

# HOEHLER MAY UNITE THREE POLICE DISTRICTS IN BASIN

Proposal Is Included in Plans for Reorganization

ASKS MORE MEN

Traffic Safety and Crime Drives Up for Study

A merger of the three downtown police districts is contemplated as one unit of a Police Department reorganization plan now being studied, Safety Director Hoehler disclosed Monday

Promotion of traffic safety and reduction of crime are the chief aims of the proposed reorganization, Hoehler said

It was given impetus by crime activity over the week-end, centering in a series of safe burglaries and by another accident involving a hit-skip driver

### May Add Policemen

Other improvements which may be made a part of the reorganization plan are

- 1 The employment of additional policemen
- 2 Replacement with civilians of officers now doing clerical work
- 3 Transfer of additional patrolmen to the downtown area
- 4 Removal of Station X from the basement to the third floor of City Hall

If the merger is carried out, Districts 1, 2 and 4 will be combined into one, embracing the entire basin. Its operation would be made more efficient by installation of a central registration bureau at Station X.

Hiring civilians to perform clerical duties at district stations would release between fifteen and twenty officers for police work. The chief

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## Shipbuilders Agreed on Navy Bids, Arms Witness Tells Solons

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 —The Senate Munitions Committee wrested from a witness today the admission that executives of the "big three" shipbuilding companies conferred in advance on navy warship bids so each could get what it wanted

The witness was George B. Yard Jr., for eight years assistant to C. L. Bardo, former president of the New York Shipbuilding Company

Three times Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, (R., Mich.), hammered at yard questions as to whether heads of the New York, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co and Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydocks Co consulted on navy bids over the last seven years

"Yes, they did," the witness reluctantly replied after trying to hedge his answers

Previous witnesses had denied collusion on bids.

Yard said that either they had not told the truth or else they were suffering from mental paralysis

Senator Bennett Champ Clark (D., Mo.), declared the evidence "would indicate the navy was a party to collusion by the shipbuilders."

## PRIEST'S WILL AIDS CHURCH

Funds for Masses, Help for Charities Provided by Father Plamondon

Masses "for the benefit of the poor souls in purgatory, with special intention for the souls of poor priests who have little remembrances in prayer." were provided for in the will of the Rev. Louis G. Plamondon, filed in Probate Court Monday following his death a few days ago.

Father Plamondon, whose home

## TROOPS CALLED BY MUSSOLINI

Italy Prepares to Move Against Abyssinia After Attack; War Is Feared

By the United Press

ROME Feb. 11 —Italy mobilized two divisions of troops on a war basis today as the result of an attack by Abyssinian tribesmen on Italian native troops in disputed territory between Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland

It was said authoritatively that an ultimatum would be sent to Emperor Haile Selassie unless Italy



# HOEHLER MAY JOIN DISTRICTS

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advantage of the plan Hoehler said, lay in the fact that it would increase the active force without the delay necessary for the training of men

## Manpower Big Problem

The chief problem of the department, according to Hoehler is that of manpower. He believes that at least 100 policemen should be added but believes that financial reasons will make such an increase impossible this year.

However, ten new men, now in training soon could be added to the regular force he said

These men will be assigned to district duty and more experienced patrolmen will be transferred downtown to aid in an intensive traffic safety campaign

Elimination of the hit-skip driver menace by prompt arrests would be one of the objects of the drive, Hoehler said

## Promises Suburbs Protection

With the exception of the removal of Station X which has been virtually decided upon all proposals in the reorganization still are subject to change, Hoehler said. Several recommendations are expected to be made in a report which R. M. Hoisington, secretary of the Regional Crime Commission will make in a few weeks

If Hoehler's request for 100 more officers is granted all suburbs are assured of sharing in the increased protection, he said

Hoehler indicated that city officials have turned away from the policy started in 1930 of making no appointments to fill vacancies caused by deaths, dismissals or retirements in the police department