

*By Mr. Elliott:*

Q. Mr. Starnes, just one question; have you in your custody all the reports that have been made for years back?—A. Yes, I think I can say that our records are very complete.

Q. How far back do they go—approximately?—A. Our records go back to the inception of the force; that is fifty years.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. From fifty years ago?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Elliott:*

Q. And the records are all kept?—A. Yes. There have been changes in the organization in the matter of making reports. Before 1904 we did not have very much criminal work; the force did more soldiering than actual police work except amongst the Indians, and most of the reports of a criminal nature were in the form of letters. About 1902—I am not quite sure of the date—the then commissioner instituted a system of criminal reports where all this business of “I have the honour to be” was cut out, and a regular form of criminal reports was adopted, and has been in force ever since. Then in 1920 with the amalgamation of the Dominion and the Northwest Mounted Police, the headquarters were changed from Regina to Ottawa, and other changes were made, in view of the extension of the work. This Narcotic and Drug Act business was not known of before we came down here in 1920, and the first years we had to grope to a certain extent with a new problem, but it has gradually become organized, and is in better shape, and our records now are in better shape than they were some years ago.

Q. You have the records for 1912?—A. Yes, we have them.

Q. And for the years from then up till the present?—A. Yes.

Q. And such records as were kept prior to 1912 are still in the custody of the Department?—A. Yes.

Q. And you will be able to produce such as are required?—A. Anything that is required, yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Bennett:*

Q. But, Commissioner, your force was only moved east in 1920?—A. Yes.

Q. Not in 1912?—A. No. I said in 1902 the change was made in the criminal reports.

Q. But you only began the criminal reports in 1902?—A. Yes, in 1918 we were extended to Manitoba and British Columbia.

Q. And prior to that time your headquarters were at Regina?—A. Yes.

Q. And dealt with western matters solely?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1920 you moved east?—A. Yes.

Q. And the headquarters of the Department are now here?—A. Yes.

Q. And such records as you had were moved east with you?—A. Yes.

Q. In their entirety?—A. Yes, except in regard to local matters at Regina.

Q. What is the strength of your detachment at Montreal?—A. About twenty-eight or thirty men.

Q. Is there a superintendent there?—A. No; an inspector.

Q. How many non-commissioned officers?—A. Seven or eight.

Q. How many constables?—A. The balance would be constables.

Q. Was there ever a body of Mounted Police on detachment duty on the border between Quebec and the United States?—A. Yes, for a year or so at Phillipsburg.

Q. When was it taken off?—A. About three years ago.