

ANNUAL REPORT OF CHIEF VINCENT TO POLICE COMMISSION

Deals With the Work of the Year and Covers the Entire Ground.

Chief of Police R. C. Vincent's annual report, presented to the Police Commission yesterday, is as follows: Chief Constable's Office, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, January, 1915.

To the Chairman and the Board of Police Commissioners, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit my fourth "annual report" upon the Police Department for the year 1914, together with the statistical information for the same period.

List of Offences.

- Assault on police, 1.
- Assault, common, 46.
- Assault, causing bodily harm, 19.
- Assault, indecent, 5.
- Accessory after the fact, 1.
- Attempt to utter forged cheque, 1.
- Attempt to maim, 1.
- Attempt to steal from person, 1.
- Attempt to murder, 2.
- Bigamy, 2.
- Burglary, 39.
- Bicycle by-law, 29.
- Carrying concealed weapon, 9.
- Carnal knowledge, 3.
- Cruelty to animal, 3.
- Challenge to duel, 1.
- Contempt of court, 6.
- Disorderly, 401.
- Desertion of wife, 2.
- Drunk and incapable, 7.
- Dog by-law, 18.
- Disobeying summons, 1.
- Escape from custody, 1.
- Early closing by-law, 1.
- Employment Agency by-law.
- Embezzlement, 2.
- Forgery, 11.
- Frequenter opium joint, 8.
- Habitual frequenter, 8.
- Having ~~opium~~, 2.
- Having opium, 1.
- Having stolen goods, 2.
- Insane from liquor, 3.
- Intimidation, 3.
- Inmate of bawdy house, 1.
- Indian Act, breach of, 2.
- Indecent conduct, 4.
- Insane, 4.
- Keeping opium joint, 2.
- Keeping disorderly house, 3.
- Liquor license, breach of, 43.
- Motor Vehicle Act, breach of, 16.
- Maiming cow, 1.
- Non-support of family, 4.
- Obstructing police, 3.
- Obtaining food by false pretences, 9.
- Obtaining money by false pretences, 7.
- Obtaining divery by fraud, 4.
- Obtaining credit by fraud, 5.
- Obstructing course of justice, 3.
- Pointing firearm, 2.
- Padding pay-roll, 8.
- Prostitution, 6.
- Perjury, 3.
- Peddler's By-law, breach of, 4.
- Pound By-law, breach of, 6.
- Pool-room By-law, 1.
- Public Health, Act, 12.
- Personation at election, 1.
- Procuring, 1.
- Robbery from person, 4.
- Receiving stolen goods, 3.
- Railway By-law, breach of, 1.
- Seduction, 4.
- Secret Commission's Act, 3.
- Stolen goods in possession, 2.
- Street By-law, 12.
- Smuggling, 3.
- Subordination of perjury, 2.
- Second-Hand By-law, breach of, 1.
- Smoking tobacco, minors, 7.
- Stowaway, 2.
- Theft, 113.
- Trespass, 22.
- Theft from person, 7.
- Theatres and Moving Pictures Act, 2.
- Tobacco, selling to, minors, 1.
- Theft by false pretences, 1.
- Treason, 1.
- Uttering forged cheque, 2.
- Vagrancy, 136.
- Wife beating, 2.
- Wounding, 5.
- Wages, 6.
- Wilful damage, 17.
- Total number of cases, 1,158.

These cases were disposed of by the police magistrate as follows:

- Discharged, 184.
- Fined with option of going to gaol, 345.
- Suspended sentence, 252.
- Summons withdrawn, 14.
- Dismissed, 81.
- Went to goal, 78.
- Committed to Central Prison, 39.
- Committed for trial, 66.
- Adjourned, since discharged, 22.
- Remanded until called upon, 8.
- Allowed to go, 36.
- Committed to Mercer Reformatory, 9.
- Bound over to keep peace, 3.
- Committed to Kingston Penitentiary, 1.
- Committed to Asylum, 1.
- Taken to Cobalt, 1.
- Sent to Montreal, 1.
- Taken to Massey, 1.
- Taken to Port Arthur, 1.
- Committed to St. John's Industrial School, 3.
- Committed to Victoria Industrial School, 11.
- Deported, 1.
- Wages paid, 2.
- Made over to Children's Aid Society, 3.
- Handed over to military authorities, 2.
- Taken to Steelton, 1.
- Total number, 1,158.
- Amounts paid to Department in fines, etc., with disbursements, and amount paid to city treasurer.
- January, received, \$841.15; disbursed, \$81.70; paid treasurer, \$759.45.
- February, received, \$685.30; disbursed, \$26.40; paid treasurer, \$658.90.
- March, received, \$1,600.00; disbursed, \$115.45; paid treasurer, \$1,484.55.
- April, received, \$527.00; disbursed, \$62.25; paid treasurer, \$464.75.
- May, received, \$229.10; disbursed, \$84.00; paid treasurer, \$145.10.
- June, received, \$557.70; disbursed,

July, received, \$411.05; disbursed, \$33.50; paid treasurer, \$378.55.
 August, received, \$459.47; disbursed, \$82.93; paid treasurer, \$377.49.
 September, received, \$110.30; disbursed, \$29.35; paid treasurer, \$80.95.
 October, received, \$727.47; disbursed, \$29.90; paid treasurer, \$698.77.
 November, received, \$309.10; disbursed, \$158.70; paid treasurer, \$150.40.
 December, received, \$170.75; disbursed, \$16.25; paid treasurer, \$154.50.

Received, \$6,108.65; disbursed, \$764.58; paid treasurer, \$5,344.07.

Amount of lost and stolen property recovered by this department and returned to owners, with owner's valuation of same:

Lost..... \$ 794.60
 Stolen..... 1,619.90

\$2,414.50

Following license fees were paid into Treasurer's Department:

Sundry..... \$2,603.75
 Pound fees..... 42.00
 Dog taxes..... 382.00

Cash in hand of special service fund..... \$ 88.92

Expenditure for 1914..... \$14,727.05

Names of members of the force: sergeant R. Dinsmore, Constables J. Fortune, A. Springer, G. Harbottle, F. Mastin, W. Copeland, J. Grant, J. Sanderson, J. Johnston, J. Mason, Chief R. C. Vincent.

Remarks and Suggestions.

Since my last report the police force has been increased by one constable. One constable was dismissed, and his position filled at once. The conduct of the men as a whole was good, and with the exception of the cases brought to your notice, and a few minor breaches of discipline, there was not much to complain of. The relations of this department with the public has, during the year, been of the most satisfactory character and most gratifying to me as head of the department. The ready co-operation which the department has met with from our citizens is the greater of the causes which in my opinion are responsible for the very successful year through which we have passed. No revolting crime has occurred during the year. The offences with which the department has had to deal have for the most part been of the minor sort. The number of cases dealt with is considerably larger than that of last year. The war has also caused us extra work in registering, weekly, fortnightly or monthly, a large number of alien enemies,—Austrians, Germans, Turks,—and at the time of writing there are over eight hundred names on the books.

The Liquor License Act has been enforced in the city; also the law regarding ~~the~~ disorderly houses.

During the past year, ~~eighteen~~ animals were destroyed by this department.

Five paroled convicts reported themselves to me.

One hundred and ninety-five boys obtained licenses to sell newspapers, etc.

I suppose at such a time it is useless to again bring up the subject of organizing a police benefit fund! However, I would ask your Honorable Board to consider this question and see if the city council would not set apart a certain sum of money for that purpose as a nucleus to which the officers of the force would contribute a certain percentage each month from their salaries, the same to be determined by the Board. The object aimed at is a most meritorious one, and there should be no great difficulty in getting the matter started.

I must also remind your Honorable Board that the police offices and lock-up are in the same condition as they were this time last year. At that time I reminded you that they were much too small for the amount of business transacted in them; that the bottoms of the cells were rusted away, and that either repairs should be made at once, or new cells ordered. Nothing has been done in the matter. My office is not large enough to take a person or persons in

to talk over matters privately. The orderly room is not a fit place to keep witness in, it being too near to the police court. However, I suppose we shall have to go on for some time, or at least until after the war, as we are going, but I feel there is a crying need all the same for new premises.

There was a falling off in some of the licenses owing to bad trade. It will be noticed that quite a considerable sum was paid out in livery hire, and also for meals for prisoners. A special constable was also employed for several weeks during a firebug scare, in the West End.

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 also for allowing me to attend the chief constables' convention at Winnipeg, and for the many acts of kindness and courtesy shown me during the year just ended.

All of which is respectfully submitted. Your obedient servant,

R. C. VINCENT,

Chief Constable.