

Selectmen Send Volume of Mail

QUESTION DRACUT POLICE CHIEF

DRACUT — The locked files of the police department have been ordered opened by the selectmen. Presently only Police Chief Wilfred Paquette has a key and the files remain locked, according to the other officers, even when the chief is on vacation.

asking that a key be left at all times with the officer in charge so that records would be available in an emergency. An answer was requested prior to the next selectmen's meeting.

EXASPERATION was evident in succeeding motions by the selectmen, as one after another they dealt with letters to the police chief. A letter was ordered sent to the chief requesting that a working schedule of superior officers and men be furnished to the Board of Selectmen before the next meeting.

A letter was ordered sent to the chief requesting a stop sign at the corner of Davis Road and Nashua Road. A letter was ordered sent to the chief asking whether he has ordered signs requested in previous letters and, if so, how long it will be before they are received.

QUESTIONS submitted by police officers at a recent closed session were reviewed and the most important selected for the chief's mail pouch. Other correspondence to the chief covered the following subjects:

Are you planning on assigning an officer to the post of maintenance officer? Are you planning an officer for the post of training officer? Are you making a personnel folder on each police officer? Are you planning on asking for money in your appropriation for four more officers? Are you planning on putting an article in the warrant for 10 days accumulative sick leave? Answers to these questions were reported in writing by Labor Day.

THAT WAS NOT all. Perron requested that further correspondence to the police chief ask

him to keep a yearly log instead of monthly. He also requested a posted duty roster. "Sgt. Daigle comes in at 2 a. m.," said Perron, "and he doesn't even know who is working with him. If a man doesn't come in, he doesn't even know who to call up." Perron also suggested that, instead of small slips of scrap paper under the glass with the officer's numbers, the chief invest in an alphabetical telephone index.

Perron suggested that the size of the department required clerical help and that the question as to whether the chief planned any, be answered. Tully disagreed, partly commending the chief. "The only thing he (the chief) is good for is a clerk. We already have one." Perron also called attention to the absence of any "brass" on either Saturday or Sunday and the chief was warned for failure to go out on fatalities.

Finally, the selectmen filed for inclusion in the warrant of the annual town meeting, an anti-tobaccoing-by-law. Action was precipitated by the behavior of groups of boys on Lakeview Avenue in the Collinsville section.

At Hanscom Field

Billerica Man 20 Years In Government Service

HANSCOM FIELD—Lewis A. Crosby of Billerica has completed 20 years of Federal Service at Hanscom Field. Mr. Crosby, a supply clerk, is assigned to the Electronic Systems Division 324th Air Base Group.

The Electronic Systems Division is a division of the Air Force Systems Command (AFSC). AFSC is responsible for the timely advance of aerospace technology and its effective translation into the acquisition of qualitatively superior aerospace systems for the United States Air Force. ESD pays tribute to the ever increasing rate of electronics in national defense.

Mr. Crosby is married to the former Marion Smith and they reside at 408 Boston Road, Billerica.

Chelmsford

Children's Theater at High School Field Monday

CHELMSFORD — The Boston Children's Theater stage-able will be at the high school field tomorrow for two performances. This is another annual event under the sponsorship of the Chelmsford PTA Council and held in conjunction with the summer recreational program. The shows will be held rain or shine with the scene being moved into the building in the event of bad weather.

Children who usually attend the playground program conducted by the Chelmsford Recreation Commission will be transported to and from the show. They are reminded that they should bring a lunch and that refreshments are also going to be sold by the Girl Scouts under the direction of Mrs. John Menrot. There will be a nominal fee for the transportation costs.

THE TWO performances this year are excellent featuring all child actors with the first show at 11 in the morning. "Pinochio" will be presented in the morning performance. After the lunch break the group will stage "The Magic Orange" at 2 p.m. All children throughout the town are invited to attend both performances which are free of admission charges.

Heart Gifts BELLERICA — Middlesex North Chapter of the Massachusetts Heart Association announces the following materials received during: Albert Parker, Mrs. Bessie Corway, Edward Campbell, Oliver P. Greenwood, Mrs. Mary Silva, Andrew Levesque and Ethel Blinn.



Area Motorcyclists Defend Sport

These motorcyclists defended their sport in a recent interview with The Sun. They charged that a poor public image had caused all motorcycling enthusiasts to be labeled as "bad". They refute this charge, stating that most enthusiasts are just average people

enjoying a pleasant hobby. Those who participated in the discussion include, from the left, Arthur DuFault, Clarence Cloutier, Roland Harmon, Dick Staples, and far right, George McCarthy, Jr.

Area Motorcyclists Defend Their Hobby; Deplore Poor Public Image

By James H. T. Purneaux LOWELL — Who is a motorcyclist? This is a question infrequently posed in people's minds. They don't know and really don't care who the motorcyclist is, but they certainly know what he is. A certain image of him has evolved and, with most people, it is connected with any and all individuals who participate in motorcycling.

According to some people, the motorcyclist is the man on the two-wheeled death trap who rushes everywhere at speeds high above the posted limit, the rumbling death-throated roar of his machine a blaring interruption to people's peace and quiet. He has a tauntingly defiant attitude towards law and order and will seize the slightest chance to enjoy a laugh at others' expenses. He's young, unemployed, unshaven, unshowered, and extremely uncouth. He belongs to a club, organized for the express purpose of raising as much hell as possible. The club has a socially repugnant name like Hell's Angels or Satan's Chicks. He's a social outcast, a rebel full of moral turpitude, society's real "undesirable" to be gawked at, laughed at, and worse ever possible, criticized. If he's been at it long he's been in jail at least once.

His uniform, if it can be called that, consists of a black leather jacket, with or without an eagle on the back, worn over the dirtiest undershirt he could find. His pants are of all colors and materials although his favorite is blue jeans. They are always tight and always, always very dirty. He wears motorcycle boots, probably to make him taller and give him the feeling he's a big man. The accessories to his wardrobe include German iron crosses, swastika arm bands, combat helmets, preferably of some enemy of the United States, and any other object that will draw public ire.

"They ought to take those — motorcyclists and run them off the road." This is the popular judgment concerning those who dare call themselves motorcyclists.

THIS SUN REPORTER decided to investigate society's great rebel, the motorcyclist. Armed with tape recorder the reporter posted himself in a Dracut motorcycle shop and caught the "rebel" unprepared for unheated individual and group discussions. The results do much to demonstrate who is a motorcyclist.

The first individual spotted was about to leave when approached by the reporter. He wore a helmet, not a combat type, but a white safety helmet. His clothes were clean, he didn't need a shave, and he wasn't an unemployed youth collecting checks. As a matter of fact he was Edward J. Collins, chief of police in Acton. Chief Collins related that he had been a motorcycling enthusiast for years and that he'd be glad to discuss the subject.

Collins said, "In my position as a police officer and as a motorcyclist I get to see motorcyclists at their best and at their worst. Generally they're a good bunch. The low percentage of bad actors are the ones who draw attention. The public doesn't understand the good side. They see the rats, the creeps, but don't notice the guy who keeps his nose clean. If a kid's going to be crazy, he'll be crazy in a car or motorcycle, or whatever else he can get his hands on. To me it's the greatest sport on earth. Drive them normally and you are all right."

THE REPORTER then conversed with Dick Staples, owner of the shop and president of a motorcycle club, the Nashoba Contours, who stated, "The public's not attracted to the acceptable motorcyclists because there's nothing exciting about him. I can't see how a machine can make a guy a rowdy. Groups like the Hell's Angels get all the publicity, but they are banned from the American Motorcycle Association because of their outrageous behavior. Our club, the Nashoba Contours, has 26 members of varied backgrounds. They run in age from 26 to the 60's and include quite a few husband-and-wife teams. We have a doctor, three or four engineers, business people, and just plain working people. We own a clubhouse in Pelham, N. H., with 12 acres of land and meet every Monday night. This is just our hobby in us."

A few more motorcycling enthusiasts had wandered into the shop and eagerly accepted the chance to join in a group discussion. They included Richard Harmon a design engineer; Arthur DuFault, a printing pressman; Clarence Cloutier, a metal finishing foreman; Dick Staples, and as the session progressed they were later joined by George McCarthy Jr., owner of a shoe pattern company.

THIS SESSION took the form of a question and answer period with The Sun asking the questions and the motorcyclists providing the answers. It went as follows: The Sun: "Why motorcycling? Why did you start riding?" Harmon: "I got tired of pedalling my bicycle so I put a motor on it. I'm at peace with the world when I'm out motorcycling. I don't worry about anything. I don't think about anything else."

Staples: "There's a control you get when you're driving a motorcycle. When you're driving a car you can get stuck in traffic but, with a motorcycle you're free. You have much more control. It's a lot like flying."

DuFault: "I started it as a hobby back in 1947 and have had one off and on since."

Cloutier: "Oh yes, mine loves it." Harmon: "My wife and I made two or three trips. Two years ago we went to Milwaukee, and all through Ohio. Last year we went up to Detroit. This year we're going to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia."

THE SUN: "What is your opinion of the plan to require separate tests for motorcycle licenses in Massachusetts, as proposed by Registrar McLaughlin, rather than telling anyone who has passed a test to drive a car drive a motorcycle?" Harmon: "There are a lot of pros and cons. I don't think it will accomplish a great deal. The makeup of the test is the determining factor. A person can get a license to drive a car if he can ride around two or three blocks without hitting anything but he isn't an accomplished driver. It's the same with a motorcycle. It's a good idea if they can come up with a good test. They're conducting seminars throughout the country on this subject."

Cloutier: "Of course no inspector is going to get on the back of one and give a test. This makes administering a good test very difficult. The inspector can only observe."

DuFault: "I took the test in 1960 when it was required and anyone with five minutes instruction could pass it."

Harmon: "That's my point most of these tests are for beginning drivers and they won't be a skilled driver after the test."

DuFault: "A cycle isn't that hard to handle if you've ridden a bike. It's just the feeling of a bike and the power of a car."

THIS SUN: "A LOT of people say that driving a motorcycle is not as safe as driving an automobile. And when you take a look at this machine you have nothing to the left or right of you, very little in front or behind you. It doesn't look to be as safe as a car if you going to be in an accident. Is it?"

Staples: "You have a lot greater maneuverability on a motorcycle and can avoid accidents. You can get around a lot of things it'd be impossible to get around in a car."

Harmon: "You have more awareness. In a car you're driving down the road relaxed, radio on, and don't even know when someone's creeping up behind you. With a bike you're prepared."

Cloutier: "You have to take extra precautions as you keep awake. If you have to stop quickly you can always dump the bike."

Staples: "You're average motorcycle is in far better mechanical condition than the average car. Most enthusiasts are the type who take care of their machinery."

Cloutier: "You don't see anyone riding a bike with a shimmy in the front end."

DuFault: "Heck no, his arms would fall off."

THE SUN: "What do you think could be done to improve the public image of the motorcyclist, or is it necessary? Do you people just don't care and go ahead and enjoy your own pursuits?"

Harmon: "We care very much. It hurts us to have the image we do have."

Staples: "We do have to go all the way to California and publicize a bunch of renegades that are known bad actors. In Louisiana, N. H., a year ago they claimed that there were riots up there and that buildings were burned down. I was up there and didn't see any burned buildings. The local yokels are the ones who caused it."

Harmon: "That's just well publicized in advance that there'd be a riot. The governor, radio stations, and newspapers said there would probably be one. For a while I think they were disappointed thinking they wouldn't have one so somebody decided to start one."

Staples: "We have our club and we try to abide by socially-acceptable rules. We put hundreds of thousands of miles on our bikes without accidents and no troubles with anyone anywhere."

Cloutier: "News coverage of motorcyclists' activities would help. Publicize the decent people not the thugs."



Rudolphe H. Lefebvre, Jr.

Dead Chelmsford Marine Hero Saw Effects of Communism

By John P. Redgate, Jr. CHELMSFORD — About this young man named Rudolphe H. Lefebvre, Jr. — the one who wore a Marine uniform with a lance corporal's chevrons on his lapel and died in a field hospital near Quang Tri the young combat veteran who had been 22 little more than a month.

In retrospect, his family and friends say there was little to distinguish him from the average young man growing up and that he was usually closed-mouth about most things, rarely sharing any confidences. When he died, it was his only sister, Mrs. Marvin Pritchard, of Old Stage Road, who listened first.

LANCE Corporal Lefebvre's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolphe H. Lefebvre, of 3 Crosby Lane were very proud of their only son's service, each harboring, however, a single thought for their son in battle. "Come back." When he first announced his intention to join the Marines, his father beamed and his mother cried.

AS HIS sister explained, "Rudy wanted to join the Marines more than anything else. Ever since he was a little boy. He just came home one night and told us he was going in. I suppose, like any family, we were worried but what can you do?"

At 19 years of age "Rudy" Lefebvre left his Chelmsford home with a pal and both went to Lowell to enlist. With him was a neighborhood boy, Bobby Grant, the son of Mrs. Hazel Newcomb of 75 Shaadnessy Terrace. Today Grant is a patient in an Okinawa hospital where he is recuperating from sharp wounds received on patrol in the Da Nang sector of Viet Nam.

When Lefebvre was home on Christmas leave in 1965, his first Yule visit since he enlisted, his sister recalled chiding him for having bought so many gifts for her three children.

"HE LOVED those children," she confided. "He spoke of going to Viet Nam and said that he was afraid but he knew that

all men were afraid going to battle and he wasn't ashamed of it. Before he left he told me that the real reason for his going was so that my children would never know Communism in the United States. He wanted to stop it right where it was."

It was also during this leave that he told his sister about a girl in North Carolina whom he had proposed marriage to but withdrew the offer when he learned of the Asian assignment. He said he did not want to leave a wife back home with "only a memory and a broken heart."

Rudolphe Lefebvre was scheduled to return home early next year. Like other he served with, his thoughts were often of home and the familiar surroundings that made up his environment. It is not hard to imagine that, with each passing day, the Chelmsford Marine's longing for home increased. Not hard to imagine because he, and those with him, were partners with death.

IN A LETTER to his sister he wrote of the slim margin by

which the Vietnamese people stayed alive. Wherever he went he found children half starved and shaking with fear. He told her he was glad his two nephews and his niece were not having to go through it. Emphasizing his belief in what he was doing he wrote "If keeping Communism out of America means staying here for a second year that I'll stay."

This was not an idle statement. It was made by a man who had lived the nightmare which others could not erase. There is indeed little doubt that he would have repeated his stay had he been called on to do so.



Dennis J. Smith, Jr.

Billerica To Study Law at Suffolk U.

BILLERICA—Dennis J. Smith, Jr., of Treble Cove Road, who graduated from Suffolk University in the Class of 1966, will begin his study of law at Suffolk Law school in September. He is a graduate of Memorial High school and received a bachelor of arts degree at Suffolk, majoring in political science. He attended Becker School of Music in addition to pursuing his college studies and had won recognition as a guitar instructor and entertainer in the Boston area.

In Viet Nam

TEWKSBURY — Assigned to the 14th Heavy Equipment Maintenance Company in Viet Nam is Army Pte. James J. Durfee, son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Durfee, Sr., of 11 Charms Rd. Durfee, formerly stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., entered the Army last September and completed his basic training at Fort Dix, N.J.

Set for Aug. 27

Scholarship Test Day at Belvidere School

CHELMSFORD—Headmaster Richard Coon of the Belvidere School has announced that Aug. 27 will be Scholarship Test Day for the school and that, on this day, a scholarship examination will take place which will be eligible to all students in the Greater-Lowell area who are entering Grades 7 through 12 next September.

According to Coon, the examination will consist of exercises in mathematics and English and, as a result of the examination, several full tuition scholarships will be awarded to talented boys and girls from the area.

THE PROCEDURE for the examination, as outlined by School Admissions Officer Benjamin Chudwick, calls for interested pupils to contact the school in person or via telephone or letter, and procure an application. This application must be completed and returned to the school before Saturday, Aug. 26, one week prior to the scholarship examination. No charge of any kind will be levied in

Billerica Rebekahs Change Plans for Ride

BILLERICA — A change in plans is announced by Winnetta Rebekah Lodge for the annual summer mystery ride, now to take place Aug. 10. Members will travel by private car, and those who wish transportation plans are asked to call Mrs. Sophie Hamlet at 662-6015; Mrs. Josephine Wakefield, at 667-8662 or Mrs. Mildred Knox at 663-3451.

The August meeting of the lodge is planned for Aug. 8 at 8 p.m., when the nomination of officers for the coming year will take place.

REBEKAHS and Odd Fellows enjoyed a mid-summer cookout at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tynell on Chelmsford Road. Delicious foods prepared at the grill were served.

Rebekah member Miss Mol-

Grange Activity

By Jonathan Terle MONDAY Lefebvre Regular summer meeting of the Grange of 422 and beauty parades at 8:30 p.m. Rest and Odd Granges in charge.

TUESDAY Ayer's Cornish meeting. Plans to be announced.

THURSDAY Ayer's Cornish meeting. Lunch at Gerry's Parlor.

U.S.

Advertisement for Holiday Inn, featuring a logo and the text 'No Job Too Large None Too Small Sullivan Bros. Printers 95 BRIDGE STREET Tel. GL 8-6333 120 OF THE MOST LUXURIOUS ROOMS IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY TEL. 851-7301'.