

"Suggestion Award"

Winners

CPL. R. J. Mawson and Cst. L. N. Skelton of the "D" Division Crime Index Section (Winnipeg) recently won an award for a suggestion under the "Suggestion Award" program of the Public Service. The suggestion was devising a stolen car locator index.

The majority of police departments possess "suspicious vehicle" lists or books. "D" Division is no exception and uses a concise triple-indexed Suspect Vehicle Booklet. However, the results of the use of the book were not considered sufficiently gratifying for the amount of work undertaken to publish it.

For some months the matter had been discussed between Corporal Mawson and Constable Skelton and the idea for the Suspect Vehicle Locator was conceived. Within a day the first Locator was drawn up and sample copies were distributed to various personnel to test their feasibility.

Nothing but glowing reports were received and the Locator was accepted for use within the division.

The idea of the Locator was carried one step further and a Stolen Car Locator was also developed.

The master Suspect Vehicle Locator was drawn up on a large piece of heavy mounting board, lined into 100 squares, margined left to right 0 to 9 (indicated at the top) and top to bottom 0 to 9 (indicated at the left hand margin). The last two digits of a licence number are used as the key: i.e. in licence numbers 3P564, 6 and 4 would be the key digits. Using the Locator—down the left margin to the "6" line and over to the "4" column will locate any numbers ending in 64. In licence numbers such as 6K6, 12G9 or 26273, the letters are treated as being non-existent and the key numbers would be 66, 29 and 73 respectively. With two



Cst. L. N. Skelton (left) and Cpl. R. J. Mawson receiving "Suggestion Awards" from Insp. J. A. A. Thivierge.

or three trial runs it is readily seen how quickly a licence number can be checked.

The Locator is then photographed and of course can be reduced to any size—wallet size for the billfold and for use by plain clothes men or larger for use on a clip board in a patrol car.

In Manitoba where the province uses a five-year plan for issue of licences, the numbers listed can be considered almost permanent and as experience has shown a twice yearly publication of amendments is sufficient. The remaking of a new Locator twice a year presents no problem.

"Suspect Vehicle Locator" or stolen car graph, devised by "Suggestion Award" winners from "D" Division.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1G501 6K201	9X302		6R604	4K705		8A907 5C507 2P807	1B608	
1	9C910		3D212	4J313	1K614		4G216 4K16	64B17	T24619
2	89A20	9C621		80A23 2G823	8C124	8H525 9K25	1B126 3D426 8H526	19A27 4S227	3C829
3	4B930	7K131	2E632 9J732 8M532	65A33 9D233 6F533	21B34 5K734 DC934	16D35		9X338	
4		61B41	4H842	3A243 75A43 7J843	1S44	14A46 4C446 7C346	FT77147		32B49 5E249 8B549 7J249
5	4A250 53A50 9D950 FT63350	51B51	7A352	7J753 T1453		4G656 DC2156			7C159 9D959 5E459
6	4D260 9F960	9B61 77C61		99A63 5B663 2B63		3K765	DC1566	27A67 6D67 9J567	2K368 DC2169
7	3F570	7B471 6H671	2C772 8C972 FT72672		6D74 3J74 7S174		12A76	43A77	17C79
8	95B80 26C80 2K680	4D781 8X881			1E684 T10484	63A85 2K85 7K885	78A86	2B867 T1087	6B988 7S289
9	8J890		T10492		8A94	6A595 39C5		7J597	3K598