

Vandals Work To Restore Cemetery

A work party composed of seven youths was formed this past weekend to put the Bennetts Corners' Cemetery on West 130th St. in Brunswick back into its normal condition.

The youths were responsible for vandalism at the cemetery last month.

In mid September, the Brunswick City Police Department received a call from V. E. Morton, cemetery caretaker. About 26 headstones had been knocked over or broken; some of the stones weighed up to 1,000 pounds; and most dated back to early 1800's. One was on the grave of a civil war veteran.

Patrolman Jack Brittain started the investigation, and was later assisted by Sergeant Clayton Crook. Brittain received, through tips, the names of two boys. They were picked up, and in turn implicated five others.

All seven admitted participation in the vandalism. Through further questioning, Brittain found that when the damage occurred, the boys had allegedly been drinking. Six of the youths were juveniles, aged 14 to 16, and the other was 18 years old. Three live in Strongsville, three in Hinckley, and one in Brunswick.

Approximate damage would have been \$500 in repairs and labor if all repairs had been performed by a contractor. In addition to the youths working, a crane was hired to lift the

headstones back into place and re-set them in concrete.

Parents of the vandals have agreed to make restitution for replacements and hired labor. The juveniles will be charged

in Juvenile Court, the 18-year-old is to be charged in Mayor's Court and, according to Brittain, could be charged on one of three counts.



PATROLMAN Jack Brittain of the Brunswick City Police Department looks over

broken headstones and damage caused by vandals to Bennetts' Corners Cemetery.