

ANNUAL REPORT OF CHIEF VINCENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS

Deals Extensively With the Operations of the Force During Past Year.

COMMENTS ON RECENT BURGLARIES

1912 Showed an Increase of 209 Cases of All Natures Over 1911.

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held in the office of the City Clerk yesterday. Those present were Judge Stone, Magistrate A. Elliott and Mayor Simpson.

On motion of Magistrate Elliott and Mayor Simpson, His Honor, Judge Stone was appointed chairman for 1913.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

Moved by Mayor Simpson, seconded by Mr. A. Elliott, that the accounts as received, be passed and paid.

The Chief of Police, R. C. Vincent, presented his annual report, outlining the work done by the Department during the year 1912, and making several recommendations for the consideration of the Board.

Moved by Mr. Elliott, seconded by the Mayor, that the report of the Chief be received for consideration. The report follows:—

To the Board of Police Commissioners of the City of Sault Ste. Marie—

Gentlemen,—I have the honor to present my second annual report, being for the year ending December 31st, 1912, together with statistical information for the same period.

Table "A" contains a list of all the offences with which persons were charged during the year.

Table "B" shows how these cases were dealt with by the Police Magistrate.

Table "C" shows amount paid to the Department in fines, etc., during the year, with the amounts handed over to the City Treasurer or disbursed to witnesses and others.

Table "D" shows the amount of lost or stolen properties recovered, in cash or goods, with owners' valuation of same.

Table "E" shows the names of the members of the force.

Table "F" is a comparison between the actual expenditure of the Department for 1912 and the amount in cash received, stolen property, etc., recovered.

Table "A"

OFFENCES.	
Assault	75
Assault (indecent)	1
Assault (causing bodily harm) ...	13
Abductions	1
Armed with intent	1
Attempt to murder	1
" Highway Robbery	3
" to steal from person.....	2
" to break gaol	1
" to rape	1
Assisting prisoner to escape	1
Bylaws—Building	2
" Fire	1
" Drunk and incapable	38
" Immoderate drinking	2
" Billposting	2
" Junk	1
" Teamsters'	11
" Street	2
" Bicycle	11
" Drunk and swearing	14
" Pound	5
" Dog	1
" Early Closing	4
" Defacing Bills	1
" Awning	1
Burglary	13
Breaking gaol	1
Crushty to animals	2
Customs Act	1
Carrying weapons	12
Conspiracy to defile	1
Cigarettes (selling to minors)	1
Cheating at cards	1
Disorderly	316
Deserter (military).....	1
Detention (wrongful) of boy	1
Extortion by menaces	1
Embezzlement	1
Escape from custody	2
False pretences (obtaining goods, etc., by)	19
Factory Act	10
Frequenters (of disorderly house) ..	4
Fraud	3
Forgery	5
Highgraders (of silver ore)	2
Having beaver pelts	1
Indecent picture	1
Indecent play	1
Insane	2
Intimidation	19
Illicit intercourse with employee... ..	1
Inmates of bawdy house	4
Immorality	1
Indecent exposure	2
Keeping gaming house	2
Keeping bawdy house	12
Liquor License Act	50
Living on avails of prostitution... ..	1
Lord's Day Act	4
Murder	1
Manslaughter	1
Motor Vehicles Act	5
Moving Picture Regulations	4
Non-support of family	1
Obstructing police	4
Opium Act	1
Padding pay roll	1
Public Health Act	37
Neglect of children	1
Pointing firearms	2
Perjury	2
Prostitution	2
Receiving stolen property	3
Robbery with violence	5
Resisting arrest	1
Smuggling	2
Solution	2
Shoe Regulations	2
Street walkers	2
Selling indecent book	1
Tobac	94
Trespass	17
Truancy	1

Ticket of Leave Act	1
Vagrants	88
Vicious dogs	2
Wilful damage	14
Wife beating	1
Wages (claims for)	6
Wounding with intent	2
Total	1007

Table "B"
How Cases Were Disposed Of.

Fined, with option of going to goal	334
Committed to goal	88
Suspended sentences	191
Central Prison	38
Mercer Reformatory for Females	11
Kingston Penitentiary	5
Deported	10
Committed for trial	39
Committed to asylum	5
Dismissed	106
Discharged	125
Remanded for sentence if called on	19
Withdrawn	2
Bound over to keep peace	3
Adjourned sine die	27
Total number of cases	1007

Table "C"—Amount paid to Department in fines, etc., with disbursements and showing amount paid to the City Treasurer.

	Received	Disbursed	Pd. City Treasurer
Jan.	\$ 658.76	\$135.25	\$ 523.50
Feb.	245.30	19.60	225.70
Mar.	945.65	53.00	892.65
Ap.	563.40	45.95	507.45
May	372.50	18.35	354.15
June	599.05	19.52	579.53
July	1220.15	95.75	1124.40
Aug.	422.70	122.15	300.55
Sep.	575.90	95.70	479.20
Oct.	432.50	121.60	310.90
Nov.	539.87	63.62	476.25
Dec.	810.35	207.50	602.85
Total	\$7366.12	\$1006.80	\$6359.23

The disbursements were made to Interpreters, License Inspector, Provincial and other Constables, District Gaol for board while prisoners were held pending payment of fines, etc., damages, doctors, and Factory Inspector.

Table "D"—Amount of lost and stolen property recovered, in cash or goods, at owners' valuation of same

	\$1184.19
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Table "E"—Names of members of the force—Sergeant R. Dinsmore, Constables J. Fortune, J. McIntyre, A. Springer, G. Harbottle, J. Armstrong; Chief R. C. Vincent.

There were four probationers, three of whom resigned to take more lucrative positions, and one was dismissed.

Table "F"—Receipts and expenditure.

Fines, etc., received	\$7366.12
Lost and stolen, recovered	1184.19
Pound fees collected	56.00
Total	\$8606.31

Expenses as shown by City Treasurer

Disbursements	1006.80
Total	\$10,545.20

The following licenses, which the police have to regulate, were paid into the City Treasurer's department.—

Auto Drays	\$ 30.00
Auctioneers	21.25
Bowling Alleys	16.00
Drays	546.00
Employment Agencies	100.00
Junk dealers	15.00
Liveries	50.00
Milk vendors	11.00
Peddlers	257.00
Pool and billiards	300.00
Refreshment booths	16.00
Restaurants	145.00
Second Hand Stores	30.00
Shooting Gallery	20.00
Theatres	250.00
Circus	150.00
Carnival	60.00
Medicine show	10.00
Miscellaneous	14.00
Total	\$2731.95

Several draymen were fined for not having licenses. One junk dealer was fined for not having a license and also for buying goods from minors. Some of the laundrymen were fined for breaches of the bylaw.

The year 1912 shows an increase in the cases over 1911 of 209. There is also a corresponding increase of receipts and expenditures.

As grows the city, so grows our need for more men, a need to which attention has been called in my previous report, and which your efforts have been devoted to meet. But we are a long way yet from being an adequately manned force as to members at least. The city is moving for street railway extension; it has taken in the Molly Sub-Division; it is expanding materially in the residential sections; it is developing in its manufacturing and commercial interests, and shows every outward sign of healthy growth for the future.

All this means increased need for police protection, to keep a watchful eye upon property and the residential districts, as well as the business centres, and the demands made, as you know, are urgent as well as frequent. We can only give them partial attention with our force at its present strength, and an increase is imperative. I should suggest an increase of five more men, two for day duty, and three for night duty.

We need a patrol wagon most urgently, which shall be kept in readiness for any emergency. Such service is of the utmost importance, involving questions of life or death, and it seems to me effort should be made to supply this demand.

I was very much pleased at the opportunities afforded by your consideration of attending the Chief Constables Convention at Brantford, and Toronto. I learned several things that should prove of benefit to our department, among others I made myself acquainted with the finger print system, and am now able to put my knowledge to some use. The meetings were full of instruction and interest. They being heads of departments from all over the continent in personal touch, give opportunity for exchange of experiences, and in many ways facilitate the work upon which we are engaged.

The police officers and lockup are be

coming too small for the amount of business transacted in them. We have not sufficient lockers for all the men. My office should be furnished with a safe for the care of money and other things, left in charge of the department. At present I have to rely on the other departments at the City Hall, and this is very apt to cause confusion.

During the past year fourteen dogs, one horse and two cats were destroyed by this department.

Five paroled prisoners are reporting themselves to me at present.

I think we should have a new system in regard to the second hand stores. A new book should be furnished by the Board of Police Commissioners to each store keeper, compelling him to fill in the date of purchase of anything, name of person selling the same, age, height, complexion, and dress, description of article bought, and a blank space wherein the visiting policeman could record the date and time of his visit. I think by this means we should be able to hold dealers in check, and have a better chance of recovering goods than we have at present. Besides, it should be made an offence under the bylaw for any dealer to omit the above particulars which, at present, they do not enter in their books.

I regret there have been several burglaries of late the perpetrators of which have not yet been brought to justice. This is not on account of lack of zeal on the part of the police force. Any clue obtained has been followed up, several arrests of suspects have been made, and innumerable premises have been searched, all to no purpose. Had my suggestions been acted upon back in the fall, that is, my suggestions regarding the placing of bars, bolts, etc., across doors and windows of back premises, several of these burglaries would not have happened. In two cases citizens saw persons in premises, but failed to inform the police of such occurrences until hours after.

The Liquor License Act has been strictly enforced in the city, also the law regarding the keeping of disorderly houses, and vagrants. I wish to commend the officer and men of the department for their faithfulness to duty and for their cheerful performance of the many extra duties required of them during the year just ended. I congratulate the members of the force on the good discipline maintained by them as, with the exception of a few minor offences, there were only one or two breaches of discipline serious enough to be brought to the attention of the Board.

In conclusion, I wish to extend to your honorable Board the thanks of every member of the Department for your constant attention to the wants and the welfare of the men, and, on my own part, I wish to thank you heartily for the many acts of kindness and courtesy shown me during the year just ended.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Your obedient servant,
RALPH C. VINCENT,
Chief Constable