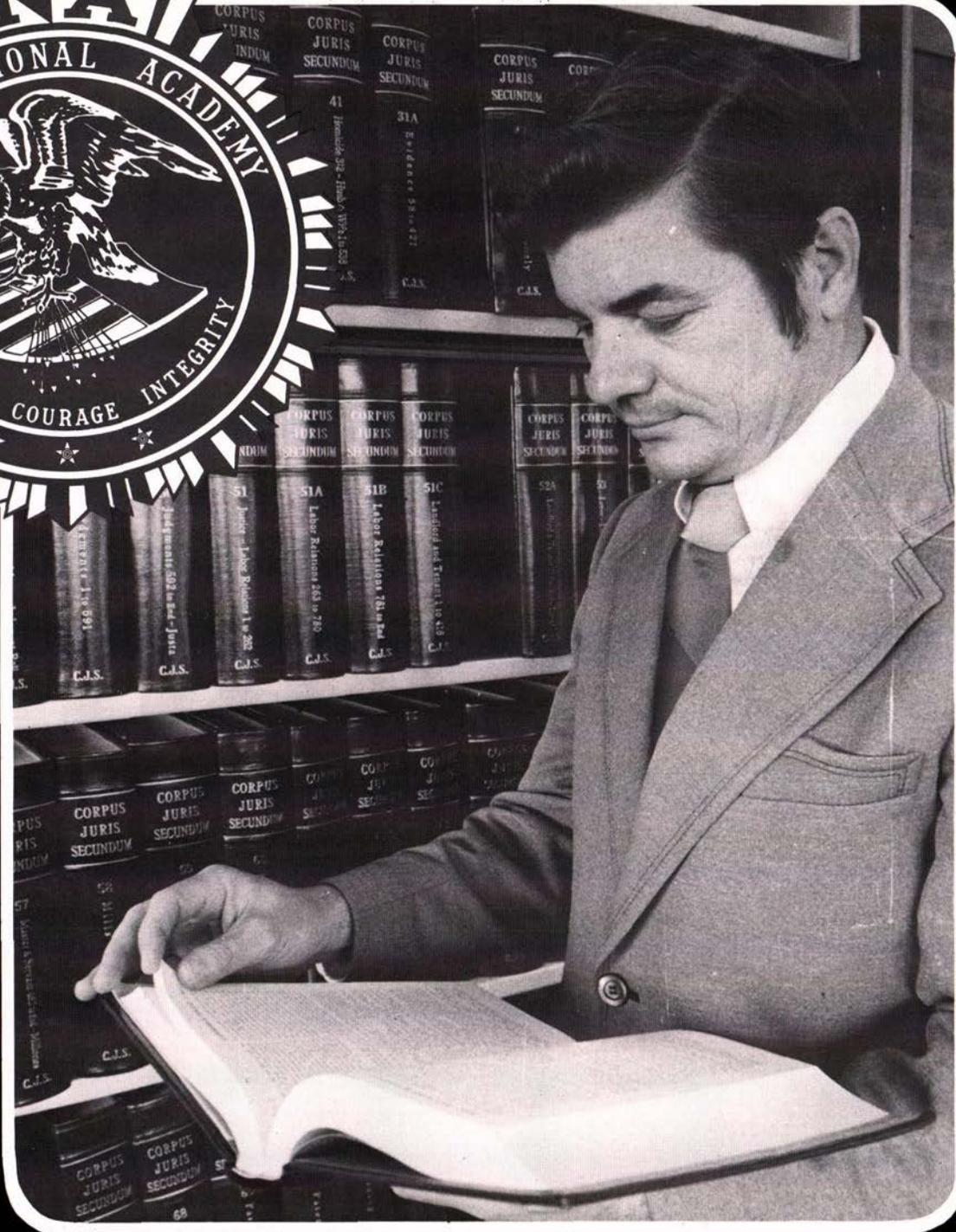
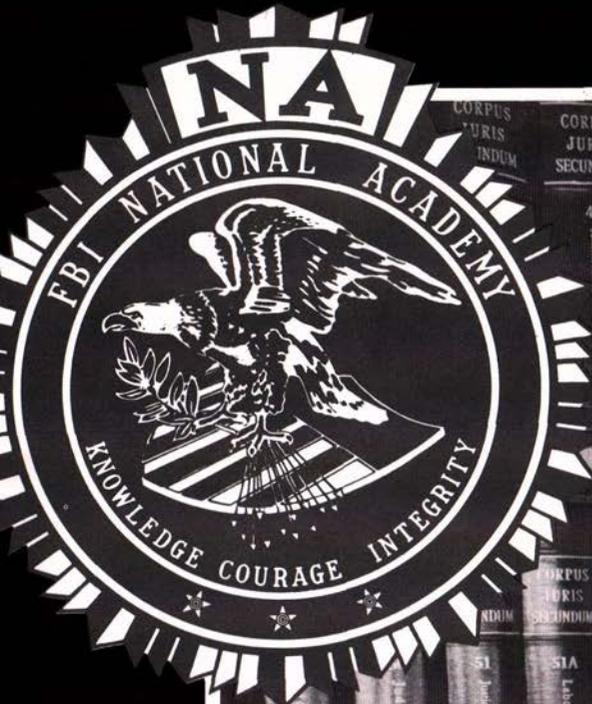


THE SHERIFFS'



PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION — FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1974



Well Done Dudley

Torn Between Sorrow and Anger, Sheriff Blasts Parole System

MONTICELLO—Torn between bitter sorrow and hot anger, Jefferson County Sheriff Jim Scott was prompted to write the following comments after he attended the funeral of Florida Highway Patrol Trooper James Campbell, in Perry, November 24.

On November 24, 1974, in Perry, Florida, I paid my last respects to a fellow law enforcement officer, Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Charles Campbell. I came away with a deep feeling of sorrow for the man's family and the many citizens that will fall victims to crimes perpetrated by parolees, many of whom will be second or third offenders. Also, I am resentful and bitter toward a system that allows animals such as John Paul Knowles to be released on society.

John Paul Knowles is a parolee who served only two years on a previous kidnapping charge. He has been accused of a crime spree in Florida and Georgia that left Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Charles Campbell and a Delaware businessman dead. He is also accused of several murders in Georgia, including a Milledgeville, Georgia, man and his daughter. Knowles was subsequently captured not many miles from the scene of the Milledgeville murders and not far from where the bodies of the Florida trooper and the Delaware man were found.

In 1972, Capt. Joe Cook of the Florida Highway Patrol was

overpowered along with a Madison County farmer and abducted by a second-time offender. In 1973, Trooper Barney Stalworth was kidnapped in Jefferson County by a prisoner who had escaped from a minimum security Florida work camp. In 1974 Trooper Chuck Campbell from Taylor County was apparently abducted and executed by a man who was on parole from the Florida prison system. I was personally involved in the search parties in all these kidnappings.

In the Bradenton area in 1973, Trooper Claude Baker, who was graduated with me from the 1964 Florida Highway Patrol Academy, was shot down in cold blood by a criminal on a work release program.

Also, in 1973, a friend and fellow law enforcement officer, Trooper Ronnie Smith of Tallahassee, was gunned down in cold blood by an Oklahoma parolee. The list could go on and on.

These five instances alone should be proof enough that the present system of parole and probation is not working. Not only in Florida, but in other states as well. Evidently, within the ranks of the parole system there are a number of liberal-minded, bleeding-heart, do-gooders who have the responsibility of recommending the release of these prisoners on parole. They must be weeded out. When any system fails to work, the alternative is to revamp or do away with such a system. With the many Watergate and state-wide investigations currently going on, I believe they should be expanded to include our present parole and probation systems throughout the United States.

I wish to go on record as being strongly in favor of capital punishment. Not just on paper, but actually executing violators that are convicted of cold-blooded murder, forcible rape or kidnapping. Instead of an electric chair, my suggestion is a portable gallows that could go from county to county and publicly hang criminals sentenced to death by the courts. I feel that capital punishment administered in this manner would be a great deterrent to crime.

The preamble to the Constitution of the United States reads, "We, the people of the United States of America, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity. . . ." Also, the preamble to the Declaration of Independence reads, in part, "that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. Among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." These principles were originally designed to protect the civil rights of the citizen, but they have been misinterpreted to the extent that the victim of crime has been forgotten. Protection of civil rights is seemingly extended only to the violator of the law.

I feel that the people must speak out in great numbers for a change in some of the present laws. That is our only hope for a law-abiding society in the future. Anyone who underestimates the power of the people of these United States is very foolish. I feel

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The Annual Mid-Winter Conference



of the
**FLORIDA SHERIFFS
ASSOCIATION**

will be held
January 22-24, 1975
at the Ramada Inn
2220 West First Street
Fort Myers, Florida

Sheriff Frank Wanička is the Conference Host. Sheriffs Jack Bent, Earl Dyess, and Roy Lundy are the Co-Hosts.

THE SHERIFF'S
STAR

VOLUME 18, NO. 7 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1974

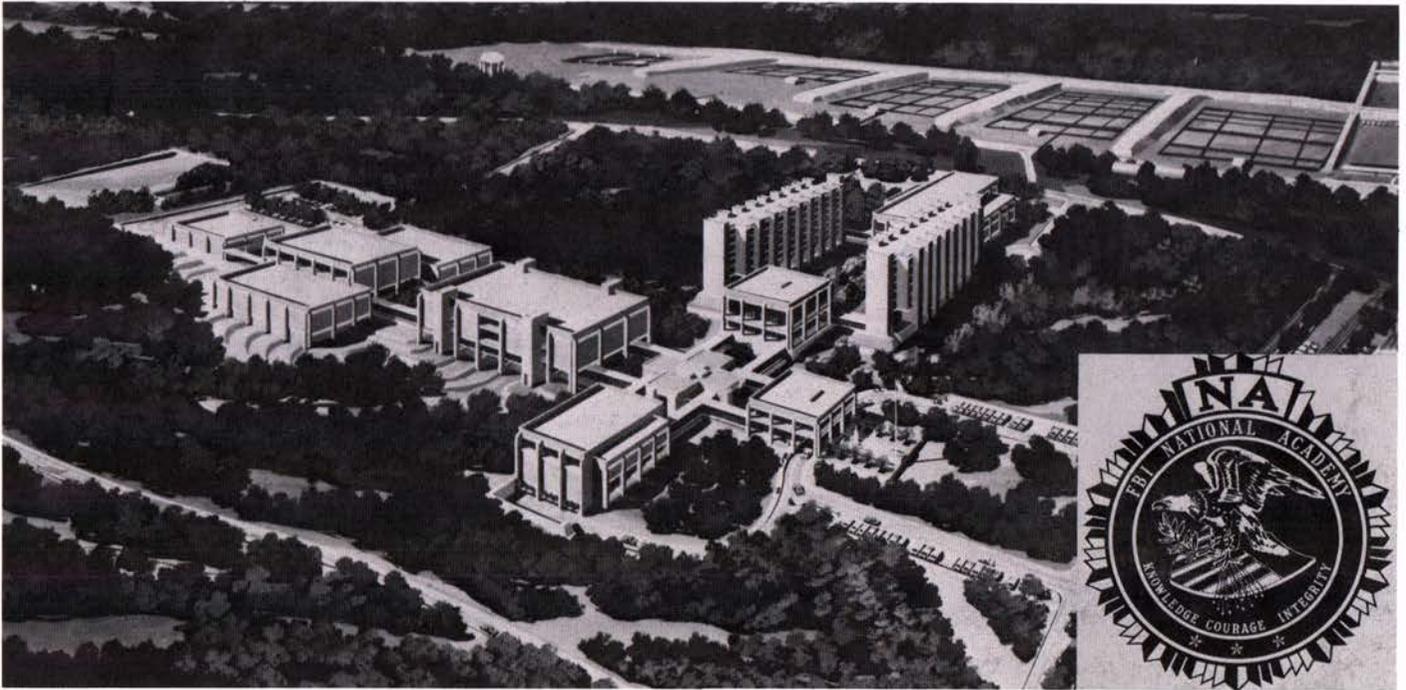
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Artist's concept of the FBI National Academy facilities at Quantico, Va.

The official seal of the FBI National Academy which Sheriff Dudley Garrett is now qualified to hang on his office wall along with his many other mementoes of professional training.

Well Done, Dudley

ST. AUGUSTINE—To his already impressive professional credentials, St. Johns County Sheriff Dudley Garrett has added the one law enforcement officers covet the most—a diploma from the FBI National Academy.

He was graduated from the Quantico, Virginia, school early in December after completing a tough 12-week course that is recognized world-wide for its outstanding leadership training.

"The whole program was fine," said Sheriff Garrett. "It was even better than I imagined it would be. Many of the instructors were former police officers, and, because they understand the problems of law enforcement from practical experience, they were able to present the course work in a very meaningful manner."

He said the privilege of associating with professional lawmen from all over the U. S. A. as well as other free-world nations was an important factor in the Academy training.

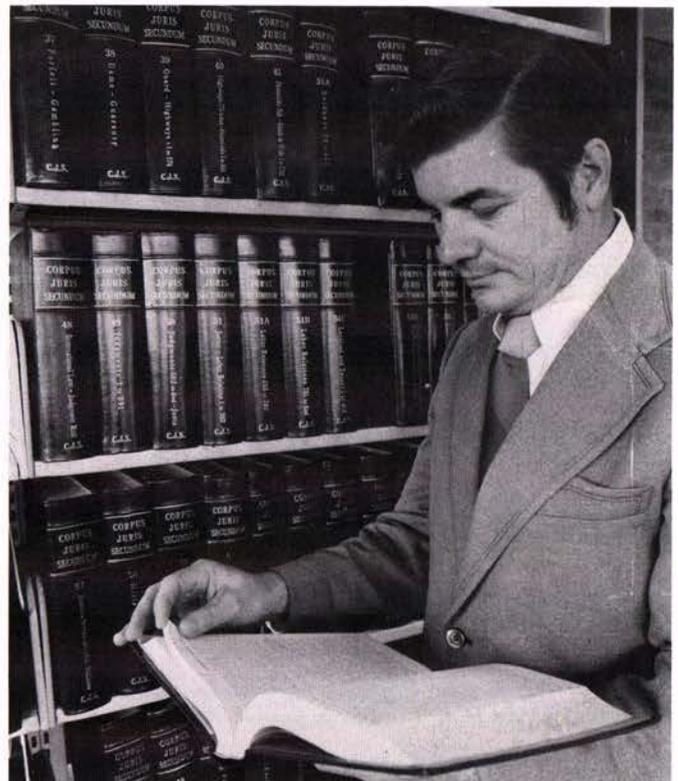
"Exchanging ideas and views with the others was an education in itself," the Sheriff added, pointing out that he will have an opportunity to continue this learning process as a member of the National Academy Associates, an organization of NA graduates. There are over 5,000 Academy Associates who form a world-wide network of highly trained police personnel. They meet at regular intervals on a regional basis for retraining sessions.

At the Academy, Sheriff Garrett attended courses in a wide range of law enforcement related subjects, including management, investigative techniques, and police-community relations.

He also kept in close touch with his office, in St. Augustine, and was able to apply some of his newly learned investigative procedures to crimes that were currently under investigation by his deputies.

Although the Academy training requires long hours and concentrated effort, Sheriff Garrett flew home to St. Augustine on one occasion to become personally involved in major crime investigations, and to defend his current budget.

Sheriff Garrett spent many hours in the learning resource center at the National Academy, and also participated in a rigorous physical training program.



Sheriff Garrett was one of 250 officers attending the 99th Session of the National Academy.

Organized in 1935, the National Academy has trained more than 8,000 officers from all parts of the U. S., and from many other nations. It is housed in a spacious and modern complex 40 miles south of Washington, D. C.

YOUR

Your Sheriff is in a bad mood. He's worried, angry, frustrated, depressed, and, to use the street vernacular, just plain hacked off.

His gut reaction tells him crime is moving closer and closer to the red danger line marked "out of control", and yet forces inside and outside the criminal justice system are frustrating and sometimes completely blocking his efforts to keep the lid on.

As the number one keeper of the peace, he needs all the help he can get to maintain some semblance of law and order; but somehow society seems to be preoccupied with helping the men who break the law, and frustrating those who enforce the law.

There seems to be no limit to the court rulings, laws, and programs designed to protect, pamper, educate and rehabilitate lawbreakers. Most of the thrust of society's concern seems to be aimed in this direction, and your Sheriff is upset because he feels there should be a better balance. He would like to see an equal thrust of concern directed toward the security of citizens who fearfully face a growing threat of physical harm and financial loss from the criminal element.

It's your Sheriff's job to put the criminal element out of business; and yet, no matter how hard he works to put law breakers behind bars, there are others in the criminal justice system who are working equally hard to put them back on the streets.

It's an uphill battle—further aggravated by bureaucratic red tape, public indifference, and unfortunate court rulings—and let's face it, your Sheriff is not a happy man.

Here, more specifically, are some of the things that are making him unhappy:



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF
**On
Punishment**

CLEARWATER—The pendulum has swung from punishment to permissiveness, and it is due to swing back to punishment again, in the opinion of Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung. "Because of rampant crime," he said, "we will have to get down to some good, solid punishment. I'm glad to see it coming. We've been too soft too long. Now, I'm all for rehabilitation," he added, "but you have to realize some people enjoy being criminals, and there is no way to rehabilitate them."

PAROLE AND PROBATION

Good program! Sheriffs have always aided and supported it in many ways, but when they see parole and probation supervisors with case loads of 80, 90, and 100 lawbreakers to supervise, they know the system isn't working.

"Hell," said one Probation and Parole official recently, "we're lucky if we even know where most of our parolees are living. How can we know what they are doing? If they stay out of serious trouble and don't get arrested, we have to assume they are doing OK."

Sheriffs know this and they are alarmed. Yet, the state's current answer to prison and jail overcrowding is to make a drastic increase in the number of criminals released on parole—and to hire inexperienced people to supervise them.

Thus, one more explosive element has been added to the time bomb created by those who believe we can unload an unlimited number of criminals on society without causing the crime rate to skyrocket.

PLEA BARGAINING

Sheriffs are grumbling too about plea bargaining, an old but flourishing courtroom custom that permits accused persons to plead guilty to an offence that is less serious than the one for which they were arrested.

The criminal is assured of a lighter sentence, and the state avoids the necessity of an expensive and sometimes time-consuming court trial.

Used very sparingly, it is possible that plea bargaining can cause the criminal justice system to operate more efficiently. However, Sheriffs feel it is being scandalously abused. They see plea bargaining providing an "escape hatch" for dangerous criminals. They suspect that prosecutors use it to cut down their work load, to grant favors, and to avoid messing up a good "batting average" on convictions.

Your Sheriff is convinced that plea bargaining is widely misused and altogether too prevalent. It depresses him.

JAIL HOUSE BLUES

It's no wonder Sheriffs get the "Jail House Blues". They don't build jails. They don't design jails. They don't decide whether to replace or repair antiquated jails. All they do is run jails, and try to cope with whatever facilities are provided for them by the county commissioners, or by a vote of the people, in the case of bond referendums. And yet, if jail facilities are criticized, if prisoners escape because of poor jail design, or if faulty wiring causes a fire, the Sheriff is the one who catches hell.

He also catches hell if he fails to fully comply with jail regulations handed down by the Florida Division of Corrections; and this gripes him, because every Sheriff is firmly convinced

SHERIFF IS

(Headline Continued on Page Four)

that he is doing a better job as jail-keeper than the Division of Corrections is doing with the state prisons.

Jail rules and regulations haven't been a major sore spot with Sheriffs in past years, but that has suddenly changed. The Division of Corrections came out with proposed revisions recently, and there was an uprising of Sheriffs that sent tremors all the way to the Governor's office.

An attempt is being made to negotiate a compromise, but regardless of the outcome, Sheriffs are in a nasty mood and they expect the state's rule book to become a greater and greater source of irritation.

THE REAL CULPRIT

Judges, academic types, and government officials have been trying for years to tell Sheriffs how they ought to run their offices and their jails. This sniping is a constant source of irritation, but the real culprit—the villain—is a state of mind that generates great concern, sympathy, and affection for criminals; while demonstrating practically no concern at all for the battered, bleeding, and dying victims of crime.

Society's great love affair with the trigger man, the bludgeoner of old ladies, the sleazy corrupter, and the smartass hoodlum is an ill wind that blows through the courts, the legislature, the halls of government, and the sanctuaries of higher education.

It encourages lawmakers to give aid and comfort to the lawless; it produces voluminous, vaporous reports from crime study commissions at all levels of government; and it throws the court system into a fit of civil rights madness.

Absalom, O Absalom! If Sheriffs had access to a wailing wall, and if they weren't too busy ducking brickbats, they would certainly make use of it.



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF

On Rehabilitation Programs

PANAMA CITY—Leveling criticism at the State Division of Corrections, Bay County Sheriff Tullis Easterling declared that "Money has been squandered on rehabilitation programs which are a failure, a disgrace, and a farce. I feel the rehabilitation system is causing good, dedicated, law enforcement officers to become thoroughly disgusted with the whole mess, and they are looking forward to getting out of law enforcement as soon as possible. The rehabilitation people are making every effort to release criminals back on society, certainly before they are ready to be released, and some should never be released."

THE FINANCIAL BIND

Getting adequate financing for law enforcement is a problem and always has been. Federal funding for local law enforcement is supposed to be easing the pain, but it hasn't been very effective.

Sheriffs have been accepting federal grants with reluctance because of the many strings attached. Bit by bit they have found themselves trading their fiercely guarded independence for Uncle Sam's generosity, and this depresses them.

They are also depressed because they find too few of the federal dollars filtering down to law enforcement's front line troops—the thin line of policemen and deputy sheriffs who somehow keep society from drifting into anarchy—and they are firmly convinced that too many federal grants are going into planning, research and frivolous statistical ventures.

Like the virtuous maiden facing the alternatives of starving or whoring, the Sheriff who refuses to accept federal aid will be hard pressed to cope with the demands of modern law enforcement.

ANOTHER DISILLUSIONMENT

The State of Florida has also gotten into the business of funding local law enforcement, but this "revenue sharing" has been a disillusionment to many Sheriffs. Again, there are strings attached.

The revenue sharing funds are earmarked to improve the salaries of law enforcement officers, but the Sheriff has no control over distribution of the salary supplements. A basic \$25 per month goes to every full-time man who wears a badge (except the Sheriff himself), and additional supplements are added on the basis of each officer's education and training.

Sheriffs find that revenue sharing rewards the chronic student regardless of his performance on the job, and provides no rewards for meritorious police work performed by the deputy who prefers a patrol car to a classroom.

TOO SOFT AND PERMISSIVE

Sheriffs are not hard liners when it comes to juveniles, and especially juvenile first offenders. They don't recommend that kids receive the same treatment as hardened criminals. They do, however, insist upon making some distinction between the youngster who has broken the law for the first time, and the 16-year-old who has been a hardened criminal for years.

The Florida Division of Youth Services is responsible for handling all juveniles charged with crimes. This agency decides which juveniles are to be held in detention, and which ones are to go free awaiting court action. Many Sheriffs are unhappy with the decisions that are made, and they accuse the DYS of being too soft and permissive, particularly with repeaters.

(Continued on Page Four)

NOT A HAPI

(Continued from Page Three)

There have been recurring complaints from Sheriff after Sheriff that too many juveniles picked up for serious crimes are released in the custody of adults who are not qualified or inclined to exercise proper supervision—and too few juveniles are held in detention facilities.

When the victims of serious juvenile crimes see the suspected criminal walking the streets, they accuse the Sheriff of not doing his duty. They don't realize the Sheriff has no control over the handling of juveniles after an arrest is made.

PRISONERS ON VACATION

Many criminals serving time in the state prison system are granted the privilege of weekend furloughs to visit families or friends. During a furlough they are not under any kind of supervision.

Some, no doubt, deserve furloughs. Some, no doubt, are helped along the road to rehabilitation by furloughs; but there are also those who abuse the privilege by committing murders, armed robberies, and other serious crimes while they are on furlough. Sheriffs have serious doubts about the thoroughness

of the screening process that decides who gets a furlough and who doesn't.

Sheriffs have also been "shook up" by reports that convicted murderers, rapists, and armed robbers were walking around loose—only to discover this was true because the prisoners were on furlough.

The mechanics of granting prisoner furloughs do not include any consultation with the Sheriff who was responsible for sending the offender to prison, nor do they include any notification to the Sheriff in whose county the prisoner is going to be "weekending."

Do you blame your Sheriff for getting miffed at this snub—especially since he is responsible for the peace and security in his county?

IS PUNISHMENT PASSE ?

There was a time when rehabilitation of lawbreakers was 99 per cent punishment. Sheriffs will agree this wasn't the answer, but they angrily disagree with the present trend toward removing punishment entirely from the rehabilitation package.



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF

On Plea Bargaining

BRADENTON—Manatee County Sheriff Dick Weitzenfeld said prosecutors should not indulge in plea bargaining, but instead should try the case they have based on charges made by law enforcement officers. "Plea bargaining," he said, "occurs between two attorneys, neither of whom has sufficient knowledge of the defendant involved to really make a determination of what is good for the defendant and for society. The defence attorney only knows what the defendant and his family tells him, and they are extremely biased. The prosecutor only knows what is in the official report of the case, with an inkling of the defendant's past history. It's true that the probation and parole people provide the court with a pre-sentence investigation, but it may or may not provide a complete history. There is never, to my knowledge, an analysis made as to whether the defendant's attention has been gotten as to the seriousness of his crime; before rehabilitation can be effective, the defendant's attention must be gotten." Sheriff Weitzenfeld described jail and other forms of punishment as attention getting devices.



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF

On Repeat Offenders

JACKSONVILLE—Sheriff Dale Carson said criminals under 25 and repeat offenders are responsible for 75 per cent of all reported crime, and yet repeaters are usually given the same treatment as the first offender—that is, jail, probation, and suspended sentences. "We really need to lean on repeaters," Carson said. "They should be kept off the street and not turned loose to commit more crimes. If we need more prisons, we should build them. If we have too few prosecutors, we should get more. The safety of the public should be given prime consideration. The fact that parole and probation are supposed to be cheaper should no longer be considered." Carson said the practice of allowing bail for everyone and plea bargaining are also contributing to the rising crime rate. "Everyone should not be granted bail. We have people who have been out on bail six or seven times and committed crimes every time they were out." Carson declared that plea bargaining allows criminals who should have been convicted of more serious crimes to be back on the streets very soon, or to sometimes avoid serving any time at all.

PY MAN

Practical experience has taught Sheriffs that a touch of punishment—the cold reality of being locked up behind bars—is an effective prelude, an effective first step, an effective attention-getter, before other steps are taken in the rehabilitation process.

IT'S NO BARGAIN

Perhaps collective bargaining is a bully idea for government workers who are not directly responsible for public safety and security; but it's no bargain for law enforcement. The cost will be high.

Unionizing law enforcement is like unionizing the armed forces and facing a strike in time of war. Sheriffs are aware that the war on crime is a real war with the outcome still up for grabs, and they get depressed thinking about what's ahead. They've had judges and government agencies trying to tell them how to run their offices for years, and now union bosses will be getting into the act.

Knowing there is a Florida law prohibiting strikes by public employees gives no comfort or reassurance to Sheriffs. They have watched the illegal strikes, the slowdowns and the "sick-outs" in large police departments and fire departments around the nation, and they have seen how ineffective "no strike" laws are in the face of sophisticated union pressure tactics.

Sheriffs are convinced law enforcement will never be the same after a few trips to the bargaining table. They are aware that the finely tuned teamwork, which now exists in their departments and manifests itself in dedicated devotion to a common cause, will be seriously crippled once the supervisors and the rank and file deputies become adversaries in bargaining table wrangling.



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF

On Security Firms

BARTOW—Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen was highly critical of security firms that hire the elderly for night patrol duty. Elderly guards should be used in parking lots or some similar daytime duty, he said, after a 76-year-old security guard was killed on night duty at a nearby tourist attraction. Brannen also declared that security guards should be given physical examinations, training with hand guns, and at least some experience with law enforcement before being put out on night patrol.

THEY'RE CLOSING IN

Yes, the Sheriff's life is not a happy one. He's threatened on all sides—by jail inspectors who criticize him for conditions the county commissioners won't spend money to fix; by state auditors who nit pick his records, by big mouths who would like to run for Sheriff the next time around; by newsmen who gig him when he stumbles and yawn when he does something brilliant; by federal officials who tell him he's got to hire five-foot deputies; by judges who tell him he's got to provide a law library and all the trimmings for inmates with ambitions to become "jail house lawyers"; by court rulings that require him to hold a full-scale hearing akin to the Nuremberg war crime trials before he can discipline the punk who flooded an entire floor of the jail by stuffing his shirt in the toilet.

If you see your Sheriff in a good mood, you'd better believe he's laughing on the outside and crying on the inside. If you catch him scowling, stay out of his way, because that means he's had it—up to here!!



A SHERIFF SOUNDS OFF

On Parole

TAMPA—Hillsborough County Sheriff Malcolm Beard said "unrealistic parole practices" and "society being overly soft in the handling of prisoners" contribute to the rising crime rate. Law enforcement officers are only one cog in the criminal justice system, he added, and even after a criminal is caught by lawmen, prosecuted, and convicted in a court trial, his chances of serving a long prison term are practically nil. First, he said, the criminal stands a chance of not getting caught. If he does get caught, there is a chance that the charges will be dropped. If the charges are not dropped, he has the possibility of "bargaining" for a lighter sentence; and even if he gets a long sentence, he can become eligible for parole in about six months. "The chances of his serving a full sentence are almost nil." Beard added. Courts should provide speedy trials and punishment to fit the crime, Beard said. He also declared there should be an end to plea bargaining and the criminal justice system should take a "no compromise" attitude with criminals.



Present-day log cabin on site formerly occupied by the first Calhoun County Court House.



Herb Lord (left) and Sheriff W. C. Reeder.

A MOST REMA



The unpolluted virtues of the Chipola River were pointed out to Herb by the Sheriff.

BLOUNTSTOWN—"It was," said Herb Lord, "a most remarkable evening."

And, undoubtedly it was, because Herb, a weekly newspaper editor, had spent several hours in a patrol car cruising the roads of Calhoun County and talking to a most remarkable man.

—A quiet, soft-spoken man who has spent most of his life dealing with angry, violent, loud-mouthed men and women.

—A man who has served his country, his county, and his state for 40 long years.

—A keeper of the peace who went half-way around the world to fight in some of the bloodiest battles of World War II and brought back three Purple Heart medals.

—A man who is adept in getting confessions out of criminals, not by threats, but with sheer kindness, warmth, and friendly concern.

—A man who carries his advancing years with a springy step and unlined face, even though his entire life has been a precarious flirtation with death and violence.

Herb, who is managing editor of the weekly County Record, and a newcomer to Calhoun County, was merely looking for a news story when he accepted an invitation to ride around for a while with Sheriff W. C. Reeder, but he got more than he bargained for.

Slouched comfortably behind the wheel of his patrol car, the Sheriff was in a reminiscent mood, and while he touched here and there on law enforcement shop talk, his words painted a broad canvas covering many years and varied experiences.



Herb's tour included a visit to the home where the Sheriff was born and raised, and an opportunity to meet the Sheriff's mother.

IRKABLE MAN

He rambled, but a picture began to emerge—a portrait of a little boy who dreamed of following in the footsteps of his father, a country doctor, while Fate had other plans.

Fate intended to make him a fighter instead of a healer, and she tipped her hand by toughening him to danger and adversity.

As just a toddler, W. C. was literally brought back from the dead after he tumbled head-first into a freshly-dug post hole and nearly suffocated.

A few years later, he met the Grim Reaper again in a near drowning. When he grew up and went to war, he was wounded on three different occasions while making some 20 paratrooper drops into heavy fighting in the South Pacific.

The boy who dreamed of quiet hospital corridors and pain-wracked sick rooms, was destined instead to walk with danger and violence.

As the Sheriff drove up to the white frame house in the country where he was born and raised, he told Herb about his father, and how he had nearly killed himself with overwork while serving patients scattered over a wide rural area.

He spoke proudly of this dedicated country doctor who bought the first car in Calhoun County and installed the first telephone so that he could serve his patients more efficiently.

I remember when I was eight or nine years old," said W. C., "my daddy used to take me along on calls, and I would sit on his lap and drive. There was a hand operated accelerator on the steering column, and he would set that so he could sleep while I steered the car. If I saw any trouble ahead, or needed him to put the brakes on, I would slap him on the leg to get him awake."

Somehow this image of the exhausted doctor who refused to quit as long as there was anyone sick or in pain seems to have rubbed off on W. C., and his law enforcement career has been marked with the same kind of dedication to duty.

"I don't have a quitting time," he said, and this was after days and nights of wrapping up a case involving armed robbery, kidnapping, and rape.

As he showed Herb the old home place and introduced him to his mother, he explained that his father's death in 1934 forced him to drop out of school and go to work, thus ending once and for all the dream of going to medical school.

His four decades of public service began then too. It was the years of the Great Depression, and he enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps, one of the "New Deal" programs designed to relieve widespread unemployment.

In the CCC he wore his first uniform. Later he donned the uniform of a World War II paratrooper, and when he was discharged from the military service in 1946, he became a deputy sheriff in Calhoun County.

After two years behind a star badge, he switched to the uniform of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, and spent eight years as an area supervisor. These were not peaceful years. Instead, he remembers being shot at several times and being almost drowned by game law violators. No wonder his hair was as white at 27 as it is today at 53.

Next stop on the meandering tour was a modern-day log cabin built on the site of the old, original Calhoun County court house. Here, deep in the woods and some eight miles from the new, modern court house, the Sheriff found an opportunity to spin a few tales for Herb about the olden days of law enforcement.

"Trials were held outdoors on the front porch of the old frame court house," he said, "and the jail was a one-cell structure built of wooden poles on an ox cart frame."

He went on to describe how this mobile jail was moved from farm to farm within the county so that families could take turns feeding and guarding the prisoners awaiting trial.

"The Sheriff would make up a route that would take the jail out into the county and return it to the court house in time for the next court trials," he explained.

Deep roots in the soil of rural Calhoun County have made the Sheriff somewhat of a local historian, as well as a lover of

(Continued on Page Twelve)



Carr Elementary School was attended by Sheriff Reeder almost a half-century ago. It has since been moved and given a brick veneer.

Close Call For "Lawman of the Month"

FT. MYERS—For placing his life on the line in an armed robbery stakeout, Deputy Sheriff Barry Hillmyer, 28, was chosen "Lawman of the Month" by the editorial board of the Ft. Myers News Press.

Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka gave the following account:

In July, Hillmyer was part of a three-county task force assigned to Naples to help break up an armed robbery ring responsible for over thirty armed robberies in the Naples area.

The men involved in the ring had police records and were known to deal in hard narcotics traffic. They were considered ex-

Posed picture shows how armed robber stuck a gun in Barry Hillmyer's side just below the deputy's bullet-proof vest.



tremely dangerous and had seriously injured eight people involved in other previous robberies.

During the last week of the two-month investigation, the task force received information that the Howard Johnson Motel in Naples would be robbed. On August 4, 12 officers from the various departments reported to the motel in preparation for the robbery, with Hillmyer taking a position in the open as the desk clerk.

At midnight, the robbers made their appearance.

"The hardest part for me was watching the men crawling up to the motel through the bushes in front of the motel," Hillmyer said.

Within minutes of Hillmyer's sighting of the four men, two of them burst through the front door and stuck their guns in Hillmyer's side, missing a bullet-proof vest worn under his shirt.

"One of the men said, 'Let's kill the bastard,'" Hillmyer said. He pulled the trigger of his gun, but the gun misfired.

"I knew I wasn't going to get another chance so in one quick move, I came across with my arm, knocking both men down and knocking the gun out of one of the men's hand."

Hillmyer said his next reflex was to draw his own gun and start shooting.

"I knew the man without a gun wasn't much of a problem, but the other man was already getting up with his gun pointed at me as I started to fire," Hillmyer said.

At precisely the same moment, two more members of the gang entered the front door, but turned to flee amid the gunfire.

Officers who had been positioned near Agent Hillmyer ordered the fleeing men to stop and opened fire when they failed to respond to the command. More gunfire ensued and within five minutes of the time the first two entered with guns, one member of the ring was dead and two others seriously injured. The fourth escaped through a back door.

"Agent Hillmyer knowingly assumed a front-line position, placing his life on the line," Wanicka said. "This type of devotion to stopping crime is an attribute admired by all law enforcement personnel."

NO BRICKBATS HERE

Law enforcement isn't all brickbats. Sometimes there are bouquets, too—awards, honors, special recognition—and that's what these pages are all about.

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OCALA—For the outstanding professional services she rendered in writing a civil process handbook, and in assisting with a complete update of the Florida Sheriffs Manual, Mrs. Curtiss Johnson Baillie, a Marion County Deputy Sheriff, has been awarded a lifetime honorary membership in the Florida Sheriffs Association. She is pictured accepting her membership plaque from her boss, Sheriff Don Moreland.



Just a Few, But Typical of Many....

Space limitations do not permit us to print articles about all of the fine, dedicated men and women who are killed in the line of duty or otherwise devoted their lives to perpetrating the highest ideals of law enforcement. From time to time, however, we give special recognition to a few; hoping to remind our readers that the sacrifices and accomplishments of these are typical of hundreds of others who remain unpublicized.

The Oldest Deputy

MADISON—Three years ago, when he retired at the age of 97, Alex H. Wade made headlines as the nation's oldest active deputy sheriff. But, when he died recently at the age of 100, friends and neighbors were more prone to talk about his good humor, his devotion to duty, and the service he rendered to his community than they were about the record he set. "Mr. Alex" was born in Thompson, Georgia, and became a resident of Madison in 1900. He was a deputy sheriff for 40 years.

The Calvin Dyals Scholarship Fund

OCALA—The memory of Captain Dyals, a deputy sheriff in the Marion County Sheriff's Department, will be perpetuated by a memorial scholarship fund which will give financial assistance to needy students who wish to pursue a career in law enforcement. Many words of praise were spoken after Captain Dyals died on October 21, 1974, but Radio Station WMOP seemed to express the consensus with these comments: "Calvin Dyals was one of those individuals who left the world with a sense of accomplishment, having made it a little better through his compassion and dedication to enforcement of the law. One of his best abilities was his willingness to work with young first offenders, to guide them and help them find productive, law-abiding lives."



PENSACOLA—The plaque Escambia County Deputy Sheriff Royal Untreiner is looking at is dedicated to Deputy Charles L. Wilkerson, who made the supreme sacrifice when two armed robbers gunned him down. The date of his death was January 19, 1974.

"We Were Simply Amazed"

ENGLEWOOD—Quick response and a thorough investigation by Charlotte County deputy sheriffs resulted in the arrest of six

AN ACT OF VALOR

ORLANDO—A plaque presented to Orange County Deputy Sheriff Claude Trubey by the North Orlando Kiwanis Club cited him for "an heroic and God-inspired act of valor" when singlehandedly and unarmed he did subdue and aid in the capture . . . of an armed assailant, thereby gaining the freedom of 15 women and children being held hostage." The presentation was made by club president Conrad Demro.



teenagers involved in a burglary ring. Mrs. Gwen Netzley, whose husband routed the young burglars with a shotgun blast, said she and her husband were both "simply amazed at the lightning response of the deputies who rushed to answer our call. I had run down the street in my nightrobe after the burglars, and then started back toward my home, and even before I got back, the Sheriff's men were there." She said she could not commend too highly Sheriff Jack Bent and his men for the work they do in the Englewood area. "Major Richard McLeod, in my opinion, has instilled such team work among his fellow officers that they don't miss a lick, and don't seem to count time in emergencies."

Man of Deep Feeling

TRENTON—Sheriff Charlie Parrish's file of fan mail includes a recent letter from Bob Sharkey, publisher of the High Springs Herald. On two occasions, Sharkey observed the Gilchrist County Sheriff supervising a search for drowning victims, and he said in his letter he "came away with a deep respect for you and your compassion." He added: "It is little wonder that many deputies in Alachua County and several Highway Patrol Troopers have spoken to me about you with such respect. You can be proud of both your reputation as a peace officer, and as a man of deep feeling and concern for others."

Youngest Detective

BRADENTON—Ken Pearson was too young to go to work as a deputy sheriff in 1969, so he joined Sheriff Dick Weitzenfeld's Cadet Corps for teen-agers interested in law enforcement careers. Later, after he crossed the age barrier, he became a deputy. Recently, Sheriff Weitzenfeld promoted him to the criminal division and he became the youngest deputy on record in the Sheriff's office. He's now 23.



Organizations and individuals who have given large gifts to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa become members of the Builders Club by giving \$100 or more. They qualify as Lifetime Honorary Members by giving \$1,000 or more.

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In recognition of large gifts to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Fund,

Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Memberships

have been presented to:



Jesse Polmanteer (left), of Tampa, by Hillsborough County Sheriff Malcolm Beard.



J. H. Langston (center), of Live Oak, by Suwannee County Sheriff Robert Leonard (right) and former sheriff Duke McCallister.



Norton Wilkins (right), of Groveland, by Lake County Sheriff Guy Bliss.



Mrs. Edward Herman, of Grand Island, by Lake County Sheriff Guy Bliss.



Jack Benz (left) representing Occidental Chemical Corp., Suwannee River Phosphate Division, Jasper, by Hamilton County Sheriff Charlie Rhoden.



Dr. F. Stuart Roux, D.D.S. (left) and Dr. Paul Coury (right), both of Bartow, by Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen.



Mr. and Mrs. O. L. House, of Winter Haven, by Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen (left).

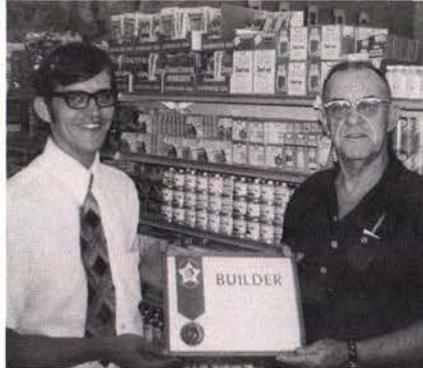
For their generous support of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Fund,

Builder Certificates

have been issued to:



Mr. and Mrs. Jack House by Manatee County Sheriff Richard Weitzenfeld (center).



Maitland Fairway Market manager John Baldwin (left), by Boys Ranch Trustee Ed Pickerill.



Thad Lowrey, WGUL Radio, of New Port Richey, by Pasco County Sheriff Basil Gaines (left) and Boys Ranch-Girls Villa Executive Director Harry Weaver (right).



Mr. and Mrs. Chris Raymond, Boys Ranch cottage parents, by Suwannee County Sheriff Robert Leonard (right).

A Most Remarkable Man

(Continued from Page Seven)

the heavily wooded, unspoiled outdoors. He took great delight in showing Herb the Elementary School he attended almost a half-century ago; and the beautiful, crystal clear Chipola River nearby. The school is still in use, with the original wooden structure cloaked in brick; and the Chipola remains one of the few pollution-free rivers in Florida.

Herb discovered that to take a tour with Sheriff Reeder was like rolling back the years to a way of life that has almost disappeared from the Florida scene. In fact, the Sheriff himself is one of the few survivors of a law enforcement era far removed from these complex days of crime labs, ballistics experts, forensic scientists, collective bargaining, polygraphs, the 40-hour work week, computers, and high-speed communications.

He acquired a star badge in the days when a Sheriff had to be skilled in all phases of law enforcement—from jail keeper to bailiff, from homicide investigator to fugitive tracker, from court witness to sharpshooter.

And, to a certain extent, he's still a "one man show." He is usually the first man to arrive at the scene of a crime. He does his own crime-scene investigations. He makes arrests, books prisoners into the county jail, interrogates suspects, testifies in court, and delivers convicted prisoners to the state prison authorities.

Short Deputies More Likely To Get Beat Up

JACKSONVILLE—Under pressure from the Federal Government, Sheriff Dale Carson's Department has dropped minimum and maximum height requirements for recruits.

The action was taken by vote of the Jacksonville Civil Service Board after it was said that to do otherwise would jeopardize the Sheriff's eligibility for federal grants amounting to almost \$300,000 annually.

Two Board members registered objections to the action. William Hallows said that the Sheriff's height requirements of 5'8" to 6'9" did not discriminate against any particular race living in numbers in Jacksonville.

Chairman Joe Deckle cited a study of nine cities which he said upheld his contention that "the smaller officers have more trouble in the field than taller officers."

According to news reports, the study conducted by the Texas Department of Safety concluded that officers between 68 and 70 inches tall are assaulted more than their taller associates; that the smaller officers found it necessary to use their revolvers more frequently in making arrests; and that the officers 70 inches tall and over have 75 per cent less probability of injury than shorter officers.

Deckle added that out of 20,000 felons checked, the average height was 70 inches.

Padre For Prisoners

SARASOTA—Former policeman Charles Vilford is spending a lot of time in jail these days in his new role as full-time chaplain for the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office. He will minister to the physical and spiritual needs of prisoners in the county jail, Sheriff Jim Hardcastle said. Vilford was approaching ordination as an Episcopal priest at the time he was hired in October, 1974.

Yet he's no stranger to the modern tools of law enforcement. In his office there is a terminal that links him to law enforcement agencies all over the state and nation, and gives him access to fabulous computer banks of crime information in Tallahassee and Washington, D. C.

He also utilizes state and federal crime labs, as well as crime specialists from other agencies. His booking room is the base station for a modern multi-channel radio communications system.

He's a man in tune with the time, but he will never be accused of being an armchair Sheriff. Instead, he's a man on the move, and the war on crime puts him in the front lines.

He's no avenging bull of a man like Buford Pusser, but in his own quiet, firm way he has faced danger many times—and survived. During his tenure as Sheriff he has been shot three times, had his throat cut "from here to here," and had his arm nearly severed.

These encounters with violence are no comfort to his 81-year-old mother, who still speaks sadly of her doctor-husband who literally sacrificed his life for his neighbors.

However, she is comforted by the knowledge that her Sheriff-son has attempted to abide by the advice she gave him the day he won his first election.

"I know how clean you are now," she told him. "Just come out as clean as you went in."

State Officials Contributing To Crime Rise, Sheriffs Claim

TALLAHASSEE—Angry Sheriffs have accused state officials of contributing to the rising crime rate.

A resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Florida Sheriffs Association declared that "The state government's failure to assume a proper responsibility in the area of penal and parole reform is a causative factor in the large increase of crime in this state."

Criticism was leveled specifically at the Florida Division of Corrections and the Florida Parole and Probation Commission, but by implication it extended up the line of command to the Department of Health and Rehabilitation and the Governor and Cabinet.

The full text of the Resolution follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Florida Sheriffs Association, in meeting assembled in Tampa, Florida, the 20th day of November, 1974, did consider the safety and security of the citizens of the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, such safety and security is presently threatened by the failure of this state to provide adequate penal facilities for those adjudged to be criminal and dangerous by the courts of this state; and

WHEREAS, the population of the State of Florida has increased greatly, thus multiplying the need for more effective law enforcement and dramatically demonstrating the need for facilities and manpower to house and supervise the ever-growing number of convicted felons; and

WHEREAS, a series of recent and appalling tragedies is evidence of that which occurs when overburdened caseloads and inexperience in the field result in poor judgment regarding the premature release of hardened criminals upon the populace of this state; and

WHEREAS, records indicate that far too high a percentage of violent crimes are committed by persons released on probation or parole; and

WHEREAS, certain parole violators have not been returned to confinement due to the crowded conditions of this state's penal facilities; and

WHEREAS, periodic closing of the state penal institutions of the State Division of Corrections has created an unbearable burden on the county jails of this state; and

WHEREAS, the state government's failure to assume proper responsibility in the area of penal and parole reform is a causative factor in the large increase of crime in this state; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida has approved in excess of forty million (\$40,000,000) dollars for the construction of new penal facilities; and

WHEREAS, no affirmative action has yet been taken to implement the intent of the Legislature and construct such needed facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Division of Corrections, rather than shifting the burden to the already overcrowded county jails, take the necessary action to provide adequate facilities to house its prisoners, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parole and Probation Commission, in conjunction with the Department of Corrections, exercise more mature and discriminating judgment in the release of potential parolees, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the entire state government direct its attention to penal reform, an area of concern it has too long neglected, and assume its responsibility to provide the people of Florida with a penal system with which they can live in safety and security;

Sheriff Blasts Parole System *(Continued from Inside Cover)*

a great anxiety for the lawman who accepts the position of protecting the people. However, I feel greater anxiety for the many citizens who will fall prey to these criminal violators turned loose on society.

I, as Sheriff, am elected and must perform my duty or be turned out of office by the people. The people that elect the leaders of this great country should demand a change in the present-day thinking of our leaders toward over-protection of a criminal's civil rights.

Ounce of Prevention

Fattens Paycheck

Police in Orange, California, don't wait around for crime to happen. The town's new crime prevention program rewards the 115-member force with fatter paychecks each time the incidence of crime decreases. A three percent drop in crimes such as rape, auto theft, robbery, and burglary means police pay is increased by one per cent.

Under the plan patrolmen are encouraged to take special note of situations which might foster crime. For example, an officer who discovers a security problem at a retail location would contact the merchant with specific suggestions for improvements (better locks or more lighting).



Solution to a Lot of Problems

DAYTONA BEACH—Volusia County Sheriff Ed Duff may have been joking when he had his picture taken on the new Sheriff's Department motorcycle and announced that he expected to be utilizing it personally. "In all seriousness," he added, "it is the solution to a lot of our beach problems and I am delighted that at last we have been able to get it."



Putting the burglar out of business. Your business.

Burglars are looking for a chance, any chance, to break and enter your business. Don't give it to them. Follow these suggestions from the HELP STOP CRIME program, sponsored by the Governor's Crime Prevention Committee. (For more information about the program, write to HELP STOP CRIME, 660 Apalachee Pkwy., Tallahassee, Florida 32301.)

Crime. It's your business

It is up to each and every businessman to protect his own business. The steps recommended here will greatly increase the security of your business. It is up to you to follow them.

There is, of course, no such thing as a burglar-proof business. But the harder you make it for a burglar to enter your business, the greater the probability that he won't try at all.

Review the basic security measures discussed previously. Contact a good locksmith to check your locks and get a contractor for the doors and windows if necessary. Above all, use the checklist every night.

Burglary Prevention Checklist Exterior

- 1. Put on all exterior lights.
- 2. Are all gates locked and in good condition?
- 3. Are company cars and/or trucks parked away from walls?
- 4. Have you locked up all ladders?
- 5. Are there any boxes or materials piled next to building or gate to serve as ladders?

Skylights and Ventilation System

- 1. Are recommended metal mesh covers in good condition?

Interior Lighting

- 1. Are your night lights on?
- 2. Is the light near your cash register on (and the empty cash register drawer open)?
- 3. Are there any shadow areas which might conceal a burglar?
If answer is yes, get better lighting or rearrange merchandise displays, whichever the situation requires.

Doors

- 1. Are all doors locked and in good condition?
- 2. Do you still have hollow core doors? (Change them, as soon as possible.)
- 3. Are your night bars secured?

Locks

- 1. Have they been tampered with?
- 2. Make sure you lock up when you leave!

Windows

- 1. Is glass cracked or broken?
- 2. Are windows locked securely?
- 3. Are rear and side windows properly covered?
- 4. Is your display glass (if not burglar resistant) properly covered?

Display of merchandise

- 1. Can you see into the store? Are windows clear of ads and merchandise that block view?
- 2. Does your floor display afford too many hiding places?

The Safe

- 1. Is it in a lighted area and is light on?
- 2. Can it be clearly seen by a passer-by? (It should be!)

The Cash Register

- 1. Is it open, empty and lighted?

Is your business locked?