Finding Aid to the
Fargo Police, Accidents and Investigations Photograph Collection

Fargo Police, Accidents and Investigations Photograph Collection, 1940s
33 gelatin silver prints
Collection number: Photo 2099

OVERVIEW

Links: View images in Digital Horizons

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Fred Fix through Forum Publishing, 2009 (Acc. 2911)

Property rights: The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyrights to this collection remain with the creators.

Citation: Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU, Fargo (item number)

PROVENANCE

The photographs in this collection were donated to the Institute for Regional Studies by the Forum Publishing of Fargo in 2009. The photographs had been given to Forum Publishing by then Fargo resident Fred Fix, prior to his moving to Arizona.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Fargo Police, Accidents and Investigations Photograph Collection includes a variety of images of the Fargo Police at work and some of the accidents and crimes they investigated. The photographs range
from a group portrait of the Fargo Police Force to photographs of police at work, police vehicles and training. Included are photographs of accidents and crime scenes, some of which were published in the Fargo Forum. In addition, the collection contains photographs of the Blizzard of 1946, some of which were also published in the Fargo Forum. The photographs appear to cover the time period of the 1940s. This time period was determined from the dates annotated upon several of the photographs and from articles in the Fargo Forum, which provides supporting documentation for some of the photographs. The photographs were taken by local photographers: Merle E. Nott and Cliff H. Baughman; with one portrait from the Voss Studios. The collection numbers thirty-three photographs and is divided into four series: Fargo Police Personnel and Vehicles, Accident and Investigations, Blizzard of 1946 and Miscellaneous Associated Photographs. The photographs were reordered so that different views of the same incident are in close proximity to one another.

The Fargo Police Personnel and Vehicles Series contains images of the Fargo Police at work. Images include personnel at a dispatch desk, first aid training, and in an office setting. This series includes equipment and vehicles in use by the Fargo police during the 1940s. Of particular interest is the group portrait of the police force including officials, taken likely in the late 1930s or early 1940s. There are ten photographs in this series.

The Accidents and Investigations Series contains images of several vehicle accidents that occurred during the 1945-1949 time frame. Examples of accidents are a tractor–train accident, a sideswiping, an accident involving a Jeep and a couple of collision among others. Also included in this series are the investigations of a body found by the river and a pedestrian struck by a car. There are seventeen photographs in this series.

The Blizzard of 1946 Series contains six photographs, taken by Merle E. Nott, during the Blizzard of 1946. The photographs include four images that appeared in the February 16, 1946 Fargo Forum Supplement.

The Miscellaneous Associated Photographs Series contains just two photographs. One is of a woman identified as Lt. Miller, calisthenics instructor and dated 1914. The other is of an unidentified North Dakota State Highway Patrol man standing by a Ford automobile.

FOLDER LIST

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Fargo Police Personnel and Vehicles Series

| 2.1  | Group Portrait of Fargo Police Department and Officials, 194? |
| 2.2  | Dispatcher |
| 2.3  | Examining Evidence, View 1 |
| 2.4  | Examining Evidence, View 2 |
3.1 First Aid Training, View 1
3.2 First Aid Training, View 2
4.1 Three Police Cars, Inside Garage
4.2 Police Car, Front View
4.3 Police Car, Side View

**Accidents and Investigations Series**

5.1 Tractor and Locomotive 18 Oct 1945, Altered for publication
5.2 Tractor and Locomotive, second view
5.3 Caterpillar Tractor
5.4 Deceased driver of tractor
6.1 Johnson/Pelton Accident 6 Jul 1946
7.1 Body Found by River 20 Apr 1948, View 1
7.2 Body Found by River, View 2
7.3 Body Found by River, View 3
8.1 Olson/Althoff Accident 24 Mar 1948, Front View
8.2 Olson/Althoff Accident, Side View
9.1 Sveinson/McCann accident, July 20, 1948
10.1 Car Struck Pedestrian 27 Apr 1949
11.1 Highway Dept. road grader breakdown
11.2 Head-on Collision, View 2
11.3 Winter Accident, Passenger’s Side
11.4 Winter Accident, Driver’s Side

**Blizzard of 1946 Series**

12.1 Employment Office Store Front
12.2 Girls on a Snow Bank
12.3 Snow Plow, View 1
12.4 Snow Plow, View 2
12.5 Snow Blower
12.6 Train Stalled by Storm

**Miscellaneous Associated Photographs Series**

13.1 Lt. Miller, 1914?
13.2 North Dakota State Highway Patrol officer and Vehicle

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