

MOUNTED POLICE **FOR FEDERAL DUTY**

PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES WILL TAKE OVER STATIONS ON JANUARY 19.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 26.—A. Bowen Perry, C.M.G., Commissioner of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, stated to-day that "so soon as the Alberta Provincial authorities can take over the stations in the Province now held by the R.N.W.M.P. this famous unit will be recruited to full strength and will come under the Federal authorities for military duty."

An order in Council to this effect states that the Provincial authorities will take over all the police duties heretofore undertaken by the R.N.W.M.P. on January 19, 1917.

Commissioner Perry states, however, that owing to the difficulties that would be liable to arise if the various stations in the Province were immediately withdrawn from the control of the R.N.W.M.P., the order in Council cannot actually take effect until such time as the Provincial Government can provide suitable men to fill them.

The action has been taken by the Federal Government as being a military necessity in time of war and for the increasing demand for a highly-trained unit to be ready for instant service within the Dominion.

W. A. MURPHY ACQUITTED.

The charge of securing goods amounting to \$222 by false pretences from the York Lumber Company preferred against W. A. Murphy in the Sessions yesterday afternoon was withdrawn, the accused agreeing not to enter a counter-claim against the company.