

## GROWTH OF DEPARTMENT.

The following return shows the growth of the Department, the continued increase of the population, and the total number of offences (irrespective of by-laws offences) reported, and in which arrests or summonses resulted, each year since 1877, prior to which date each province in the Dominion had its own Police Force, and reliable data are not available.

Year.	Officers.	Non-commis- sioned Officers.	Detectives.	Constables.	Total.	Police to Population.	Cost per Inhabit- ant.	Population.	Offences reported.	Offences where Arrests or Summonses resulted.	Arrests for Drunkenness (included in "Offences reported").
1878	25	90	14	329	458	1 to 944	Not obtain- able	432,352	14,157	13,959	6,668
1879	25	84	16	364	489	1 to 948		463,572	16,374	14,696	6,794
1880	25	86	21	379	511	1 to 949		484,939	17,837	16,723	6,484
1881	13	73	18	337	441	1 to 1,136		500,976	16,635	15,212	5,587
1882	13	72	19	343	447	1 to 1,158		517,626	18,613	17,470	6,860
1883	13	72	20	356	461	1 to 1,173		540,753	18,775	17,727	7,572
1884	13	70	17	365	465	1 to 1,263		587,295	18,263	17,322	7,151
1885	20	65	17	372	474	1 to 1,293		613,212	18,955	17,723	7,034
1886	20	66	18	390	494	1 to 1,266		625,849	18,135	17,000	6,260
1887	20	69	18	395	502	1 to 1,265		635,215	17,752	16,500	5,226
1888	13	69	17	388	487	1 to 1,328		646,913	12,897	11,854	5,387
1889	13	65	17	389	484	1 to 1,347		652,125	12,945	11,885	5,444
1890	12	66	13	403	494	1 to 1,346		664,855	13,115	12,177	5,866
1891	7	61	14	404	486	1 to 1,375		668,353	12,674	11,748	5,416
1892	7	60	14	401	482	1 to 1,401		675,775	13,153	12,187	5,360
1893	7	53	14	407	481	1 to 1,439		692,426	13,165	12,100	5,251
1894	7	55	13	410	485	1 to 1,472		714,258	13,530	12,500	4,594
1895	7	51	13	416	487	1 to 1,495		728,121	14,010	12,435	4,636
1896	6	51	13	414	484	1 to 1,530		740,699	14,673	13,171	5,005
1897	7	45	12	453	517	1 to 1,461		754,016	15,219	14,042	5,204
1898	7	56	16	457	536	1 to 1,435		768,910	16,378	14,730	5,532
1899	11	53	15	475	554	1 to 1,414		783,317	16,865	15,561	6,289
1900	11	56	20	499	586	1 to 1,359		796,359	18,358	17,131	7,299
1901	11	56	20	504	591	1 to 1,381		816,290	19,909	18,742	8,057
1902	12	58	20	514	604	1 to 1,375		830,800	19,771	18,802	8,269
1903	12	59	20	522	613	1 to 1,388		851,068	20,736	19,867	8,815
1904	12	59	21	534	626	1 to 1,398		875,648	21,066	20,118	9,615
1905	12	65	25	553	655	1 to 1,375		900,682	20,249	19,251	8,707
1906	14	71	25	557	667	1 to 1,387		925,605	21,160	20,241	9,210
1907	14	78	30	577	699	1 to 1,375		961,604	23,204	22,244	10,203
1908	15	83	32	604	734	1 to 1,331		977,215	23,510	22,484	10,343
1909	16	87	35	633	771	1 to 1,308		1,008,373	23,930	22,880	10,657
1910	16	86	34	639	775	1 to 1,330		1,030,657	25,106	23,949	11,718
1911	15	87	38	648	788	1 to 1,333		1,050,410	24,999	23,492	11,699
1912	15	89	39	692	835	1 to 1,287		1,075,250	25,981	24,837	11,884
1913	17	93	41	695	846	1 to 1,303		1,102,389	25,415	24,364	11,707
1914	17	94	40	719	870	1 to 1,304		1,134,506	27,563	26,494	13,189
1915	19	100	37	755	911	1 to 1,257		1,145,840	28,412	27,096	13,268
1916	19	104	36	757	916	1 to 1,258		1,152,669	24,920	23,848	10,833
1917	20	108	36	734	898	1 to 1,280		1,150,002	21,724	20,701	8,800
1918	20	111	38	732*	901	1 to 1,274		1,147,391	...	...	...

\* Includes 56 temporary constables.

## GENERAL.

On the 4th February, 1918, the Hon. A. L. Herdman, Attorney-General, resigned the administration of the Police Department, and was succeeded by the Hon. T. M. Wilford, Minister of Justice.

On the 1st March, 1918, the headquarters of the Police Department were removed from the Government Buildings to the new police premises in Johnston Street, Wellington.

The Department scrupulously abstained since December, 1916, from enrolling any recruits who were liable for military service under the provisions of the Military Service Act, passed that year. The consequence is that during the year a considerable diminution in the membership of the Force took place. A sufficient number of suitable men willing to serve temporarily were not always forthcoming to fill the vacancies. The wisdom of refusing to encourage members of the Force to join the Expeditionary Forces, or to give them leave for the purpose, has been fully demonstrated. Had the Department granted any facilities or special terms to the large number of constables, unmarried and married, who expressed more than willingness to enlist for active service, the Police Force of the Dominion would have been practically reduced to the residue consisting of men above the military age or otherwise disqualified. I need not point out what straits the public services would be placed in had any different policy been pursued. Even the military service itself would have suffered considerably within the Dominion;