

# Police Join Club in Auto Wrecker Drive

## Towing Charges Expected To Be Cut Under Plan

Cincinnati police will team up with the Auto Club in a program to curb alleged auto wrecker abuses, Safety Director Hamilton disclosed Friday.

The plan, similar to one used by county police, will funnel all calls for wrecker service through Station X. The station will relay them to the club which will summon a wrecker from an approved garage in the zone where the crash happened.

### To Halt Favoritism

Mr. Hamilton believes the new setup will:

**ONE:** End complaints that some policemen have shown favoritism in being allowed to call wreckers directly from accident scenes.

**TWO:** Reduce towing charges to motorists. (reasonable fee, based on extent of damage, has been agreed on.)

**THREE:** Halt frequent scrambles of towing firms to be first on the job after picking up traffic accident reports from the police radio.

"Six wreckers showed up at a recent accident involving only a minor injury to a pedestrian without damage to the car," Mr. Hamilton recalled.

### Pledge "Trial Run"

He said the plan was worked out with Auto Club officials after considerable study of methods used in other cities. He promised it a "trial run" and said it will be adopted permanently if it succeeds.

Sheriff Dan Tehan said a similar system has been "very successful" in the county. It differs from the city proposal in that the county police dispatcher may call wreckers from a list of approved garages. The dispatcher is supposed to summon the firm located nearest the wreck.

Owners of autos involved in city accidents still will be able to call their own garagemen if they prefer and are able. Auto club membership is not necessary to participation in the police plan.