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The Police and The Public

Through centuries of change, civilized peoples have chosen a way of life that guarantees the maximum of freedom and independence within an ordered society. This desirable state has been achieved because free men have voluntarily adopted restrictions and codes of conduct which subordinate the will of the individual to the rights of the community. These restrictions we know as laws. The policeman is a representative of the law within a community. It is his duty to enforce the law, to "Uphold the Right". *How* he performs his duty is as important to the public as the fact that he *does* perform it. The latter is taken for granted because the policeman is a public servant; but on the former depends the prestige of the Force he serves and the attitude of the citizenry toward an ordered and restricted society which he represents.

Time was when practically the only requirement for a job on a police force was size. Happily those days are gone. Today law-enforcement agencies seek intelligent men who have an appreciation for the challenge of a career in the public service and the personality to discharge their duties with an impartiality that will promote respect among their fellow citizens. Such men are good "public relations", foster a deference to the law among the youth of a community and thus assist in the prevention of crime. As an example of this we reprint below the letter of a man who ran afoul of the law and thus came into personal contact with a policeman—in this case a member of the Force.

"Dear Sir:

"I had the misfortune to get into trouble. Constable — was assigned to the investigation and arrested me.