

during the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. Prime Minister Borden believed that such a well-trained, highly-disciplined force — one which possessed a high public profile and was fast-becoming something of a Canadian icon — was the ideal choice to become the sole federal force.

Amalgamation — The End of an Era

The amalgamation was not without its problems. Some members of the Dominion force were understandably apprehensive as a result of the move. They foresaw transfers to other government departments or forced retirements befalling them. It was also feared that there would be fewer opportunities for commissions to the rank of inspector and that some existing inspectors might be demoted to the rank of staff sergeant. In the end however, 152 members of the Dominion Police joined the RCMP and were organized into a single group with the designation, "A" Division. Brigadier-General D.M. Ormond, recently-retired from the Canadian Army, was appointed "A" Divisions first Commanding Officer. A newly-

commissioned RCMP officer was made second in command. This officer found the contingent from the Dominion Police to be hard-working, dependable and worthy associates.

Unfortunately, no books were ever written dealing solely with the work of the Dominion Police, nor were any Hollywood movies ever made extolling its exploits and accomplishments. Nether at its beginning nor at its end did bugles blow or trumpets sound; yet, this small, obscure force made a significant contribution to the advancement of law enforcement in Canada. Today, the RCMP reaps the benefit of the many accomplishments of the Dominion Police and the officers and men who served in Canada's first post-confederation federal police force.

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Note: The primary sources of the information contained in this article were the National Archives, and the House of Commons Debates. — Ed.■

It's a tough cop

A British public survey has suggested that police officers have the most difficult job in the country.

The survey carried out in 43 areas of Britain, found that 66 % of those surveyed thought that a police officer's job was the most difficult, with only 2 % feeling that police had the easiest occupation.

Doctors came in a second at 56 %, with politicians at 33 % and the armed forces at 27 %. Soccer stars ran a dead last at 3 %.

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