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Vigorously'orkers Told

Ramsey Cops Riled At 'Bad Judgment'

Allendale Marshals Too Zealous, They Say

Ramsey police, from Chief Harry Voss on down are seething this week over the latest in a series of episodes they attribute to either an excess of zeal or bad judgment on the part of Allendale police marshals.

The boiling point was reached early Sunday morning when Walter A. Ackerson, 104 South Franklin Turnpike, fell victim to this alleged overzealousness, or bad judgment, and he now faces a charge of speeding on Franklin Turnpike in Allendale.

The story told by Ackerson who is himself a Ramsey marshal, to Ramsey police runs something like this: about 2:30 a.m., Sunday he was driving home from his place of business in Westwood, and as he passed the intersection of East Crescent Avenue and Franklin Turnpike, Allendale, he noted casually a car with dimmed lights parked at one side of the road. His car was doing 35 to 40 then, Ackerson said, to make the grade at that point, and he continued that speed until just before he topped the succeeding sharp grade which follows the dip in the road between the two lakes in the Ramsey Country Club Estates. As he neared the crest of the second grade he eased up on the gas to make the turn into Norman Drive to reach his home.

Crashes Into Ackerson

Until then there had been no sign of a car following him but at the instant of easing up on the gas, Ackerson was startled by flashing red lights in the car's mirror and the sound of a police siren. The next instant he was slammed forward in his seat by the impact of a car smashing into the rear of his. Ackerson alighted to be met by Allendale Police Marshal John Comley, who upbraided him and accused him of doing 80 miles an hour. Comley gave Ackerson a ticket for speeding but failed to specify on the ticket the rate he was driving, as required by Section 39:4-98 of the Motor Vehicle Act.

Can't Figure It Out

Up to the time of going to press, Chief Voss and Patrolmen Albert Schmitt and Alvin Doremus had

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been unable to figure out the following: grant that Ackerson was doing 80 when he passed the East Crescent Avenue-Franklin Turnpike intersection, how could a dead car, (i. e. Comley's) they argue, starting from an upgrade as steep as the one at the intersection, gain sufficient speed within 9/10 of a mile to overtake a car doing 80 miles an hour. It's 9/10 of a mile, Ramsey police say, from the intersection to Norman Drive, where Ackerson was stopped, and only slightly more than 4/10 of a mile from the intersection to the Allendale-Ramsey line. Ackerson's arrest, therefore, they point out, was made by an Allendale marshal another 4/10 of a mile beyond the borough line.

The chief and his men are "burned up" too, over the alleged practice of Allendale's marshals chasing Ramsey motorists along Franklin Turnpike as far as East Main Street and along South Central Avenue to the traffic light at West Main Street. They also allege that they have detected and chased Allendale marshals from a would-be-speed trap as far over the boundary line as Abbey Court in the east section of the Estates. Complaints of this nature are mounting, police say.

Ackerson is slated to appear before Recorder J. Frank Rouault Monday night in Allendale and is prepared to fight the case, he said.