One of the four was Lillian Bonner...Winston-Salem's first black female officers. The others were Hazel Venable, Ruth McClenny and Catherine Holland. The newspaper noted that they were "all married". Mrs. Bonner stayed with the department until her retirement in 1982.
IN FULL UNIFORM of a police officer, Mrs. Hazel Venable models outfits to be worn by the four meter checkers shown here with Traffic Captain C. M. Stutts. Observing are, left to right, Mrs. Lillian Bonner, Mrs. Catherine B. Holland and Mrs. Ruth McCleary.
Policewomen Learn Duties In Twin City

Winston-Salem's first uniformed police women are learning "the law" and "how to meet the public" today and will be on the job checking parking meters and putting out tickets for violations.

The four women—all married—were taking their work seriously despite wise-cracks between classes by observers who wanted to have some fun.

"Guess this will end the problem of arguing when a motorist copes up just as the ticket is being hung on the windshield wiper," quipped a veteran traffic officer.

"Everybody knows a woman always has the last word."

"Aw phooey, don't you know a woman always falls for flattery," said one of the men from the south end of City Hall. "That's the way to handle 'em."

Apparently they were both right.

The men looked sort of "out" when one of the women flashed a charming smile and replied, "You're not kidding, we do like flattery and each time it comes our way we will consider it a compliment to the Police Department and the good job we'll be doing."

Police Chief Jim Waller said that four women were selected with the greatest care and have met rigid standards of the Police Department.

They have been sworn in as police officers, and while they do not have sidearms (pistols, night sticks) they have the same authority as other policemen.

Members of the department are issued uniforms and are entitled to pension and other benefits available to the men.

Chief Waller said they would work the same hours as men in the department and would spend their entire time checking for parking meter violations. The men whose jobs they are taking over will be assigned to other traffic duties.

Pounding Pavement Beats Dieting

By Mamie H. Braddy Staff Reporter

Six women police officers who pound pavements in all kinds of weather will tell you the best way to take down a wasteline—and keep it down—is to walk miles and miles a day.

"Sure we eat plenty—everything we want," they said. "But the exercise we get burns it up. You've no idea how much walking we do."

Mrs. Carolyn Sue Varner, newest member of the group, agreed that what they said was all too true as she pointed to blisters she got on her heels her first day on duty.

"BUT I LIKE IT," said Mrs. Varner as she showed her feet would get used to it in a few days. "I'm amazed at the friendliness of most of the people I meet on the job."

Traffic Captain C. M. Statts said that now the Police Department has its authorized quota of six policewomen, motorists may expect stricter enforcement of all types of traffic violations.

"The women are sworn in as police officers and have the same authority to prefer charges and make arrests as other officers," according to Captain Statts.

Motorists whose parking violations create hazards to safety are likely to find themselves in court, said Captain Statts, as the traffic division intends to put forth a special effort to solve this problem.

These types of violations, he said, include leaving a motor vehicle too near a fire hydrant, in spaces clearly designated as "No Parking" or bus zones, leaving passenger cars in spaces reserved for loading purposes unless the car is used for loading, or double parking.

Captain Statts said the traffic division apparently will have to report to arrests since the city attorney had ruled that it is the magistrate penalty that may be charged for a parking ticket. Until that L. A. Wood is "catching up," too, with his job of handling tickets that haven't been paid.

Several violators were arrested last week for failing to pay tickets. Two men were let off with the costs of $10.85 on condition they pay the unpaid tickets. A third man who said his family had been using his car was let off with half the costs, but had to pay the tickets.

Others who have unpaid tickets that date back several weeks may expect to be haled into court, said Captain Statts, but the prima facie law is in effect. This makes a car owner responsible regardless of who parks his car.