

Sheriff Finds Self Chained By Shortages

Lack of Manpower And Equipment Pose Problem to Officer

By GEORGE RYDER

Marion County's sheriff is handicapped. Invisibly shackled around the wrists of Sheriff James F. Cunningham are a lack of manpower and a lack of equipment. The sheriff department's roster lists 60 men. Of these, half a dozen must be stationed at the courthouse. Only one of the remainder is an investigator. At least 20 more men are needed and a larger number would be welcomed in the face of an increasing crime problem, according to the sheriff. But more numbers will not solve the problem, he admits. The dearest need is for men of skill and experience in police work.

Low Salaries Hurt
Here again, the salaries that Sheriff Cunningham can offer do not suffice. Able, tried men—He can pay only \$225 a month for deputies and \$250 a month to investigators.

Aside from the pay scale, there are other factors that keep veteran police officers from joining the sheriff's department. ONE: There is no financial security. A change of administration can mean a sweeping overhaul of personnel. TWO: There is no pension plan. THREE: There is no uniform allotment for deputies. Each must pay the entire cost of uniforms and weapons.

Without Own Camera
Sheriff Cunningham also is faced with a shocking lack of equipment. The sheriff's office does not have its own camera. Pictures that the sheriff's investigators require must be taken by the State Police or Indianapolis Police. Men and equipment for this basic routine of investigation must be borrowed.

The sheriff's office does not have equipment for gathering fingerprints. A recently resigned investigator took with him the only kit he had.

Fingerprint—sheriff's investigators are upon request—gathered, classified and studied by experts of the Indianapolis police or the state police.

Fingerprint Felons
As a result, only felons are fingerprinted. Those who commit misdemeanors—and may in the future become felons—are not fingerprinted.

The sheriff's office does have an extensive file of thumbprints—taken from each prisoner locked up. The other four digits are not printed.

There is no file of case histories of crimes and criminals investigated by the sheriff's office. But the cellar of Marion County Jail is stacked with routine reports of runs made—scant help to an investigator.

Hazard for Violent
Within the jail itself, there is no cell equipment to protect mentally infirm prisoners. If a prisoner becomes violent, he must be sent to Central State Hospital.

The already crowded hospital must, in turn, send a harmless mental patient to occupy the cell in the County Jail. In order to find bed space for the violent.

There are some of the facts that make up the handcuffs around the wrists of Sheriff Cunningham—the highest law enforcement officer in Marion County.

The key that will unlock the manacles lies in the hands of the County Commissioners, who make appropriations.

Flack to Speak At Convention

Gene Flack, sales counsel and director of advertising in Sunshine Biscuits, Inc., New York, N. Y., will be among speakers addressing Hoosier jobbers at a two-day spring convention of the Indiana Independent Petroleum Association Thursday and Friday in Hotel Severn.

Other officials addressing the marketers are Harold B. Fell, executive vice president of Independent Petroleum Association of America, Tulsa, Okla., and J. Howard Marshall, president of Ashland Oil & Refining Co., Ashland, Ky., Thursday.

Fred Arnold, assistant chief engineer of Cadillac Motor Division, General Motors Corp., Detroit, Mich., and Mr. Flack will speak on Friday.

BUDAPEST REDS PURGED
BUDAPEST, Mar. 5 (UP)—Vice Premier Matyas Rakosi announced today that 170,000 members of the Communist Workers Party had been purged recently.

Record Review Makes Debut This Month

RCA Victor's new publication, the RCA Victor Record Review, which makes its debut this month, has a completely new format—a 32-page magazine in color.

Features of the "Review," designed by artist-illustrator Erik Nitsche, will include stories on classical conductors, soloists and vocalists, bandleaders, pop singers and jazz musicians. It will be circulated through local distributors to dealers.

Arrange Services For Mrs. Tanner

LONDON, Ind., Mar. 5—Serv. C. M. Holton, Helena, Okla., a sister for Mrs. Maggie Tanner, sister, Mrs. Sadie Jackson, Ellis, London resident most of her life, worth, Kas., and a granddaughter who died Thursday in the home.

of a daughter, Mrs. Ella Powers, Acton; will be held at 2 p. m. tomorrow in the Methodist Church here. Burial will follow in London Cemetery.

Mrs. Tanner, who was 79, had lived in Acton 25 years and had lived one year in Indianapolis. She was a member of the London Methodist Church.

Other survivors include two sons, Ed Murnan, Detroit, and Fred, Murnan, Acton; a brother, Henry Hudson Hotel.

Germany Gets Back In Atom Research

HEIDELBERG, Germany, Mar. 5 (UP)—Germany, which lost the race with the United States and Great Britain to create the first atomic bomb, is back in the atom business again, on a small and peaceful scale.

The nation's senior nuclear physicist, Dr. Walter Bothe, professor at Heidelberg University, said American officials have approved the use of the Heidelberg cyclotron for peaceful research in atomic energy. Dr. Bothe said allied scientists testified it would take Germany at least 100,000 years to produce a single atomic bomb with its 12-million-volt cyclotron here.

World Health Leaders Set \$17 Million Budget

GENEVA, Switzerland, Mar. 5 (UP)—The World Health Organization's executive board recommended tonight that WHO spend \$9 million next year to aid underdeveloped areas of the world in line with President Truman's program.

It was the largest item in a suggested WHO budget of \$17 million for 1950. The budget will be presented to the organization's assembly next June for approval.

5 Die in Air Crash On Utah Mountain

PROMONTORY POINT, Utah, Mar. 5 (UP)—A twin engine Air Force reserve training plane today crashed into a mountain range on the edge of Salt Lake City, killing all five persons aboard.

The plane smashed into a jagged mountain that knifed nine minutes after it took off this morning in a flight from Ogden, Utah, to Mountain Home, Idaho. The bodies were badly mangled.

Public relations officers said the dead were all reserve trainees from Utah.

Prison 'Bad Boy' Gets Chance to Make Good

ATLANTA, Mar. 5 (UP)—Forrest Turner walked out of a Georgia prison camp today, free after 14 years of entanglement with the law.

The state board of pardons and paroles said the 34-year-old Turner was a changed man from the prison system "bad boy" who had escaped eight times and piled up enough sentences to keep him serving time until the year 2004.

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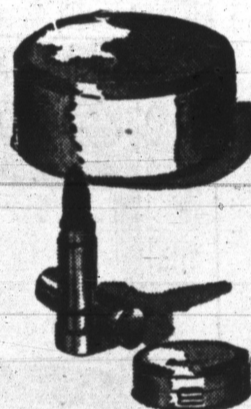
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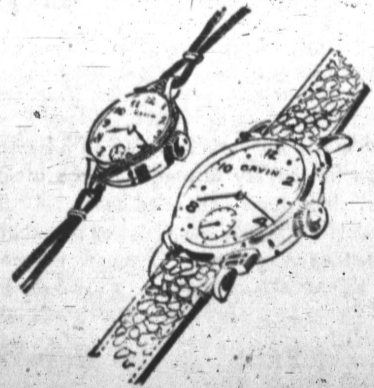


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