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Editorial Page

Law Enforcement

The Halloween weekend is ahead, when hundreds of pint-size spooks, goblins, cartoon and fairy tale characters will roam the streets in search of treats.

It is comforting to know that the Broomfield police dept., including its marvelous auxiliary wing, will be patrolling in force in order to keep an eye on the little ones.

Many take this fine law enforcement for granted. Not so Helen Carl, who recently received a phone call from Officer Robert Hix one night, reporting that a window at the Dropt Stitch Knit Shop had been found open.

Hix remained at the scene until Mr. Carl arrived then, pistol drawn and flashlight in hand, Hix entered the store and searched it thoroughly on the premise that someone might have forced the window to gain entrance to the store.

There was no one there; the window had inadvertently been left open at closing time. The point is that someone might have been inside—and Hix, aware of this, entered first to protect a citizen and risked his life as a matter of routine.

Our dedicated law enforcement officers take such risks every day. We all owe them our gratitude and support.

Not every community is as fortunate as ours. J. R. Freeman, publisher of the Fred-

erick Farmer and Miner not far from here, has told us of the deplorable state of law and order in his town. Knifings, beatings, gang fights and other disorders occur, Freeman reports, with no effective force on hand to deter or apprehend the offenders.

It is terrifying to know that such lawlessness exists at this time and in that place. Concerned citizens must work toward a solution to the problem; every citizen in this state is entitled to protection of his life and property.

It is a condition that eats away at the moral fibre of our country from within. We believe that corruption, crime, delinquency and general disregard for the law are our number one social problems today.

While our children are out trick-or-treating this weekend in our town, remember how fortunate we are to have good police protection.

While on the subject of Halloween, remember to have some coins on hand for the many youngsters collecting for UNICEF. As pointed out in these columns by Mrs. Vern Martin last week, the price of a comic book will provide 50 children in India with a glass of milk.

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