

# TRAFFIC CHIEF CAN TELL YOU OFF IN FRENCH

## New Boss Educated Police Officer

BY HAL FOUST

The new chief of Chicago's traffic policemen exemplifies the teachings of two leaders in the city's reform of its law enforcement agency.

When Supt. Orlando W. Wilson was dean of police administration at the University of California, he wrote in a textbook that a good merit system accommodates promotion of youthful leadership. The book, a standard text for college training of police, said that most civil service systems are a bar to such promotions by overemphasizing seniority.

### Studies at N. U.

James B. Conlisk Jr., who was appointed traffic chief on June 1, is 42 years old. He is the youngest captain on the force.

Conlisk is a graduate of the Northwestern university traffic institute, headed by Franklin M. Kreml. Kreml also is chairman of the citizens committee which recommended appointment of Wilson as police superintendent. Kreml remains as chairman of a citizens police board.

At Northwestern university, Conlisk was taught techniques of traffic law enforcement. He also was lectured on Kreml's favorite theme that a fundamental of all honesty in government is the integrity of the parking ticket. Conversely, Kreml believes that corruption bores into an administration like termites when a traffic ticket can be fixed.

### Indorses Both Theories

Conlisk, interviewed at his new job, indorsed both the Wilson and the Kreml theories. He added some thinking of his own on some of the other aspects of his job.

"I like to see police cars maintain the reasonable and legal pace of traffic while being driven in congestion such as on Lake Shore drive," he said, responding to a question. "If the police car is slow, it contributes to congestion and creates a hazard by disrupting the traffic pattern as motorists try to pass."

Noisy mufflers? Conlisk replied:

"The motorist who makes himself conspicuous with unnecessary engine noises has a personality that would be benefited by discipline."

### Horn Tooters Dangerous

Horn tooters? Conlisk replied:

"The driver who blows his horn in exasperation or impatience has a disposition dangerous in traffic. He irritates other drivers, which also is dangerous. The motorist who uses his horn to summon a friend is demonstrating discourtesy, which is another traffic hazard.

"I believe in enforcing the noise abatement laws."

"Do you think the police should have its own traffic engineers, as Supt. Wilson wrote in one of his books?"

"No," Conlisk replied.

"Under the present setup, the police and the city traffic engineers are en rapport."

He gave "en rapport" [intimate and harmonious relationship with mutual dependence] the French pronunciation. The new traffic chief will not be at a loss for words if either Wilson or Kreml flaunts a campus vocabulary.