

interesting work. Because I had trained in this field the T.T.P.F. hired me to start up this branch with them. I began the branch and at the same time worked as a detective.

ME: While on the T.T.P.F., which has been renamed Mississauga Police Department, you served as a detective, detective sergeant and Deputy Chief. What stands out most in your memory from this 14-year stint?

CHIEF BURROWS: There are many things that stand out in my mind. We have had a lot of interesting cases. I have worked on several murders, serious rapes, armed robberies, quite a few exciting cases. One very violent shootout with some pretty dangerous bank robbers and kidnapers stays with me. I feel very, very fortunate to have survived that day, because they did their best to finish me off along with some of my fellow officers. That was in 1963, a bank robbery at the Royal Bank at Dixie. Our first officer to respond was shot twice, and when I arrived the robbers were just leaving in a stolen police cruiser with two tellers they had taken hostage. They couldn't get their own car out, so they took one of the cruisers. They headed up Dixie Road and I started to follow them and right away they started firing back at me and put several holes in my windshield and the front of the car. I was alone in my car; it was a plain detective car and they were in a marked cruiser and I was chasing them, which would be a little humorous to some people. I can never forget the sight of the one robber leaning out the back window; he had on big dark glasses and he had this great big Texas type pistol aimed at me. It took me a few seconds to realize that this guy was trying to kill me. At first, I couldn't understand why he wanted to kill me. I became angered and annoyed, and at that point I decided it was just going to be them or me. There was no way they were going to get away. I realized that I couldn't shoot back because of the hostages. I was afraid they might throw one of them out on the road. So I tried to put as much pressure on them as possible, so they wouldn't have time to think of anything but me. I was waiting for the opportunity to get alongside them and force them off the road. That opportunity arose when they came up behind a truck and they couldn't pass, because a transport was coming south. So they went off onto the shoulder, and I saw the opportunity to go onto the left shoulder. We were going about 100 miles an hour at the time. When we passed the trucks, I came up ahead of them, and they started shooting through my back window; this all happened in a few minutes, of course. I braked a bit and when the cruiser came up beside me, I turned into their left front fender and forced them off the road. But my car went out of control and I flipped end over end in the ditch upside down. I fortunately got out of the car fast — a farmer in a field said he saw me getting out while the car was still bouncing — because I expected them to run

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Transition to chief was pretty easy

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over and shoot me while I was trapped in the car. But they had got out of the ditch and had kept on going, and this really annoyed me. So a motorist who had stopped assist me, I commandeered his car and chased them again. By that time two of my buddies were on their tail; they had seen my car go out of control and had given me up for dead. I was able to catch them again because when I had rammed their getaway car, I had jammed the fender into the wheel and it had slowed them to about 30 miles an hour and they also couldn't turn — they had to go straight. I pulled ahead of them in the convertible and when I did this, the hostages jumped clear; so then we could do a little shooting and apprehend them. It was quite a violent gun battle.

ME: You succeeded Bruce Kivell as Police Chief. How did you feel on receiving this position?

CHIEF BURROWS: I had been Deputy Chief with Bruce Kivell, for whom I have a great deal of respect, and I had worked with him for about a year as Deputy Chief; and fortunately he was the type of chief who believed in allowing the Deputy Chief to be involved in everything. So I was almost acting as a second chief for that year. I had a good deal of training and I found the transition from Deputy Chief to Chief very easy. I was very sad about Bruce having to retire early, because he was a very fine police officer and he is one of the finest men I have ever known. I certainly wasn't overjoyed about receiving the position after that.

ME: What are some of the recruiting changes initiated by you on the M.P.D. that contributed to its being one of the top forces in the country?

CHIEF BURROWS: When I became Deputy Chief, I started to research the possibilities of using psychological testing for police officers and I tried to have University professors assist me in seeing what was available — very little was available. Of course, I graduated in psychology from the University of

Toronto and I had a little knowledge of it. It was difficult getting my B.A. because I was working at the department. I worked my normal hours and went to school in my spare time, but it's been a tremendous help to me. After we had been looking for some time, and coming up with nothing, I became frustrated. I decided to hire a team of industrial psychologists to research it. So I budgeted for that and got the support of my police commission at that time. They researched it for about six months, I guess, and finally developed a series of tests, some of which had been used in different cities in the United States, nothing had been done to any extent in Canada. So we were really the first force, certainly in Ontario, and I think in Canada, to use these methods. We developed a series of 15 tests, which we gave to a sample group of our police officers on a voluntary basis, so we would have some guidelines to go by. We wanted first of all to be able to correlate the results of the tests that we gave with our assessment of the officers so that we would be able to determine whether or not the tests were valid and reliable for our particular needs. We were very pleased with the results. We found we had an extremely intelligent group. And it was quite rewarding to find the results of these test that were administered by an independent group.

ME: I understand you have four children; how much pleasure do they contribute to you and your wife's life?

CHIEF BURROWS: A great deal of pleasure. Our four-year-old son is at the fun stage; we have a 10-year-old, twelve and eighteen. We have two horses and we enjoy riding and we enjoy doing things like that with them, and this type of life. That's why we like living in the country where they can have a dog, and build tree huts and climb fences without people yelling at them and be individuals; have some individual identity which I think is important for young people.

ME: Some of your favorite pastimes are game fishing, swimming, chess and horseback riding. What enjoyment do these activities bring to your life?

CHIEF BURROWS: Chess I enjoy when I can find time to play, and with someone who enjoys playing it also, because it is a challenge similar to being a detective — in a way. Horseback riding I enjoy very much. I think it is an exhilarating experience to be galloping on a horse and jumping a fence or something. I have done all kinds of things, and I don't think there is too much to compare with horseback riding. Because you have a live creature that you have to relate to; this is the difference between this sport and other sports — you have to be co-ordinated.

ME: What philosophy do you rule your life by, as a police officer and as a man?