

of either your own or the detachment office at Yorkton; to serve as a link between the present day establishment and the Force at Yorkton nearly half a century ago.

This old photo was taken 45 years ago (April 1904) and shows the Yorkton Detachment as it was then (one sergeant and three constables) in front of the old courthouse, long since demolished. When the picture was taken the building had just been completed and we had moved in only a couple of months previous. This old courthouse, as you probably know, stood in the southeast corner of the town, between Ball's and the old flour mill.

It is to my knowledge the first picture taken of the Yorkton Detachment, as a whole. True, there had been a detachment there for many years before, but usually a one-man detachment under the old Saltcoats Sub-District. I was sent to Yorkton as a very young lad towards the end of 1899 and took charge of Yorkton, reporting to Saltcoats. Two years later, November 1901, the headquarters of this small sub-district was moved to Yorkton, and being promoted corporal, I was placed in charge of the sub-district and the detachment as well. I continued in that capacity as a sergeant and staff sergeant and in April 1907 when I was appointed inspector, I was left in command of the Yorkton Sub-District. By that time it was greatly enlarged, not only by the opening up of new detachments, but also owing to the fact that our guard room in the courthouse had a half dozen new cells and was constituted a common jail for the keep of prisoners sentenced up to six months at hard labor.

This necessitated keeping a large staff at Yorkton, doing prisoner-escort duty, so when I left Yorkton in 1913 on transfer to the Crows Nest Pass, the strength of the sub-division would perhaps be equal to what you have today.

So much for history, except that when this old picture was taken the Force was known by its original name, North-West Mounted Police, the prefix "Royal" being conferred on the Force a few months later that year. In those days Yorkton was in N.W.T. The province of Saskatchewan wasn't formed until 1905.

It is perhaps also worth noting, as rather unique, that of the four members of the

old Yorkton Detachment you see in this photo, three did not do too badly in after years in the Force. Two of them (Keith Duncan and myself) becoming Assistant Commissioners and one (Goldsmith) Superintendent, whereas the fourth member, a teamster, Ross, left the Force, I believe.

I have had this old picture cleaned up and framed and would ask you to accept it on behalf of your Yorkton command.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours very sincerely,

(sgd) CHRISTEN JUNGET

The picture has been gratefully acknowledged and now occupies a place of honor in Yorkton Sub-Division office, where it is greatly admired and perhaps the lesson it embodies appreciated by all ranks. Surely it must be evident that in the Force, loyalty, diligence and perseverance are rewarded.

While the present members of Yorkton Sub-Division and Detachment do not assume any credit for the accomplishments of their predecessors, they are at least inspired by them and would be interested to know if any other detachment in the Force can equal this distinction. ●●●

An Old-timer Writes

In humorous vein an old-timer, Reg. No. 2911 ex-Cst. F. J. Bigg records some events of the past.

There was a sound of revelry on a certain evening in July 1897. For almost two years "F" Division at Prince Albert had felt itself to be more or less under a cloud—ever since Oct. 29, 1895, when Reg. No. 605 Sgt. C. C. Colebrook of Duck Lake Detachment had been shot and killed by an Indian named Almighty Voice. And during those two years men of the Force had searched over a wide area, by horseback in summer, with horse and sleigh in the winter. But all their efforts to locate the fugitive proved fruitless. In the meantime all the activities of the division pursued their normal course, and these included various forms of recreation.

On the day above mentioned the NWMP cricket team had defeated the City of Prince Albert players by an inning and 24 runs; the police team dismissed their opponents in the second inning for three runs and three byes in the remarkable time of 20 minutes.