

Way over the top!

## Ambulance fund is \$2365, committee of four named

Exceeding even the most optimistic hopes, the Community Ambulance Fund reached a total of \$2,365.90 as of Wednesday noon, February 22.

With the original basic-goal set at \$1,500, the fund went more than 50 per cent over the top—in just 17 business days after the campaign started.

The original fund-raising committee—Police Chief Gene Hiner, Ray Pack, Ralph Hunter—again expressed enthusiastic praise for the outstanding community response. They said that no other local fund-raising drive on record ever reached, and exceeded, the original goal so quickly.

"We think this comes close to setting an all-time record—and all of it came from voluntary donations by the men, women, and business places of the entire Meridian fire district. It certainly speaks well for our community's fine spirit."

It was emphasized that donations are still welcomed—since money will be needed for operation and maintenance of the community ambulance system. Donations may be left at Rice Pharmacy or the Meridian News-Times, or mailed to: Community Ambulance Fund, P. O. Box 365, Meridian, Idaho. Names of all new donors will be published in future issues of the Meridian News-Times.

Four community men were named this week as an operating group for the ambulance and fire-call project. They were Chief Gene Hiner, representing the drivers and helpers . . . Don Roberts, representing the Meridian Rural Fire District . . . Wayne Skiver, representing the Meridian city fire department . . . and Ray Pack, representing the original fund-raising group and the donors.

The group said that John Fitzgerald, Meridian city attorney, will determine the proper legal requirements to be followed in the operation of the ambulance and fire-call system.

Chief Hiner reported that the new community ambulance service had already answered nine calls in the area.

He said that the calls were for heart-attacks or strokes, with the patients taken to area hospitals. Of the nine calls, four payments of the \$25 ambulance fee have already been received.

### Additional donors

The group announced the names of firms and individuals who have donated to the fund, but who have not been listed on any of the previous reports of donors. Many of the names refer to both husband and wife.

Joining the major-donor group were G & B Ready Mix, and Paul's Conoco service station.

Other additions to the donors' list include Ten Mile Grange, Claude Wilmot, Earl Marks, George Boyack, Ray Anderson, Hope Jones, Ben Jones, Howard White, Doran Peterson, Ray Kellar, Earl Mackay, Rillous Yates, Arvad Roberts, Rollie Stickley, Ken Records, O. M. Raines, Ray O. Pack, Charles Reznor, Abbie Ammon;

Bob Voss, Roy Wood, Bill Gray, Leona and Gladys Bales, Morgan Plant, Hawley's Day-Nite Laundercenter, E. Latimer, John Hileman, Ted Hepper, Clyde Ryker, Sanitary Service, Florence Dunlap, J. E. Wills, John Fritchie, Charles Dusek, Ray Ulmer, Clayton Downend, Joe Wright.

(If anyone, who has given to the Ambulance Fund in any way, has not been listed among the donors, that person is sincerely asked to telephone the Meridian News-Times, 888-4423, and give his or her name. You needn't list the amount, just your name—so that it will appear on further lists to be published in the Meridian News-Times.)

## Financial report

March 2-1967

## Area ambulance fund still grows, now \$2673.90

The Community Ambulance Fund continued its record-breaking growth the past week — reaching a new total of \$2,673.90 as of Wednesday noon, March 1.

In addition to new group and individual contributions, Davis Foods joined the list of major contributors to the fund.

Other donors not reported previously include Acme Rebekah Lodge, Upper Fairview Grange, Farmers Home Club, Ralph Carlson, B. E. Roush, Elmer Lorah, Alvin Aitken, Fred Kunter, Leota Gregory, Maurice Payton, Clark Ellensohn. (In most cases, the name represents both husband and wife.)

Donations are still welcomed—and are vitally needed for the operation and maintenance of the community ambulance system. They may be left at Rice Pharmacy or the Meridian News-Times, or may be mailed to: Community Ambulance Fund, Box 365, Meridian, Idaho. Names of all new donors will be published in future issues of the Meridian News-Times.

Also, anyone who has given to the ambulance fund, and who has not been listed as a donor, is sincerely invited to call the Meridian News-Times, 888-4423, so that his or her name may be added to the honor roll. That includes donors of any amount, large or small.

### Financial report

The current financial status of the Community Ambulance Fund, as of Wednesday noon, March 1, is as follows.

Total received — \$2,673.90.

Expenditures — Robison Chapel of the Chimes for fully equipped ambulance, \$1,000. Linen and miscellaneous supplies for ambulance, \$17.82. Earl's Auto Parts, for 4,000 feet of wire for telephone lines to three police officers' homes, \$140 (below actual wholesale cost); Pay-N-Pack for 500 feet of wire, \$90.50. Robert Moore for 55 electrical knobs for poles, \$5.50. Labor costs for installing telephones, at \$3.00 per hour — Charles Stuart, 14 hours, \$42.00; Robert Moore, 12 hours, \$36.00; Jack Harbison, 8 hours, \$24.00; Kenneth Crawford, 7 hours, \$21.00. Total labor costs, \$123.00. Total labor and materials costs for telephone installation, \$359.00; plus \$18.75 to Mt. States Telephone.

Total all expenditures to date—\$1,395.57.

Balance on hand for maintenance and operation \$1,278.33.

The balance on hand includes \$125.00 received to date for ambulance calls. A total of 11 calls have been made since the community-service started, at the established fee of \$25. Five of the fees have been paid. The po-

(Continued on Page 4)



March 4-1967  
**Ambulance ...**

(Continued from Page 1)

lice volunteers—on telephone call 24 hours a day, seven days a week—are to receive one-half of the ambulance fee. On that basis, the police officers now have a total of \$137.50 due them for the 11 calls.

#### Local fees lower

Regarding the local community ambulance fee of \$25 for a trip out of the Meridian Fire District, spokesmen cited the following comparative figures:

The Boise ambulance service charges \$35 for a call within the city of Boise. For calls outside the city limits, a charge of \$1 per mile is made one way. (For example, a Meridian call costs \$45). If the patient requires the use of oxygen, an additional \$2.50 charge is made. If the resuscitator is used, there is an additional \$10 charge.

That compares to the \$25 fee charged by the Community Ambulance—with that fee covering all mileage charges, as well as any use of oxygen or the resuscitator.

"The lower fees, of course," said the spokesman, "are made possible only by the generous community-support given the ambulance project, and the 24-hour-a-day volunteer service by the Meridian police officers."



### Wreck at Meridian curve

WEDNESDAY MORNING collision at north curve in Meridian between car driven by Edna M. Burnett, 51, of Rt. 1, Eagle, and truck driven by John A. Arrequi, 57, of Boise, caused heavy damage to car — shown above with State Patrolman Manny Newell. Meridian Police Chief Gene Hiner said truck was coming into Meridian from Boise, and car came onto highway from Cherry Lane. Citation was issued to Mrs. Burnett on charge of failure to stop at stop sign.

March 2-1967

March 9, 1967  
**Group reports  
more donations  
for ambulance**

Additional donations received the past week for the community ambulance fund brought the total close to the \$2,700 mark. The money was added to the maintenance-and-operation fund, and additional donations will be welcomed.

Donors not listed on previous reports include Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Bodine, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goodwin, Mrs. Lecna Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Zabel.

#### Group elects

The Community Ambulance Group, in charge of the project operation, have elected officers. Ray Pack was named president, with Don Roberts as secretary-treasurer.

Other members of the group include Police Chief Gene Hiner and Wayne Skiver; and Walter Teeter and Vilbert Sundell of the Meridian Rural Fire District.

The group reported that the ambulance has made a total of 13 runs since it went into action early in February, and that payment has been received for seven of the calls.



Other action at Monday night's council meeting included a report on the status of Meridian auxiliary police. Chief Gene Hiner said that the men will now be on a reserve basis—permitting them to be employed for special police assignments, and also giving the police officials increased control over their activities.

March 23, 1967

March 30, 1967  
**Ambulance fund  
 increases again**

Donations the past week to the Community Ambulance Fund included those from the Pleasant Hour Club and L. C. Castile.

All donations received go into the maintenance and operation fund. They may be mailed to: Community Ambulance Fund, Box 365, Meridian, Idaho; or left at the Rice Pharmacy or Meridian News-Times.

Police Chief Gene Hiner reported Wednesday that the ambulance has made a total of 18 runs, since the community service began 54 days ago.

## Smoke Kills Newcomer In Meridian

### Motel Room Burns; Cigarette Gets Blame For Starting Flames

MERIDIAN — A 37-year-old Meridian man, overcome by smoke, died in his flame-filled motel room Saturday morning in an 11-unit frame building off Highway 30 near Meridian Street.

Ada County Coroner Ed Paris, who was at the scene, identified the victim as Paul E. Johnson, formerly of Payette, who had been working at a Meridian creamery.

The man died of asphyxiation, Paris said, and no autopsy or inquest was planned.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said the blaze started in the victim's room which he occupied alone and where most of the damage was located. Both Hiner and Paris believed the man had been smoking in bed.

Three units from the Meridian Rural Fire Department and a truck from the Cole Fire Department responded to the alarm at the Charlila Motel, 40 West Cottonwood Road, shortly before 7 a.m. About 15 firemen fought the blaze.

Mrs. Eva Kirk, owner of the motel who also lives there, said she was awakened by firemen pounding at her door and she did not know who turned in the alarm. Eight of the 11 units were rented to tenants and all were evacuated by the firemen.

Services are pending at Robison Chapel of the Chimes, Meridian.

## Fire Brings Death, Destruction



A MERIDIAN MAN died Saturday morning in this charred room of the Charlila Motel in Meridian. Coroner Ed Paris said Paul E. Johnson, 37, formerly of Payette, died of asphyxiation in the fire that started shortly before 7 a.m. The blaze was confined mainly to the victim's room.



March 30, 1967

## Man dies in fire at local motel

Paul E. Johnson, 37, died early Saturday morning from asphyxiation, when flames destroyed his room at the Charlila Motel on Highway 30, just west of the Meridian city limits.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said everything in the man's bedroom was totally destroyed and the other room of the unit was heavily damaged. It was believed that Johnson had been smoking, and may have fallen asleep with a cigarette in his hand.

The alarm was turned in at 7:05 a.m., and all units from the Meridian Rural Fire Department plus one truck from Cole responded. Mrs. Eva Kirk, motel manager, said she did not know who had turned in the alarm, and that she was not aware of the fire until awakened by firemen.

The fire victim was a former resident of Payette, and had been working at the Meridian plant of the Ada County Dairymen's Association.

### Funeral held

Funeral services were held Wednesday at Ontario, Oregon. Mr. Johnson was born November 10, 1929, in Meadow Grove, Nebraska, and had lived in the valley since 1956. He worked as an electrician, and served in the U. S. Army during World War II.

Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Dora Johnson of Parma; two sons, Gary and Randy, a daughter, Paula, all at Payette; two brothers, Eardley Johnson of Westchester, Pennsylvania, and Wayne Johnson of Summer's Point, New Jersey; and two sisters, Mrs. A. L. Turner of Nampa and Mrs. Harold Daniels of Bethany, Oklahoma.

48th year March 30, 1967

## Lloyd E. Hutcheson Post marks Legion anniversary

Lloyd E. Hutcheson Post No. 113 celebrated the 48th anniversary of the American Legion with a dinner March 21.

Mrs. Jim Taylor, Auxiliary president, presented Commander Irwin Ewing with a birthday cake and a check from the Auxiliary.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of a plaque to Police Chief Gene Hiner as an outstanding officer. It was presented by Commander Ewing.

George Flamm congratulated and thanked the Auxiliary for outstanding service to the Boise Veterans hospital. He is head of the volunteer workers at the hospital.

Mrs. Gorton Beers of Boise and Mrs. Roy Luke of Meridian are members of the 1,000-hour club. They have from 1,000 to 10,000 hours of volunteer service at the hospital.

Department adjutant Lou Babb gave a speech on what the American Legion Preamble stands for, and what the Legion is doing to uphold the preamble. He also presented the post with outstanding membership awards.

Adjutant Ralph Hawkins presented membership solicitor awards to membership chairman Parley Stanger, and committee members Irwin Ewing, Lynn John-

son, George Judd, R. W. Kirkpatrick, J. D. Petty, Frank Ward, Clyde Waitley, Herley Wilson.

Continuous membership awards included 35 years to William E. Curtis, and 40 years to Orville Jackson.

A book was presented to the post, "The American Legion Story," by Raymond Moley, Jr.

George Judd fried oysters for the 75 members of the American Legion third district. Those present were from Meridian, Melba, Boise, Nampa, Grand View.

District Commander Jim Evans of Boise purchased the oysters for the March 25 feed.

The Meridian post, with 175, had the highest membership in the district.

State and district American Legion officials visiting at Meridian Monday included Department Commander of Idaho Chet Floyd, and Third District Commander Jim Evans. They were accompanied by George Odderson of Hagerman, a Legionnaire since 1919.



### Legion honors police chief

MERIDIAN POLICE CHIEF GENE HINER, right, was honored with plaque for outstanding police service, during 48th anniversary event of American Legion post at Meridian. Making presentation to honored officer were, left, Post Commander Irwin Ewing; and, center, city councilman and police commissioner Wayne Skiver. (Creason)

## Thieves Blow Door of Safe At Meridian

MERIDIAN — Burglars dynamited the safe in the Bazaar of Meridian at 136 East Idaho Avenue sometime Saturday night or early Sunday and made off with between \$700 and \$800 in cash, according to Police Chief Gene Hiner.

The loss was discovered around 9:30 a.m. Sunday by the store manager, Don Roberts, Hiner said.

Investigation revealed that whoever took the money entered the store by cutting a hole in the floor of a vacant room in the second story of the building housing the Bazaar, Hiner said.

Entry to the second story of the building was gained by forcing open a door leading to outside stairs, the chief added.

Dynamite was used by the intruder or intruders to blow the safe door almost completely off the safe, Hiner said.

Investigation of the burglary was continuing Sunday night, he noted.



APR 20 1967 Court change studied  
Police Chief Gene Hiner asked about the possibility of changing part of the procedure of the city police court, under provisions of the new municipal-recodification bill passed by the recent legislature. He suggested that it may be possible for certain misdemeanor offenses to be handled by Police Judge Herald J. Cox — thus avoiding the expense and time required when such cases are taken to a justice court in Boise.

The council referred the matter to the city attorney for study and recommendation.

It was announced that all city officials have been invited to be the guests of the Boise Little Theatre next Tuesday night, to view the play "A Majority of One."

It was also announced that Mayor Don Storey would be among municipal heads appearing at the Boys' State, as a panelist on city government.

#### Police commendation

The Chamber of Commerce this week went on record in appreciation of the "superior service and protection" given the city by the Meridian police department.

C of C members unanimously approved sending a letter of commendation to the department, which includes Police Chief Gene Hiner and officers Charles Stuart and Richard Brumble.

## City officials renew campaign for traffic light

June 8, 1967  
Meridian officials at the city council meeting Monday night said that new efforts will be made immediately to obtain a traffic light on East First (Highway 30) at Idaho Street.

Police Chief Gene Hiner reported that the traffic problem was increasing, and that cross traffic was being delayed for unreasonably long periods because of steady traffic on East First.

He said that, at the minimum, the traffic light should be installed at least until the interstate is opened from Meridian east to Boise.

City council members confirmed the increasing problem, and said that it existed throughout most of the day, not only during the extreme rush hours.

Mayor Don Storey said that he would discuss the matter with officers and members of the Meridian Chamber of Commerce, and that a meeting with district highway officials would be sought in the immediate future.

It was agreed that, if the meeting on the district level produced no results, the matter would be taken to the state highway board.

#### Chamber helps

Chamber of Commerce members voted Wednesday noon to take an active part in the new campaign to obtain a traffic light for Meridian.

The C of C members also unanimously approved the action of city officials in preparing an ordinance to prohibit drinking beer or other alcoholic liquors at any public gathering in the city.

## Meridian police nab two youths

June 8, 1967  
Two youths—Elmer G. Ireland, 18, of Star; and a 15-year-old boy from Boise—were arrested shortly after midnight Monday night near the Meridian Speedway.

Meridian police went to the scene after the alarm had sounded from the concession stand at the Speedway. The youths were found in a car parked nearby.

The Boise juvenile was remanded to the probate court; and Ireland was fined \$25 and sentenced to 10 days in jail on a charge of vagrancy.



Horton Studio Meridian, Idaho



Council meeting June 8, 1967

# City slates ordinance on drinking in public

Meridian city officials Monday night instructed city attorney John Fitzgerald to prepare an ordinance making it illegal to consume beer or other alcoholic beverages at any public gathering within the city.

Under the plan, the ordinance would go into effect upon its publication in the Meridian News-Times next Thursday, June 15. It would then apply to the races at the Meridian Speedway that week end.

It was reported that the new ordinance was made necessary by recent actions of a minority among the spectators at the races. Police Chief Gene Hiner said that, pending passage of the new ordinance, law officers would control such actions this week end under provisions of the Idaho Code.

The officials said that offenders were always subject to arrest under existing local and state laws, but that the new and specific ordinance would clarify the situation for everyone concerned.

The new ordinance would not apply to taverns licensed for the consumption of beer on the premises.

## Delegation heard

Present at Monday night's council meeting was a delegation of 10 property owners from the area just outside the city limits in the vicinity of the Meridian Bowling Lanes. They appeared in connection with the proposed improvement of city-water delivery to their properties.

City officials said that the present water-line serving the area was in bad shape, and would require complete replacement within the near future. Members of the delegation said that the present water supply was not adequate for normal family needs.

The group is studying a propos-

al for the installation of a larger-size line, including approximately 1,310 feet of six-inch pipe and 1,290 feet of four-inch line. Cost of such line, including installation, was estimated at between \$1.71 and \$1.75 per running foot.

The property-owners involved would share the cost of the project, on a pro-rata basis according to the front-footage of their property. (In an earlier news story, the News-Times reported that, with 16 families involved, the cost would average \$200 per family. While mathematically correct, such an average has no practical meaning—since the cost will vary for each property, according to the front footage. Thus, at \$1.75 per foot, the cost for property with 100 front feet would be \$175, the cost for property with 300 front feet would be \$525, etc.)

City officials had earlier announced that not more than one dwelling unit—house or trailer-house—could be connected to any one water meter. However, they said Monday night that action on that matter would be held in abeyance for a reasonable time, to permit installation of the new line.

## Civil defense school

Mayor Storey announced that a civil defense school would be held at the city building five nights—this Wednesday and Thursday, June 7-8; and next Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 13-14-15; from 7 till 10 p.m. Minimum required attendance by city representatives will be 10 persons. They will include city clerk Herald J. Cox, fire chief Roger Welker, police chief Gene Hiner, work superintendent Neal Hudson, other city employees, some members of the volunteer fire department, and perhaps some auxiliary policemen.

The course will be conducted by

L. L. Peck, assistant engineer for the City of Boise. Listed among the needs for such training was the increasing amount of nuclear material and high explosives being transported on the highways. It was pointed out that Meridian's location on Highway 30, and close to Interstate 80-N, made this one of the main local routes, and added to the importance of having personnel trained to cope with any disaster.

## Project approved

Mayor Storey reported that \$18,300 in federal funds have been approved for the project of lowering the water level in certain parts of the town, particularly during irrigation season, including the installation of a well.

Meridian will be the first community in the northwest to undertake such a test-project. If it proves successful, similar projects are anticipated for other areas. Total cost of the project was estimated at above \$20,000. The engineering firm of Hoffman and Fisk at Boise is preparing the plans.

## Heavy work load

Work superintendent Neal Hudson asked consideration of adding a part-time employee to care for mowing and sprinkling the city park areas during the summer. He said that would free one of the full-time employees for the heavy work-load.

Officials indicated approval of hiring a man for approximately 15 hours a week. They said the hours would be before and after regular work hours, so the part-time employee would be able to hold

(Continued on Page 3)

June 8, 1967

Meridia

ons reported . . .

list of needed street improve-

popcorn, punch, and candy.  
parade. A confection stand sold  
al rings, booths, and a costumed  
May meet as a circus, with sever-

Pack 128 of Cub Scouts held its  
Cubs meet

art, and health.  
nction including science, speech,  
and lessons in many phases of ed-

Ricks college will give lectures o  
structors from the university and  
Changing World." Fourteen in-

class event will be "Values in a  
30. Theme of the annual study-  
3200 Cassia Street, Boise, June 28-

in the Boise West Stake Center on  
"Education Week" will be held  
Brigham Young University's

announce events

L.D.S. groups

a rewarding experience."  
have made the two years such  
people—youths and adults—who

many pleasant memories of all the  
athletes, students, and community  
athletes, students, and community

—and the association with the fine  
enjoyed my two years at Meridian  
Mr. Tate said, "I have sincerely

the position at Oklahoma State,  
In announcing his acceptance of  
States' track team.

in 1946 as a member of the United  
football squad, and toured Europe  
for an American on the 1942



# City s on dr

Meridian city officials Monday night instructed city attorney John Fitzgerald to prepare an ordinance

Member  
IDAHO PRESS  
ASSOCIATION  
Publishers  
alpn & Jean Hunter

News-Times  
888-4423

Meridian

"Stay single, you darn fool!"

left the room.  
wled postscript: "Your mother  
en there was a hurriedly  
sting. We are just delighted."  
re your life complete and in-  
re is a fine institution, and will



## City Council actions reported . . .

(Continued from Page 1)  
another job in addition to the park assignment.

Mayor Storey was approved as Meridian's representative on a coordinating group, to confer with Ada County commissioners and other officials for a general study of taxes.

The council also approved attendance of city employee Bruce Stuart at a two-day meeting on municipal sewer matters, to be held at Twin Falls. Mr. Stuart has completed a course on the subject.

### Scouts thanked

The city officials expressed appreciation to the Boy Scouts of Troop 1, Meridian, for their "Operation Meridian Polish"—during which the Scouts cleaned the streets and vacant lots of trash and debris.

City clerk Herald Cox was instructed to draw up an official letter of appreciation to be sent to the Boy Scouts, in recognition of their outstanding community project.

### Street repairs

Councilman and street-commissioner John Navarro submitted a

list of needed street improvements. Mayor Storey pointed out that the city's financial position would not permit any major work this year, since the city would not receive an increase in its tax revenue until next January.

He added that the establishment of Local Improvement Districts for street work may become necessary. He said he knew of no other city that paid all its street costs from the general fund.

The proposed major improvements were for over-lay on Pine Street from East Second to the city limits, on East Third from Railroad Street to Carlton, and from Railroad Street to Pine avenue on West First, West Second, and West Third.

Also proposed was widening and over-laying East Bower from Meridian Street to the sale yard, rebuilding and oiling West Bower from Meridian Street west, repairing and overlaying King Street from East First to East Third, over-lay on West Fifth from Carlton to Washington.

Further discussion will be held at the July 5 meeting, but it was indicated that the lack of city funds would limit this year's street work to just patch-jobs.

### West Eighth problem

Police Chief Gene Hiner brought up for discussion the hazards presented by speeding cars on West Eighth, from the high school to Pine Avenue.

He proposed that pavement-bumps be installed at the street-edge of the high school driveway, and that a dip be installed on West Eighth to help cut down the speed and accident-danger. Officials expressed approval of the plan.

Also approved for study was Chief Hiner's suggestion that the city code be amended to permit certain cases to be tried at the police court, rather than requiring trips in to the justice court at Boise. City attorney John Fitzgerald was asked to study the plan and to present recommendations regarding new ordinances or amendments.

### Area annexed

By unanimous vote, the city council approved annexation of two to three acres near the north curve—including the Arden's Communication building, Harold Hazen property, Hill's Farm Tire Service, Frost Realty, Cope Auto Repair, and Lyon's Courtel.

The council also approved adopting the national plumbing code as the standards for the city ordinance on plumbing.

As noted elsewhere on this page, the city officials also passed an ordinance regarding fireworks, and approved a new campaign to obtain a traffic light at East First (Highway 30) and Idaho Street.



New ordinance

June 15, 1967

# Law on public drinking goes into effect today

Meridian's new ordinance, prohibiting drinking of any alcoholic beverage at the city park, Meridian Speedway, or other public place goes into effect this Thursday, June 15.

The new ordinance appears as a Public Notice on Page 10 of this issue, as do two other ordinances approved at a special meeting of the city council Monday night.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said strict enforcement of the new law would begin immediately, including complete enforcement at the races this Saturday night. Persons found guilty of violating the ordinance will be subject to a \$250 fine and/or 30 days in jail.

### Plumbing, court ordinances

The other ordinances approved Monday night, and effective with their publication in this issue of the Meridian News-Times, concern plumbing regulations, and the handling of certain misdemeanor cases in the Meridian police court. The latter change was made possible when Meridian became a city of the first-class under action of the 1967 state legislature.

In other action Monday night, the council authorized councilman and park commissioner Marvin Bodine to purchase a new power mower. It will replace an old mower that has become unusable, and whose continued repair would cost more than the new one.

### Zoning discussion

Lynn Rogers, director of Ada County Planning and Zoning Commission, appeared at the council meeting to discuss certain zoning matters affecting the area—including the numbering of houses between Cloverdale and Meridian.

City officials also approved a letter to be sent to the state highway department, insisting upon the installation of a traffic light at East First and Idaho, and pointing out the increasing difficulty for motorists and pedestrians attempting to cross East First (Highway 30) in the downtown section.



American Cancer

Guard those you  
Give to the

signal lasts longer than two weeks  
cully in swallowing. 7. Change in

# 3 Men Face Theft Counts At Meridian

1967

MERIDIAN <sup>JULY 19</sup> Three men were arrested by Meridian police officers Tuesday afternoon and charged with second degree burglary.

Jack C. Adams, 50, and Charles L. Brown, 47, addresses unknown, and Jess C. Murray, 50, Meridian, were arraigned in Ada County Justice Court Tuesday afternoon. Adams waived preliminary hearing and was ordered bound over to Fourth District Court.

Murray and Brown asked for attorneys and their cases were continued to 11 a.m. Thursday. All are being held in lieu of posting \$500 bond.

Adams is accused of entering the home of Mrs. C. H. Murray, 121 East State, Meridian, during the day of July 1. Murray and Brown are accused of aiding in the alleged entry of the home.

# Police warn bike riders

Aug 10, 1967

Meridian police today warned community youngsters that it is illegal to ride bicycles on sidewalks, or to ride bicycles after dark without lights and reflectors.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said that warning notices will be issued boys or girls, with one copy being mailed to the parents.



They want you to drop in, any time between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and let them know how you feel about matters they'll be working on at the special session of the Legislature.

State Senator John Gaige and State Representatives Harold Agee and Robert Green, all of our District 14, will be there.

It's your chance to speak up. Incidentally, be sure to read Senator Gaige's letter in this issue, about the Title 19 funds.

It's the first concise and complete explanation I've seen—and he's double-checked all the facts for official accuracy.

June 15, 1967

## Public drinking prohibited today

Prohibiting drinking of any alcohol at Meridian Speedway, or other public places, effective this Thursday, June 15.

This is a Public Notice on Page 10 of the Meridian Post. Finances approved at a special meeting last night.

## 3 Men Face Theft Counts At Meridian

1967  
July 19

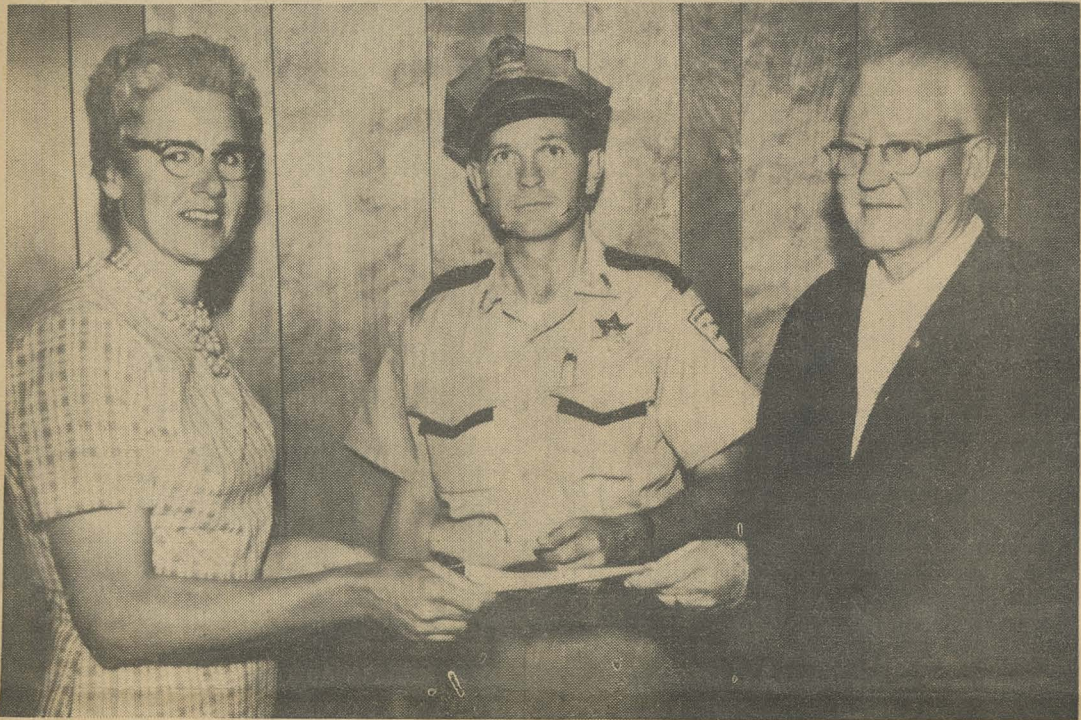
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## V.F.W. Auxiliary backs community projects

June 22, 1967

MERIDIAN V.F.W. AUXILIARY helps community swimming pool and community ambulance fund, with check for funds raised at cooked-food sale. Making presentation is Mrs. Harold Shelton—to Police Chief Gene Hiner for ambulance fund, and to J. D. Petty for swimming pool. Successful sale was under direction of Mrs. Roy Stroup, president of the Meridian V.F.W. Auxiliary. Chief Hiner reported that, as of Tuesday, the community ambulance had made a total of 37 calls since the service was established early in February—for an average of about eight calls per month.

(Creason photo)

## Police warn bike riders

Aug 10, 1967

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Police Chief Gene Hiner said that warning notices will be issued to boys or girls, with one copy being mailed to the parents.



Meeting held *Aug 17, 1967*

## Highway official approves traffic light in Meridian

State highway engineer E. L. Mathes said Tuesday that he would recommend to the Idaho Board of Highway Directors that a traffic light be installed in Meridian.

He said that surveys had shown that traffic in Meridian, including "interruption traffic", was nearing the level required for installation of a light.

If approved by the state board, the traffic light would be installed at East First (Highway 30) and Idaho Avenue. Mr. Mathes said he thought the state board would act favorably on the matter.

### Officials meet

The highway official met Tuesday morning at the Meridian city building with Mayor Don Storey, State Senator John Gaige, and Police Chief Gene Hiner. The state engineer was accompanied by district engineer W. W. Sacht.

The engineers said that surveys had shown the average daily traffic on East First Street, on a year-around basis, totalled 6,300 vehicles. They said that the total increased up to 8,500 vehicles per day during the three summer months.

Under the engineer's proposal, the city would bear the cost of installing poles for the light, and the state would furnish the traffic light. Mayor Storey said that a special city-council meeting could be scheduled immediately to act on the matter.

### Fixed-time light

Mr. Mathes said that the traffic light would be one that had been removed from some other place in Idaho, and would represent a cost to the highway department of about \$2,000. The light would operate on a fixed-time basis—that is, changing from red to green at certain intervals.

He said that a traffic-actuated light—one that remains green on the main street until cross-traffic actuates a light-change—would be preferable, but that the cost of such a light would be \$12,000, with half that cost borne by the city.

Both engineers pointed out that installation of the light may result in new traffic problems in Meridian. They said it would increase traffic delays, as drivers waited for the light to change, and that it would probably result in

an increase in rear-end collisions on East First Street.

### Traffic-decrease due

They also pointed out that, with the opening of the interstate from Meridian to Boise in about a year and a half, traffic through Meridian could be expected to drop 40% to 50%. They said that if the decrease resulted in a traffic flow below certain standards, they would have no choice but to remove the light. They added that resistance to such removal was inevitable, but that by December 1968, all signs and lights must conform to certain standards for Idaho to qualify for federal highway funds.

Mr. Sacht said that recent surveys showed that there was no unreasonable delay for cross traffic in Meridian, with the average delay being only 10 seconds. He said that the cross-traffic was below the required warrant, particularly pedestrian traffic, and that the north-south traffic reached the warrant during only a six-hour period per day, rather than the preferred eight-hour measure.

### School traffic

Meridian spokesmen pointed out that the pedestrian-traffic picture would change with the opening of schools—with local children crossing East First to go west to the grade school and high school, to go east to the junior high school.

They also pointed out that the survey had been taken at only one intersection in Meridian, not giving the total picture of all cross-traffic in town. They said that, if one intersection had a traffic light, a majority of all such cross-traffic would use that intersection — both vehicles and pedestrians.

The engineers said that the law called for no parking within 20 feet of a cross-walk, and said that the present parking policy in Meridian increased danger to cross-traffic, particularly pedestrians.

*Sept 21, 1967*

## Meridian uses radar control

Police Chief Hiner announced today that radar is being used in Meridian for speed control.

Chief Hiner said the units would be used particularly in the vicinity of the Meridian grade school, junior high school, and high school.

He reminded motorists that there is a 35-mile speed zone on Cherry Lane in the vicinity of the high school, and said citations would be issued violators.

## Meridian offers patrolman post

Police Chief Gene Hiner said that applications are now being accepted for a patrolman on the Meridian police force.

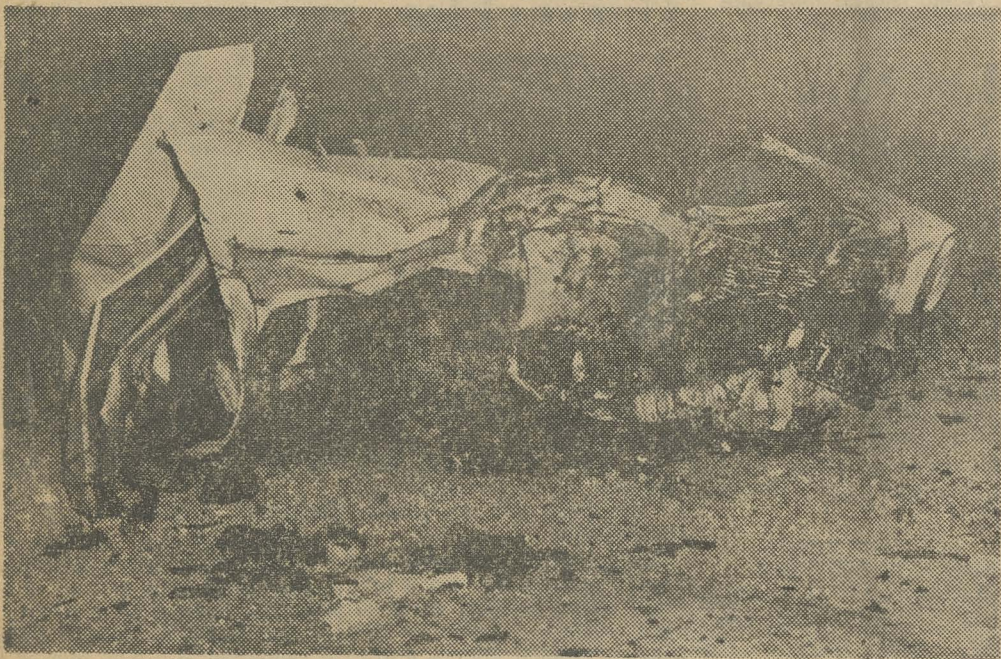
Applications should be made to Chief Hiner at the city building.



## Freight Slices Car in Fatal Meridian Collision



THESE PICTURES show vividly what happened when a fast-moving train crashed into an auto at a grade crossing in Meridian early Saturday, killing two of the car's three occupants. Top picture shows passenger compartment on the tracks; bottom picture shows vehicle's front end, which landed several feet away. All three occupants of the auto were thrown out, according to police.



## Meridian Pair Dies When Crack Train Rips Auto in Half

### Double Fatality Halts School Fete; Boisean, 21, Survives Smashup

MERIDIAN — One of the worst traffic accidents in recent Meridian history took the lives of two young persons from Meridian when the car they were riding in was struck by a fast-moving passenger train early Saturday morning.

Killed instantly were Jo Anne Link, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Link, 428 East State, and Gordon Cooper, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Cooper, Route 1, Meridian, Ada County Coroner E. D. Paris reported.

#### Youth Injured

In good condition at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Boise was John E. Foster, 21, Ustick, who was also riding in the car. A physician at the hospital said Foster suffered back injuries. He was taken to Mercy Hospital in Nampa and later transferred to the Boise hospital.

The tragedy, which occurred at 1:41 a.m. on Highway 30 near Railroad Street in Meridian, caused cancellation of Meridian High School's homecoming dance which had been planned for Saturday night.

High School Principal August

Hein said Miss Link was well-known at the school as a member of the drill team. He said, in view of the accident, he didn't feel that the students would want a homecoming celebration at this time. The dance may be held next week, but "it's up to the students," Hein said.

#### Tore Car Apart

The car, which belonged to Cooper, was struck by a Union Pacific passenger train which was traveling at 80 miles an hour, Meridian Police Chief Gene Hiner said. The impact with the train "tore the car in half," throwing all three occupants from the vehicle.

It was not known who was driving the car, Paris said.

The train continued on its course for a mile before it could stop, Hiner said. The body of the Cooper youth was found 120 feet west of the crossing and the body of the girl 15 feet west of the crossing, Paris said. Foster was found alive near the crossing, he added.

After talking to Foster, Meridian officers and sheriff's deputies were under the impression that there was a fourth person riding in the car at the time of the collision. The officers searched the area and looked beneath the train for a body, but could find none.

#### Friend Leaves Car

Hiner said there had been a fourth youth in the car, but he was let out prior to the accident.

Services for Miss Link and Cooper are being arranged by Robison Chapel of the Chimes, Meridian.

The deaths raised the Idaho traffic fatality toll for 1967 to 240, nine above last year.



**Law Enforcement**

# Meridian Keeps Active Reserve

By DICK JOHNSON

MERIDIAN — Although there are only two regular officers on the Meridian Police Department in addition to Police Chief Gene Hiner, the chief can call on the services of nine other men.

Hiner doesn't like to refer to the nine as "auxiliary" members either. He prefers the use of the term "reserve."

The nine — and Hiner would like to bring their number to 12 — are trained members of the Meridian Police Reserve. They wear uniforms just like those of the full-time police, receive training from veteran law enforcement officers, including members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and can carry the same authority — when on duty — as any other police officer.

They work regular shifts for off-duty police officers, but they receive no direct remuneration for their efforts. Money they would otherwise receive goes into a fund for equipment and uniform maintenance.

The Meridian Police Reserve has a meeting once a month to organize its working schedule. The average member of the reserve force works four days a month on a regular patrol shift.

A new man in the reserve, Hiner explained, will work on a six-month trial period, riding a patrol car with a regular officer for practical experience.

The reserves attend court hearings, study arrest procedure manuals and take written tests on their contents. Lawyers attend the reserve meetings to aid in clarification of laws governing arrests.

Based on police-population ratios, Meridian's regular police force is short one man, but Hiner points out that for the same amount of money it would take to hire and equip a regular, the city can have nine reserve policemen.

While Meridian's population is 2,146, that figure often more than doubles because of auto races and other sporting activities which draw large crowds.

A regular officer, working alone, couldn't patrol these activities and keep up with his other duties, Hiner points out.

Hiner believes his reserve department helps bring about good public relations. The reserve members come from a variety of occupations and have children in Meridian schools.

The reserves, through their actual contact with problems of law enforcement, are able to give knowledgeable responses to criticism and to clarify misunderstandings which could arise, Hiner adds.

Meridian has had little or no increase in crime in the past five years and fewer problems have arisen concerning juveniles. The city has also recorded its fifth consecutive Halloween without serious vandalism.

Hiner's regular police officers are Richard Brumble and Alex Winn.

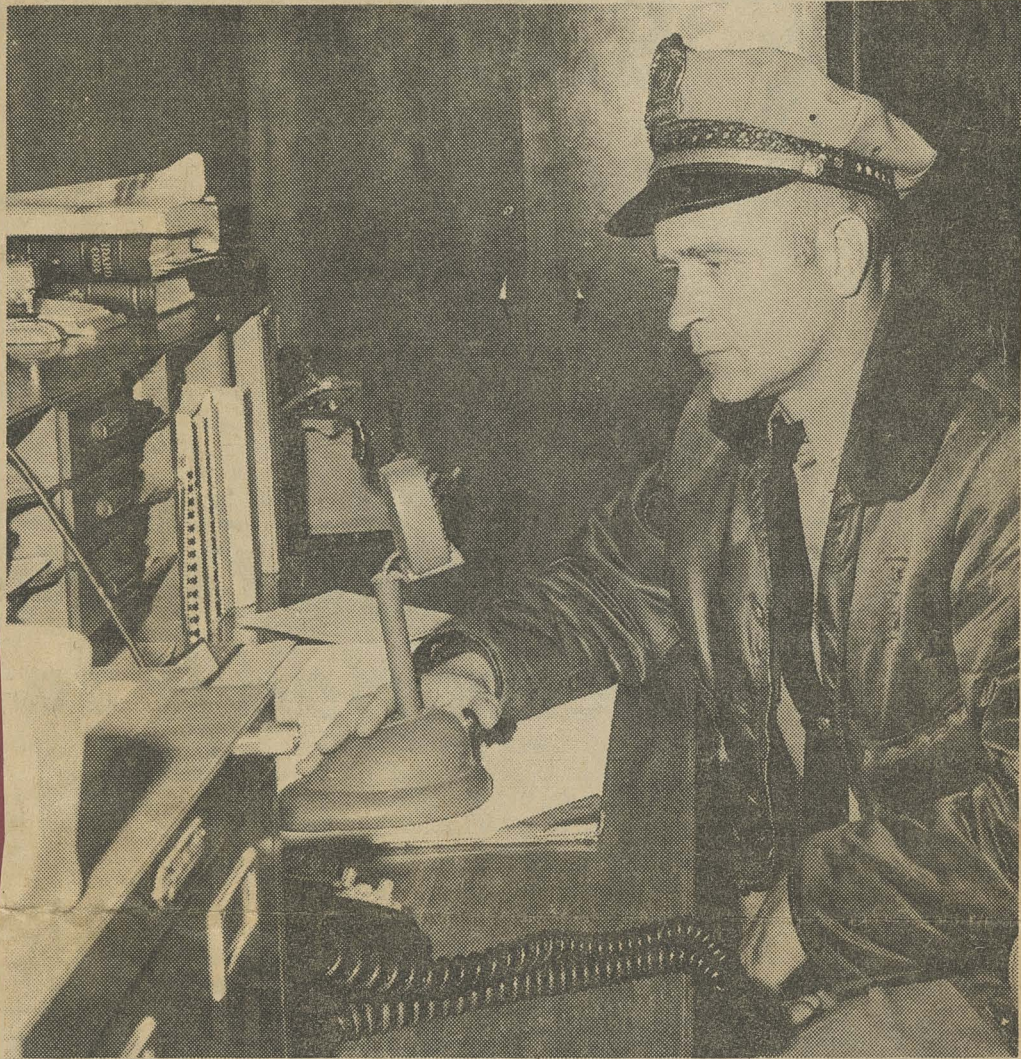
His reserve roster is composed of Wally Everist as captain and liaison officer, Charles Stuart, Bruce Stuart, Bill Luke, Ivan Fisk, Charles Stevens, Terry Trakel, Lorenzo Howard and Lowell Gass.



POLICE CHIEF Gene Hiner, above, of Meridian, heads a department of two regular patrolmen, and he can call on the services of nine trained police reservists when necessary. The Meridian Police Reserve consists of Meridian residents who engage in regular on-the-job police training in the community. (Staff Photo)

## Valley Happenings





POLICE CHIEF Gene Hiner, above, of Meridian, heads a department of two regular patrolmen, and he can call on the services of nine trained police reservists when necessary. The Meridian Police Reserve is composed of Meridian residents who engage in regular on-the-job police training in the community. (Staff Photo)



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## Police arrest

### two at Speedway

May 11, 1967

Two men were arrested at 11 p.m. Sunday in the Meridian Speedway, after a tripped burglar alarm had brought officers to the scene.

They were Joseph Harms, 18, and Norman Jensen, 19, both of Payette.

Meridian police officer Charles Stuart and a state patrolman went to the Speedway after the alarm was tripped at a concession stand. The two men attempted to flee over the fence, but were captured by the officers.

They were charged in Meridian police court with vagrancy, and Judge Herald J. Cox fined them \$25 each. They are confined in Meridian jail in lieu of payment of the fine. If the fine is not paid, each will serve five days in the jail.

Meridian

News Times

Nov - 30 - 67

### Letter of interest

Mr. Don Storey, Mayor  
Meridian, Idaho

Dear Mayor Storey:

While at the special meeting of the City Council at Meridian recently, I intended to express to you and the other council members my sincere appreciation for the excellent manner your Police Department, and especially Chief Gene Hiner, performed during the investigation and at the actual scene of the most regrettable crossing accident on Highway 30 and the railroad on November 4.

I found Chief Hiner to be very efficient and cooperative. It is my sincere belief that you can be proud to have a man of his calibre in charge of your Police Department.

Kindest personal regards,  
E. C. Shultz  
Trainmaster, UPRR

### Jan 4 - 68 Meridian police nab Boise youths

Police Chief Gene Hiner arrested two youths in a stolen car New Year's Day, on Highway 69 about five miles south of Meridian, after the sheriff's office had asked that the car be intercepted.

The car had been stolen in Boise. The two youths, 14 and 17 years old, were also found to have been involved in burglaries of a store and service station. Various items had been taken, including a complete cigarette-vending machine from the service station. The youths were released to custody of the Boise police.

#### Gun theft listed

When a Meridian youth bought a used .22 rifle, he brought it to the police station to be checked, and learned that it had been stolen.

Police arrested 20-year-old Vernon Stace of Boise, who was charged with burglarizing two cabins and a store at McCall. He was released to custody of the McCall police.

#### Decoration thieves

Two 15-year-old boys were questioned at Meridian, and admitted stealing exterior Christmas decorations from local yards and homes. They were released to their parents.

### Jan 4 - 68 Youths surrender to authorities, face charges

Two Meridian youths — David Wynia 18, and a 17-year-old—surrendered themselves Wednesday to authorities, and have been charged with several armed robberies and burglaries.

Wynia's parents brought him to the Meridian police station, and the juvenile's parents took him to the Ada County sheriff's office. A third youth, Dennis Spor, 18, was arrested at Twin Falls, and will also be charged with armed robberies and burglaries.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said the local youths would be charged with two hold-ups in Nampa, the hold-up of a market in Boise, and of a laundromat in Salt Lake City. Wynia faces two additional charges of service-station hold-ups at Twin Falls.

Wynia was arraigned in justice court, and the juvenile was put into custody of the probate court.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said a total of about 18 burglaries in the area are included in the charges, and that other juveniles are believed to be involved. The burglaries included churches, schools, the Meridian Tire Co., and others.





### Dogs are major help to law officers

MERIDIAN POLICE demonstrated use of trained police-dogs to members of Meridian Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday noon. From left—Patrolman Richard Brumble, holding purebred Rottweiler dog; Chief of Police Gene Hiner; and Patrolman Alex Winn, holding purebred German Shepherd. Police report that dogs are of great help, particularly on night patrols, in searching

buildings for suspected intruders, in guarding arrested persons, and in many other ways that add to the officer's safety, and to the detection of offenders who attempt to escape or hide from officers. Both dogs are about two years old, are expertly trained, and are assigned on a permanent basis to the respective officers.

(Creason photo)



Jan 12-68

# Canine 'Policeman' Joins Department at Meridian To Aid in Night Patrols

By RAY VANCE  
Statesman Staff Writer

MERIDIAN — A 75-pound German Shepherd "police dog" will help insure the peace and quiet of Meridian, in nightly patrols with officer Dick Brumble.

The trained four-footed police assistant was purchased from a Portland trainer who works with numerous police departments throughout the West, according to Meridian Police Chief Dick Hiner.

### Helps Handler

The dog, "Flash" by name, is trained to resist any acts of aggression against him or his handler, using as much force as necessary to control a situation, Hiner explained.

Brumble said the dog has been patrolling the city with him for the past two weeks. He explained that even though no opportunity to put the animal's training to use has arisen, "I'm certain Flash is capable of controlling the problem."

When asked why he was chosen to work with the dog, Brumble said, "I like dogs and I volunteered." Officer Brumble explained that the dog is kept with him at all times, and has been a constant companion since the city acquired him approximately 30 days ago.

### Surveys Surroundings

The Portland trainer worked with Brumble for a week to acquaint him with the technique of dog handling. Flash will need at least 60 days to acquaint himself with his new surroundings and duties, as well as to become used to obeying Brumble's commands.

Police departments throughout Treasure Valley are watching the Meridian experiment, Hiner said. If the test proves successful, other departments have expressed an interest in acquiring dogs.

Flash is very congenial in nature, trained to react only to acts of aggression against himself or his trainer, on command, the chief emphasized. The city would not want to have an animal that would not tolerate the petting of a child or one which would be disagreeable with anyone without cause.

### Training Compared

Brumble compared the training of Flash with a military patrol dog, trained to patrol a battle area. He said the animal trained for police work is not taught to slash an assailant with his teeth, as is a military animal. The dog working with police is not trained to kill, but to "halt and retain," while military dogs are taught to control a problem immediately, and as viciously as necessary.

The dog was purchased by the Meridian department as a method of crime prevention and protection for an officer. The dog can enter a building being burglarized and flush out intruders without exposing the police officer to danger. Another example, Chief Hiner said, is that an officer can patrol the alleys of a city and might miss a person hiding in a doorway, whereas the dog will smell the person and "bristle up", alerting the officer to possible danger, he continued.

"If Flash works out, the city will purchase a second dog for the other night patrolman," he explained "It costs approximately \$250 a year to feed the animal. If the city agrees to purchase the other animal it will cost from \$700 to \$900," Hiner said.

### Marks 'First'

"As far as I know, this is the first dog to be used in the valley. These animals are every effective against prowlers and 'peeping toms', and serves to deter many persons who might consider entering, destroying or taking another's property," he continued.

An animal of this type can be considered as another method taken by law enforcement to prevent crime, as valuable as

a radio, helicopter or car. The city at present is attempting to purchase a special padded suit for officers who will exercise and "wrestle" the dogs during training sessions.

Flash will be introduced to City Council members in the near future, and the council will have an opportunity to watch him work, Chief Hiner concluded.

March 6, 1968  
**Police Chief Says Meridian Vandals Captured**

Meridian is running over with hoodlums and almost nightly they are tossing rocks or eggs at houses. They pick on widows and most of these are in their 80s. They beat the doors, hit the house, and do just anything to scare and disturb these women. The police have been called, but they never come, so the question is: Shall the people protect themselves? This must be stopped one way or another. I want to know what to do.—Name withheld.

Meridian Police Chief Gene Hiner says Meridian police charged two teen-age boys with tossing eggs at houses on Feb. 21, and charged another boy for other vandalism on the same day. He reports the police did answer the calls and that it took a month's investigation to find out who was responsible for the incidents.

## Police Solve Egg Throwing At Meridian

MERIDIAN — <sup>2-24-68</sup> Police Chief Gene Hiner said Friday that his department has apparently solved several house vandalisms that have taken place during the past month.

Hiner said two boys, 13 and 12, were charged with throwing eggs against the sides of houses. He said the two boys Friday apologized to the owners of the homes, and added that the parents of the boys were also informed of the incidents.

The Meridian police chief said his department had received several complaints in the past month, and that the two youths admitted to the egg throwing Friday afternoon.

Hiner said a 14-year-old boy has been charged with several tire slashing incidents that have taken place in the city, and after an investigation is completed, he will be referred to the Ada County Probate Court.



**News-Times editorial****Facts ruin an exciting story**

In the Wednesday morning edition of the Idaho Daily Statesman, there was an unsigned letter in the always-interesting "Action Post" column. The letter-writer — "Name withheld"—complained about conditions in Meridian.

It was a little shaking to read that: "Meridian is running over with hoodlums . . . almost nightly they are tossing rocks or eggs at houses . . . they pick on widows in their 80's . . . The police have been called, but they never come . . ."

The Statesman had checked with Meridian's Police Chief Gene Hiner, and gave a fair summation of his comments. But, as the community newspaper, the Meridian News-Times felt that further investigation was in order. It seemed incredible that, without our having heard about it, Meridian's long-standing reputation for above-average behavior by its youth had suddenly been wiped out, our town was "running over with hoodlums", and our police were refusing to answer calls.

So we checked, and here are the facts.

1) During a period of approximately one month, there were seven reports made to the Meridian police of things being thrown at houses—two reports each from two homes, and one report each from three other homes. Those seven calls are the only ones of record, and each of the seven calls was promptly answered by the Meridian police.

2) It took two or three weeks of investigation by the police, including the interview-

ing of 19 youths, before the guilty boys were apprehended. They were two 12-year-olds, who admitted guilt for all seven incidents.

3) The boys were taken into custody, conferences were held with their parents, and then Chief Hiner accompanied the boys to each of the homes involved in the egg-throwing, where the boys personally apologized to the residents. The parents gave complete cooperation in that matter, and in setting up rules for future behavior of the two boys. All persons involved agreed that the situation had been well-handled.

It's too bad to ruin a dramatic story with quiet facts, but either "Name withheld" knows of incidents that have never been reported, or the charges made in the letter simply were not true.

None of that reflects upon the Statesman, of course. The "Action Post" feature is not only interesting, it is accomplishing many things for the good of many people. And, as in the case of the letter from Meridian, the newspaper does check on each situation and makes a fair report of what it finds out.

So those are the facts. Meridian, fortunately, is **not** "running over with hoodlums" . . . and it is **not** true that Meridian police do not respond to calls.

We were sure that was the case, but it is good to get the truth on record. No community is perfect, but ours has been above-average for the attitude and behavior of our boys and girls. We hope it stays that way.



No alternative found

# Lack of personnel forces end of ambulance service

Suspension of the community ambulance service, because of a lack of operating personnel, was announced at Monday night's meeting of the Meridian city council.

The ambulance service will continue only through next Wednesday, February 14. After that, calls must be placed to the Idaho Ambulance Service in Boise.

**Ambulance calls to the Boise firm should be made on its emergency line — 343-2222. Business calls should be placed by calling 342-2222.**

The decision to end the local ambulance service was made Monday night after a lengthy discussion among city officials, officers of the ambulance group, and officers of the Meridian rural fire district.

## No alternative seen

It was explained that efforts had been made to have the Whitney fire district take over the ambulance service, but that the district had decided against it, and no other alternative had been found.

"Certainly we would welcome any workable plan to continue the community ambulance," said a spokesman. "It has been important to our community, and we hate to lose it. But there appears to be no practical answer to the problem."

Reports showed that the community ambulance had made a total of 123 runs since the service was started one year ago. Officials said the point had been reached where all runs were being made by city employees, including Police Chief Gene Hiner, city clerk Herald Cox, and work superintendent Neal Hudson. With two men required for each ambulance run, the

situation resulted in extended absences of city personnel from their regular duty.

More serious, and with no apparent answer, volunteer personnel were not available for night calls, required to maintain the service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It was agreed that it would not be acceptable to operate the service on any basis other than around-the-clock every day of the year. One official observed, "Certainly no one, placing an emergency call for an ambulance, would want to be told that the service was not in operation except during certain hours of certain days."

## Officers present

Officers of the ambulance group include Ray Paek and Don Roberts as community representatives; Wayne Skiver, representing the city; Vilbert Sundell, Walter Teeter, and Homer Holaday, representing the rural fire district. All were present at Monday night's meeting.

They reported that the ambulance fund, contributed by community residents and organizations, had originally totalled more than \$2,000; of which \$1,000 was used to purchase the ambulance. They said that approximately \$2,200 had since been collected for ambulance services, which had not quite covered operating costs.

Don Roberts, treasurer for the ambulance group, said that the current balance in the fund was \$1,017.82, but that some current bills were payable from that balance.

It was agreed that the money would be retained in an interest-drawing bank account, to be used if the ambulance service were re-activated, or to be used for some other service project approved by the community.

It was agreed that certain equipment on the ambulance could be used by the city and rural fire departments, for the benefit of the entire community. The ambulance itself could be used as a trade-in for a suitable vehicle to accompany fire equipment on fire calls, also benefitting the entire district.

"Again, we sincerely regret that it is necessary to suspend the ambulance service," said a spokesman, "but we have explored every possible alternative without success."

"With two men required for each ambulance run, there isn't enough revenue to maintain a local commercial operation — and there simply is not enough personnel available to continue the volunteer service."

## Fees discussed

It was reported that, since the Boise ambulance firm is a commercial operation, its fees will necessarily be higher than the volunteer group has been charging. The community ambulance fees have been \$25 for Boise runs, and \$10 for local runs.

Fees charged by the Idaho Ambulance Service will probably be in the neighborhood of \$40 for a Boise-Meridian run, plus mileage charges for longer runs, and small additional charges for such required extras as oxygen, first-aid service, etc.

Information regarding the Boise rates may be obtained by telephoning the Idaho Ambulance Service on its business line—342-2222. The emergency number, to be used only for ambulance calls, is 343-2222.

## Gun Blast Nets Arrest Of Quartet

MERIDIAN — The accidental discharge of a pistol broke up a party in Meridian early Monday narrowly missed a mother and her two daughters in a nearby apartment, and brought police action against four persons.

The four arrested at 243 East Broadway are scheduled to appear at 10 a.m. Friday to answer charges of disturbing the peace.

Arrested were Rockford Becker, 24, Gooding; Betty Hill, 18, who had rented the apartment; Joseph H. Hill, 24, Route 3, Meridian, who is not related to Betty Hill; and Robert Pickett, 32, Nampa.

The four were arraigned before Police Judge Herald Cox, who released the Hill woman on her own recognizance to take care of her two small children. The three men were each released on \$100 bond.

Chief Hiner said a squabble apparently erupted at the party, and one of the four arrested grabbed a gun, which accidentally discharged.



## Bicyclists hurt in two crashes

*Sept. 19 '68*  
Three area boys were hurt early last Thursday morning, September 12, in car-bicycle accidents.

Injured in a bike-car collision on Overland Road about a quarter-mile west of Cloverdale were Byron E. Freeman 15, and George C. Freeman 13, sons of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Freeman, of Rt. 2, Meridian. Their bicycles were struck by a car driven by Richard L. Weight, also of Rt. 2, Meridian. The accident happened at 5:38 a.m., and the driver said he did not see the boys in the darkness. No citations were issued.

The two brothers were carried on the hood of the car for a short distance until the vehicle could be stopped. George Freeman suffered a broken left leg, and both boys received multiple lacerations. They were hospitalized at St. Luke's for observation of possible head injuries.

The other bike-car accident happened on Catalpa Drive in Boise. Charles Meares, 8, suffered a broken left leg and cuts when his bicycle was struck by a car driven by Barbara Chase, Rt. 2, Meridian. The boy was also hospitalized at St. Luke's for observation of possible head injuries.

In the accident involving the two Freeman brothers there were conflicting reports of whether the bicycles had adequate lighting.

Without entering into that controversy, Police Chief Gene Hiner of Meridian said that any bicyclists riding during hours other than full daylight would be picked up if the bicycles did not have fully adequate lighting. Upon the second such offense, he said, the parents would be issued a citation.

Chief Hiner added, "We are adopting this policy solely for the protection of the bicyclists involved, particularly the youngsters. No motorist wants to hurt anyone, and bicycle-riders have the same responsibility as drivers in abiding by every traffic regulation."

## Three in crash near high school

*Sept. 19, 1968*  
Three high school boys were treated and released at St. Alphonsus hospital Wednesday morning, following a one-car wreck at the high school corner in Meridian-Cherry Lane and West 8th Street.

The driver was Rick L. Richardson, 16, of Rt. 4, Boise, who received some lacerations. His passengers, who suffered bruises, were Ronald L. Carpenter, 16, of 1624 Meridian Street; and Bryce E. Bronson, 16, of Rt. 1, Meridian.

Police Chief Gene Hiner said that the car had apparently swerved when brakes were applied, and had struck a telephone pole.

I sure agree with Police Chief Hiner's edict that bike-riders violating any traffic law are going to be picked up—with second offenses resulting in a citation for the parents, if kids are involved.

As Gene says, it's not any "tough police action"—it's for the kids' own sake. To keep 'em alive and in one piece.

Not that it's always kids. Driving home the other night on Highway 30 (which has no-passing lines a big percentage of the way from Meridian to Black Cat) I came up to a group of three or four bicyclists. One of the bikes was right out in the middle of the traffic lane, at a point where it was illegal to go out and around, so I slowed down to about two miles an hour, and finally the bike wobbled over to the edge of the road.

As I crept past, I saw it was an adult man—with a baby sitting in front of him. Whew-w. What if it had been some driver who hadn't slowed down . . . or what if the bike had wobbled back into the path of a passing car?

It wasn't any group of rowdies—they were all nice-looking people—and we're a bike-riding family, too. But, boy oh boy, there's a time and place for it—

And that doesn't mean the busy traffic-time on a 60-mile-an-hour highway.

*Sept. 19, 1968*  
\* \* \*

*Aug 29, 1968*  
We ran a reminder last week about drivers being careful about kids when school opens.

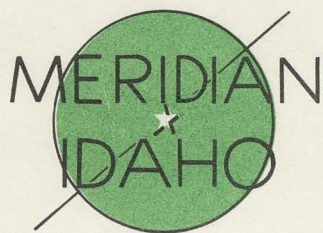
Now there's an official reason why we'd all better be careful.

Police Chief Gene Hiner announced today that the use of radar units would be resumed, to check speeds and violations in school areas and school-crossings, effective with the opening of school next Tuesday.

So we're warned.

\* \* \*





# CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

April 19, 1967

Gene Hiner  
Chief of Police  
Meridian, Idaho

Dear Mr. Hiner,

At the Chamber of Commerce meeting of April 19, 1967,  
it was pointed out that the City of Meridian is receiving  
superior police protection as compared to many of the  
surrounding communities.

Several of the members stated they have been at their place  
of business at various times during the night and always  
there was an officer on hand to check to see what was going  
on.

We, the members of the Meridian Chamber of Commerce, greatly  
appreciate this service and wish to commend you and your  
fellow officers for this fine service.

Very truly yours,

Vern R. Alleman  
Sec'y of Meridian Chamber of Commerce

VRA/aa

*In the heart of Idaho's most prosperous urban-farm-suburban area*

*Meridian*  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
MERIDIAN, IDAHO 83642



Gene Hiner  
Chief of Police  
Meridian, Idaho 83642









With All Good Wishes

(and with apologies to  
Clement Clarke Moore's  
"A Visit from St. Nicholas")

'Twas the night before Christmas on Eighth and nearby  
Not a creature was stirring, not even smallfry.  
Neither Mark nor pal Tod were out try<sup>ng</sup>g their wings  
With a devilish glee on the Keifers' yard swings;  
Nor was Hiner ensconced with his radaring eye  
To watch "little old ladies" drive down from the High.  
Not a boom from the Air Forces sonicked our brains,  
Nor the mate-seeking calls of the dieseling trains.  
All the Spencers and Hewitts, the Thornes and the Hoyles  
And the Gilberts had ceased their new domicile toils.  
Our neighbors were nestled so snug in their beds  
While hopes of no earwigs danced through their heads.  
And Doc Olive had dreams of spring flowers galore,  
While I dreamed of my publishers pleading for more.

When out in the night there arose such a clatter  
I bounced from my bed to see what was the matter.  
Was Ed Endecott chasing a rascally weed?  
Or Doc Anderson pulling a tooth gone to seed?  
Was Bob Perkins pep-talking a quintet refrain?  
Perhaps Crawford had cracked up his boy's model plane?  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Drew open the drapes and then slid back the sash.  
The light of the moon over creamery stack  
Showed the well-pump of Pipkins again out of wack.

When what should I hear but a humming dial tone  
From a miniature sleigh in the shape of a phone,  
With a little fat driver so lively and gusty  
I knew in a moment it must be Saint (?) Rusty!  
More rapid than phone bills his charges they came  
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name:



"Now Princess! Now Touch Tone! Extension! Wrong Number!  
And Toll Charge! And Local! Ten Digit! Long Number!  
Keep phoning! Keep phoning! You eight-eight-eights!  
And dial away! Dial away for the old Mountain States!"

On a telephone pole they came to a stop,  
And sliding his spurs he came down with a plop.  
He waddled with tools from his head to his foot,  
But he carried so careful his bag full of loot.  
Then he bored through the wall right into the house!  
If it hadn't been Christmas I'd have called him a louse.  
But he gave me a grin and got right to his work,  
Laid out all the presents, then turned with a jerk.  
He sprang to his sleigh and the phone lines took up  
To call all the neighbors on a conference hook up:  
"I've a message for all, before saying Goodnight,  
From the folks in the house with the siding of white,  
From the house on the corner with His and Her doors,  
To all you good neighbors, to you and to yours."

Then reading by light of the Christmas Eve sky  
He relayed our message to Eighth and nearby.

"This has all been in fun, in well-meaning jest  
To acquaintances and friends, you're all of the best.  
'Tis a joy living here amid folks of good cheer,  
So Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year!"



Your appreciative neighbors,

*Olive M. Stretch*  
Dr. Olive M. Stretch

*Carl Henry Rathjen*  
Carl Henry Rathjen

Christmas 1967





### Bicycle safety plan can save lives

**LUMINOUS SAFETY-TAPE FOR BICYCLES** is part of a bicycle-safety project being sponsored by the Idaho State Police in cooperation with local police authorities throughout the state. In picture above, Rayme Wilmot of Meridian, kneeling in center front, affixes tape to his bicycle, after receiving it from Police Chief Gene Hiner, left. Shown with them are Carl Burt of the Driver Improvement Division of the Department of Law Enforcement, and Bob Moran, public information and safety official of the

Boise Police Department. A Bicycle Safety Rodeo for all area youth is being held from 10 a.m. till 12 noon each Saturday at Ann Morrison park in Boise. Each participant who completes course will receive Certificate of Merit and his or her name will be entered in a drawing for a new bicycle. Aiding with safety rodeo are Explorer Scouts of Post 76. All bicyclists of this area are invited to take part—and are also urged to obtain free safety-tape from Meridian police.



## Club break-in nets cash, goods

Sept. 19, 1968

A break-in at the Little Detroit Club and Cafe of Meridian was reported by owner Orville Vincent to Meridian chief of police Gene Hiner.

The front door lock was discovered broken early last Monday morning, September 16. Listed as missing are about 70 worth of men's and women's watches, cartons of cigarettes and 14 butane cigarette lighters. The safe was opened to gain access to a personal coin collection worth \$300. Cash missing from the safe, cash registers and juke box was estimated at \$240.



## Three boys nabbed as bulb snatchers

12/26/68

If a boy comes to your door with a handful of Christmas light bulbs and an apology for stealing them, he will be one of three youngsters apprehended last week by Police Chief Gene Hiner with a basketful of colored bulbs, taken from decorations outside Meridian homes.

One of the boys was 12 years old and the other two were 13. Chief Hiner said the boys had "quite a few" of the bulbs in their possession and admitted to having broken quite a few more "just to hear them pop".

Hiner contacted the parents of the boys and after talks with them, the youngsters were ordered to return the bulbs they had not broken and to apologize to each person from whom they had taken bulbs.



UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102

G. R. SHIDELER  
CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

September 27, 1968

Mr. Gene Hiner  
Chief of Police  
Meridian, Idaho 83642

Dear Mr. Hiner:

I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your assistance in the protection of the Union Pacific Special Trains on the 17th of September.

I am attaching a copy of a letter dated September 19, 1968 from our President, Mr. E. H. Bailey, in which he expresses his thanks for a job well-done.

Sincerely,

*G R Shideler*

cc: Mr. Donald M. Storey  
Mayor, City of Meridian  
502 East First Street  
Meridian, Idaho 83642



SPECIAL BULLETIN

Omaha - September 19, 1968

TO ALL DEPARTMENTS:

(CC - Mr. J. C. Kenefick	Mr. J. Hansink
Mr. R. F. Pettigrew	Mr. C. O. Jett
Mr. R. B. Johnson	Mr. C. D. Mayer
Mr. R. M. Brown	Mr. G. R. Shideler
Mr. D. S. Neuhart	Mr. C. W. Shaffer )

Some few months ago we were called upon to operate two special passenger trains in connection with the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Brown Brothers Harriman Bank from Seattle to Sun Valley, departing Seattle September 17th.

In cooperation with the staff of Brown Brothers Harriman people, plans were formulated for this movement. Having been invited as guests, Mrs. Bailey and I were privileged to witness a superb performance in the operation of these two very special trains.

Mr. E. Roland Harriman, Mr. Frank E. Barnett and Mr. Robert A. Lovett have nothing but praise for the outstanding performance, and asked that I extend their appreciation for a job well done.

From the very moment the guests entered the Seattle station to the final stop at Ketchum, I heard nothing but praise of our service. The equipment was in tip-top shape, as well as the track. The performance of officers and employes alike, I confess, was most outstanding. The smooth train handling was the topic of conversation throughout the day.

The performance of the DC&H employes on the trains left nothing to be desired. The cooperation extended to us by the state, county and city law enforcement officers was most remarkable and speaks well of our standing in the various communities.

Your talent as railroaders was certainly on display to an outstanding audience -- I salute each and every one of you!

E. H. BAILEY



AMERICAN LEGION NEWSLETTER  
LLOYD E. HUTCHESON POST #113  
MERIDIAN, IDAHO

POST MEETING

The next Post Meeting will be Tuesday night, May 16. Potluck at 7:30PM, meeting at 8:00. This will be the last potluck of the season, not again until September meeting. During June, July, and August refreshments are served after the meeting.

This is an IMPORTANT MEETING. It is election of officers for the coming 1967-68 season. The nominating committee: George Judd, chairman; Jack Creason, and Herley Wilson will do their utmost to present a top slate of candidates and recommendations. Nominations may also be made from the floor. We have had a fine year under the leadership of Commander Irwin Ewing. Come out and help us pick the right people for another year.

NOTE—MEMORIAL DAY

It is nearly time for our annual joint Memorial Day Services with the VFW. These will be at the Meridian Cemetery Tuesday, May 30, at 11:00AM. All who can please be at the Legion Hall by 10:00AM to get organized and be ready to perform. Herald Cox is arranging the program.

At the close of the Civil War, a group of women in Columbus, Miss. honored both Confederate and Union dead by placing flowers on their graves. When the news of this act of compassion reached the North, it helped to heal the recent wounds the young nation had suffered.

The greatest impetus for setting aside the holiday which has become known as Memorial Day or Decoration Day was given in 1868 by Gen. John A. Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. He issued his historic order to all chapters to set aside May 30 as a day for decorating the graves of the heroic dead.

This sacred duty is now the obligation of every American Legion Post. Our Post puts flags on the graves of all veterans in our area cemeteries. We bought a gross of 12" X 18" flags this year to take care of the additional needs.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

Capitol Post No. 136 will host the last Third District Convention during the current Legion year. The meeting will start at 2:00PM May 20 (Saturday) at John Regan No. 2 in Boise. Elections of officers for the coming year.

JACKASS ROUNDUP

We now have a ~~new~~ Post membership for 1966-67 of 175, including one transfer. Department Commander Chet Floyd thanks everyone who helped make the Jackass Roundup a big success. They took in 622 cards on the trip and about 100 more were mailed in from Posts they didn't see. They were met by about 300 people on the 2,200 mile jaunt. They were on all the TV outlets in the state, nearly all Idaho radio stations and some national programs, and in practically every paper in the state as well as some out of the state. Commander Chet, who rode one jackass and led another (was that Lou?) and George Otterson of Hagerman, the brahma bull rider, the 3 of them, averaged 20 and 1/2 hours daily for six days.

IN MEMORIAM—EMIL A. BLACKMORE

Legionnaires throughout the world were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death on April 21 of National Adjutant Emil A. Blackmore. "Blackie" was 49 years old and a navy veteran of World War II. Burial was in Washington Park North Cemetery at Indianapolis, which is Legion Headquarters, on April 25. National Commander John E. Davis and National Auxiliary President Gen Ryan, led a large delegation in attendance. After years of service to the Legion in his home state of Wyoming, Mr. Blackmore was appointed Assistant National Adjutant in January of 1953. He was named the chief administrative officer of the American Legion July 1, 1956.

One of our members, Kermit Scarborough, was a personal friend of this great gentleman when they lived in Wyoming.

CHARTER MEMBER PASSES

L. Frank Jolley, 76, 1323 East First, Meridian, passed away Friday, March 31, at a Boise hospital. Services were conducted at ~~Robison~~ Robison Chapel of the Chimes by the Rev. Everett Berrey of the Ustick Baptist Church. Interment was at the Meridian Cemetery. He was a charter member of the Post and a long-time faithful worker. His last job of note was that of Meridian Postmaster.

POLICE AWARD

Last year on the Memorial Day weekend, I presented Congressional Medal of Honor hero Major Bernie Fisher a plaque from the community of Meridian. This was at the Meridian race track. At our Legion birthday party this year, our post presented an award in another type of war, of which I was just as proud. National Commander Davis' pet project this year was honoring our nation's policemen, and getting them into the perspective they so richly deserve. Commander Irwin Ewing presented a Certificate of Achievement to Police Chief Gene D. Hiner, with Police Commissioner Wayne Skiver there to assist. Gene heads, the Meridian police force, as well as eleven Auxiliary policemen. The Meridian police, as well as their regular duties, also handle all fire and ambulance calls. Gene is an excellent police officer and a fine man. Our congratulations and support are behind Gene and all the police forces.







L-2

Back- Wally Everest

Ray Wood

Ted Dennis

Kenneth Smith

Front

Bill Luke



