raffic Fatalities For The Month Of

67 persons lost their lives in 62 per cent increase—588 persons fatal traffic accidents on North injured in February, as com-Carolina streets and highways, a pared with 472 for the same 45 per cent increase in deaths month last year. Of the injured, over the same month last year 187 were severely hurt, and 401 when 37 persons were killed in only slightly. 32 fatal accidents, the Motor Vehicle Department announced to- the fatalities were pedestrians,

The February figures brought to death," (an increase of 63 per traffic deaths for 1949 to 122, cent over pedestrian deaths for an increase of 23 per cent over February of last year); 20 perthe 99 persons killed in the same sons died in motor vehicle coltwo-months' period last year. The lision accidents, (an increase of obey traffic rules and cooperate Department expressed grave con- 20 per cent); 12 were killed cern over the tremendous rise in when the vehicles in which they traffic deaths and called on the were riding ran off roadways, State's motorists to exercise more (increase of 42 per cent); three caution in their driving to the persons were killed when their end that accidents may be pre-vehicles overturned on roadways,

Total accidents for the State during February numbered 1,-287, an increase of 17 per cent persons were fatally hit while ed two deaths each. One fatality February Total 67 287, an increase of 17 per cent riding their bicycles; one died was reported from these countries. Alexander, Bertie, Brune. during February of 1948. Injur-Raleigh. — During February, les for the month showed a 20

The report showed that 24 of who literally "walked themselves

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fulness will be appreciated by

non-collision accidents.

The Department expressed concern over the rise in pedestrian fatalities. During the month. there were 71 accidents involving pedestrians, with 24 of the walkers being killed and 57 others injured, 13 severely and 44 deaths were reported from 56 slightly. More pedestrians under counties. 14 years of age were killed and injured than any other age group.

that the pedestrian must learn to with motorists in preventing accidents. The education of the pedestrian in safe walking habits, however, should in no way detract from the responsibility and necessary alertness of the motor vehicle operator.

A total of 496 accidents, with 10 persons killed and 131 injuried, occurred in cities and towns. Durham, Gastonia, Halifax, Wilmington, Madison, Salisbury, Clinton, Pinnacle, Warrenton, and Wilson reported one fatality

In rural areas, a total of 791 accidents were reported, claiming state highways, and 178 on county or local roads.

Here are some of the violations tween Nov. 1 and Dec. 10, 1948. causing accidents during Februcars while under the influence of action. alcohol, with two of them being involved in fatal accidents.

Caldwell, Cleveland, Robeson, April 27. Rowan, Sampson, and Wake counties led in fatalities for the month, with three persons killed in each county. Burke, Chero-

(increase of 300 per cent); three kee, Johnston, Moore, New Hanlost their lives when their ve- over, Onslow, Poik, Union, War- men was set at \$1,000 each. hicles struck fixed objects; two ren, Wilkes, and Wilson reportwhen his vehicle was struck by a ties: Alexander, Bertie, Brunstrain, and two others died in wick, Buncombe, Catawba, Chowan, Davidson, Duplin, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hoke, Madison, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Stokes, Transylvania, nad Wayne. No

The Department pointed out Norfolk Policemen Named In Number Racket Indictment

Norfolk, Va.-A Corporation Court grand jury yesterday indicted 24 Norfolk policemen on charges of accepting bribes as part of a payoff system to cover for the numbers racket.

Shortly after the indictments were returned, suspension of the 24 and six other policemen was announced by acting police chief C. H. Dalby.

Dalby said the suspensions re-57 lives and injuring 457 others, sulted from an investigation of Of the rural accidents, 432 occur- the Police Department by himred on U. S. highways, 181 on self and Special Counsel E. Pryor Wormington.

The indictments returned yes-Accidents don't just happen, terday charged that each of the the report stated; they are caus- 24 patrolmen accepted \$10 from ed-not one cause, but many. Patrolman C. A. Withrow be-

Withrow testified last month ary: Driving on wrong side of before a special grand jury that road, not in passing, caused 247 he had accepted and distributed accidents, 20 of them fatal. Ex- bribes for W. Carvel Benson, who ceeded stated speed limit caused has often been arrested here on 214 accidents, 12 of them fatal numbers lottery charges. The Did not have right of way was special grand jury, named to inthe cause for 261 mishaps, 5 of vestigate possible corruption in them fatal. Failure to use bright the Police Department and vice headlights caused 93 accidents, conditions in the city, returned three of them fatal A total of an indictment for bribery against 111 drivers were operating their Benson but took no other direct

Benson's trial ended in a hung jury. He will be tried again

Withrow was one of the six policemen suspended yesterday along with those indicted in Corporation Court. Patrolman W. E. Failes, Withrow, and Dalby all presented testimony to the jury before the indictments were returned.

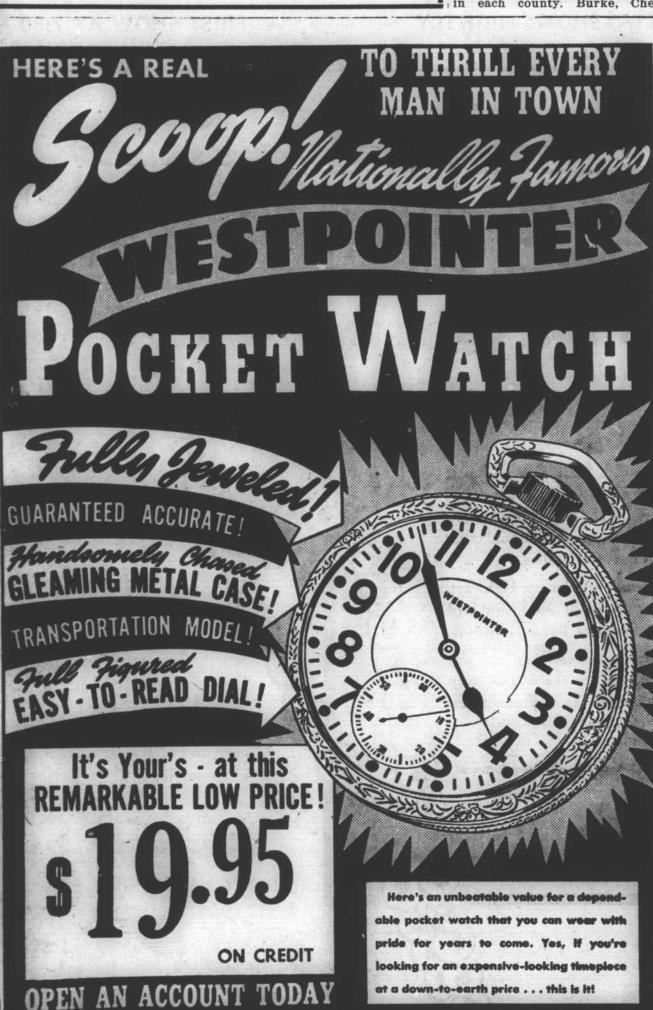
Bond for the indicted patrol-

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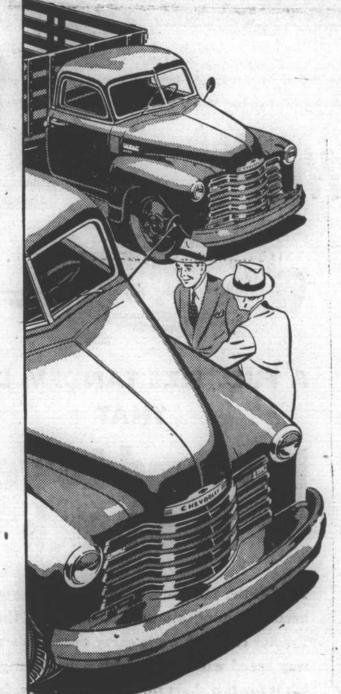
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