

# POLICE REPORT A RECORD OF YEAR'S GOOD WORK

## CHIEF SIMPSON SUBMITTED HIS ANNUAL REPORT TO COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY YESTERDAY

Police Force Still Smaller than Population of City Demands — Statistical Statement of Offences for the Year — Showing in all Departments One on which Commissioner McLellan, Chief Simpson and Officers are to be Congratulated.

Mr. W. Simpson, chief constable for the city, presented his first annual report to the Commissioner of Public Safety yesterday. The report is on the work of the police department for the year ending December 31st, together with valuable statistical information for the same period. It takes up very many pages and is complete in every detail. The report shows the strength and distribution of the force to date as follows: One chief constable, one inspector, two detectives, seven sergeants, thirty-five police constables, one bread inspector and one police matron, making a total of forty-nine.

Compared with the previous year there is an increase of four, but this does not add to the effective working strength of the department, the additional four being the bread inspector, the police matron, one detective and one desk man.

The distribution in the different divisions of the city is: Central—One chief, two inspectors, three patrol sergeants, two detectives, one desk sergeant, two night call men, eighteen constables, one court sergeant, one bread inspector, and one police matron. Total thirty-two. Northern division—Two patrol sergeants, one night call man, ten constables. Total thirteen. Western division—One acting sergeant, and three constables.

**More Men Needed**  
The estimated population of the city, according to the Railway's Company's statistics, is 50,000. There are twenty-one square miles of streets. The population of the city for 1911 according to the Canadian census was 45,511, and the distribution of the force in that year was: One chief, one deputy chief, six sergeants, two special officers, one detective, one night call man, one house man, one day call man, one court sergeant and twenty-nine constables, a total of forty-four. Since then one detective and one desk man have been added to the strength of the establishment, which does not by any means equal the advance in the growth of the city and population, and the force is numerically weak to the extent of at least fifteen men.

Deputy Chief Jenkins, through illness has been off the working strength of the department since July last, during which time the commissioners have been pleased to pay him full salary and he is therefore shown on the effective strength of the department. Chief Simpson asks authority to appoint a substitute to him and says that should this authority be granted he would recommend Sergeant Caples for the position.

The comparison of strength between 1911 and the present period shows that in 1911 there was one officer to 966 population, where, at present there is one man to 1,276 population, and at the present time extra duties devolve upon the force.

One police constable, Fred Storm, was recalled to the colors during the year and is now in England preparing to go to the front.

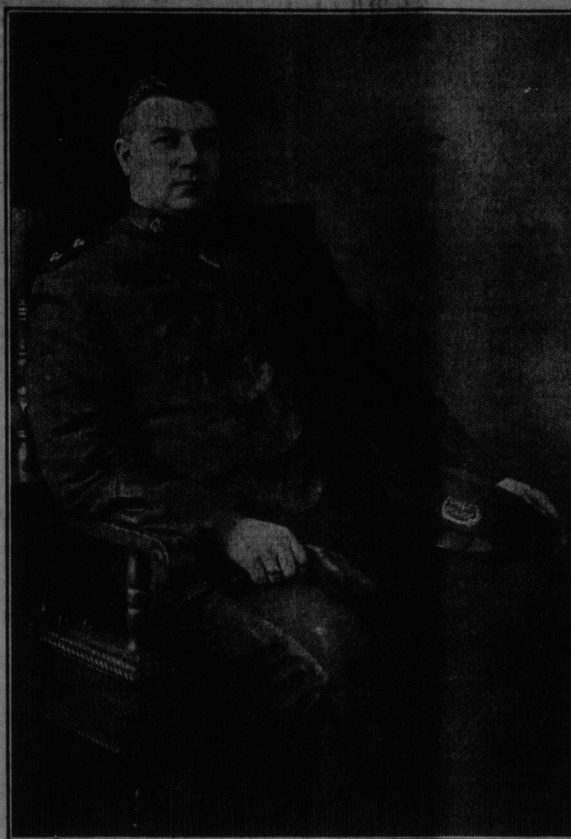
Carrying concealed weapon . . . 3  
Cutting and wounding . . . 15  
Cruelty to animals . . . 4  
Convict failing to report . . . 1  
Carnal knowledge with girl under age . . . 8  
Drunk . . . 825  
Disorderly conduct on ship . . . 4  
Disorderly conduct on street . . . 18  
Deserters from vessels . . . 13  
Deserters, military . . . 1  
Deilement of girl under 14, allowing premises to be used for . . . 1  
False pretenses, obtaining money, or credit by . . . 3  
Escaping from lawful custody . . . 10  
Enticing artful seamen to desert . . . 1  
Furious driving . . . 3  
Fighting . . . 28  
False alarm ringing . . . 1  
Gambling, housekeeper . . . 1  
Gambling house, inmates . . . 2  
Gambling device, keeping . . . 4  
Gambling device, keeping . . . 4  
Gambling . . . 10  
Obstructing with police . . . 9  
Indecency . . . 2  
Immoral picture selling . . . 1  
Allowing fighting on premises . . . 1  
Permitting drunkenness . . . 1  
Obstructing police in saloon . . . 23  
Liquor selling without license . . . 2  
Beer selling without license . . . 2  
Keeping beer, no license . . . 2  
Keeping liquor on premises, licensed only for beer . . . 2  
Keeping liquor for sale without a license . . . 4  
Selling beer prohibited hours . . . 4  
Selling and supplying liquor to soldiers . . . 9  
Selling liquor to individuals . . . 1  
Lord's Day Act violations . . . 16  
Murder . . . 1  
Attempted murder . . . 1  
Motor vehicle law violations . . . 26  
Non-support . . . 1  
Neglecting children (parent) . . . 1  
Obscene language . . . 23  
Obstructing sidewalk (person) . . . 1  
Opium joint keepers . . . 2  
Opium joint inmates . . . 26  
Opium, having possession of . . . 1  
Opium, smuggling . . . 1  
Profane language . . . 45  
Prisoner of war . . . 2  
Rape . . . 1  
Attempted rape . . . 9  
Railway acts . . . 9  
Resisting police . . . 30  
Receiving stolen goods . . . 30  
Refusing duty (artificial seamen) . . . 9  
Supplying revolver without permit . . . 1  
Riot . . . 4  
Seduction . . . 1  
Seditious language . . . 1  
Smuggling . . . 101  
Suicide, attempted . . . 3  
Trespassing on railway . . . 2  
Truants . . . 16  
Threatening language . . . 2  
Tobacco selling to minor . . . 2  
Vagrancy . . . 106  
Wilful damage to property . . . 23  
Wounding . . . 23

Grand total . . . 1876  
Nationality.  
The following shows the nationality of the persons arrested and tried during 1915:

**Criminal Statistics.**  
Offences with which persons were charged for year 1915:  
Abandonment of child . . . 1  
Abusive language . . . 7  
Adult, common . . . 8  
Assault, aggravated . . . 68  
Assault, indecent . . . 1  
Assault, on police . . . 2  
Assisting soldiers to desert . . . 1  
Bawdy house keepers . . . 13  
Bawdy house inmates . . . 28  
Breaking and entering . . . 31  
Breach of Peace . . . 8  
Rigamy . . . 2  
Bodily harm causing grievous . . . 1

**By-Laws (City) Violations.**  
Dangerous building . . . 1  
Awning too low . . . 2  
Discharging gun in city . . . 2  
Electric sign, no permit . . . 1  
Firelaw violation . . . 1  
Furious dog at large . . . 6  
Discharging fire works . . . 5  
License, having no pool . . . 1  
License, having no auctioneer's . . . 1  
License, having no exhibition . . . 1  
License, having no business . . . 4  
License, having no peddling . . . 4  
Violation junk law . . . 6  
Projecting sign . . . 1  
Relating to public streets . . . 11  
Sweeping dust on streets . . . 2  
Snowball and stone throwing . . . 9  
Riding wheel on sidewalk . . . 2  
Smoking in market . . . 2  
Obstructing street and walk . . . 16  
Traffic law . . . 70  
Washing windows . . . 4  
Water flowing across walk . . . 7  
Cattle running at large . . . 9  
Barber violations . . . 1

**The Servant Problem—**who ever heard of it in the home where the housewife knows Shredded Wheat? In five minutes you can prepare a wholesome, satisfying meal with Shredded Wheat Biscuit without kitchen worry or work. For breakfast heat the Biscuit in the oven to restore crispness and serve with hot milk. For lunch serve with sliced bananas or other fruits. Made in Canada.



CHIEF OF POLICE SIMPSON

during the year, with the amount handed over to the city, the amount of fines struck, but allowed to stand unpaid, and where no imprisonment was imposed:

Month	Total	No. of Fines Paid	No. sent to goal in lieu of fines	No. of fines allowed to stand	Total fines imposed	Total fines collected	Actual fines not collected
January	88	29	40	17	\$2,958.00	\$150.00	\$2,808.00
February	89	41	34	14	1,164.00	273.85	890.15
March	95	57	31	7	1,185.00	650.00	535.00
April	100	51	34	15	1,557.00	605.00	952.00
May	89	25	33	11	914.00	347.00	567.00
June	78	34	28	16	1,178.00	227.00	951.00
July	101	57	32	12	1,366.00	400.00	966.00
August	67	37	23	7	926.00	430.00	496.00
September	70	34	30	6	1,086.00	409.00	677.00
October	114	18	88	8	5,164.00	268.00	4,896.00
November	61	32	24	5	702.00	334.00	368.00
December	116	44	57	15	1,236.00	476.00	760.00
Totals	1,046	459	454	133	\$20,536.00	\$4,368.86	\$16,167.14

**Stolen Property**  
During the twelve months the value of lost and stolen property recovered amounted to \$12,327.37, while the approximate value of property not recovered amounted to \$1,468.79. These results show the untiring work and skill chiefly of Inspector W. C. Wickham with Detectives Thomas Barrett and George Briggs. A classified table of such occurrences reported to the detective department during the year shows that there were a total of 679, of which 634 were completed by the officers, a completed value total of \$12,327.37 and an incomplete total of \$1,468.79.

**Foreigners Charged With Offences**  
A list of offences with which foreigners were charged for the year is given and shows that there were 194 foreigners convicted, forty-six discharged, making a total of 243. Two of these cases are pending.

**The Force**  
The names and a descriptive roster of the St. John police force are given, headed by David W. Simpson, late Captain of Detectives, Edmonton, Alberta. The average height of the men on the force is six feet and one-third of an inch, while the average weight is 156 pounds. This is an excellent showing for a body of men and, perhaps, cannot be equalled in any other part of Canada or in the United States.

**Matron's Report**  
M. Christine Rose, issues a lengthy report, showing the disposal of cases of all females from 9th February, 1915, to 31st December, 1915. The total number of females dealt with during that period was 114. Of these sixty-two were convicted, twenty-six were discharged, twelve were committed for trial, ten were allowed to go on suspended sentence, twenty-six were sent to jail, twenty-three were sent to the Home of the Good Shepherd, seven to the Evangelical Home and twenty-eight were juveniles.

### Bread Inspector's Report

On the 20th September, 1915, John O'Neil was appointed bread inspector by the common council and attached to the police department. Since his appointment he has made personal visits to each of the fifteen bakeries in the city, and made several tests of the weight of bread and other things coming under the bread bylaw. In two of the bakeries he found loaves under weight, the mistake in the weight was explained and the offenders were allowed to go with a caution. The bakeries have been kept thoroughly clean and the bylaw is being carried out to the letter. In addition to this work he has been looking after the books in connection with the registration and reporting of alien enemies, who now number 220, reporting twice monthly. Inspector O'Neil brings a proposition to the council to have all baker shops in the city and county licensed at a nominal fee of two to five dollars each.

### Changes in Department

The changes in the department for the year show: One chief appointed and one resigned. Three detectives appointed, two resigned, and one dismissed. Thirty-four constables appointed, seventeen resigned, and fifteen dismissed.

### Gambling

Four men were brought to court for keeping gambling devices on their premises; three were convicted and one dismissed. Two gambling houses were raided and twenty persons convicted. In the case of the Chinese opium and gambling joint it is understood an appeal has been entered.

### Lord's Day Act

Fifteen cases were brought to court and all were convicted, but ten of the fines were allowed to stand.

### Dog By-Law

1,231 dog licenses were taken out; 240 were summoned to court for violations.

### Vagrancy Act

105 were arrested, besides fifteen common vagrants who were disposed of.

### Transient Lodgers

255 were given protection for the night—241 being males and 14 females.

### Lights Out

The number of lights out show a loss to the extent of 3,359 hours lighting to the city.

### Fires

97 fires were reported by the police during the year.

### Theatres

There is one theatre and seven moving picture show houses. All have been well conducted during the year, no complaints having been received.

### Street Traffic By-Law

70 persons were proceeded against for violations; 39 convictions were secured and 31 dismissed.

### Motor Vehicle Act

35 violations were reported; four were convicted, one withdrawn and 30 dismissed on promising to comply with the regulations.

### Prisoners of War

Over 200 prisoners of war have been paroled and some 220 still reporting to the chief constable twice monthly. Two escaped prisoners of war were captured here and interned.

## Dollars saved by Bovril

Bovril used in the Kitchen means dollars saved in the Bank.  
It makes nourishing hot dishes out of cold food which would not otherwise be eaten. But see that you get the real thing. If it is not in the Bovril bottle it is not Bovril. And it must be Bovril.

### Detective Department

The number of persons taken during the year 1915 were as follows: Arrested by detectives, 322; arrested by constables, 1,128, making a total of 1,450. The number of persons arrested by the detective department at the request of authorities in other cities were: Moncton, 1; Sussex, 1; Toronto, 1; Gasquetown, 1; St. John county, 2.

### Juvenile Offenders

The number of young offenders arrested and sent before the Juvenile Court was 86.

### Summary Cases Before Court

Recapitulation of summary cases before the court and convictions made in the City of St. John from 1st January, 1915, to 31st December, 1915: Cases entered, 1,875; convictions, 1,332; dismissed or withdrawn, 469; awaiting trial, 15.

A total of 1,293 convictions are recorded, 312 of which were allowed to go on suspended sentence.

There have been few cases of a serious nature, one of murder, that of a child; one attempted murder, which was dealt with by the court as "assault."

Theft appears most frequently. 101 were arrested, and of these 70 convictions are recorded; 27 were allowed to go on suspended sentence.

Drunkenness accounted for the largest number of arrests, 855, of which 764 were convicted and 75 let go on suspended sentence.

Of the eight males arrested and prosecuted for carnal knowledge of girls under 14 years, three were convicted, three dismissed, and two cases are still pending.

Forty-eight were prosecuted against under the Liquor License Acts, 36 of which were convicted, ten were dismissed, and two are pending. Speaking generally with regard to crime in the area over which the force exercises jurisdiction, the chief says: "I have no occasion to call your attention to any special feature. The area of the city, with its present population, is too much for the present strength of force to handle were it not for the fact that its citizens are law-abiding, as our two detectives are much overworked in keeping pace with the present crime rate."

**Finger Print System.**  
The finger print system has now been in use for a number of years, and its value is fully established. We are indebted to Colonel A. P. Sherwood, C. M. G., Chief Commissioner of Dominion Police, and his staff for very effective aid in discovering old offenders, no matter under what name they operate.

"Photographs of all bad criminals and their finger prints have been taken, of which a record is kept."

### Juvenile Offenders

The statistics show that a large number of the thefts, breaking and entering were committed by juveniles, 86 were arrested for various offences under 18 years of age, and my belief is that too many obtain their liberty on suspended sentence, as in some

cases more than one chance has been given and the increase of this class of youthful offender would indicate the necessity to make them fear the results of their crimes and give adequate punishment as a preventive.

### Assistance Acknowledged

"In the matter of the police station at the West Side we are indebted to William C. Wilson, druggist, to whom we have to apply at all times to get in touch with the men there, as we have no telephone communication with our station. This should be remedied, and the sergeant in charge, if possible, should have his house in the city hall. It is almost a daily occurrence to have to trouble Mr. Wilson to look out for the police to give them instructions or complaints, which may have been phoned in here, and I think he is entitled to some consideration for his unfailing courtesy and kindness on all occasions when appealed to."

"Dr. W. P. Roberts, coroner for the City of St. John, has rendered valuable assistance to the police during the year, and I wish to extend my thanks for his untiring efforts on all cases reported to him. He has been called on many occasions both day and night, to which he has responded immediately without the slightest hesitation. His work to the department has been greatly appreciated by me."

"Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, Attorney General, has been at all times willing to advise and assist me on any technicalities arising in the performance of the many varied duties that have to be carried out, in the police department, and I take this opportunity of extending my thanks to him."

"I have also to thank you, as Commissioner of Public Safety, for your courtesy and kindness at all times, and the great interest you have shown in the department during my first year of office, and I trust the same cordial relations will continue."

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
DAVID W. SIMPSON,  
Chief Constable.

## CONCILIATION BOARD'S DECISION UNANIMOUS

The conciliation board which has been hearing the request of the longshoremen for more pay and certain changes in working conditions completed its deliberations yesterday afternoon and reached an unanimous decision. The report was forwarded to the minister of labor at Ottawa and in the meantime it will not be made public.

An amicable adjustment of the situation is anticipated.  
Mr. Lauer, who represented the shipping interests, left for Montreal last night. The chairman of the board is W. E. Foster. The demands of the longshoremen were made last fall.

## RECRUITS FROM PERTH

Five recruits for the 115th Battalion came in from Perth on the Boston train this morning.

# "BLACK & WHITE" SCOTCH

BUCHANAN'S CHOICE OLD SCOTCH WHISKY, AT HOME & ABROAD, RENOWNED FOR QUALITY AND EXCELLENCE. AT ALL STORES & HOTELS.



GILLESPIES & CO., MONTREAL, AGENTS FOR CANADA.