Police officials take a LOOK AT A NEW LAW

By CHARLES LONG
ample of how community pride and cooperation can do things that the small number of men on our police department never could." He added that police forces must come out of their "shroud of secrecy" and take part in getting various community groups together to face problems which are growing out of the current social revolution.

Watson stressed the importance that policemen read, understand and comprehend as much as possible the implications of the Civil Rights Bill for the law enforcement profession. In the face of violence arising from demonstrations, he concluded, police must more and more receive proper training and must strive to carry out their responsibilities without prejudice and emotion.

Governor Collins called upon the policemen to build their reputations on a high plane as a measure to prevent racial violence in their cities. Collins emphasizes that since civil rights primarily is a concern of the cities—large and small—it is in the cities where "the battle of America to master its racial problems will be won or lost." And this, he adds, places a "truly awesome responsibility" upon officers of the law.

"You know better than I that the greatest causes of crime are the things which spawn the instinct to do criminal acts—extremely low levels of education, poor standards of health, meagre job opportunities, the absence of parental leadership and care. All of these things mean substandard environments, and from them comes human despair needing only the lighting of the fuse to cause all Hell to break loose.

"As you find these conditions to exist, I urge you to go that extra mile to see that the leaders of your communities who take responsible remedial action are made aware of the needs for reform; and by every means available, stimulate them to move in this behalf.

"A prime goal will be to encourage and promote voluntary compliance with the law, to head off conflicts which might erupt in the streets or work their way into harsh battles in the courts."

"We take the affirmative position that this must be a nation of law-abiding citizens. We will take the initiative in helping to make compliance understandable and as reasonable and acceptable as possible, but we will offer no haven for those who would disregard the law or seek to evade its clear obligations.

"A splendid statement was made a few days ago by Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, who led the opposition to passage of the Act in the Senate. Senator Russell told his people of Georgia, and at the same time the people of the world:

'It is a form of anarchy to say that a person need not comply with a particular statute with which he disagrees. Ours is a government of laws, not of men, and our system cannot tolerate the philosophy that obedience to law rests upon the personal likes or dislikes of any individual citizen, whether he supports or opposes the statute in question.'

"This nation was founded on the principle that all men have a right to equal opportunity whatever their color, race, religion or national origin.

"While this has been a national commitment since the inception of the nation, each succeeding generation has been called upon to see to the business of making it come true in its own time, with its own resources of mind and spirit.

"Now is our time. And we must not fail."