

## HOW DRUNK IS DRUNK?

Pictures for PAGEANT by Howard Sochurek

How does a man look and act when he's drunk? PAGEANT'S startling pictures of tests in Michigan provide an answer



ment of Police Administration of Michigan State College has been conducting a series of experiments to determine the effects of alcohol on human beings, under a grant from the National Safety Council. Purposes of the experiments are to determine: 1) the surest, simplest types of tests police departments can administer to drivers who have been drinking; 2) the validity of such tests; 3) the impairment of

abilities of test subjects. In March one of the last groups of four volunteer subjects took the tests at Michigan State. Sometime this month, after weeks of correlation of results, the National Safety Council recommendations will go out to police departments all over the country. On these pages, PAGEANT'S photographs of four men slowly succumbing to alcohol show you what the National Safety Council is driving at.

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## Four volunteers go to a scientific cocktail party

At 6:00 p. m. in the last week of March, the four men at the top of this page went to the alcoholic testing laboratory at Michigan State College to get drunk. They were greeted by the director of the laboratory, Professor Ralph Turner, who, after being satisfied that they were not college students—no students are allowed to take Turner's alcoholic tests—asked them what they had for dinner. He noted which had protein meals, which had

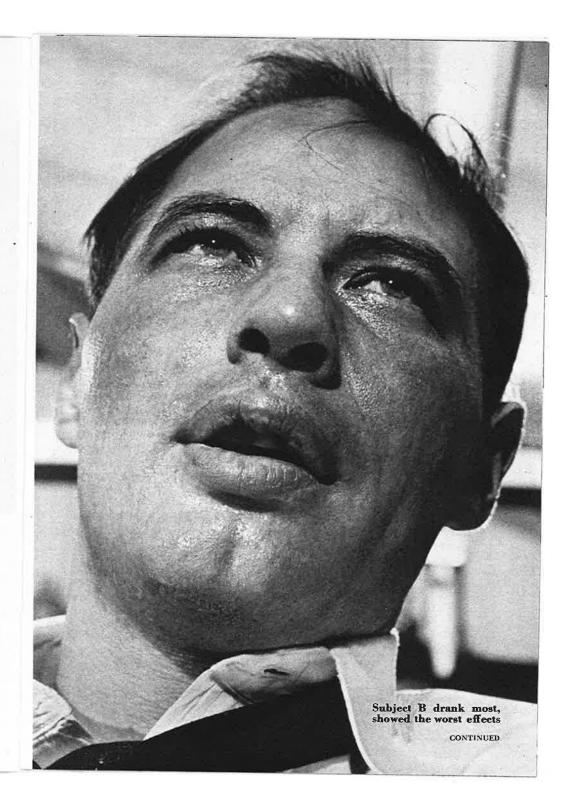
carbohydrate meals. Turner then assured each that they could drink all the 100-proof alcohol they could hold, and that they would, if necessary, be taken home and put to bed. The four young men began to drink at a quarter of eight. They chatted, played cards, kept pouring themselves drinks. At about 9:30, the alcohol in their blood was tested (below). They were already in various stages of drunkenness. But there were more tests to come.



Breath test at 9:30, showed Subject A had .065% of alcohol in blood 128



At same time, Subject D's breath test showed .09% concentration of alcohol





At 11:30, Subject B took line-walking test; faltered, fell, went to sleep



## Following alcohol's trail

As the Men got drunker, Turner and his assistants applied the half dozen or so tests for alcohol in the body, currently being used by police departments throughout the nation. Turner's object was to help the National Safety Council find out which tests are best and easiest for non-trained police to use. Alcohol in the brain causes impairment of physical and mental functions. It can best be measured by blood tests -but blood testing requires trained people and it also involves invasion of a man's bodily privacy—something courts have objected to. Urine and breath analysis involve neither of these things. Hence, they may appear high on the Safety Council's recommendations. Other tests tried at Michigan State were the traditional line-walking (left), coordination tests of several kinds (opposite). During the tests the four men had about as much fun as they would at a cocktail party.



Above, Subject D takes card-sorting test. Piles show poor coordination Below, Subject C takes pursuit-rotor test. He must touch a whirling disk



Above, at 11:40, Subject D blows up balloon to show alcohol in breath Below, at 12:15 A.M., Subject A was tested trying to touch finger to nose





## At tests' end-all drunk

By 2:30 A. M., the four young men were ready to be taken home. Two had drunk 16½ ounces of alcohol—about 16 average highballs. One had 19½ ounces, and passed out. The fourth had 12 ounces. None were any longer in full control of themselves. As they were posing for the last picture (bottom right), one grabbed Photographer Sochurek's camera and made the picture below. He thought it was an immense good joke.

As for the National Safety Council, it guessed before correlating the more than 100 tests made since 1948, that, of the half dozen testing methods used, all achieve relatively equal accuracy. Big point is to convince law courts that such tests are valid. The Council hopes also to convince people that drinking before driving is one of the most dangerous of life's pleasures.



Drunk's joke shows photographer (left) and Turner behind Subject B



Above, at start of test, four





subjects looked alert. Below, six hours and some 15 drinks later, they don't

