

also a very capable and competent police officer. This opinion is based on my observations of her interactions with numerous civilians, including some who were hostile. In short, at no time did I feel any special concern about working with a female constable.

Another observation I must make concerns the unit commander, Sgt. Tessier, who has the respect of both his subordinates and the members of the community. (I actually asked some of the citizens of Emerson what they thought of the RCMP and they spoke very positively of them, referring to them as "our Mounties"). When one talks about professionalism in police work, Sgt. Tessier serves as an excellent example. He is observant, misses nothing, and when it comes to assessing human behaviour he is a better psychologist than a great many psychologists I know.

Before ending this article I must relate one humorous event which occurred while I was in Emerson. During a routine day patrol we came across a "hitchhiker". Because of the proximity of the border, such people are frequently checked for identification in the event they may have crossed the border illegally. While Cst. Puttkemery checked his I.D. through the car radio I chatted with the fellow, who told me he was a juggler on his way to the International Juggler's Conference in Delaware. To prove it, he pulled three lacrosse balls (he informed me that these were the balls of choice for jugglers) from his backpack and proceeded to give me a juggling demonstration. You have to appreciate the situation. There we were at the side of a busy highway, a psychologist, an RCMP constable and a young man "juggling his balls" — all three of them!

Let me close in a more serious vein by expressing my appreciation to Assistant Commissioner D. J. Wardrop, Commanding Officer, "D" Division, and the members of the Force in "D" Division. I would also like to single out S/Sgt. Ron Osika, "D" Training Supervisor, a man from whom I've learned a great deal



Cst. Nancy Puttkemery and Dr. Breen help a "prisoner" get into the police car.

about police work. Some of S/Sgt. Osika's innovative ideas for training, when they come to fruition, will no doubt serve as prototype for other Divisions.

Ed. Note: Born and raised in Ontario, Lawrence Breen graduated from York University, Toronto, in 1970, with a Ph.D. in Psychology. Between 1970 and 1975 he was Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Manitoba, and since 1975 has been Associate Professor. One of his areas of specialization, Forensic Psychology (with special interest in applying psychology to police operations and training), has led to continued close contact with the RCMP and the Winnipeg Police Department. As a Registered Psychologist he sees patients, but restricts these to police personnel and their families suffering from stress and other related problems.

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