked together," said Detective Sgt. Wayne Thurman of the North Miami Police, "we never could have broken the case."

\* \* \*

TITUSVILLE — It is Brevard County Sheriff James W. Dunn's opinion that Brevard County's crime rate is possibly the lowest in the state if its tremendous growth is taken into consideration. Huge missile base operations at Cape Canaveral have brought thousands of persons into the county, but Dunn said there is no clear pattern to indicate that crime can be attributed more to transients than to permanent residents.

\* \* \*

JACKSONVILLE — Road Patrolman D. Vanderbilt was elected president of Duval County Lodge 30, Fraternal Order of Police, an organization composed of members of the Duval County Sheriff's Department. Lt. H. S. Lee is vice president; Deputy J. J. Valentine, secretary; and Lt. G. S. Taylor, treasurer.

\* \* \*

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Clay County Sheriff John P. Hall was elected president of the Clay County Cattleman's Assn. Other officers are Rep. Sam Saunders of Middleburg, vice president; Jennings Murhee of Keystone Heights, treasurer; and County Agent E. D. McCall, secretary.



DELAND — MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER — Volusia County Sheriff Rodney B. Thursby (left) and Volusia County Civil Defense Director Fred W. DeMotte recently put into service this station wagon equipped as a mobile communications center. Special equipment includes three FM radio circuits; one high-powered AM radio transmitter and receiver; land line telephone communications system; two-way radio hookup with the sheriff's radio network; a 2 1/2 KVA power generator which makes the unit independent of commercial power; tools and first aid equipment. The new unit will be used in emergencies in Volusia County and to assist in neighboring counties when required.

## Delinquency up In Dade County

MIAMI — A statistical analysis by the juvenile bureau of the Dade County Sheriff's Department shows that delinquency more than doubled in unincorporated areas of the county in two years.

Compiled by Sgt. L. B. McKim, it revealed the following average ages of youngsters committing serious crimes:

Breaking and entering and grand larceny — 13 years, 4 months.

Arson — 11 years, 5 months. Assault and Battery — 13 years, 6 months.

Vandalism — 9 years, 11 months.

R. A. McFarland, chief of the juvenile bureau, said the figures contradict "anyone who says delinquency isn't on the increase down here."

Sgt. McKim said this increase is far greater than the normal population growth. He attributed the rise to a great extent to a lack of recreational facilities in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Sheriff Thomas J. Kelly has frequently pointed out this lack and has campaigned for funds to remedy it.





CARYVILLE — PATROL SPONSOR — Washington County Sheriff George Watts Jr. (rear row, second from right) is sponsoring the Caryville School Boy Patrol in cooperation with the Caryville PTA and School Principal Crayton Coleman. This picture was taken after the patrol members received their new belts, badges and safety signs from the Sheriff. All members of the patrol are also Junior Deputy Sheriffs. (Photo courtesy Washington County News)

# McLeod Picked In Solons Poll

TALLAHASSEE — Members of the Florida Legislature picked Florida Sheriffs Bureau Director Don McLeod as one of the administrators in the executive department of the state government who "performed the greatest service to the people of Florida during 1957."

The selection was made in a poll of the legislature conducted by Tallahassee Political Columnist Allen Morris. He said Dr. William D. Rogers of the Division of Mental Health, received the most votes in the poll and McLeod ranked among the first 10 in a field of over 60 nominees.

Other front runners were Arthur G. Dozier of Marianna, director of the Division of Child Training Schools; Dr. J. Broward Culpepper of Tallahassee, executive director of the Board of Control; H. G. Cochran Jr. of Lake City, beverage director; Governor LeRoy Collins; Forester C. H. Coulter; Development Commission Chairman S. T. Dell Jr.; Attorney General Richard W. Ervin; Secretary of State R. A. Gray; Comptroller Ray E. Green; Road Chairman Wilbur E. Jones; Treasurer J. Edwin Larson and Auditor Bryan Willis.

McLeod, former Marion County Sheriff and a career law enforcement officer, became the director of the Sheriffs Bureau after it was created by the 1955 legislature.

The Bureau is a state-wide crime fighting agency whose primary function is to cooperate with and assist local law enforcement agencies.

## Horses Saved

MIAMI — Sheriff's Road Patrolmen Jesse Goodwin and Dave Helman saved four horses from a flaming death after they discovered the animals trapped in a burning barn.

## He's Converted

MIAMI — A trusting homeowner who never believed in locks changed his mind after his home was burglarized three times in three weeks, according to Sheriff's Road Patrolmen P. R. Roberts and J. R. Everall.

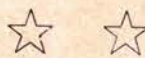


TALLAHASSEE—THAR SHE FLOWS—There's no secret about what happens to moonshine confiscated by the Leon County Sheriff's Department. At periodic intervals Sheriff W. P. (Bill) Joyce (right) holds a public dumping such as the one shown above at the storm sewer opening behind the county courthouse. Shown helping him are Deputies George Keel (left) and J. R. Monk. (Photo courtesy Tallahassee Democrat)



MARIANNA—SHINE HAUL—This 92-gallon moonshine haul was confiscated in transit from manufacturer to consumer by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and state and federal agents. Officers pictured are (from left): Deputy Sheriff Paul Thompson, State Beverage Agent Walter Davis, Jr., Jackson County Sheriff Roy Roberson and Federal Agent Ken Travis. (Photo courtesy Jackson County Floridan.)

# BOYS RANCH ROUND-UP



BY ED BLACKBURN, JR.,  
Sheriff, Hillsborough County  
Executive Director, Florida  
Sheriffs Boys Ranch

Unaccustomed as I am . . . this column is being launched as a regular feature of The Sheriff's Star to keep readers up to date on the progress of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a permanent home for worthy, needy and neglected boys the Florida Sheriffs Association is building on the Suwannee River, near Live Oak.

The ranch has been developing so fast (it was adopted as a project by the Association last September) that it's harder than picking "Miss America" to decide just where to begin.

Uppermost in my mind at the moment is the excellent support we are getting from service clubs. Many of them have already made sizable financial contributions and others have indicated a willingness to do so.

Therefore I propose to carry at regular intervals an "Honor Roll" to show the impact they are making on our project. Here is the current list of clubs that have voted to make contributions:

## SERVICE CLUB HONOR ROLL

Ybor City	
Lions Club	\$500.00
Downtown Tampa	
Lions Club	500.00
Live Oak	
Lions Club	500.00
Sebring Lions Club	300.00
Ybor City	
Optimist Club	500.00
Ybor City	
Rotary Club	250.00
Exchange Club	
of Tampa	500.00
Exchange Club of	
St. Petersburg	250.00
Palma Ceia	
Civitan Club	100.00

And, speaking of impact, one of the best pieces of news around the old corral in a long time came from the U. S. Commissioner of Internal Revenue when he ruled that contributions to the Boys Ranch Trust Fund are deductible donations for federal income tax purposes.

This was announced in last month's issue of the Star, but it bears repeating because prospective donors pop the question frequently.

Another appealing factor about our project is that we operate something like the old time storekeeper — "if you don't have cash offer us something else." . . . like maybe some cows or pigs.

Around April 1 we are going to have a state-wide round-up of livestock donations for the ranch. Just contact your local sheriff and arrangements will be made to pick up your "contribution on the hoof."

Suwannee County Sheriff Hugh Lewis tells me that "spring plowing" has been started on the ranch and will be stepped up with the help of tractor equipment donated by the Ford Tractor Dealers of Florida and the Ford Motor Co.

Lake County Sheriff Willis McCall reported that an implement dealer in his county has donated a bog plow, valued at \$385, to the ranch.

Meanwhile, back at the



Official Ranch Symbol

ranch . . . land clearing along the entire quarter-mile river front (Suwannee River that is) has been completed and landscaping will begin shortly.

Our architect, Myrl Hanes of Gainesville, is going to spot the location of a proposed well on the 722-acre ranch site and digging operations will begin shortly. He is also working on designs for the ranch buildings.

Finally—if you are interested in supporting the Ranch, contact your local sheriff or write to Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Box 344, Tallahassee.



TO AID RANCH — Former State Senator Edwin G. Fraser of Macclenny, was appointed chairman of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Horticulture Committee by Hillsborough County Sheriff Ed Blackburn Jr., executive director of the Ranch. Blackburn said the Horticulture Committee will play an important role in landscaping the ranch site and Fraser, one of the outstanding nurserymen in the south, will be able to render a tremendous service to it.



MIAMI — RANCH DONOR — Charles Silvers, Miami industrialist, has volunteered to contribute to the Florida Boys Ranch in 1958 not less than \$1,000 worth of the products manufactured by his firm, Adams Engineering Co., Inc. These products include aluminum furniture, jalousie windows and doors, sliding glass doors, aluminum awnings, stepladders, farm gates and many other items useful to the ranch project. State Railroad and Public Utilities Commissioner Jerry W. Carter, an ardent ranch booster, was responsible for getting Silvers interested in the ranch. Announcement of Silvers' donation was made by Leon County Sheriff W. P. Joyce, a director of the Florida Sheriffs Association.





**DEFUNIAK SPRINGS—JUMBO STILL**—These pictures show an elaborate moonshine manufacturing plant located five miles south of here which was raided by the Walton County Sheriffs Office and State Beverage agents. The top picture shows Walton County Sheriff Curtis R. Miller beside the large gas-fired boiler which was said to have a 2,500-gallon capacity. The bottom picture shows the building which was constructed to house the still apparatus. Sheriff Miller said so far as he knows this was the largest moonshine still ever operated here. He said five stills and 350 barrels of mash were destroyed in this and other raids over a period of eight days.

## Mailbag Produces Words of Praise For Sheriffs Association Project

Here are quotes from recent letters praising the Florida Sheriffs Association for creating the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a home for worthy, needy and neglected boys, on the Suwannee River, 11 miles north of Live Oak:

"It is a pleasure to assist in and be identified with this splendid project. The work with boys is badly needed throughout our state..."—Gorham Bliss, Merritt Island.

"This is the first step I have heard of, taken by Florida law enforcement men, which shows both humanity and common sense. As a mother of sons, and as a taxpayer, I think you have made a necessary and happy beginning and I wish you success."—Mrs. Harold Ivan Silver, Ft. Pierce Beach.

"This type of work can go a long way towards future rewards. Good luck to you in your endeavor."—Ed R. La-Barbera, Tallahassee.

"We were very much interested in your Annual Report telling of the Boys Ranch. This is certainly a most worthy cause and we are grateful to have a small part in it. You are to be heartily congratulated for the wonderful work you are doing."—J. M. Blow, Key West.

"We think your Boys Ranch is a wonderful thing and wish we might have one right here in Polk County."—Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. Cobb, Lakeland.

"I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you... on the splendid work that you are doing with the Boys Ranch." — Payne H. Midyette, Tallahassee.

"You are to be commended for your excellent activities in this worthy cause — sponsoring a number of projects to combat juvenile delinquency and better law enforcement — and I feel sure that everyone will recognize your untiring efforts in bringing this most important project to a successful conclusion." — John E. Boggiano, West Palm Beach.

## Memo: Don't Lie to Sheriff

Don't lie to the Sheriff. If he doesn't trip you up, his modern crime detection devices will.

For instance, a number of Florida Sheriffs have lie detectors (technically known as polygraphs) and skilled men to operate them. Those who don't, frequently borrow the equipment and operators.

Drunkometers to test the veracity of the suspected drunken driver who claims he "only had two beers" are also either owned by or available to sheriffs' departments all over the state.

## Nassau Junior Deputies Get Taste of Navy Life

**FERNANDINA BEACH** — A taste of Navy life was given to a contingent of 17 Nassau County Junior Deputy Sheriffs when Sheriff H. J. Youngblood gave them a free trip to the Naval Air Station at Pensacola. During the three-day trip the boys lived in Navy quarters at the air station and were shown many aspects of both primary and advanced jet flight training.

Each boy was assigned to a Navy jet pilot who answered questions, explained the operation of jet planes and allowed him to try out oxygen masks and other types of equipment. A special demonstration was also given to show the boys how helicopters rescue pilots from the water. Later the youngsters were given a test drill by Navy officers.

Boys were selected for the trip on the basis of scholastic grades, good conduct and similar factors. They were given permission to be absent from school.

The trip covered 901 miles and gave the boys an opportunity to visit the state capitol, in Tallahassee, while enroute to Pensacola.

Transportation in a patrol car and station wagon was provided by Sheriff Youngblood, and the Navy housed and fed

the boys at the air station.

Deputy Sheriff Jack H. Freeman, full-time supervisor of Junior Deputy activities in Nassau County, was in charge of the trip. Deputy Sheriff John A. Bodine accompanied the group and assisted with the

driving chores.

This trip, taken by boys from Fernandina Beach, was the second one arranged by Sheriff Youngblood.

A similar trip was given earlier to Junior Deputies from Callahan and Yulee.



**PENSACOLA — ON TOUR** — Here is part of the Nassau County Junior Deputy Sheriff contingent that toured the Pensacola Naval Air Station under the sponsorship of Sheriff H. J. Youngblood. (U. S. Navy Official Photo)

## Wounded Girl Gets Assist From Sheriffs

**PENSACOLA** — Escambia County Sheriff Emmett Shelby and his department spearheaded a successful campaign to raise funds for a 13-year-old girl who was critically wounded in a shooting accident.

In neighboring Okaloosa County, Sheriff Ray Wilson, with an assist from the police department in Fort Walton Beach, conducted a parallel campaign.

The lawmen went into action after they learned that the girl, Scarlet Younge of Fort Walton Beach, was in dire need of money in her fight for life in a Pensacola Hospital.

The Escambia County Sheriff's Office made a dramatic appeal for funds, and within 24 hours officers, aided by volunteer collectors, had picked up and counted about \$2,500.

After the call for help went out, armored car drivers, special deputies, U. S. Navy personnel and people from all walks of life got busy gathering money. Navy cadets collected funds from their buddies and also signed up blood donors.

The sheriff's office switchboard operators were busy all night and most of the next day answering calls from contributors. Patrol cars were on the move every spare minute making stops along their regular routes to pick up donations.

Airmen and civilian employees of Eglin Air Force Base, located in Okaloosa County, made contributions which were turned over to Sheriff Wilson.

## Kindly Pinellas Officer Retires

**CLEARWATER**—Sid Rowles, veteran law enforcement officer who gained a reputation here as a friend and adviser of rookies, resigned from his job as radio dispatcher for the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department due to ill health.

A former Detroit and Clearwater police officer, Rowles, 70, was employed by Sheriff Sid Saunders in July 1956.

Don Genuing, the newly-appointed Pinellas Sheriff, said Rowles "was never too busy to stop and help another officer out and he always gave a new officer a special hand."

## "The Lawyer's Corner"

A digest of recent Attorney General's opinions of interest to law enforcement officers.

Edited by JOHN A. MADIGAN, JR.  
Attorney, Florida Sheriffs Association

**AUTOMOBILE-TITLE REGISTRATION**—(057-386)—When a sheriff buys equipment from the funds of his office, under Chapter 57-368, Laws of Florida, Acts of 1957, or Chapter 145, Florida Statutes, and the equipment is required to be registered, such registration should be in the name of the sheriff's office.

**TRAFFIC VIOLATION BY JUVENILES**—(057-388)—A school principal has no authority to determine the guilt or innocence of juvenile offenders who are taken into custody by law enforcement officers and charged with criminal offenses. He may, however, enforce reasonable rules of conduct of pupils enrolled in his school by such disciplinary action as may be authorized by law and school board regulations during the time the pupil is attending school or is enroute to or from the school.

**TERMS OF IMPRISONMENT TO BE IMPOSED**—(057-389)—When imposing an indeterminate sentence under the provisions of Chapter 57-366, Laws of Florida, the sentencing court does not have any discretion as to the minimum and maximum terms of imprisonment to be imposed.

**COMMITMENTS**—(057-390)—The commitment to the Department of Correction under Sections 921.17-921.19, Florida Statutes, does not have the same effect as commitment to Raiford, but leaves the discretion to the Division of Corrections as to which institution in which the prisoner is to be confined.

**OVERCROWDED JAIL—TRANSFER OF PRISONERS**—(057-394)—While there is no statutory authority for the transfer of prisoners in an overcrowded jail to a less crowded jail of another county, by simple agreement between the sheriffs of the various counties, the Court and the County Commissioners may authorize such transfers in certain circumstances.

**TRANSPORTATION OF PRISONERS**—(058-1)—When a sheriff transports two or more prisoners to Raiford at the same time, said sheriff is entitled to a mileage fee for each prisoner.

**WORK DURING OFF-DUTY HOURS**—(058-16)—Police officers of Miami Shores Village may work at the Biscayne Kennel Club during off-duty hours when the function that these officers will perform will be security police to detect any violations of law that might happen on the premises of the licensee, Biscayne Kennel Club, provided the duties of said officers are not connected with, directly or indirectly, the operation of the liquor business.

**DUTY OF CLERK TO ISSUE A COMMITMENT**—(058-27)—When a sentence is pronounced in chambers, it is the duty of the clerk to issue a commitment for imprisonment.

**TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES**—(058-40)—A witness cannot lawfully disclose his own testimony before a grand jury except when required by a court for one of the purposes permitted by statute; a witness who, not having taken an oath of secrecy, discloses his testimony before the grand jury otherwise than under court order, is guilty of a criminal contempt of court, and to punishment therefor, by virtue of Section 905.27, Florida Statutes.



## Good Teamwork

## Robber Who Joined Cuban Rebels Fails to Elude Sheriff's Dept.

By DENNIS SNEIGR

KEY WEST — Cooperation between Monroe County Sheriff John Spottswood and the Cuban police, plus painstaking detective work, led to the arrest and conviction of an armed robber recently.

Edward Kema, 22-year-old Chinese-Hawaiian, held up a Key West sporting goods store, took 10 pistols, \$500.00 and later fled to Cuba to join the revolutionary forces of Fidel Castro.

After Kema was returned to Key West, he pleaded guilty to the holdup and was sentenced to life imprisonment by Monroe County Criminal Court Judge Thomas Caro.

The trail that led from Key West to Miami to Havana and ended back at Key West began late the night of Dec. 23. Kema pulled a small ventilator off the side of the building housing the Evans Camera and Supply Store at Key West—here he made two mistakes. He set off a burglar alarm in the apartment over the store and he ripped his trousers as he crawled through the ventilator opening.

The burglar removed his jacket while changing his torn trousers for a pair he took from the store's stock.

Frank Wayne, owner of the store, who was aroused by the burglar alarm, came downstairs. Kema pulled a .32 caliber revolver on Wayne.

In the excitement of fleeing with the guns and cash, Kema forgot his jacket.

In the jacket pockets, Lt. Rene Raiole of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department found two social security cards and two drivers licenses, one from Ohio and one from West Virginia, as well as card from a Miami hotel.

Dade County Deputies Bill Jackson and Milton Klein checked the hotel at the request of Lt. Raiole and found that Kema and two other men had left for Havana several hours before.

The following day, Lt. Raiole flew to Havana and conferred with Lt. Jorge Pena Herra of the Cuban Bureau of Investigation. They tracked the three men to a Havana hotel but the men had checked out.

At that point, the officers lost the trail.

Lt. Raiole returned to Key West and on New Year's Eve he received word from Deputy Jackson that one of the trio had returned to Miami. Lt. Raiole talked with the man who gave him a description of

Kema and the other man. He said the trio had gone to Santiago de Cuba in an attempt to join the rebel forces of Fidel Castro.

Several days later, the Monroe County Sheriff's Department received information from the FBI that Kema and the other man had split up. Kema took to the rugged hill country and the other man went to the big U. S. Navy base at Guantánamo Bay, seeking sanctuary.

Then word came that Cuban Military Intelligence officers had Kema in custody.

Lt. Raiole returned to Cuba. At first, Cuban authorities did not want to release Kema but finally agreed because of the seriousness of the Key West crime.

On Jan. 19, Cuba deported Kema as an undesirable alien. Returning to Key West on the same plane with Kema was Lt. Raiole who took the gunman into custody at Key West International Airport.

Kema pleaded guilty to the holdup and on Jan. 30 was sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Caro.



EDWARD KEMA — Erstwhile Cuban Rebel who discovered that Sheriff John Spottswood has a mighty long arm.



DONALD S. GENUNG  
New Sheriff

## New Sheriff Will Boost Boys Ranch

CLEARWATER — Donald S. Genung, newly-appointed Sheriff of Pinellas County, said he will give his full support to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch—a home for worthy and needy boys in which the late Sheriff Sid Saunders was vitally interested.

He said Sheriff Saunders was actively promoting this project to combat juvenile delinquency at the time of his death, Feb. 19, and a fund has been created to establish a memorial to him at the Ranch.

A member of Saunders' staff since 1953 and chief criminal deputy at the time of his death, Genung pledged to carry on the policies of his former superior with a top goal of "fighting against organized crime coming into Pinellas."

A 41-year-old Democrat, Genung was appointed Sheriff by Gov. LeRoy Collins on Feb. 27, to serve until next January. He said he will be a candidate in this year's elections to keep the post until 1960.

A World War II glider pilot and intelligence officer, Genung joined the Clearwater Police Department shortly after his return from military duty. He was Assistant Police Chief at the time he left the Police Department in 1953 to work under Saunders.

He is married and has a daughter, Donna, 14.

## Murder Suspect Caught in Filing Cabinet

ORLANDO — Orange County Sheriff Randy Ferrell was credited with catching a murder suspect wanted for almost five years in connection with a Palm Beach County hatchet slaying.

The man, identified as Johnnie Jones, alias James Columbus Parker, was arrested here for aggravated assault.

Deputy Ferrell later identified him as the wanted murder suspect while checking his fingerprints through the sheriff's office files.

Palm Beach County officials had been seeking the suspect since 1953, but said they had been unable to find any trace of him.

## Benefit Show Nets \$100 for Ranch

LIVE OAK — Suwannee County Sheriff Hugh Lewis reported a benefit hypnotist show here netted \$100 for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Sheriff Lewis was instrumental in getting the ranch located on a 722-acre site 11 miles north of Live Oak, and has taken a leading role in the development of the project.

## Editor Discovers "Much Good" in Boys Ranch Plan

BRADENTON — Brack Cheshire, associate editor of the Bradenton Herald, said the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch is "calculated to be of value to this county (Manatee) and the rest of Florida."

He added:

The Boys Ranch will do much good in Florida and the sheriffs are to be commended for initiating it.

"The people of Suwannee County, like Thomas Musgrove, who donated much of the land for the ranch, are to be saluted for giving their time, materials and money in helping develop it."



CRESTVIEW—RECORD SET—Sheriff Ray Wilson (second from right) reported his department set a new record in Okaloosa County in 1957 for destruction of moonshine whisky, moonshine stills and fermented mash; and confiscation of moonshiners' automobiles. Here he is shown with three of his deputies supervising the dumping of confiscated moonshine by two county jail trustees. The deputies are (from left) Reuben Hendricks, Martel McCollum and Ralph Hendricks.

## Editorial

## A Man Dedicated to Justice . . .

(The following tribute to the late Sid Saunders, Pinellas County Sheriff and President of the Florida Sheriffs Association, is reprinted from the Jan. 20 issue of the St. Petersburg Times.)

The untimely death of Sheriff Sid Saunders leaves a gap which no one can ever fill completely.

Despite the many separate police departments in a thickly populated county like this one, it is the sheriff who ultimately sets the tone for a community.

IF HE IS WEAK, or if he is corrupt, the gangsters, gamblers and the punks can get a foot-hold. And once established on the fringes, their corrosive influence inevitably spreads until the entire structure of government and society is affected.

Sheriff Saunders never compromised his deep belief that a man of integrity, honesty and ability could stand up against these forces.

He became sheriff in 1952, after serving as a deputy from 1934 to 1940 and as a district constable from 1944-1952. He had dedicated his life to police work, having previously served as an Atlantic Coast Line railroad police officer.

HE TOOK OVER AS sheriff of a county which, despite years of depression war and boom, had become accustomed to good law enforcement. Where other parts of the state had winked at gambling to entice winter visitors, Pinellas had called for obedience to the law. The hordes of underworld characters who infested other parts of Florida detoured around Pinellas, as the Kefauver investigations of 1950 and 1951 had shown.

Sheriff Saunders maintained Pinellas' clean reputation. But he didn't coast on it. Instead he renovated his department, installing the latest devices to impede crime, insisting that his deputies meet his personal standards of character.

The voters of the county in 1956 showed that they appreciated what Sheriff Saunders — who frequently disclaimed being a "politician"—had done for them. In the election for a second term he was one of three Democrats on the county ballot to survive a Republican landslide.

ONE OF HIS MOST IMPRESSIVE unfinished projects was the expansion of the Florida Sheriffs' Boys Ranch at Live Oak. The ranch is designed for underprivileged and homeless boys.

The Florida Sheriffs Association, of which Sheriff Saunders was president at his death, believes that acquainting children with the outdoors and helping them live in a community environment will aid in the fight against juvenile delinquency and permit these boys to become useful, productive citizens.

Sheriff Saunders was one of the fathers of the Boys Ranch. His interest in the plan was characteristic of his kindness and desire to prevent crime rather than punish it.

In appointing a successor for this patient, gentle, firm man, Governor Collins and his local advisors have a grave responsibility.

BUT THEY HAVE the pattern of excellence set by the late Sheriff to follow.

The man they name as permanent sheriff to serve until the November election need not necessarily be a professional policeman. But he should be an able administrator and a person of poise and stature.

But more important are the qualities which Sheriff Saunders himself once set down as requirements for a good police official. The Sheriff said:

"Unless you believe in law and justice, you will not be a good law enforcement officer. You must have confidence in the court and its ability to give justice."

That Sheriff Saunders believed in justice and made his belief the guidepost of his life is his undying monument.

## Florida Safe Cracking Ring

(Continued From Page 1)

contacting other law enforcement agencies.

Police departments, sheriffs departments and officers in other states joined the man-hunt.

Durrell Howard, of Tampa, was the third man to be arrested. Milton Lee McLendon was located in Bridgeport, Conn.; Julian Rourke Fitzgerald was taken into custody in Detroit; James Walter Ingram was found to be serving time in Ohio on a worthless check charge.

Others caught in the law enforcement net were Carrington

C. Clark of Dade City, James R. Cloud of Tampa and William Richard Leist of Tallahassee.

The count stood at nine men in custody when the Star went to press, and a tenth man was being sought for questioning.

"We don't know where this thing will end," said Sheriffs Bureau Director Don McLeod. "We still have a terrific amount of information to check out and our agents are working on it night and day."

He said further safe cracking cases are expected to be solved and it is likely more arrests will be made.