





**MELVIN PURVIS,**  
Chief Secret Operator

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECRET OPERATOR LAW-AND-ORDER PATROL

### OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Note: The contents of this message are to be considered strictly confidential.

**Y**OU are now a **SECRET OPERATOR** in my **LAW-AND-ORDER PATROL**. As your commanding officer, I welcome you to the ranks. You have become a member of an organization which has an important duty to perform.

The war on crime is endless, and the efforts of those who uphold the forces of law and order must go on. New forms of crime detection and crime prevention are constantly being created . . . new methods of protecting the safety and happiness of every law-abiding individual. It is only in such progress that America can win its battle against the underworld.

With these things in mind, I have organized my new Law-and-Order Patrol . . . and I take pleasure in appointing you a Secret Operator. It is an organization you can take deep pride in . . . and I want you to guard carefully the secrets of the Patrol which I entrust to your hands in this Secret Operator's Manual.

You will find herein some of the newest campaign plans against those who do not live up to the laws of the land. You will find secret codes and instruction in the art of self-defense; special tests which will enable you to advance to higher ranks in the Patrol; and a section devoted to the **SPECIAL FREE EQUIPMENT** which I have arranged to make available to every Secret Operator in my Patrol.

TO MEMBERS OF MY JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS of last year, I extend a most hearty greeting. Your training as a Junior G-Man particularly fits you to take over

your new duties as a Secret Operator—but remember, you must be alert and intelligent in an equal, if not a greater, degree. No one can "rest on his oars" in my Law-and-Order Patrol.

Before turning to the following pages of instruction, I want you to study carefully the Secret Operator's Code of Conduct. It applies to every one of my Secret Operators.

1—It is strictly against the regulations of the Patrol to play with guns, pistols, knives or any other weapon that may cause injury. I personally never carried a gun in my investigations. In many cases it would have hampered, instead of helped, my operations.

2—This Secret Operator's Manual and the codes and instructions herein are intended solely for members of my Law-and-Order Patrol. Under no circumstances are you to divulge any of the secret codes and passwords.

3—Headquarters desires that you enlist as many other boys and girls as possible; the more Secret Operators there are enlisted, the greater will be the efficiency of your organization.

With these three points well in mind, you are now ready to begin the training that will make you an efficient Secret Operator. Again, let me welcome you to the Law-and-Order Patrol!

*Melvin Purvis*

Chief Secret Operator

**FREE PRIZES: SEE PAGES 13, 14, 15 and 16**

# NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE LAW-AND-ORDER PATROL

I WANT my Law-and-Order Patrol to cover the whole of the United States. In order to build up an efficient organization, I have divided the country into nine districts. Each district has been assigned a secret letter and a secret password. ALL MEMBERS OF THE LAW-AND-ORDER PATROL ARE REQUIRED TO LEARN THESE PASSWORDS, SO THAT IN MOVING FROM ONE DISTRICT INTO ANOTHER YOU MAY BE ABLE QUICKLY TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF TO YOUR FELLOW WORKERS.

The map below shows clearly the division of the country. State lines and natural geographical divisions have been followed as closely as possible. And to enable you quickly and easily to memorize the nine secret letters and passwords, I have selected as a key-word:

## FORESIGHT

This word contains nine letters, no two of which are alike. As you can see on the map, the word reads from left to right across the country.

To help further in memorizing the secret passwords, each password is the name of

a quality a Secret Operator should have, and each begins with the letter of its district.

LETTER	PASSWORD
F	Fearless
O	Obedient
R	Resourceful
E	Energetic
S	Strong
I	Imaginative
G	Gallant
H	Healthy
T	Truthful

Every member of the Law-and-Order Patrol should learn the States that comprise each district, so that if he is on a trip or a visit he will know at all times what district he is in without having to ask questions which might lead to his detection.

**TO GIVE PASSWORDS:** Secret Operator who wishes to identify himself should say, "Foresight"—or if in a crowd, use a sentence containing the word. If the boy addressed is also a Secret Operator, he will reply with the *password of the district* . . . or a sentence containing it.



# SECRET OPERATOR'S COMMUNICATION BY SIGNS

IT IS often useful to be able to communicate by secret signs. For instance, you meet a fellow Secret Operator and wish to communicate with him, but do not wish to speak . . . perhaps it is important that you pretend not to know him. Or maybe you see a stranger whom you think may be a Secret Operator and wish to make sure without opening a conversation. In such a situation the following secret signs are used:



**Opening Sign**

Putting it back into the pocket and bringing it out empty. This action looks to a stranger as though you had reached for something and then changed your mind and replaced it.

**1. THE OPENING SIGN** means "I am going to use the sign-code." It consists simply of putting the hand *near* your fellow operator into your pocket, taking it out with the fingers closed, as though drawing some object out, then, **WITHOUT LOOKING AT THE HAND**, putting it back into the pocket and bringing it out empty.



**Acknowledging Sign**

Operator and that you are ready to converse in the sign-language.

Once the Opening Sign has been given and acknowledged, the following signals are to be used:

**2. THE ACKNOWLEDGING SIGN** means "Yes I am a Secret Operator; go ahead!" It consists of merely rubbing either eye, as though you had something in it. No one, unless he understands the secret signs, would ever guess that you have acknowledged the Opening Sign from a fellow Secret Operator.



**Sign for "Are you on a case?"**

Smoothing or adjusting the hair in any way: "Are you on a case?"



**Sign for "Danger?"**

Use of the handkerchief in any way: "Danger."



**Sign for "Do you want help?"**

Adjusting necktie, neck of shirt, or collar with left hand: "Do you want help?"



**Sign for "We are being watched?"**

Same with right hand: "We are being watched."



**Sign for "I need help"**

Adjusting necktie, neck of shirt, or collar with both hands: "I need help."



**Sign for "Yes"**

Looking down and then up again immediately: "Yes."



**Sign for "Join me"**

Putting the hands together and keeping them that way for several seconds: "Join me."



**Sign for "No"**

Looking up in the air: "No."



**Sign for "Don't join me"**

Putting the hands together and separating them immediately: "Don't join me."



**"Signing off"**

Looking direct at correspondent for an instant and then looking away *and continuing to look away*: "Signing off."

You can see how it works. Two boys meet, let us say, in the school-yard or in the corridor of a public building. They are too far separated to use the conversation-code. One of them catches the other's eye and then feels in his pocket, takes out his hand closed, apparently thinks better of it, returns the hand to his pocket and takes it out empty. The other rubs his eye, and immediately afterward smooths back his hair. The first looks up in the air for a moment, then he, too, smooths his hair. The second glances at the ground, looks up again immediately, and taking out his handkerchief wipes his lips. The first then fiddles with his tie with his left hand. The second glances up in the air, adjusts his tie with his right hand, then brings his hands together carelessly and immediately separates them. The first boy looks directly at the second for a moment, then looks away

and pays no more attention. To an outsider every move of the two boys looks perfectly natural; but what they have really done is hold the following conversation.

"Are you a Secret Operator?"

"Yes. Go ahead. Are you on a case?"

"No. Are you on a case?"

"Yes. There is danger."

"Do you want help?"

"No. We are being watched. Don't join me."

"Signing off. So long."

These secret signs should be practiced till you are perfect not only in giving them but in reading them. An important point about sign-communication is this: *don't hurry*. Your gestures should be slow and easy looking. In this way they appear entirely natural.



The boy on the extreme left and the boy on the right are signalling to each other. What are they saying?

# CODES AND CIPHERS

(Do not disclose to any but Secret Operators)

**T**HERE are three codes which I want my organization to use. Every member should learn them and practice communicating with them until he is thoroughly familiar with their methods. Only a person knowing the secret can figure out any of these three codes. These codes are designated as follows:

**SECRET CODE NO. 1**

**SECRET CODE NO. 2**

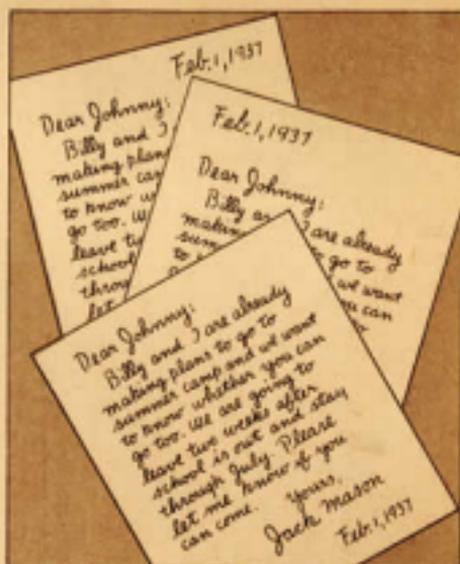
**SECRET CODE NO. 3**

**IMPORTANT NOTE—OFFICIAL:** In order to let your fellow Operator know which code you are using, date your communications as follows:

When using Secret Code No. 1, write the date in the **UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER OF THE PAGE.**

When using Secret Code No. 2, write the date in the **UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER OF THE PAGE.**

When using Secret Code No. 3, write the date **AFTER THE MESSAGE, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.**



*How to indicate which code you are using*

By this rule your correspondent will know, by a glance at the date, which code you are using, and can proceed at once with the deciphering.

## SECRET CODE NO. 1

This is the simplest of all codes to use, and is at the same time extremely safe. It is known as the "Fence-rail Code," and is used as follows: Write your message in **TWO LINES**, putting the first letter on the upper line, the second letter on the lower line, and the third on the upper, the fourth on the lower, and so on. For instance, to code the message

**COME TO SEE ME AT ONCE**

you would write it as follows:

C O M E T O S E E M A T N C  
O E O E M A O C

On page 16 of this Manual where the **FREE PRIZES** for Secret Operators are listed, you will find how you can get an Invisible Writing Outfit and Cod-a-Graph. With this outfit you can make up your own secret codes.

Then put the upper line and the lower line together:

CMTSEETNEOEEOEMAOC

. . . and there is your message ready to send. To decode the message, all your fellow Operator has to do is to count the letters; if there is an even number, he divides by 2 and writes the first half above the second half; if there is an odd number, as in the case of COME TO SEE ME AT ONCE (17 letters), the first half of the message will have one more letter than the second half; the first half is written above the second, as usual. The path of the translation looks a little like the old-fashioned rail-fences; hence the name of the code.

### SECRET CODE NO. 2

This code, which I have developed, is a little more difficult to learn, but is perhaps the safest of all. It is recommended for special messages requiring great secrecy. Here is how to use it:

1. Write your message with the letters all run together, like this:

Original message:

Guilty party in town send help at once.

Message ready to code:

GUILTYPARTYINTOWNSENDHELPTONCE

2. Under the first letter, write the letter that comes just before it in the alphabet:

Original first letter: G

Code first letter: F

3. Under the next letter, write the **SECOND** letter before it in the alphabet:

Original second letter: U

Code second letter: S

4. Then start again with the letter *just before* the third letter, the *second* letter before the fourth and so on. All you have to remember is 1, 2, 1, 2, to the end of your message. If you have to go back

beyond A, go from A to Z or Y as the case may be. To code five A's in a row, for instance:

AAAAA

ZYZYZ

All your fellow Operator, who is getting your message, has to do is to count forward one letter from the first letter of the code, two from the second, one from the third, two from the fourth, and so on. Your complete message would look like this:

GUILTYPARTYINTOWNSENDHELPTONCE

12121212121212121212121212121

FSHJSWOYQRXGMRNUMQDLCPDJOYSMMAD



*Secret Operators can quickly figure out all codes*

In sending messages, it is convenient to break the letters up into groups. In this case we have thirty-one letters. So the natural method is to break them into groups of five, with the extra letter on the last group, like this: FSHJS WOYQR XGMRN UMQDL CFDJO YSMAD. A person unacquainted with this code would have a terribly difficult time deciphering it.

### SECRET CODE NO. 3

I suggest that for local communications you use this code. It has the advantage that the key can be changed at your will, by simply notifying your fellow Operator of the change. Here is how to use it:

1. Agree with your fellow Operator on a key-number, which for convenience should be between 5 and 10. Let us say you select 7 as your local key-number.

2. Split your message up into groups of SEVEN letters (the key number). Suppose you want to send "Important meeting tomorrow afternoon," you would write it like this: **IMPORTA NTMEETI NGTOMOROWAFTE RNOONXQ**. Notice that the last group contained only five letters from the original message, so that in order to make seven we added the letters X and Q. Any other letters might have been added just as well.

3. Now write these seven-letter groups alongside each other VERTICALLY, like this:

```

I N N R R
M T G O N
P M T W O
O E O A O
R E M F N
T T O T X
A I R E Q
  
```

4. Now—all you have to do is write out the lines reading ACROSS, starting at the top, in their order, and send it along! This is what you send:

**INNRRMTGONPMTWOOEOAOREMNTTOTXAIREQ**

This is certainly a mysterious-looking message. How is your correspondent to decipher it? It is easy. He knows that the key-number was 7. So he counts the number of letters in the message and divides by that key-number. In this case there are 35 letters, and 35 divided by 7 gives 5. So the Operator receiving the message splits the coded message into groups of 5 and writes each group vertically, one after the other:

```

I M P O R T A
N T M E E T I
N G T O M O R
R O W A F T E
R N O O N X Q
  
```

... and there is the message, reading across! It is absolutely automatic. The Operator

getting the message has nothing to do but divide the number of letters by the key-number agreed upon, and then write the whole thing out.

### CHALK CODE

To be used largely in work out-doors. It is not necessary to use chalk, however. A stick mark in the dust, a mark scratched on a rock with another rock, or any other means of marking will do as well.



*Secret Operator has passed here on official business.*

*Stand by at this point for further orders.*



*Danger ahead—stay away.*

*Return immediately to headquarters.*



*Come quickly.*

*Bring help at once.*



*This person is a suspect.*

*This is the guilty party.*



### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Be sure no one sees you placing any of the above code marks. Their value lies in the fact that no one is even suspicious that they are marks made by a Secret Operator.

# FINGER-PRINTS

**How to detect them, how to take a clear print, how to identify and compare finger-prints.**

**F**INGER-PRINTS are usually the most important clues in detecting criminals. As you all know, no two finger-prints are alike. Therefore, a suspect can be positively identified by the prints he leaves at the scene of the crime.



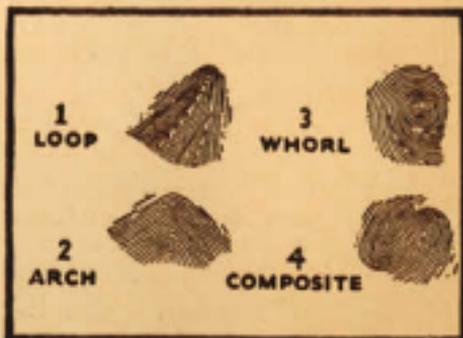
## *Taking finger-prints*

When you are examining any place where you believe a suspect to have been, look closely at any smooth surface you can find. If any finger-prints have been left there, you can usually see faint traces. If they are on a dark surface, sprinkle them with some kind of white powder; if they are on a light surface, sprinkle them with dark powder.\*

Be careful, when examining any object, not to pick it up yourself with your bare hands—if you do so you may confuse or

obliterate finger-prints that might serve you as an important clue.

Below are given the four most important classifications of finger-prints. I want you to study every one of these so that you can identify them as soon as you find them. After you have these four classifications well in mind, you can immediately see



*4 basic finger-print types*

what the differences are in the individual prints in each classification.

It is a good idea for Secret Operators to practice obtaining and comparing finger-prints. You can do this with a rubber stamp ink pad and an ordinary piece of white paper or better still with my official Finger-Print Set. (See below\*.) Very soon you will be able to identify all your friends by the finger-prints they leave.

\*In the list of **FREE PRIZES** for Secret Operators, you will find my Official Finger-print Set, Finger-print detecting Tape and Transfer Cards, and Finger-print Powders. I advise all Secret Operators to obtain this official equipment as soon as possible.

# HOW TO DETECT FORGERIES



*When two signatures compare exactly — beware!*

**F**ORGERY, as you all know, is copying a person's handwriting in such a way that to the untrained eye it looks as though the handwriting were really the person's own. Forgers operate in two ways:

1. THEY TRACE THE HANDWRITING
2. THEY COPY IT AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE

There are two principal ways in which forgeries may be detected.

In the case of tracing, detection is easy. If a specimen of handwriting—say a person's signature—is **EXACTLY** like another specimen, one of the specimens is a forgery—for no person ever writes **EXACTLY** alike on two occasions. For instance, you find a will signed

**A**

You suspect it of being a forgery. You find a genuine signature of Mr. Smith, and compare it with the one on the will. Like this

**B**

If you examine these signatures carefully you will see that they are **EXACTLY** alike—therefore one is a forgery of the other. No person ever signed his name **EXACTLY** alike twice in his life.

You can often detect copies of signatures by the pauses made by the pen in copying. A person signing his real name writes rapidly, without hesitation. A man at-

tempting forgery, copying a signature, unless very skillful, hesitates occasionally; and you will see the pen-marks when you examine the forgery closely. For instance:

**B**

**C**

Illustration C is an obvious forgery. The writer has tried to copy Illustration B, but has had to go slowly—note the shakiness of the lines—and in the downstroke of the Letter J has had to start over.

**B**

**D**

Just as an exercise, look at Illustration B and Illustration D. **BOTH THESE SIGNATURES WERE ACTUALLY WRITTEN BY THE SAME PERSON, WITHIN A MINUTE OF EACH OTHER.** Note the **DIFFERENCES**: The separation between the J and O, the T-cross cutting the H in one instance and just touching its top in the next, the different S's, and so on. This shows how widely different two **GENUINE** signatures can be.

So, if you find two signatures **EXACTLY ALIKE**, you may be sure that one is a forgery; and if you find a signature that shows signs of having been carefully drawn, with pauses and retracting of lines, you may be sure that that is a forgery, too.



ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES YOU WILL FIND LOTS OF FREE PRIZES OFFERED TO MY SECRET OPERATORS . . . SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO OBTAIN THE SECRET OPERATOR EQUIPMENT EVERY MEMBER OF THE PATROL NEEDS . . . AS WELL AS LOTS OF OTHER SWELL FREE PRIZES YOU WILL WANT TO OWN!

**E**VERY one of my Secret Operators—both boys and girls—should have his or her own equipment, in order to carry on really effective work as a member of my Law-and-Order Patrol. So I have made arrangements with the makers of Post Toasties, whereby you can get the things you need without paying a cent! Pick out your prizes from the pictures on the next four pages.

**IMPORTANT! Read these instructions before ordering!**

1. Send only the red tops from the 8-ounce or 13-ounce yellow and red Post Toasties packages. (We cannot accept tops from sample or 1-ounce restaurant size Post Toasties packages.)
2. Print plainly your name and the address to which premium is to be mailed.
3. Order premiums by name and number.
4. Make sure you send the correct number of package-tops required for each premium you order.
5. Send package-tops to Melvin Purvis, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich.
6. Be sure to put correct postage on your mail. When sending five or more package-tops, put them in a separate package and have the package weighed at the post office for correct postage. *Do not include any written matter in the package in which you send the tops.* Just print plainly your name and address on the *outside* of the package. Then send us your order for premiums *in a separate letter*, and print plainly your name and address on the envelope.
7. In order to speed up getting your premiums, ask your friends, neighbors and relatives to buy Post Toasties and save the package-tops for you. Post Toasties are such a delicious breakfast treat that every one will thank you for suggesting them!
8. The offer of prizes in this catalog expires December 31, 1937. Offer good in U.S.A. only.
9. All the prizes in this catalog can be obtained with Post Toasties package-tops and without sending in any money. **WE SHOULD GREATLY PREFER THAT YOU SECURE ALL YOUR PRIZES IN THIS WAY.** However, if you do not want to wait to collect all the package-tops needed for some prizes, you may send in the number of tops and the amount of money indicated for certain prizes.

# OFFICIAL SECRET OPERATOR'S EQUIPMENT AND OTHER

## FREE PRIZES OFFERED BY MELVIN PURVIS



**No. 103—Lieutenant's Shield.** Polished gold bronze design and satin gold bronze background, etched and enameled in red and blue. After you comply with Melvin Purvis' special instructions in the Of-

ficial Manual, Lieutenant's Shield and Lieutenant's Inter-District Pass will be sent *free* for 3 Post Toasties package-tops.

**No. 104—Captain's Shield.**

Official insignia of the highest rank in the Law-and-Order Patrol. Badge of polished gold bronze design and satin gold bronze background, etched and enameled in red and blue. Sent after completing examination—together with Captain's Certificate of Appointment—*free* for 4 Post Toasties package-tops.



**No. 130—Nu-Matic Paper Buster Gun.** This 400-shot repeating gun uses harmless paper for ammunition. A real action gun, constructed of metal. Absolutely harmless. Complete with one roll of ammunition. Sent in exchange for 20 Post Toasties package-tops or 13 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



**No. 112—Ammunition for Nu-Matic Gun.** Four rolls of paper ammunition to a package. Each roll gives 400 sure shots. *Free* for 6 Post Toasties package-tops.



**No. 123—Shoulder Holster.** Genuine leather. Reproduction of real shoulder holster, as worn under the arm by G-Men. Sent in exchange for 11 Post Toasties package-tops or 5 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



**No. 124—Melvin Purvis Knife.** 2-Blade Jack Knife. White Novo Pearl handle. Full polished blades, brass separator with two polished bolsters. Melvin Purvis picture and signature on handle. Sent in exchange for 13 Post Toasties package-tops or 6 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



**No. 129—Initial Bracelet.** A snug-fitting bracelet in black composition with gold color initials. Two initials. (When ordering be sure to print the two initials desired.) Sent in exchange for 17 Post Toasties package-tops or 11 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.

# PICK OUT THE PRIZES Y



**No. 116—Dictionary.** The ideal pocket Webster Dictionary. Contains more than 18,000 of the most up-to-date words now in common use. Self-pronouncing. *Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 113—Siren Whistle.** Made of brown bakelite. Gives a piercing siren blast warning that dies to a whisper if you wish. *Free for 7 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 122—Telescope.** Three power. Pocket size. A durably constructed three-section telescope. Large polished lens. All metal body, 1 3/4 inches in diameter, 4 1/2 inches open, 2 1/2 inches closed. *Free for 11 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 133—Double Barrel Shot Gun.** 21-inches long. A harmless gun that shoots cork which is in the barrel permanently, making it entirely harmless, at the same time making a very loud noise. *Sent in exchange for 26 Post Toasties package-tops or 9 Post Toasties package-tops and 25c in stamps or money order.*



**No. 114—Finger-print Detection Tape and Transfer Cards.** You can actually lift fingerprints from a window or telephone, or any object with this tape and transfer them to a card for permanent records. Finger-print powder not included. *Free for 7 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 111—Finger-print Powders.** Envelope each of black and white powder, with instructions. *Free for 6 Post Toasties package-tops.*

**No. 110—Handwriting Study.** Complete instructions and a special chart for studying specimens of handwriting, together with a magnifying glass to bring out details of handwriting. *Free for 6 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 115—Birthstone Ring.** Suitable for either boy or girl. White metal, nickel plated with rhodium finish to prevent tarnishing. Adjustable shank makes it fit any finger-size. (Specify month of your birth when ordering: January—Garnet; February—Amethyst; March—Aquamarine; April—White Sapphire; May—Green Spinelle; June—Alexandrite; July—Ruby; August—Peridot; September—Sapphire; October—Rose-Zircon; November—Golden Sapphire; December—Zircon.) *1 Ring Free for 8 Post Toasties package-tops.*

# YOU WANT MOST NOW!



No. 118—*Melvin Purvis Pencil*. White Pyralin. Melvin Purvis picture and signature on handle. Propel and repel action. Rubber cap. Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.



No. 109—*Magnifying Glass*. Every Secret Operator will want this magnifying glass to search for clues! Rim and handle finished in assorted colors. Glass has 2-power magnification. Will also give a startling effect when held at a distance. Objects appear upside down! Free for 6 Post Toasties package-tops.



No. 126—*Purvis Combination Pen and Pencil*. White Pyralin. 14 k. gold-plated trimmings. Ball point pen. Pencil has propel and repel action. Melvin Purvis picture and signature on handle. Sent in exchange for 14 Post Toasties package-tops or 7 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



No. 132—*Official Soft Ball*. Regulation 12-inch size Kapok center with cowhide cover. New type flat seam sewed with waxed double twine. Sent in exchange for 26 Post Toasties package-tops or 19 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



No. 135—*Fielder's Glove*. Famous Yale brand. Genuine leather. Laced and fully padded. Sent in exchange for 62 Post Toasties package-tops or 28 Post Toasties package-tops and 50c in stamps or money order.

No. 134—*Microscope Set*. Contains a microscope, two specimen slides, pair of tweezers, a dissecting needle, and instruction manual. Sent in exchange for 45 Post Toasties package-tops or 28 Post Toasties package-tops and 25c in stamps or money order.



No. 128—*Double Compact*. Smart metal-and-enamel case fitted with unbreakable mirror and containers for rouge and loose powder. Regularly retails for 50c. Sent in exchange for 16 Post Toasties package-tops or 10 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



No. 127—*"Oh Boy" Harmonica*. A Hohner product. With 16 double holes, 32 reeds. Sent in exchange for 15 Post Toasties package-tops or 8 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



No. 125—*Colored Baseball Cap*. Heavy black felt with red visor. When ordering, be sure to give your cap or hat size. Sent in exchange for 12 Post Toasties package-tops or 5 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.



**No. 108 — Indestructible Pearl Necklace.** A beautiful string of graduated beads, 16 inches long, with safety clasp. *Free for 5 Post Toasties package-tops.*

**No. 106 — Secret Operator's Ring.** 24-karat gold finish, adjustable to fit any finger, with Official Secret Operator's Insignia embossed in center. Boys and girls alike will want this ring, which identifies you as a member of the Patrol. *Free for 4 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 105 — Autographed Photo of Melvin Purvis.** Own a picture of the greatest G-Man of them all! Picture is 8 x 10 inches, suitable for framing. Get one for your bureau. *Free for 2 Post Toasties package-tops.*

**No. 120 — Melvin Purvis Finger-print Set.** A complete outfit with 16-page illustrated booklet. Finger-print Record Forms, special finger-printing ink-pad, white and black powder to dust over prints. *Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 121 — Invisible Writing Outfit and Cod-a-Graph.** Invisible writing set includes two 1/4 oz. bottles, one with Invisible Writing Fluid, one with Special Developer. Cod-a-Graph enables you to make up your own secret codes! *Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.*

**No. 131 — Pistol Flashlight.** A powerful 2-cell flashlight, fitted into a replica of the Secret Operator's automatic pistol. 5 1/4 inches long. *Sent in exchange for 24 Post Toasties package-tops or 18 Post Toasties package-tops and 10c in stamps.*



**No. 107 — Official Secret Operator's Key Ring.** Holds 20 or more keys. Leather strap is 3 inches long over-all, with snap to fit over belt. *Free for 5 Post Toasties package-tops.*

**No. 119 — Secret Operator's Official Identification Wallet.** Contains your special Identification Card, with your secret number. Made of handsome heavy-duty simulated alligator skin. Has 3 pockets, so you can carry bills, personal cards, notes, etc. Wallet is 7 1/4 inches long, 3 inches wide, with isinglass "window" on inside. *Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.*



**No. 117 — Secret Operator's Note Book.** Cover made of handsome heavy-duty leather. Alligator grain. *Free for 9 Post Toasties package-tops.*

# DISGUISES

**How to disguise yourself with the best chance of success; how to detect a disguised suspect.**

**T**HE first rule of disguise every Secret Operator should learn is: *The more elaborate the disguise you attempt, the more likely you are to give yourself away!*

For example: A man may disguise himself with false whiskers, eye-glasses, cane and other equipment which to the average person looks real. Yet, he can be detected by the way he handles his mustache and



*Man fumbling with glasses with one hand, cane held awkwardly with other. This man is obviously in disguise.*

the glasses. Usually a person not used to such things will handle them awkwardly, and thus give himself away instantly.

Simple disguises usually work best. By this I do not mean that you can disguise yourself so that people who know you well, and are looking for you, can be

fooled. A simple disguise will enable you to walk right past people who do not expect your presence and are not looking for you. More than likely they won't even give you a passing glance.

The first thing to do in making a quick disguise is to study yourself. It is by certain characteristics of yourself that people recognize you at first glance. *You must change these characteristics.*

Of course you cannot change the color of your eyes or your hair. But you have other mannerisms which serve to identify you, and when you wish to adopt a disguise you must change these.

Suppose you are fairly tall, hold yourself straight, and take long, swift strides. When you do not wish to be recognized, you should stoop a little and walk with short steps, slowly. You will find, too, that you have certain habits of dressing; by changing these only slightly you will make a very good disguise. If you usually wear a cap, change to a hat before going out.

Another highly effective form of disguise is a quick change. Suppose you are being followed. You are wearing a hat. Now, if you turn a corner quickly, get rid of your hat and put on a light cap, you have an excellent chance of making a leisurely getaway. Your pursuers have fixed in their minds the idea of following a boy wearing a hat. They turn the corner and see a boy with a light cap strolling leisurely across the street. Unless you are wearing some other conspicuous garment, the odds are ten to one that they will pay no more attention to you, but go on looking for the boy with a hat, and wondering where he disappeared.

A government operator once baffled a criminal gang that was following him in this manner: he turned into a doorway, and before the gang came up he turned up his coat-collar, twisted his felt hat into a battered shape, and walked out of the doorway with a slouching gait entirely different from his former brisk stride. The slight changes turned him from a well-dressed man into an apparent "bum"; and the gang paid no attention to him, but

hurried into the building where they thought he was hiding.

In my instructions, I have suggested several methods by which Secret Operators can assume a quick disguise. It is equally important to know how to avoid being fooled by such methods. You cannot assume that because you can avoid detection, you can automatically detect others.

Train yourself to see as many details of a person's costume and build as you can. Suppose you are following a man with a dark suit, a green necktie, tan shoes and a strikingly checked cap, a man who has a rather red face and prominent blue eyes. The ordinary person would see only the striking cap, which is just what the man would want him to see. The suspect dodges into a doorway and emerges wearing a dark felt hat. If you have noted other details of his costume and his features, you are not fooled.

Try to observe the details of a suspect that cannot be disguised. A boy four feet six inches tall can NEVER appear to be five feet tall; conversely, a very tall boy can NEVER appear to be really short. A thin boy can pad himself out to appear fat, but a fat boy can never appear thin. When you think that a suspect is somebody else in disguise, you can prepare a sort of table and check it.

Suppose a boy is seen walking rapidly away from the scene of a crime. You have reason to believe that this boy might be George Brown, but at first sight he did not look like George at all. Make your table as accurately as you can, as shown on the next page.

Now if you check the items against each other, you can see that the suspect is LIKE George Brown in matters that CANNOT be disguised, except for one item—the ring. George could have taken off his ring, but the chances are he forgot it. This is one of the slips that suspects often make. On the other hand, you may know that George CANNOT take off his ring—many people wear rings that will not slip off over the knuckles. In that case the ring is one more item. George also forgot



*Get rid of your conspicuous hat, replace by a cap, and . . .*



*You won't be detected.*

to change his manner of walking to go with his supposedly fat build. That was a serious mistake. The suspect is DIFFERENT from George Brown in several ways—but all of these ways are those that could be changed. He could pad himself, put on a pair of glasses, wear a felt hat instead of a cap and change from short to long trousers. You can be pretty sure, if your table works out like this, that the suspect is really George Brown in disguise.

Keep these points in mind, and you will soon become expert in breaking through a disguise, no matter how clever it may be.

# THIS BOY MUST BE THIS BOY



**SUSPECT**

Height, about 5 ft. 8 in.  
Build, fat.  
Took long steps.  
Had ring on third finger of left hand.  
Wore glasses.  
Wore hat.  
Wore long trousers.  
Had fairly long, thin neck.



**GEORGE BROWN**

Height, about 5 ft. 8 in.  
Build, slender.  
Takes long steps.  
Wears ring on third finger of left hand.  
Does not wear glasses.  
Wears cap.  
Wears short trousers.  
Has fairly long, thin neck.

# SECRETS OF CRIME DETECTION

**W**HEN a Secret Operator is called to the scene of a crime, he examines it carefully for **CLUES**. From these clues he draws certain conclusions. For instance, if a crime were committed at a spot where there was a white, chalky soil, and you picked up a suspect who had white, chalky soil clinging to his shoes, you would figure that he had been at the scene of the trouble. Sometimes the smallest things will lead to the capture of the criminal. The following cases illustrate this point.

## **CASE No. 1 THE LOST HAT**

At the scene of the crime, the only clue found was an old hat. It had no initials or maker's name in it. The case was turned over to one of New York City's smartest detectives. He examined the hat carefully, and found that the sweatband was soaked with a certain strong-smelling brand of hair oil. This oil, he knew, was much used by foreigners from a certain section of Europe. He decided, therefore, that a man from that section had been mixed up with the crime.



*An important clue*

He set out to find whether or not any man from that district was missing. Eventually he heard that a certain person had not been seen for several days. He then started other inquiries to find whether or not any nearby farm had hired such a man recently. He knew that men from that district were great farmers, and reasoned that such a man, fleeing from a crime, would try to find work on a farm. Eventually he learned that a farm over fifty miles from New York had hired such a person. He went out to the farm, and by showing the suspected man the hat, forced a confession.

This detective figured from that hat that the criminal was a person of a certain type—a foreigner who came from a certain district; by following up the information he received from the law-abiding residents of the district, he was able to face the criminal with the result of his reasoning and so got a confession.

## **CASE No. 2 TOO MUCH EVIDENCE**

Scotland Yard, the police headquarters of England, is famous for its careful weighing of evidence and its ability to see what is real and what is false. In one famous case

a man was arrested for stealing a large sum of money from his company's office. A sum amounting to nearly \$20,000 was in the cash drawer at the office, ready for pay-day next morning. Police, seeing a light in the office at three o'clock in the morning, became suspicious, entered the building, and found a clerk standing in the cashier's room, with his hand actually in the cash drawer. All but about \$50 of the \$20,000 was missing. The clerk, when questioned, was confused, claimed he was innocent, but would not say why he had gone back to the office at that time of night. It was



*Caught in the act!*

naturally supposed that he had found out about the money and had come to steal it.

One of the Scotland Yard detectives, however, was not satisfied. He reasoned that a man who was caught so easily could not be a real criminal; also that it was impossible for him to hide the money so that it could not be found when he had been caught, apparently, in the act of stealing it. He set himself to win the clerk's confidence by friendly conversation, and finally got this story:

The clerk had been married, secretly, only a few weeks before. The office in which he worked had a strict rule against

employing married men. The clerk had remembered that he had left his wife's picture—a small snapshot with the words "To my darling husband" written on it—in the office, but could not remember where. Terrified that the picture might be found and that he would lose his job, the clerk had slipped back to the office late that night and had begun hunting for the snapshot. His search carried him into the cashier's office, where he at once noticed the opened cash drawer. He was just investigating the amount of the loss when the police, attracted by the light, arrested him.

The detective believed his story, and sent out word to pick up any underworld character who might be showing large sums of money. In a few days, a well-known criminal was found spending a lot of money when it was known that he had been almost down and out a short time ago; he was arrested, and confessed. He had entered the office and taken the money; and when the clerk arrived unexpectedly the criminal became alarmed and fled, leaving a little money behind. This was what the clerk was examining when he was arrested.

### **CASE No. 3**

#### **THE FATAL HOUR-HAND**

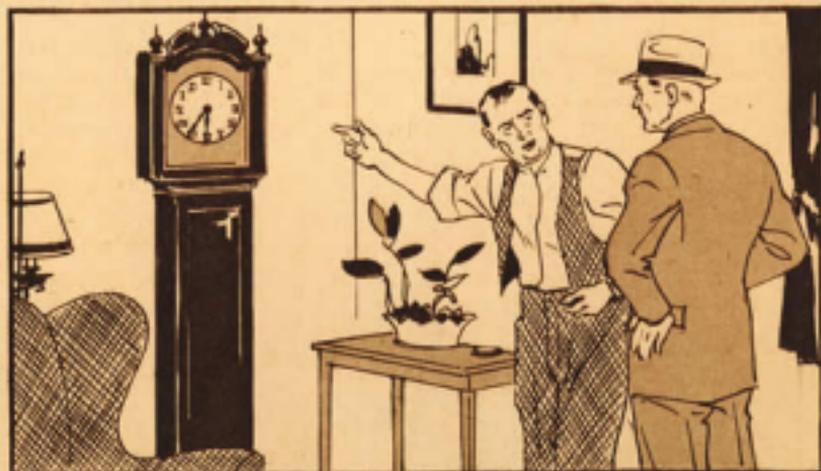
A Scotland Yard detective solved a famous murder case by remembering a little piece of special knowledge. In this case a certain man was suspected; but he stated that he had stepped into the next room to wind a large clock that stood there; that while he was winding this clock the murder took place, and the murderer escaped through the open window. He added, to account for the time he took in his clock-winding, that it was exactly half-past seven, and that he had waited to hear the clock strike—it was a clock with especially beautiful chimes. Nothing could shake his story until he was

questioned by the clever Scotland Yard sleuth.

The detective asked him if he were certain that he had wound the clock at exactly half-past seven. The suspect swore that he had. The time of the murder was placed at almost exactly that hour, and it was clear that if the suspect had really been winding the clock at that time he could not have committed the murder. The detective asked him if the clock had to be wound in the usual manner—by two keyholes in

its face, one for time, the other for the strike. The suspect replied that this was so.

The detective then pointed out that at half-past seven the hour-hand of the clock was exactly over the left hand keyhole in the clock-face, and consequently the suspect could not have inserted his key to wind it as he said he did! If you will look at a clock of this type, you will see that this is so. The suspect, faced with this evidence that he had lied, broke down and admitted his crime.



*The suspect thought he had an "air-tight alibi," but . . .*



*The hands of the clock point out the flaw in the suspect's story! (Notice that the arrow points to key-hole, which at 7:30 was covered by the hour hand.)*



# HOW TO BECOME A CAPTAIN IN THE LAW-AND-ORDER PATROL

The rank of Captain is the highest in the Law-and-Order Patrol. It is a position of great honor in this organization. It signifies that the possessor of the Shield of Captain is extraordinarily keen and alert . . . he shall hold himself in readiness to be called upon, whenever it is deemed necessary by the Chief Secret Operator, for du-

ties requiring special skill and swift action.

On the back of this page you will find the examination for Captain. Upon passing this examination, you will be entered upon Captains' Roll at Headquarters, and will be sent your Captain's Shield and your Certificate of Appointment as Captain.



# EXAMINATION FOR ADVANCEMENT TO THE RANK OF CAPTAIN

*Fill in the answers below. Then tear out this page and send it not later than December 31, 1937, to Melvin Purvis, Chief Secret Operator, Law-and-Order Patrol, care Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich. You must also enclose with this application 4 Post Toasties package-tops.*

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....

*Fill out, from memory, answers to the following questions:*

*When did you join the Law-and-Order Patrol?* .....

*What is the "Fence-Rail" code?* .....

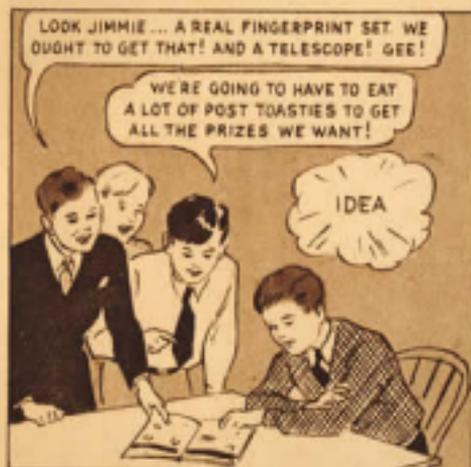
*How can you detect a forgery?* .....

*What is the sign code for danger?* .....

*What is the chalk code for danger?* .....

**When you have successfully passed this test, and mailed it with your 4 Post Toasties package-tops to Melvin Purvis, you will be enrolled as a Captain and mailed your Captain's Shield and Certificate of Appointment.**

# HOW THE MEMBERS OF SQUAD "A" GOT THE SECRET OPERATOR'S EQUIPMENT THEY NEEDED . . .



# HERE IS A DAILY RULE FOR EVERY SECRET OPERATOR



**E**VERY one of my Secret Operators needs a big, satisfying breakfast in order to be alert and on the job.

That's *one reason* why I advise you to have a big bowlful of Post Toasties every

morning. The *second reason*—Post Toasties are the finest tasting cereal a boy or girl ever had! (But I don't really have to tell YOU that. As a Secret Operator, you, of course, have already enjoyed Post Toasties.)

I eat Post Toasties for breakfast every morning, because I know they are the *better* corn flakes. You see, they are made from the sweet, tender hearts of the corn, where most of the rich flavor is stored. And each golden-brown flake is toasted double-crisp in order to keep its crunchy goodness *longer* in milk or cream.

Here is another reason you and your family ought to have Post Toasties every day: You will want to begin right now to save the package-tops so you can send them to me for all the *Free Prizes* I have waiting for you. Ask your friends, relatives and neighbors to buy Post Toasties and save the package-tops for you, too!

*Melvin Purvis*

Chief Secret Operator  
Law-and-Order Patrol

