

Blushing Police Cadet Meets a Real Crisis

BY PATRICIA LEEDS

At age 18, Police Cadet Warren McLaughlin is working hard to become a Chicago policeman. But he wasn't quite sure what to do when confronted by a distraught citizen who said he needed immediate help—his wife was having a baby.

Cadet McLaughlin is what some of his fellow cadets describe as bashful. Sgt. Harry Blackburn, who is in charge of cadets, says McLaughlin is inclined to blush when talking to a girl.

A Delicate Crisis

Perhaps that's why he neglected to mention to anyone until 24 hours later that he had been confronted by a most delicate crisis—a woman having a baby.

Cadet McLaughlin was at Archer avenue and Pulaski road, on his way to work Thursday morning, when a man rushed up and he needed help. Despite the fact that he's assigned to the medical division, McLaughlin's three months as a cadet hadn't prepared him for anything like that.

"I didn't know what to do," he said. "I was just scared."

Halts Passing Squad Car

McLaughlin asked the man whether he had called the police and an ambulance. The man said he needed help "right now."

Fortunately, a squad car was passing, and McLaughlin flagged it down. By the time they got to the car where the woman was wrapped in a blanket, the baby had already been born. Cadet McLaughlin helped policemen place the woman and baby in the squad car for a quick ride to Holy Cross hospital, where both were reported doing fine yesterday.

Cadet McLaughlin was reported yesterday to be having a



Warren McLaughlin

long talk with doctors in the medical division. He wasn't about to get caught off guard again.