

Changes in Organization of City Police Department Are Reviewed

A change in the organizational structure, a promotion and several personnel switches are the major results so far of Lt. William P. Beall's review of the Medford police department two weeks ago, according to Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin.

The full report of Beall's findings will not be available for several weeks yet, Champlin said, but he made several suggestions and recommendations when he was here that have already been put into effect.

Lieutenant Beall came to Medford at the request of Champlin and City Manager Robert Duff, who wanted to find out how the department compares to departments in other cities and to know what changes might be necessary in order to prepare the police force to meet the needs of a constantly expanding population.

Recognized Authority

Lieutenant Beall, who is with the Berkeley, Calif., police department, is a recognized authority on police methods and organization, and has helped other cities to reorganize their police departments.

He was in Medford once before, in 1951, to assist in bringing the department up to date in its methods and organizations at that time.

Beall said he was impressed with the police department's progress since 1951 and feels it is more than adequately meeting the needs of the population at present, but said that the organizational structure should be changed in order to meet the future needs of the city in the most efficient manner possible.

Not All Beall's Ideas

Champlin said that not all of the new changes are Beall's ideas, but they have been discussed with him in order to make sure they are worthwhile changes and being made in the best way possible.

In order to provide each of the department's three platoons the proper supervision in both the field and the office, a promotion and several switches in supervisory personnel have been made, Champlin said.

Officer Jack L. Sanders, who has been with the department for over four years, has recently been promoted to sergeant, Champlin said. He will now serve as one of the two field supervisors for the third platoon from 4 p.m. to midnight.

Capt. Clyde C. Fichtner has been switched from the second platoon (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to the third platoon where he will now supervise both in the field and the office with the aid of another sergeant.

The first platoon will remain under the direction of Lt. Orlo W. McGee.

Former Alignment

Under the former platoon alignment there were supervisory personnel, but none regularly assigned to the field. Now there will be at least one man on each platoon in the field at all times to supervise the patrolmen and their beats.

It has become necessary to have supervision in the field, Champlin emphasized, in order that there will be someone on the scene to take immediate command of any situation that might arise and be able to radio back to the station just what the situation will require in the way of manpower and equipment.

One patrolman has no more authority than the next, he pointed out, so it is difficult for one of them to take charge and direct the others.

Another benefit of having field supervisors is that recruits can travel with them in order to get the knowledge and feel of the job before going out on their own.

A recruit now trains for about six weeks with four hours each day spent in the field with the supervisor and the other four hours spent studying.

A patrolman has been switched from the first to the second platoon, Champlin said, in order to give the day shift an extra patrol car.

He said the second platoon has needed the extra man since the identification bureau was created in 1957 requiring the full-time of one of the second platoon's patrolmen.

After Consultation
It has been a question, Champlin said, of which of the other two platoons could best spare the man and after consultation with Beall it was decided to take him from the first.

Champlin does not anticipate any need for additional personnel, except possibly one additional girl to work in the communications office to release the sergeant now there for field duties.

He said the department will attempt to utilize the existing manpower to its maximum capabilities before asking for any increase in personnel.

A major change has been made in the department's organizational structure, Champlin said, which will gear the department's services to a growing community.

Structure Can Expand

The structure, the need for which was pointed out by Beall, is such that it can easily expand, serving as a basis for future growth of the department.

The major change in the structure has been the creation of three separate divisions, the patrol division, the detective division, and the services division. These divisions have in effect been in existence before, but their duties were not so clearly defined nor were they classed as separate divisions.

Under the old structure men were assigned specific duties, either patrol, service, or detective, which were often geared to the capacity of the individual himself, now the new structure does the reverse, assigning men to specific duties in a specific division.

Chain of Command

The chain of command in all divisions has been better defined, with the head of each division being directly responsible to the chief.

A fourth division, the personnel and training division, is planned for the future, Champlin said, when the department has grown to such a size that some men will be required to devote full time to personnel problems and the training of recruits.

Several significant changes have been made among the divisions in order to make their divisions more effective in performing its specific functions.

Detectives have been relieved of all patrol duties and leave all preliminary investigations, except in vice cases, up to patrolmen.

Review Cases

Detectives will now review each case and determine if it will require additional investigation or not, conducting such investigation if needed.

This change will relieve the detectives of a lot of minor and trivial investigations so they can devote more time to those cases of a more serious nature, Champlin said.

Another change is that there will now be a detective on duty each day of the week, whereas they used to be on duty only on weekdays. This change will seek to eliminate the present Monday morning backlog of work for the detective division.

An extensive resurveying of police beats is being conducted by the department at present which will take about three months to complete, Champlin said.

Redefine Boundaries

When it is completed, the department may find it necessary to redefine the boundaries of the various beats. Indications are that some beats now have a larger work load than others, overworking others, which is not a good utilization of personnel, Champlin explained.

The redefining of boundaries may also be necessary in order to provide the neces-

sary protection to each area of the city, he said. Some may now be getting more than others, he pointed out.

Another change that has already taken place, Champlin said, is that foot beats on the first and third platoons have been eliminated and instead are being covered more effectively with the addition of another patrol car on each platoon.

The theory behind this change, Champlin pointed out, is that it has been proven

Ex-Valley Man Now Registered Engineer

George W. Hardgrove, former assistant engineer officer at the Veterans administration Domiciliary, Camp White, has become a registered professional engineer, according to William Mjogdalen, contact officer at the veterans administration center, Fargo, N.D.

Hardgrove, who is engineering officer at the Fargo, N.D., VA center, received his registration following written and oral examinations which were given by the North Dakota state board of professional engineers.

He is resident engineer on two construction projects at the Fargo VA center.

that a man in a patrol car can cover a larger area and be of greater service to the community than a man on foot.

On Foot Inferior

A man on foot is inferior to a man in a car because he cannot be assigned to specific cases and it is difficult to contact him while he is on his beat, the chief explained. A man in a patrol car is always within radio contact and can easily be deployed from one place to another.

Beall made several suggestions to the department concerning time-saving practices in filing and reporting procedures, Champlin said.

The department is already working towards coordinating some of the various files and eliminating much of the duplication in the preparing of reports, he said.

They are looking toward the simplification of reports, especially those of a routine nature, so patrolmen will not be spending as much time behind desks and typewriters as they are now.

Concerning Beall's comments that the police department needs new quarters and a new jail, Champlin said this is definitely the case and pointed out that the department is now working in the same space as they were when there were only 14 personnel although the department has grown to 40 persons.



BREAKFAST GUESTS — President Eisenhower poses with a group of new GOP senators and congressmen to whom he played host at the White House Thursday. Left to right, front row, are Sen. Hiram Fong, Hawaii; Rep. John A. Lafore, Pennsylvania,

and the President. Back row, Assistant to the President Wilton B. Persons; Rep. Charles E. Goodell, New York; Rep. Wilton W. Glenn, New Jersey; Sen. C. Norman Brunndage, North Dakota, and Rep. Albert H. Quie, Minnesota. (UPI Telephoto)

Non-Citizens Are Reminded to Report

Portland-The U.S. immigration and naturalization service has reminded all aliens in Oregon that non-citizens must file their annual address report.

James L. Turner, district director, said that address report forms are available at the nearest immigration service office or post office. All non-citizens must report their



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