

# Democrat and Chronicle

Without or with offence to friends or foes I sketch your world exactly as it goes

L. R. BLANCHARD, Editor  
GEORGE R. SHOALS, Managing Editor

DON U. BRIDGE, General Manager  
AL F. MAHAR, Business Manager

NORRIS W. VAGG, Assistant Managing Editor

Published by Gannett Co. Inc., 57 Main St. E., Rochester 4, N.Y. Frank Gannett, president; Frank E. Tripp, Douglas C. Townson, E. R. Davenport, Paul Miller, vice presidents; Herbert W. Cruickshank, treasurer; Cyril Williams, secretary. First published January 1, 1833, as The Democrat; name changed to The Democrat February 8, 1834; combined Chronicle December 1, 1870; with The Herald 1926.

## Bible Passage

Psalms 5: 3-4: My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee and will look up. For thou are not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

## Keep CD Shirts On, Men

The immediate and critical question on the ruckus involving Civil Defense auxiliary police is whether the situation has gone too far for a quick repair job.

If it hasn't, steps in that direction should be taken promptly, and by both sides. If it has, then a new Civil Defense auxiliary police group must be formed without waste of time. The city needs these men.

At the moment, the auxiliary policemen's organization appears to be officially non-existent. The men wanted to divorce themselves from Civil Defense jurisdiction and transfer their organization to the authority of the regular Police Department. The latter is legally impossible, by word of Public Safety Commissioner Townson. And the divorce from CD, in effect, has been ordered by CD director Abbott, who at the same time implies that reorganization can be achieved if the men apply singly and show their willingness.

This has been a sad explosion of feelings.

Any discussion of the problem should start with an acknowledgment that these auxiliary policemen are a valuable asset to the community. They have been trained in their work and, according to high city officials, have become possibly the finest such group in the state. They deserve attention and respect when they speak as a group, for they have given to us, their fellow citizens, thousands of hours of their time and effort. No action should be taken that would result in their breaking up.

On the side of Civil Defense Director Abbott, it may be said he inherited the confused situation which led to the angry words spoken at the meeting on Wednesday night. While the auxiliary police were developing into one of the most efficient and active Civil Defense groups in the county, they naturally developed a few complaints. About these, nothing effective was done. When Director Abbott took over the Civil Defense directorship a few weeks ago, he was faced with a wholesale reorganization problem in many segments of CD work. He has had, as he pointed out, to direct the work of 17 separate groups containing 30,000 volunteers.

On the side of the auxiliary policemen, they charge a long history of lack of recognition of their work, and of cloudy jurisdiction. So to some extent it seems to be a quarrel between the right and the right. These volunteers may be entitled to better treatment; but CD Director Abbott is hardly entitled to have the roof cave in on him before he has even had a chance to examine the house.

In any quarrel between the right and the right, there can be no victory.

But there is a great field for fair honest conciliation.