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## Police Corruption

At the risk of not adding

At the risk of not adding anything new, it might not do too great harm to comment on the "Denver" Police Force. (One town that had similar troubles that comes to mind dubbed their enforcers "Police Farce.") That was another time and another place.

Which gets to the point.

There is nothing novel in the Denver police scandal, unless, perhaps, it is in the magnitude.

No news reporter who has been around very many police departments for very long should be surprised, much less shocked, at what has happened in Denver.

It is hypocrisy on the part of the press to pretend shock. And it is, in large measure, the responsibility of the press that the situation was allowed to develop.

Of course it is tough for a police reporter to be critical of the police. If he is, he in some measure cuts his own throat, for he needs police cooperation to get the news. It is difficult, at best, to get accurate and, most of all, complete information from police. When the police make an effort to be uncommunicative it becomes almost impossible.

But this does not excuse the newsmen from their responsibility. It is their duty, painful as it may be, to list every minor infraction by law enforcement men that comes to their attention.

At the same time, the full responsibility does not lie with the press. Part of it lies with the rest of the community which has the duty of being cooperative with a police officer when he is rightfully performing a legitimate function and to be quick to call attention to any non-legitimate performance he may see an officer perform.

And perhaps a large part of the responsibility for police corruption might be placed at the door of merchants and business men who nudge officers toward dishonesty by bribe, whether it be a large bribe, perhaps in the form of an expensive gift.

OR A, SMALLER ONE, LIKE ALLOWING AN OFFICER TO EAT IN A CAFE AT HALF PRICE.