

REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1918

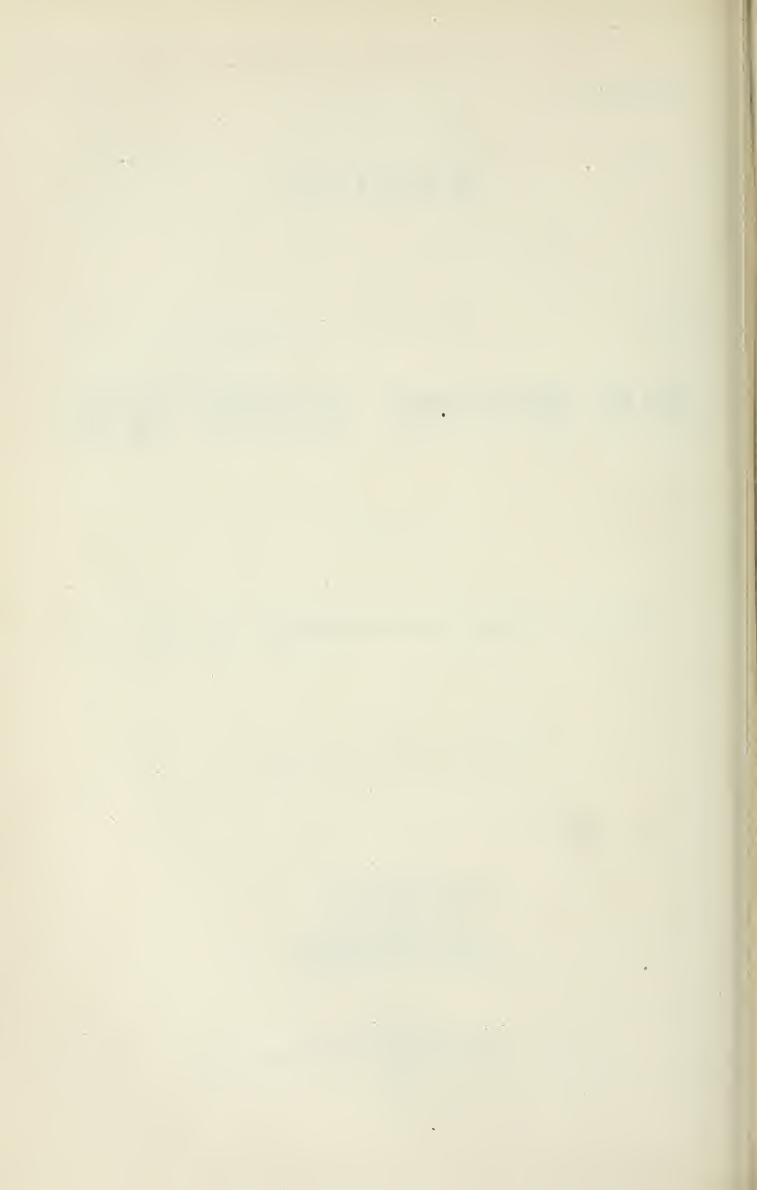
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OTTAWA

J. DE LABROQUERIE TACHÉ
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1919



*To His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., etc., etc.,
Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency the Annual Report of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police for the year ended September 30, 1918.

Respectfully submitted,

N. W. ROWELL,
President of the Council.

January 9, 1919.

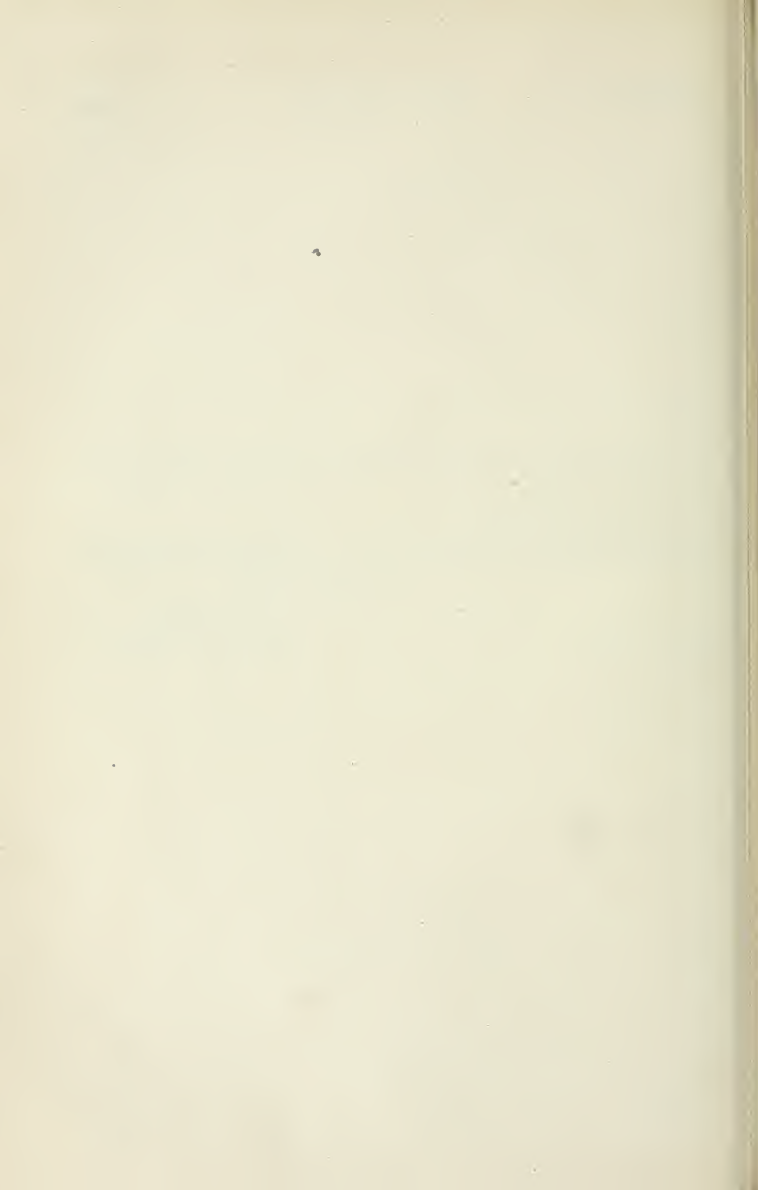
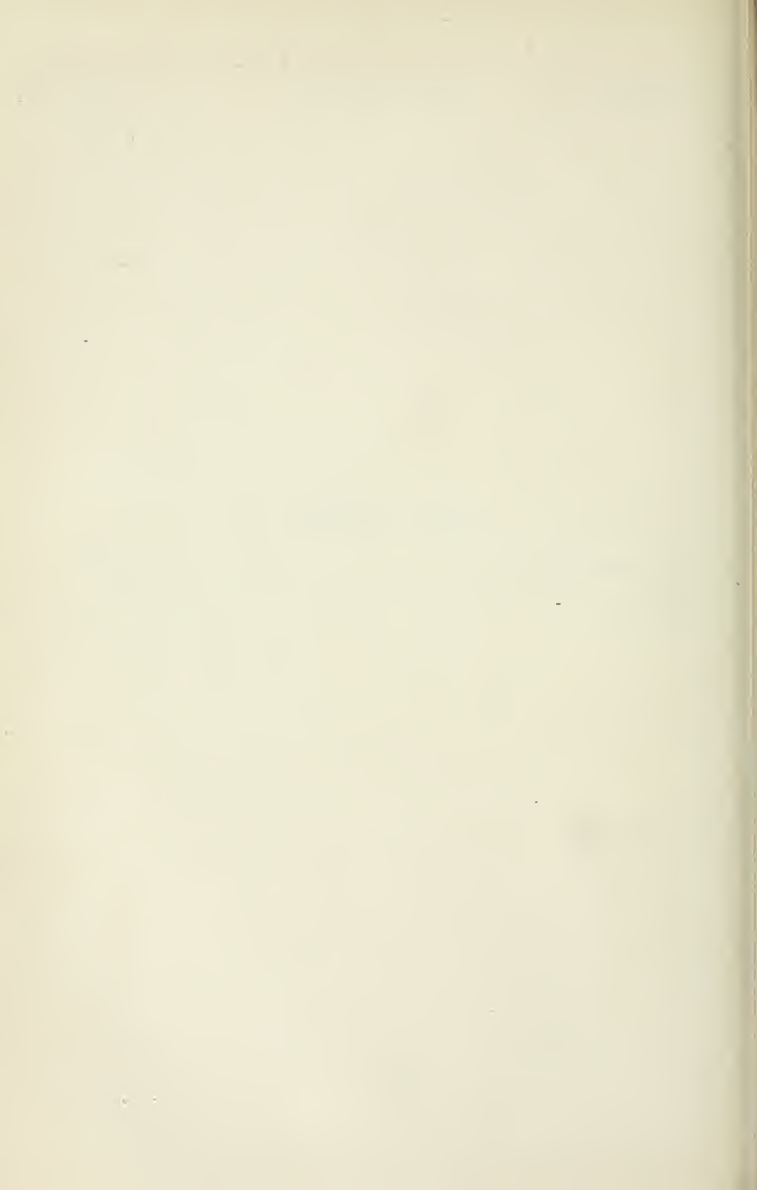


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REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,

REGINA, SASK., November 18, 1918.

To the HON. N. W. ROWELL,
President of the Privy Council,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information, my annual report for the year ended 30th September, 1918.

STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE FORCE.

On September 30, 1918, the strength of the force was 52 officers, 1,169 N.C.O.'s and constables, and 597 horses; of this total, however, 12 officers and 726 N.C.O.'s and men are on leave, without pay, overseas with the R.N.W.M.P. Cavalry Draft, C.E.F.

Compared with last year, this is an increase of 566 N.C.O.'s and constables, and a decrease of one officer and 78 horses.

The following shows the distribution in the different provinces and territories:—

Place.	Commissioner.	Asst. Commissioners.	Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Surgeon or Asst. Surgeon.	Vet. Surgeons.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Constables.	Super-numerary Constables.	Total.	Horses.				Dogs.
													Saddle.	Team.	Ponties.	Total.	
Alberta.....			4	7	1	...	12	13	8	44	20	109	124	53	1	178	...
Saskatchewan.....	1	2	5	12	1	1	24	21	20	204	24	315	340	63	...	403	...
N. W. Territories.....				2	...	...	...	2	2	9	2	17	...	...	2	2	60
Yukon Territory.....			1	3	...	...	7	2	6	18	4	41	3	11	...	14	38
New Manitoba.....				...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.....	1	2	10	24	2	1	43	39	36	275	50	483	467	127	3	597	98

Out of the total strength of 40 officers and 443 N.C.O.'s and constables, 5 officers and 175 non-commissioned officers and constables were transferred to the R.N.W.M. Police, "B" Squadron (Cavalry), C.E.F., for service in Siberia, the complement

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referred to being composed of 5 officers, 62 regular members of the force, and 113 recruits specially engaged for the squadron.

This leaves the strength of the force available for duty: 35 officers and 268 N.C.O.'s and constables. Total, 303.

The strength of the different provinces has been decreased as follows:—

Alberta	128
Saskatchewan	8
Yukon Territory	7
New Manitoba	5

whilst an increase of two has been made in the Northwest Territories.

On September 30, the distribution was as follows:—

	Divisional Posts.	Detachments.
Alberta	5	7
Saskatchewan	4	1
Northwest Territories . . . . .	..	5
Yukon Territories	1	12
New Manitoba . . . . .	..	1
Totals	10	26

On April 15, 1918, there were 10 divisional posts and 113 detachments, since when 87 detachments have been closed.

The following is a statement of the detachments at present maintained:—

" B " Division.

Black Hills.	Carcross.
Dawson (Town Station).	Forty-Mile.
Granville.	Mayo.
Rampart House.	Summit.
White Horse.	Half-Way.
Moose Hide.	

" D " Division.

Blairmore.	Big Bend.
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" E " Division.

Banff.	Canmore.
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" F " Division.

Port Nelson.	Fullerton.
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" G " Division.

Brulé.	Jasper.
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" K " Division.

Medicine Hat.

" N " Division.

Fort Fitzgerald.	Fort Resolution.
Fort Simpson.	Fort Macpherson.
Herschell Island.	

" Depot " Division.

Wood Mountain.	Moosejaw.
Yorkton.	

The change in distribution and closing of detachments was necessary because permission was given on 6th April for all ranks to volunteer for overseas service.

Up until then, detachments were maintained along the international boundary from the lake of the Woods to the Rocky mountains for patrol work, and also in certain sections of the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, where enemy aliens were settled in large numbers.

No alterations were made in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory.

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The present distribution in the provinces is only temporary, and will be revised when the permanent policy as to the future employment and duties of the force has been decided. In any case, a number of the divisional posts will be closed, and a careful readjustment made in the interests of economy and efficiency.

OVERSEAS CAVALRY DRAFT.

On the 6th April I was instructed that members of the force would be permitted to volunteer for overseas service, to reinforce the Canadian Cavalry Brigade on the Western Front. This was received with enthusiasm by all ranks, and practically everyone volunteered. As you are aware, from the beginning of the war it had been the ardent desire of all that the force should take part, but owing to the conditions in the western provinces during the first years of the war, it was not thought possible, in the interests of Canada, to permit it. However, the release from its police duties in the provinces, the entry of the United States into the war, and the good conduct generally of the enemy aliens within our borders, so changed the conditions that it was found possible to utilize their services.

The force was most desirous of proceeding as a unit, and strong representations were made by the people of the western provinces that this honour should be accorded. The Overseas Military Authorities found it impossible to comply except for a single squadron, the balance to be utilized as reinforcements for cavalry regiments then in the field.

Recruiting for the draft commenced on 18th April and closed on 13th May. On the 15th May, 12 officers and 726 N.C.O.'s and constables were transferred to the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Of these, 81 N.C.O.'s and 150 men were old members of the force, and 495 were recruits. Three N.C.O.'s were granted commissions.

It was with the keenest regret that many members of the force found themselves unsuitable owing to the age limit or being physically unfit.

The draft left Regina on the evening of the 30th of May, under the command of Major Jennings, and embarked at Montreal of 3rd of June.

The following telegram was received from the Comptroller:—

“I am instructed by the Minister to say that the Government greatly appreciates the fine spirit shown by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the force in so promptly volunteering for overseas service at this critical time.”

“B” SQUADRON—SIBERIA.

On 17th August, I was authorized to mobilize a squadron of cavalry, with horses from the force, for service in Siberia, on the same conditions as for the overseas draft. Recruiting was commenced at once, and completed on 9th September. The strength authorized was 6 officers, 184 other ranks, and 181 horses.

Owing to the severe outbreak of Spanish influenza, the organization and training was carried on with difficulty. Five died of the disease, and 50 per cent of the strength contracted it. The squadron was transferred to the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 1st October.

An advance party of 1 officer and 20 other ranks left on the 6th October, and are now at Vladivostok. Four officers and 149 N.C.O.'s and men and 181 horses sailed from Vancouver on 17th November.

The whole squadron was imbued with a fine spirit, and I am confident will render good service. The horses were carefully selected, and were in perfect condition when they left.

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DUTIES IN ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN.

Up until 15th April, when our detachments were withdrawn, a close patrol was maintained along the boundary. Every assistance was given the Department of Immigration in enforcing the laws governing the admission of persons into Canada, and in enforcing the order in council prohibiting men of the draft age under the Military Service Act from leaving Canada.

The Customs Department was aided in protecting the revenue. Five of our detachments acted as sub-collectors.

In the interior, constant patrols were maintained in the settlements of enemy nationalities, and a great many cases of alleged treasonable activity among them were investigated. It is fitting that I should state that during the whole course of the war, there was, generally speaking, no disturbance of the peace nor even unrest among the enemy people. There was much apprehension during the early stages, which was well founded, as to the possibility of outrages and even worse, but as time went on, it was realized that our settlers of enemy origin had no intention of making an organized effort to disturb the good order of the country, or thwart or impede our efforts in the war. It is true that many of them favoured their fatherland, and firmly believed in the ultimate victory of the Central Powers. Their expressions of sympathy were at times offensive to our loyal people, but they never led to serious trouble. When it is remembered that a very large percentage of the population is of foreign and enemy extraction, it is a matter of congratulation that peace and good order have been so well maintained.

POLICE PROTECTION IN DOMINION PARKS.

The force has continued its duties in the different National parks, Jasper, Rocky Mountain, and Waterton Lakes, but only in connection with park regulations. It was thought wise, however, in order to avoid confusion, that we should be responsible for the execution of all law in these areas, and on the request of the Department of the Interior, and with the consent of the Attorney General of Alberta, full jurisdiction was assumed in June last. It has recently been decided that the force will in future also enforce the provincial laws, and members of the force stationed in the parks will be appointed special constables in Alberta.

The customary assistance has been given the Indian Department. Escorts have been provided at treaty payments when requested, and constables to enforce quarantine and other regulations whenever necessary.

MILITARY SERVICE ACT.

When the Act came into force, instructions were issued that the force should actively assist in enforcing it. This was done, and every assistance given to the registrars under the Act in both provinces, until the detachments were closed.

In the meantime, a special force of Dominion Police was organized, and on request, two officers and two N.C.O.'s were loaned to them for service in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and are now so employed. In April, a detachment of 20 N.C.O.'s and constables was sent to Quebec under the command of Superintendent Starnes to assist the Dominion Police. Shortly after arrival there, the Overseas Cavalry Draft was mobilized, and half of the detachment returned to proceed overseas. On June 1 the Dominion Police was transferred to the Department of Militia, and Superintendent Starnes was appointed Assistant Provost Marshal, M.D. 4, and acted as such until 24th August, when he resigned and returned to duty. One officer and 5 N.C.O.'s are still serving at this date.

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YUKON TERRITORY.

I am able to report that peace and good order prevail in this territory. The total number of cases entered during the year was 86, resulting in 76 convictions. This is a decrease of 24 cases compared with last year. There was an increase of 10 convictions under the Indian Act. There was not a single case of murder, and only 6 cases of theft.

The patrolling in the territory entails long and arduous journeys. The patrol mileage was 92,279, of which 12,213 miles were on foot. The more important patrols were:—

Dawson to McPherson	57 days.	1,000 miles.
Whitehorse to Teslin	24 "	318 "
" "	26 "	389 "
Dawson to Mayo	19 "	500 "
" Rampart	21 "	150 "

The duties of immigration inspectors were performed by us at all points of entry; 1,300 passports and permits were issued.

At our outlying posts, our men act as postmasters.

They also act as fishery inspectors, and generally aid and assist all departments of the Government.

Sixty-six prisoners were received in our guard-rooms, including four lunatics, who were transferred to the asylum at Westminster.

There was only one penitentiary prisoner.

One execution took place, on 23rd November, 1917, for a murder committed in the previous year.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

The general condition as to law and order is very satisfactory. Only one serious crime has been reported, that of an attempted shooting of an Indian by an Eskimo near the eastern end of lake Athabasca. This is under investigation. The accused, after the shooting, returned to the Far North, and our detachments in those regions have instructions to investigate.

The Indians and Eskimos have had a successful year, game and fish being plentiful, and fur-bearing animals fairly abundant. There has been little or no sickness among them.

In the Mackenzie River sub-district, the officer in command, as sub-collector of customs, collected \$3,887.50.

A trader was charged at Herschell island, in September, 1917, with having entered at customs a false manifest in 1916. He was convicted, sentenced to six months' imprisonment, fined \$200, and ordered to pay duty on all goods smuggled. In addition, \$6,000 received by him for sale of schooner *Challenge* was seized and remitted to the Collector of Customs at Dawson for disposal.

A serious charge has been preferred against the captain of the C. G. S. *Polar Bear*. It is alleged that he maliciously rendered unseaworthy the schooner *Mary Sachs*, then lying at cape Kettel, Banks island, on or about August 11, 1917. This charge is now under investigation.

For the Department of Interior, we paid out \$2,000 in wolf bounties.

Two Eskimo prisoners undergoing life imprisonment were held in our guard-room at Fort Resolution. They are model prisoners, work willingly, and apparently are quite contented.

As in the Yukon Territory, police duty demands many long, trying, and dangerous trips. We have now become so accustomed to the work in the Far North that we

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sometimes forget the danger and hard work entailed by water and land. As an instance, I quote from a report made by Inspector Phillips:—

“N” DIVISION, ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE,
MACKENZIE RIVER SUB-DISTRICT,
HERSCHELL ISLAND DETACHMENT, July 24, 1918.

The Officer Commanding
R. N. W. M. Police,
Peace River, Alta.

SIR,—I have the honour to advise you of the total wreck of the Fort Macpherson whale boat, eight miles to the east of Herschell island, on the 22nd instant.

On this date I, in company with Regimental Numbers 4396, Const. Doak, W. A., and 5369, Const. Cornelius, E. H., were endeavouring to get into Herschell island, but on getting close enough to the island, we discovered that the ice would not permit us to enter the harbour.

Two courses only were open to me, the first to keep on running to the westward, which I considered impracticable on account of the gale which was blowing, and the possibility of being caught by the main ice flow, west of the island. My other course was to come about and try to make the harbour at “Itkilipik”—the latter course I adopted. We beat back to within about eight miles of the harbour at Itkilipik; it was still blowing heavily and our boat was shipping considerable water, and constant bailing became necessary.

At this place the mast stays broke, allowing the mast to lean dangerously to one side; before I could get this remedied our sail was blown to pieces, and I was obliged to cut it loose. I then tried with the oars to keep the boat from drifting in on the ice, but with the heavy sea running I soon found this to be ineffectual.

We drifted rapidly on to the ice, at the same time an effort was made to handle boat so that she might strike near a cake of ice sufficiently large for us to clamber on to. On getting closer to the ice I saw that it was all in small cakes. Our chances at this time of getting on to the ice did not seem very good, so to lessen the impact of our boat with ice, I had everything aboard her thrown overboard; this I considered necessary as there was a possibility that we might be able to run her up on a cake of ice without smashing the bow in. We struck a few minutes later, and in five minutes the boat was smashed to pieces. I started across the iceflow, shouting to Doak and Cornelius to follow; this was the only chance left us. I thought at that time that there was a bare possibility of us getting across the flow ice on to the shore pack.

Our journey across the flow ice is very hard for me to describe—the distance I imagine would be about four hundred yards. I am thankful to say we managed to get over this. The cakes were small, and were churning around and upending, at times the piece on which one of us would be standing would start to upend, and it was a case of jump or be crushed; this was the manner in which we reached the shore ice. After our arrival on the solid ice, we started to follow it southwest towards Herschell island. I had not proceeded far in this direction when I struck a wide lead which was impossible for us to cross. I here decided to make for the closest land, which was cape Itkilipik. We turned in a southerly direction, and found the leads narrower. By joining our belts and suspenders together a line was made. One of us would swim the lead and then assist the others over by the life-line I have described.

I should say that approximately twenty-four leads in the ice were crossed in this manner, before we eventually reached the shore. The time spent by us from the wrecking of the boat (on the ice) to our reaching shore was ten hours.

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A gale from the northeast had been blowing all this time, and in our soaking wet condition we suffered severely from the cold. The only clothing we wore at this time was our under garments, trousers and mukluks, our Artiggies we threw away, as we found they hampered us too much when getting over the leads. Herschell island was about twelve miles by following the coast line from the place where we managed to get ashore. We started at once to walk in this direction; after travelling about one mile I noticed that Constable Doak was delirious. Constable Cornelius and myself assisted him to walk a little farther, when, owing to cramps in the legs, we could take him no farther. Constable Cornelius at this stage volunteered to go on to Herschell island for assistance, food, and matches, and I permitted him to go. After the departure of this constable I built a wind break out of driftwood. Constable Doak and I crawled into it; here we remained until 11 p.m. of the 23rd instant. We were taken off at this time by Captain Allan and Gonzalas, who were en route from Kittegaruit to Herschell island with whale-boat, they saw our signals, put into the "spit" on which we were, gave us some food, and after we had eaten, we all started for Herschell island with their whale boat. The wind by this time had turned to the southwest, and had made a small lead between the ice and the main land; this we followed, keeping a sharp look out for Constable Cornelius. We saw nothing of him, and on our arrival at Herschell island found that he had not arrived there. I at once started Constable Broekie and two natives with whale boat to search for this constable along the coast, who found him on a sand spit about ten miles off Herschell island. I am glad to be able to say that this constable was brought in safely. I am sorry to say that at the present time the two constables and myself are laid up with swollen feet and legs, due undoubtedly to exposure. I am, however, in hopes that we will be able to return to duty in the course of a day or so.

I cannot speak too highly of the courage and loyalty shown by Constables Doak and Cornelius through the trying circumstances encountered by us; at no time did these men lose their presence of mind; any hesitation on their parts at times might have been attended with fatal results.

With reference to government property lost in the wreck I regret to say that an approximate sum of \$65, being balance of the last half-year's Sub-district Contingency Fund, went down in my valise. I was fortunate enough to save the fifteen hundred dollars sent in this summer. This amount I was carrying in my hip pocket.

Constable Doak's entire kit, all official mail, and the Herschell Island detachment books, also all personal property, was lost. I will have a list of all government store lost, and will submit board in due course.

I should have stated that I was on my return trip to Herschell island from Fort MacPherson when this accident happened. We had an uneventful trip up to the time we ran into bad weather and ice on the coast.

In conclusion, I must say that I am exceedingly sorry to have to give you a report of this nature, but I think you will agree that this accident occurred through circumstances over which I had no control. I am happy to be able to report no loss of life. As soon as I am able to send a patrol to the vicinity of the wreck I will do so, with the idea that there may be some government stores blown up on the coast.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. PHILLIPS, Inspr.,
Commanding Sub-district.

Mr. Stefansson, of the Canadian Arctic Expedition, was laid up at our Herschell Island post from 13th January to 3rd April, with typhoid fever, when, having somewhat recovered, he desired to proceed to Fort Yukon for medical assistance. He was taken to Old Crow river, 150 miles, by Constable Brockie, assisted by two Eskimos, and an Indian half-breed. Mr. Stefansson was greatly improved on the journey, and proceeded to his destination with another party. I regret to say that Constable Lamont, who assisted in nursing Mr. Stefansson, contracted the disease and died.

In August, 1917, Corporal Conway was sent to Coronation gulf from Herschell island to investigate a report that a Copper Eskimo woman had been murdered. No report of the return of this N.C.O. has yet been received.

A very extended patrol was made by Inspector Anderson from Fort Fitzgerald to Fort Norman, a round distance of 1,200 miles, which occupied from December 17, 1917, to February 9, 1918. Deep snow and bad roads were encountered, and the thermometer registered 72 degrees below zero. Inspector Anderson inspected the different police posts along the Mackenzie river, interviewed the Indians, and generally inquired into the state of the country. He reported that the Barren land cariboo were within 50 miles of Fort Resolution and as far south as the vicinity of Fort Fitzgerald. The Indians described their numbers as being like mosquitoes.

It is with great relief that I am able to record the return of the Baker Lake patrol from Bathurst inlet. Inspector French's report should be printed because of its special interest and the magnitude and importance of the patrol. I have had much pleasure in bringing to your notice the valuable services of Inspector French and Sergeant-Major Caulkin.

The patrol was made into the Arctic regions primarily to inquire into the circumstances surrounding the death of Messrs. Radford and Street in June, 1913, at Bathurst inlet, while exploring the Arctic coast; and also to visit the different Eskimo tribes for the purpose of instructing them in the laws of the country, and gradually bringing them under their influence.

The report of the death of the explorers was first received by the Officer Commanding at Port Nelson in July, 1913. Nothing could be done at that time as Bathurst inlet is so remote that only a well-organized expedition could accomplish the necessary journey.

Under instructions of the Government, this was organized under command of Inspector Beyts, in 1914, and sailed from Halifax on July 31. It was decided to establish a base at the east end of Baker lake, and forward supplies to depots well in advance. Owing to adverse weather conditions, it was not possible to reach Baker lake in the season of 1914, so that this expedition proceeded to Port Nelson.

In 1915, it again proceeded and passing up Chesterfield inlet, established the base, and during the winter of 1915-16, threw out its advance depot on the Thelon river. The following summer, Inspector French replaced Inspector Beyts in command. In March, 1917, the patrol set out and returned to its base in January, 1918, having successfully performed its mission. Inspector French reports that the result of the inquiry was to establish that Messrs. Radford and Street were killed by the natives on the shores of Bathurst inlet in June, 1913, and that there was great provocation. In accordance with the instructions of the Government, he did not arrest the actual offenders.

The following were the instructions: "It will be your duty to get in touch at the earliest possible moment with the tribes said to be responsible for the deaths. You will make inquiries and take such statutory declarations as may seem necessary in order to obtain a full and accurate account of the occurrence. From information received, it is assumed that there was provocation. If this is found to be the case, it is not the intention of the Government to proceed with prosecution. If, however, there was found to be no provocation, the Government will consider what further action is to be taken."

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After completing his investigation, Inspector French proceeded as far west as Bernard inlet, visiting the different tribes en route to whom he explained the "white man's" laws and customs.

This patrol, as well as that of Inspector La Nauze the previous year, has had a marked effect on these barbarian, but on the whole, kindly people. Friendly relations have been established which will be of much value in the future.

The post at Baker lake was closed during the summer because of the difficulty in forwarding supplies, and that at cape Fullerton was re-opened.

The maintenance of this far-flung outpost is very necessary. It protects the Eskimos as well as exerting a beneficial influence over them, and it is the only point in the vast area tributary to the northern part of Hudson bay, where there is an established authority. There are many evil customs among the Eskimo people which ought to be eradicated. Killing of female children is the most abhorrent, and it is freely practised. They make no effort to hide it, and claim it is an immemorial custom, resulting from their nomad life and precarious existence.

Inspector French recommends that an outpost be established at Lake harbour, Baffins Land, and that a properly equipped vessel be secured for the purpose of patrol work in the northern areas. This would entail heavy expenditure, but would be justified if carried out in conjunction with work by the Mining, Geological, and Naval departments.

With regard to policing the Arctic coast around Coronation gulf and the interior, I am of the opinion that outposts should be established at Fort Norman, Dease bay on Great Bear lake and Bernard harbour and, if practicable, at the mouth of the Coppermine. This portion of the country is being invaded by traders, who find their operations very profitable. The mineral resources of this region are said to be very valuable, especially in native copper which, owing to the high price, the traders have been purchasing.

In conjunction with the establishment of these proposed outposts, the Department of Mines might find it convenient to use them as bases for a thorough examination of the mineral resources.

GAME LAWS IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

At the request of the Department of the Interior, Inspector La Nauze, who has had many years' experience in the North, was loaned to advise in preparing regulations under the new Game Act. It is too early to speak of the benefits under the new laws and regulations which were only promulgated recently. If they are to be progressively effective, our detachments will have to be increased. The game, fur-bearing animals and fish are the source of wealth and the present means of livelihood for the natives in the whole territories.

ENGAGEMENTS, DISCHARGES, ETC.

Engagements—		
Engaged constables (3 years)		282
" " (1 year)		465
" special constables		84
Re-engaged after leaving		45
		<hr/>
Total increase		876
Discharges, died, etc.—		
Time expired		143
Died		2
Deserted		6
Dismissed for bad conduct		5
" inefficiency		7

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ENGAGEMENTS, DISCHARGES, ETC.—*Continued.*

Discharges, died, etc.— <i>Continued.</i>	
Discharged, being under age.	3
Invalided.	40
Free discharge.	2
Pensioned.	2
Special constables discharged.	100
	<hr/>
Total decrease.	310
Total increase for year 1918.	566
Died—	
Reg. No. 3924, Sergeant-Major Nicholson, A. N.	
“ 5548, Constable Lamont, A.	
Pensioned—	
Reg. No. 2208, Staff-Sergeant Botteley, T. R. D.	
“ 3069, Sergeant Burke, W. H.	
OFFICERS.	
Retired to pension—	
Inspector W. E. Hertzog.	
HORSES.	
Horses foaled and taken on strength.	3
Total increase.	3
Horses cast and sold.	68
“ died.	7
“ destroyed.	6
	<hr/>
Total decrease.	81
Decrease for the year 1918.	78

Owing to the operation of the Military Service Act, we have been handicapped in securing suitable recruits for the regular service. There was no trouble in getting men for our overseas units, and those recruited were a fine lot. To maintain the force at anything like effective strength, the standard, both physically and otherwise, had to be lowered. Men in category B and lower classes under the M.S.A. were permitted by the military authorities to join the force. It was not satisfactory. Now that peace is assured, I have issued instructions that the old standard must be re-established and that preference is to be given to ex-members of the force who have returned from or still are overseas. As there are hundreds, I anticipate that there will be no difficulty in re-establishing our efficiency, which has been so seriously affected as a result of the war.

HORSES.

No remounts were purchased for the force. On the request of the Quartermaster General, I undertook to purchase horses for service in Siberia. The purchasing officers covered a wide field, and found much difficulty in securing the horses required.

With regard to horsing the permanent mounted units in future, whether military or police, I am satisfied that suitable horses are not being bred in Western Canada in sufficient numbers. I strongly recommend that a remount breeding establishment be organized. Some of our divisional posts which are no longer required, could be utilized. In no other way will horses of the quality and stamp be secured.

BARRACKS.

No buildings have been constructed during the year. Necessary repairs have been done. On the whole, our buildings are in good condition.

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RATIONS.

The rations have been of good quality, and were purchased on contract.

FORAGE.

The forage has been of fair quality. The hay crop in certain portions of the two provinces was a partial failure. The price has therefore been abnormally high and the quality inferior.

CLOTHING.

The clothing has been up to standard, except that the colour of the service clothing has faded rapidly in the sun, and made the garments look shabby. This fault was unavoidable, as it was not possible for the manufacturers to secure fast brown dyes.

CONDUCT.

The conduct has been very satisfactory. The breaches of discipline, with few exceptions, were of a minor character.

HEALTH.

Two serious epidemics, measles and Spanish influenza, occurred. The overseas cavalry draft suffered from the former, and B squadron from the latter, with five deaths. Two deaths also occurred from the disease at Wood Mountain and Lethbridge.

Apart from these epidemics, the general health has been satisfactory, although the average daily sick report has been above the normal, owing to the lower physical condition of many of the recruits.

The total contribution by the force since the beginning of the war to the Patriotic Fund is \$46,137.36.

In concluding my report, I desire to acknowledge the support and co-operation which I have received from all ranks. The rapidity with which the overseas cavalry draft and the Siberian squadron were recruited and organized, was due to the keen interest of the officers commanding and their staffs. Many were grievously disappointed that they could not accompany their more fortunate comrades, but they did not slacken their efforts.

The whole staff and organization of the force was thrown into disorder, but with good-will on the part of all, matters soon readjusted themselves.

The employment and duties of the force in the future are now under consideration by you, and I venture to express the hope that the identity of the corps, which has now been in existence for forty-five years, will not be lost.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. BOWEN PERRY,
Commissioner.

APPENDIX A.

Inspector French's successive reports of his patrol in connection with the murder of Messrs. Radford and Street are published in a separate volume. These are:—

1. Report dated June 16, 1917, from Bernard harbour. This is a description of his journey from Baker lake to Bernard harbour.

2. Report dated June 30, 1917, from Bernard harbour. This contains a detailed account of the investigation into the circumstances attending the death of Messrs. Radford and Street; it includes statements made by ten Eskimos who were witnesses, or had knowledge of the fatal tragedy.

3. Report dated July 5, 1917, from Bernard harbour, regarding the killing of female infants by the Eskimos.

4. Report dated July 6, 1917, from Bernard harbour, containing additional details of the murder in 1913 of the two Roman Catholic priests, Fathers Rouvière and Le Roux.

5. Report dated July 6, 1917, from Bernard harbour, regarding the alleged murder of an Eskimo woman, Co-mak.

6. Report dated January 31, 1918, from Baker lake, describing the doings of the patrol on the Arctic coast from June 13, 1917, to September 1, 1917.

7. Report dated January 31, 1918, from Baker lake, describing the return journey from Bernard harbour to Baker lake.

The patrol was a remarkable achievement in the way of travel. Inspector French computes the distance traversed on the outward journey from Baker lake to Bernard harbour thus:—

Distance travelled over routes	1,835 miles.
“ “ deer-hunting	284 “
“ “ seal-hunting	114 “
“ “ looking for native camps	250 “
	2,483 “

No computation for the return journey is given by him, but the distance cannot have been much less than when outward bound; against the distance travelled in searching for native camps is to be set a certain amount of movement by the patrol along the Arctic coast. Altogether, it is fair to estimate the total travel at fully 4,500 miles. The return journey was carried out in the early winter under conditions of great hardship. It was impracticable to carry full stocks of provisions, and the party, Inspector French, Sergt.-Major T. B. Caulkin, and several natives were forced to rely for much of their subsistence upon the game and fish they could procure.

The investigation confirmed the accuracy of the information obtained by the R. N. W. M. Police in 1913. In brief it was that Mr. Radford, the elder of the two men, and the leader of the expedition, had all along showed ignorance of the proper manner of dealing with natives and that on the day of the affray, being irritated at one of the natives, he struck him, and thereby precipitated a scuffle in which both white men were killed.

Neither Mr. Radford nor Mr. Street understood these people's language, nor how to deal with them, and intercourse between them had been limited to signs. The tribe in question, the Killin-e-muits, is exceedingly primitive and had had next to no dealings with white men before; the white men lived amongst them without

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molestation until the quarrel arose. The statement of one native, Gib-gol-u-ok, may be given; the others agree closely with it:—

“I remember the two white men, Ish-yu-mat-ok and Ki-uk, coming to Kwog-juk as I was camped there. There were not many camped there when the white men came. After the white men came many Eskimos came there, as it is a good place for seals in spring.

“I do not know now how long the white men came. It was a long time and three huskies that came with them returned to the south. The one white man Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) was always mad and shouting loudly to the natives, and the other white man, Ki-uk (Street), was good. We did not understand the white man's language, but sometimes they made signs and we understand.

“They wanted two men who were good hunters to go away with them to the west, and Har-la and Kan-e-ak were to go. When the white men were ready to leave, Kan-e-ak did not want to go as his wife had fallen on the ice and hurt herself and he did not wish to leave her. Har-la had left the camp with one team. I remember seeing the white man Ish-yu-mat-ok pick up a dog whip and catch hold of Kan-e-ak and commence hitting him over the head and face, the white man shouting all the time, Kan-e-ak sat down on the ice, and the other white man, Ki-uk (Street) went up and tried to stop the Ish-yu-mat-ok.

“I saw the Ish-yu-mat-ok catch hold of Kan-e-ak and draw him to a wide crack in the ice and hold him over it. We were afraid the white man was going to kill Kan-e-ak. The other white man, Ki-uk, caught hold of Kan-e-ak and they both commenced to push him towards the water. I was on the side of the hill behind the tents and saw Ok-it-ok and Hul-a-lark run out from the camp. Ok-it-ok caught hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and Hul-e-lark stabbed him with a snow knife; he stabbed him in the back, the white man fell on the ice, the other white man ran away towards the sled that Har-lu had left with, Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught hold of him and Am-e-goal-nik stabbed him.

“The white men were put on the ice and covered over with their deerskins. I did not see anybody cut either of the white men's throats. The huskies took some of the white men's stuff and some was left behind. I have some paper that belonged to the white men. I do not know any more of their stuff, the rifles were broken up and used by the natives. I heard that Hul-a-lark and Kan-e-ak were away hunting on the sea ice to the east, and I do not know where Am-e-goal-nik is. We did not want to have any trouble with the white men and if the white men could have spoken our language I do not think it would have happened as we want to have the white man come and trade with us.”

Inspector French adds that all the evidence obtainable bore out this version. He was favourably impressed with this tribe, which, he points out, treated his small party excellently, despite the delicate nature of the mission upon which it came amongst them.

APPENDIX B.

STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION.

DISTRIBUTION.—State of the Force by Divisions, September 30, 1918.

Place.	Commissioner.	Asst. Commissioners.	Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Surgeons or Asst. Surgeons.	Vet. Surgeons.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Constables.	Supernumery Constables.	Totals.	Horses.				Dogs.
													Saddle.	Team.	Ponies.	Total.	
<i>Depot Division.</i>																	
Regina	1	1	2	4	1	1	14	14	13	183	15	249	296	33	.....	323
Wood Mountain								1				1		2	.....	2
Ottawa				2			3			1		6			.....	
On Leave		1		1						7		9			.....	
On Command							1	2	1			4			.....	
Totals	1	2	2	7	1	1	18	17	14	191	15	269	290	35	.....	325
<i>"A" Division.</i>																	
Maple Creek			1	1				1	2	3	3	11	14	17	.....	31
On Command				2			1					3			.....	
Totals			1	3			1	1	2	3	3	14	14	17	.....	31
<i>"B" Division.</i>																	
Dawson			1	1			4		2	6	2	16		6	.....	6
Black Hills										1		1	1		.....	1
Carcross										1		1			.....	
Dawson (Town Station)								1		3		4			.....	
Forty Mile												1			.....	
Granville							1					1		2	.....	2
Mayo									1			1			.....	
Rampart House										2		2			.....	5
Summit								1				1			.....	
White Horse				1			1		2	4	1	9	2	3	.....	5
Half Way .....															.....	4
Moose Hide											1	1			.....	20
Totals			1	2			7	2	5	17	4	38	3	11	.....	29
<i>"C" Division.</i>																	
Battleford			1	1			2	3	3	3	3	16	15	6	.....	21
On Leave										1		1			.....	
Totals			1	1			2	3	3	4	3	17	15	6	.....	21
<i>"D" Division.</i>																	
Macleod			1	2	1		2	2	1	4	5	18	27	15	.....	42
Blairmore				1								1			.....	
Big Bend									1	1		2		2	.....	2
On Command										1		1		1	.....	1
On Leave							1	2				3			.....	
Totals			1	3	1		3	4	2	6	5	25	27	18	.....	45
<i>"E" Division.</i>																	
Calgary			1					1	3	12	2	19	27	16	.....	43
Banff							1			2		3	4		4	
Canmore									1	1		2	2		2	
On Leave												1				
On Command				1			1	1			1	4				
Totals			1	1			2	2	4	16	3	29	33	16	49	

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DISTRIBUTION.—State of the Force by Divisions, September 30, 1918—Continued.

Place.	Commissioner.	Asst. Commissioners.	Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Surgeons or Asst. Surgeons.	Vet. Surgeons.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Constables.	Supernumery Constables.	Horses.				Dogs.	
												Total.	Saddle.	Team.	Ponies.		Total.
" F " Division.																	
Prince Albert			1				2	1	6	3	13	21	5	26			
Fullerton				1				1	4		6				28		
Port Nelson							1				1						
On Command				1			1				2						
Totals			1	2			3	1	2	10	3	22	21	5	26	28	
" G " Division.																	
Edmonton			1				3	2	1	9	6	22	39	5	44		
Jasper							1					1	2		2		
Brule								1				1					
On Leave										1		1					
On Command									1			1					
Totals			1				4	3	2	10	6	26	41	5	46		
" K " Division.																	
Lethbridge			1	1			2	1		9	5	19	14	10	24		
Medicine Hat				1								1					
On Leave								1				1					
Totals			1	2			2	2		9	5	21	14	10	24		
" N " Division.																	
Peace River				1				2		2	1	6	9	4	14	9	
Fort Fitzgerald				1				1		1		3		2	2	8	
Resolution									1	1	1	3				5	
Simpson										1	1	2				5	
Macpherson								1				3				10	
Herschell Island				1					1	1		3				9	
On Leave							1			1		2					
Totals				3			1	4	2	9	3	22	9	4	3	16	41

RECAPITULATION.

Regina District	1	2	2	7	1	1	18	17	14	191	15	269	290	35	325		
Maple Creek District			1	3			1	1	2	3	3	14	14	17	31		
Dawson			1	2			7	2	5	17	4	38	3	11	14	29	
Battleford			1	1			2	3	3	4	3	17	15	6	21		
Macleod			1	3	1		3	4	2	6	5	25	27	18	45		
Calgary			1	1			2	2	4	16	3	29	33	16	49		
Prince Albert			1	2			3	1	2	10	3	22	21	5	26	28	
Edmonton			1				4	3	2	10	6	26	41	5	46		
Lethbridge			1	2			2	2	9	5	21	14	10		24		
Peace River				3			1	4	2	9	3	22	9	4	3	16	41
Totals	1	2	10	24	2	1	43	39	36	275	50	483	467	127	3	597	98

