

Don Brown

**A HISTORY
OF
POLICING IN BURNABY
1892 TO 1950**

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Mary D. Trainer

A HISTORY OF POLICING IN BURNABY

1892 - 1950

With an emphasis on the years

1892 - 1935

by

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Editor

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POLICE-BRITISH
COLUMBIA-
BURNABY

PREPARED FOR:

MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

BURNABY DETACHMENT

IN HONOUR OF

THE CENTENNIAL OF THE RCMP

MAY 23, 1873 - MAY 23, 1973

INTRODUCTION

1973 marked the centenary of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. On May 23 one hundred years prior, the government of Sir John A. Macdonald proposed a bill that authorized the formation of the North West Mounted Police (NWMP) to curb the growing lawlessness of the vast western lands of Canada. Whiskey trading with the Indians was held to be responsible for increasing reports of violence and death on the prairie and the government was determined not to follow the example the United States had set in opening up her west. Posts were established in what was later to become Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The NWMP first made their appearance in British Columbia in 1884. They assumed the duties of maintaining law and order among the thousands of brawny construction workers along the CPR construction line. The first duty of Superintendent Sam Steele and his small party of police was to check the lawlessness among the liquor peddlers, gamblers, horse thieves and 'loose women'. Later, in 1887, Steele restored order between the whites and Indians which was responsible for increasing violence in the Kootenay district. Other early duties included the

building of a pack trail from the Peace River to the goldfields, which was abandoned after two years of labour.

The oldest territorial police force in North America originated in 1858 on Vancouver Island. Sir James Douglas, then Governor of the British colony, wisely provided for a properly organized constabulary to cope with an ever-increasing trek of miners into British Columbia bound for the goldfields along the Fraser River. In 1866 the colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia were united, police headquarters being established in Victoria. Five years later British Columbia joined confederation and the British Columbia Provincial Police (BCPP) officially came into being.

The title "Royal" was conferred upon the NWMP in 1904 by King Edward VII. The name was again changed in 1920 to Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In December of 1918 the jurisdiction of the force, so far as federal duties were concerned, was extended to all of western Canada and in 1919 eighteen detachments were formed with a total of 211 men. At this time the present "E" Division was organized, under which Burnaby was included, with headquarters at Vancouver.

Between 1919 and 1950, during which the RCMP enforced federal statutes only in British Columbia, a considerable number of changes took place in respect to the number of men employed and the location of the detachments. In 1950, when the force took over the provincial police duties, the number of personnel and detachments increased accordingly. In 1951, for example, there were 121 detachments and a total of 755 personnel in British Columbia.

The following story is an attempt to put into perspective the policing of Burnaby from its incorporation in 1892 to 1950. Burnaby has seen three distinctly different police units in its history: Burnaby municipal police to 1935, BCPP 1935-1950, and the RCMP from 1950 to the present. The research material presented here deals mainly with Burnaby's incorporation through the takeover by the BCPP in 1935.

"...Burnaby Municipality has been almost immune from serious crime during the past year. With a community, as with an individual, it is character that counts for most when all is said and done, and the respectable and law-abiding home-seeker finds his strongest attraction always in the direction where law and order obtain."

Reeve P. Byrne, 1909
Burnaby Financial Report

POLICE COMMISSIONERS CONDEMN WHOOPEE PERMIT

Commissioners W. Mathews and W. George registered their disapproval of the concession granted by the council recently for the establishment of a Whoopee in Central Park at their meeting Tuesday. Mr. Mathews felt that no such permission should have been given without informing the police and thought that the whoopee would not benefit Burnaby. Mr. George considered that the whoopee would mean the employment of a traffic officer at the point on Kingsway, as the corner is now a dangerous one. The clerk stated that no action could be taken by the police until the device was built.

Item from the Burnaby Broadcast, August 15, 1929

What devious device were Mathews and George condemning? Making whoopee was certainly not allowed in Central Park in 1929. Think about the question as you read through the text. The answer is on the back page!

Little did William Bailey know that in 1896 his role as Burnaby's first lawman would grow into another two hundred like him, eventually working to serve a population of 135,000 in eighty years time.

In early 1896 Burnaby's council advertised in the Daily Columbian newspaper for a constable to enforce compliance with the Wide Tire Act. The Act prohibited teamsters or wagon owners from carrying more than two thousand pounds with tires on the wheels less than four inches wide. Fifty posters were displayed warning potential lawbreakers.

Council's concern was probably over the condition of Burnaby's main thoroughfare, the Vancouver-Westminster Road (now Kingsway). Wagons carrying heavy loads cut into the road creating ruts and crevices. Burnaby's rainy west coast climate aggravated this condition and the subsequent mudholes seldom dried due to the lack of sun which was blocked out by the dense forest.

And so, Burnaby's first constable, William Bailey from Central Park, was hired on a part-time basis in November, 1896. Bailey, also Secretary of the Board of School Trustees at Central Park, was on duty two days a week enforcing the Wide Tire By-Law and for his services was paid about \$20 a month. Later in the year council appointed Bailey Sanitary Inspector and asked him to crack down on people who allowed their swine to run at large and damage roads.

Burnaby RCMP today might find it odd that one of the first items in Bailey's report to council was a complaint concerning water pollution. The problem was corrected after waste from a slaughterhouse was discovered running down a ravine and polluting the water supply of a nearby boarding-house.

In early spring council decided it would dispense with Bailey's services due to a lack of funds but he was later employed to act as Special Constable at the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at Central Park. (On that occasion council found an extra \$20 to pay for a band and children's tram fares.)

Bailey continued to be active in community affairs. In early 1899 he prepared a plan for Burnaby's first municipal hall. He also acted as spokesman on behalf of the South Vancouver and Burnaby Horticulture and Poultry Association in persuading council to sanction sacred concerts in Central Park. In fact, Bailey had initiated the idea and rationalized that sunlight and fresh air would invigorate the physical man, while the tired brain found rest and relaxation drinking in music of a refined and elevating character.

As early as the turn of the century, Burnaby's citizens were vocalizing their needs for law enforcement. Matthew Higgins, a well-known and outspoken Burnaby resident walked into the Province newspaper offices one day in January, 1900 and complained bitterly that his house had

just been robbed. He cited two suspicious-looking Chinamen as the culprits and was annoyed that "men who are trying to build houses in this sparsely settled and unimproved district, where they must go outside in most cases to earn their living, leave their little homes at the mercy of every passing Chinaman."

The second constable hired, a Mr. A. G. Cook from Central Park, was appointed in June, 1900, at a retainer of \$5 per month "for the special purpose of suppressing the lawlessness of undesirable visitors from the neighbouring cities." The background to his appointment goes like this: Three months earlier a meeting of the Burnaby Board of Licencing Commissioners took place at the Royal Oak Hotel. This favourite roadhouse and watering hole was located on the Vancouver-Westminster Road. On this particular evening the hotel's liquor licence, held by a Mr. C. Cridland, was transferred to Mr. W. Dashway. The Daily Columbian tells the rest:

Mr. Dashway, the new holder of the license, has asked the protection of the authorities against what appears to be a most disgraceful state of affairs. It seems that on Saturdays and Sundays, especially, women of the demi-mode class are in the habit of visiting these roadhouses, on the Vancouver-Westminster Road, and the language some of them use is, to say the least, an abominable outrage on the law-abiding and respectable community of Burnaby. Women and children, living in the vicinity, are compelled to witness the behaviour and listen to these defiant, reckless, and demoralized unfortunates. It certainly seems high time that the people of Burnaby were protected from such outrages on public decency. Mr. Dashway, it is understood, will do all in his power to convert his hotel into a respectable house, and not allow this class to harbor on his premises; but unless the proper authorities step in and do their share, little can be accomplished. The Burnaby Board of Licencing Commissioners have taken the initiative, and

have forwarded the following resolution to the Westminster City Council, and ask their co-operation in putting down and stamping out this unseemly condition of affairs.

"Resolved, That this, the Licencing Board of Burnaby, respectfully call the attention of the New Westminster City Council and police authorities to the seeming need that there is of stricter supervision and control of the undesirable class of females, whose visits to Burnaby, especially on Saturdays and Sundays, cause constant annoyance to the respectable community."

New Westminster council replied that these disturbances were outside city limits and therefore they were powerless to act. By the end of October, Cook had performed his job to council's satisfaction and he was relieved of his duties.

Burnaby's third constable, Peter Gray, was hired in June, 1901. Gray, whose equipment consisted basically of a pair of handcuffs, attended council meetings and usually reported "all quiet in Burnaby". Aside from investigating the odd box of stolen groceries or an occasional complaint of dogs barking, Cst. Gray's work was limited to appearing at elections and quarantine duty for which he was paid \$2 respectively. Transportation on his patrol, which covered forty-three square miles, was generally provided by his own two feet. However, in 1906 he was given a British Columbia Electric Railway pass.

The BCPP in New Westminster kept an eye on the young municipality and lent a hand in policing in the bordering areas. If any of Chief Campbell's men did venture into Burnaby territory, a bill for their services was sent to Burnaby Council. On request from South Vancouver council, Gray was empowered to act in that area. South Vancouver's constable, James Edgerton, was sworn in to act as constable in Burnaby.

In the spring of 1907 Peter Gray resigned, and the municipality hired two men - William Ralph and Special Constable A. K. Farquharson who acted as constable, road foreman and road tax collector. Ralph generally patrolled the western area and a second constable, W. A. Seldon was retained to cover the eastern portion of the district.

A sampling of crimes reported by Ralph at a council meeting included breaking and entering at the British Columbia Electric Railway shed at Central Park (goods taken), a shack on River Road (suit of clothes taken), the CPR station (money stolen) and the Municipal Hall (drawers and cupboards ransacked). He also reported that a pair of boots was stolen from a camp on Still Creek.

In addition to general routine, the police department supervised and carried out collection of fines, dog taxes and trade licences. As more roads were being constructed, council decided to have Ralph handle the job of road foreman only. For Farquharson's services as constable he was paid \$2.25 for an eight-hour day and a commission of 20 percent of the amount of road tax collected.

You might well wonder how a policeman without horse, car, bicycle, or buggy could effectively police speeding motor vehicles. With a stop watch, of course! Following is what now appears to be a hilarious account of a driver about to be fined in 1910.

Canada
Province of B.C.
Edmonds

REX VS CROWE

Police Court, August 27, 1910.

Before P. Byrne, Esq. J. P.

Mr. J. A. Crowe, owner Car No. 944. Charged with speeding a motor car on the Vancouver Road on the 20th of August 1910, at a greater rate of speed than 15 miles per Hour.

Pleads Not Guilty

Pat Shalvey sworn. ("What do you know about Car No. 944?") This Car No. travelled over the measured half mile on the Vancouver Road between Murchie and Pole Line Roads in 65 seconds on the 20th day of August. (How do you know?) I timed it by means of a Stop Watch from a bend in the road to where I stood. (Question) I am employed as a Constable, I have no interest in these fines and do not care whether they are fined or not.

Harry Hornby sworn. Car No. 944 travelled over the measured stretch of road in 64 seconds going towards Westminster and in 65 seconds going towards Vancouver. (Question) This stretch of road between the Murchie and Pole Line Roads, I measured in company with Mr. Ettinger and it is 140 feet over half mile.

Mr. Thos. Spencer sworn. I am prepared to swear that we were not going at 15 miles per Hour on the measured half mile as I was looking at the Speedometer and we were not going over that speed. (Question) Cannot swear Speedometer is accurate. Mr. Spencer swore that he was prepared to place his judgment against the Stop Watch that he was not going at 30 miles per Hour. He also stated that he was a pretty good judge of speed and that he was on the lookout for the Constables.

Mr. Crowe swore. I recognized the timers (referring to the Constables) - and know the stretch on which the Autos were timed - going leisurely and not in a hurry, tipped hat to the Constables. And then stated to his companion (Mr. Spencer) that they would not get grabbed. Mr. Crowe swore that his Speedometer was absolutely correct. Had been used in a Race Track and was found correct and cost \$65. I did not exceed the 15 mile limit as the Speedometer was nearer the 10 mile limit (as the Speedometer showed that I was going about 10 miles per Hour rather than going over 15.) Outside the Speedometer I would know the difference between 15 miles and 20 miles per Hour.

Mr. Hornby. (Question) I saw car No. 944 pass two other cars also going to Vancouver between the Pole Line and Murchie Roads.

Mr. Crowe swore that he had not passed any cars going to Vancouver on that particular Stretch.

Pat Halvey. (Question) I saw Car. No. 944 pass two other cars going to Vancouver on this measured stretch of road. (Question) I don't know the numbers of the cars that passed because they were not going over the speed limit and did not take the numbers. (Question) I do not think they were under the influence of liquor.

Constables Hornby and Shalvey both swore that the Stop Watches were correct.

JUDGMENT

Mr. P. Byrne stated that there was a confliction of evidence but he considers that the weight of evidence was in favor of the plaintiff and that Mr. Crowe was to pay \$15. fine and costs (\$4.75 or in default of payment within 5 days to be imprisoned for 30 days in Jail.

Today, RCMP often insist on being present at public events. However, in the early 1900's it was not customary for members of the force to patrol public events except on request. In 1911, the Secretary of the Central Park Committee wrote council asking for a constable to patrol the neighbourhood during a fair. The Committee paid for this special service.

Citizens in Barnet and neighbourhoods bordering on Coquitlam began to approach council requesting constables to service individual areas. Instead of appointing a constable on salary, the Coquitlam council decided to pay a man twenty-five cents per hour when necessary. When Seldon resigned, Reeve Byrne and his council realized they had to recruit more constables to deal with the problems of an expanding community. And so, in 1909, council organized the members of the Licencing Board into a Police Committee. Among the first members of this Committee were Councillors McGregor, Coldicott and Macdonald who met regularly and formulated recommendations to council. The recruiting ads

they placed in the Daily Columbian stated salary was to be paid at the rate of \$2.25 per day of eight hours and a monthly retainer of \$5.00.

Harry Hornby, appointed as constable in 1909, later became the first Chief of Police. In March, 1911, Hornby resigned and was replaced by Cst. Frederick Townsend who, during his brief term in office formulated rules for the guidance of police. (Possibly these changed into "Rules and Regulations for the Police Department" used in 1920.) Six months later Townsend was asked to resign and William Parkinson was appointed to fill the Chief's position.

The year 1911 brought important changes to policing in Burnaby when the Police Committee advertised for two mounted constables. A Horse Committee was formed, authorized to purchase horses not exceeding \$250 each. By the middle of May the Committee had bought a bay horse "Prince" for \$250 and a second horse for \$275. Chief Townsend was given \$150 to provide accommodation for the horses in the stables. A position as mounted constable bore such prestige that by July, thirty-two applications were received. Another three men were hired in the new year - John H. Lyne at headquarters, A. D. McCall at Barnet and Robert Henderson at Vancouver Heights. The Horse Committee then bought another three horses, this time with a \$300 per horse limit. A Committee was appointed to look after the purchase of hay, which was supplied by G.G. Cordelle (per ton: hay \$15, straw \$10, bran \$27, oats \$29 and flattened oats \$31.) The Police Committee was very pleased with the

results of the mounted patrol. No doubt the horses were the pride of the force, as they were entered in the Vancouver Horse Show. Council employed a Mr. Walker to remove horse dung from Kingsway with a barrow and shovel.

The police did have a few problems with these animals: in the fall Chief Parkinson wrote a letter to P.W. Fauvel, Chairman of the Police Committee recommending the purchase of another three patrol horses - one for Sergeant Lyne, one for Cst. Thomas and "one to replace that used by myself which I have been unable to use for some considerable time owing to a chronic lameness that I have done everything in my power to cure - I regret to say without avail. Instead of selling him at this time, we might, if he were turned out to grass for the winter, recover the greater part of his cost." Possibly he was referring to "Lord Selkirk", sold the following spring.

In his report to the Police Committee (1912), Chief Parkinson reported an accident as follows:

"I regret to have to report that on the 3rd ult., the horse bearing Const. Lyne on Patrol along 7th Avenue East Burnaby sank in a soft filling on the road bed and fell over on him and endeavouring to extricate himself Const. Lyne in some manner was injured internally."

Crs. MacPherson and Coldicott and the Chief Constable became a Standing Committee to dispose of and acquire horses. Eventually the horses and equipment were transferred to the care of the Waterworks Department.

Burnaby's first mounted constables were sent to Sgt. Mulhearn in Vancouver who measured and provided them with uniforms. Council purchased raincoats from the Hudson's Bay

Co. and boots from Woodward's. Messrs. A. Stewart & Co., F. W. Beaton, Brownlea Clothing, W. T. Graham, Hartle Bros., David Small and Dirk Peter Bartels were merchants who supplied the force with uniforms through to 1935. These specifications describe the uniforms Bartels provided for the force in 1932.

Uniform Coat: Twenty-two ounce blue Serge style military officers tunic with long vest. Four buttons down front; two buttons on each sleeve; shoulder straps with one button on each . . . silver plated buttons. (\$16.50).

Uniform Trousers: Twenty-two ounce blue Serge, two side pockets, two hip pockets, one baton pocket, cuffs. (\$8.60)

Pantaloon: Twenty-two ounce blue Serge, cut in pattern of riding breeches, two buttons at ankle, two cross pockets, two hip pockets. (\$9.60)

Great Coat: Blue Chinchilla cut Officers British warm, pattern double breasted, eight buttons front, plain cuffs; heavy fall roll collar, three-quarters lined, black bone buttons (\$18.25)

Along with a uniform each constable was issued with a police whistle.

By 1912, Burnaby had ten constables, one to every 1,250 residents and police services were constantly growing. The Police Committee purchased a camera for \$60 (probably used to take pictures at scenes of crimes), and a constable was stationed at headquarters for office work and night duty. Early the next year the Police Committee became the Police,

Light and Fire Committee with Cr. Coldicott as Chairman. Nine more call boxes were added on the police telephone system and a phone was installed at Constable Parker's residence in North Burnaby. Call boxes located at various telephone poles throughout Burnaby had a direct line to the Municipal Hall and were used by patrolling policemen to check in with headquarters or to call for assistance.

Sleeping accommodations in the police cells became available for constables in 1912 and two beds and other furniture were purchased. At this "headquarters", located at the first municipal hall at Edmonds, Ernest Senior was the gaoler. At one point after the cells were flooded Chief Parkinson requested that the Police Committee consider linoleum for the floors, making one wonder, if in fact there was previously any kind of floor covering at all. Gratings were affixed to the outside of the windows to prevent anything from being passed in to the prisoners. A 1918 report states that meals were supplied by a Mrs. J. R. Wilson.

In 1912 a sliding scale of police salaries was adopted as follows: \$70 per month for the first year of service, \$80 per month for the second year of service, \$90 per month for the third year of service and \$100 per month for the fourth and subsequent years of service. The Chief Constable received \$125 per month. Occasionally constables were requested for special duty at private parties and for this they were paid \$3. Constables stationed away from headquarters or the substation were allowed an additional

\$5 per month in lieu of quarters. Force members were allowed fourteen days a year annual leave with pay but it was not until 1919 that the men were allowed one day off in seven.

1915 saw the formation of the first Board of Police Commissioners with a Mr. Fraser as Chairman. They served voluntarily and took this oath:

I, _____ do declare that I am a British subject, that I will faithfully perform the duties of my office as a Member of the Board of Commissioners of Police, for the District Municipality of Burnaby, and I will not allow any private interests to influence me in the performance of such duties.

The same year the Police Committee requested Council to amend the by-law regulating traffic, as there were increased accidents caused by horse-drawn vehicles not carrying lights at night. The Chief Constable was given the sole authority to warn drivers and he was not allowed to distinguish between drivers of horse-drawn vehicles and drivers of motor-driven vehicles.

While horse patrol had proven effective to date, increased construction of roads and a greater volume of traffic necessitated a motor kind of transport. Three Excelsior Auto Cycles were purchased in 1915 from the Ross Motor Company for \$405 each.

Now police were able to check crime much more quickly. However, some of their business required more diplomacy than speed. In 1917 Chief Parkinson was called upon to settle a complaint that tourists from the cities damaged dogwood and other flowering trees and shrubs. Police were also asked

to protect the public from "risque" literature when the Central Park Women's Institute prevailed upon the Chief to put a stop to a serial story published in the Burnaby Record.

In 1918 Chief Parkinson, who had been one of Burnaby's first mounted constables, died of a Spanish influenza which had swept western Canada. Cst. J. H. Lyne took over until the summer of 1920 when he was asked to resign, apparently for refusing to answer a questionnaire given to him by the Reeve. William J. Devitt replaced Lyne and remained until 1935.

In 1917 the motorcycles were sold and three new Harley Davidson's purchased from M. Scovil for \$1,300. Sidecars were attached later, probably used to carry passengers and store confiscated liquor. Each constable was responsible for his own machine and was expected to keep it properly maintained. In 1925 two sirens were purchased for the bikes at \$25 each.

What about the work itself? The diary of George Jeffery (1913-20) reveals how he patrolled South Burnaby streets - generally the area bounded by Central Park (including the tram line), Marine Drive, Royal Oak and Kingsway. He walked an average of 120 miles a week while on patrol. When called to a fire in the middle of the night, he threw on his clothes and literally ran to it. Occasionally he used the inter-urban to take prisoners to Edmonds. His daughter, Mrs. A. W. Poole, tells of one incident when her father chased a 'hussy' through the front

and back doors of the Jeffery home. After handcuffing the woman he escorted her from Highland Park to the jail on the "Toonerville Trolley".

Part of his daily beat included checking business premises along Kingsway. He was a great talker and was respected by nearly everyone he met. Teetotalling, pipe-smoking Cst. Jeffery seemed to attract lost children and was heard to say more than once "Find 'em and feed 'em". Hot chocolate and jam sandwiches went over well with the kids as they waited to be found at the policeman's house on Burke Street.

Many of the complaints he investigated were of a domestic nature - for example trying to track down the culprits who had stolen sealers of preserved strawberries and trampled on raspberry canes. Animals seemed to roam at will in these times and caused a great deal of grief to neighbours who had carefully tended gardens. Cst. Jeffery once warned a shingle mill to stop working on Sunday, and was often called to reprimand cyclists who would latch onto auto cars for a quick ride along Kingsway.

Here is an entry from September 10, 1913.

Complaint from Yippon (Chinese) Moscrop Rd that his ranch had been entered last night and 200 fowls stolen. A pair horse express went down Fir St. about 1:30 am 10/9/13 after standing for some time at corner of Smith and Fir Sts. Entry had been made at rear of ranch on Fir St. and lock broken on chicken house.

English-born Jeffery assembled and led many Burnaby May Day parades and organized a Boxing Club for boys. In addition to playing mandolin and flute in his spare time

he displayed his love for the British flag by running it up a pole outside his house daily.

When the BCPP took over, several of the Burnaby municipal police were transferred to other points in British Columbia, but Cst. Jeffery chose not to. Instead he asked to remain in Burnaby as it was part of his philosophy to know the people he was policing. He was stationed at Oakalla where he worked in an office admitting and releasing prisoners.

While the motorcycle was a vast improvement over the horse, the growing density of Burnaby's population and the increasing use of the automobile called for more efficient police transport. In 1920 the Finance Committee bought a five-passenger Ford touring car for just under \$1,000. A new model took its place in 1925, followed by an official police car which was purchased in 1927 for \$2475.

Like any new novelty, the police car was frequently needed for "miscellaneous duties" (who wouldn't enjoy driving it around the block a few times) now and then. The Police Committee put its foot down and said that the new vehicle was to be used strictly for police business.

Sgt. Parker was asked to take up residence at Edmonds to supervise the increasing volume of traffic on Kingsway. Drivers of heavy motor vehicles travelling over twenty-five mph were charged with "driving to the common danger" and fined. In 1924 fines were relatively mild. If one was caught while "driving under the influence", the Magistrate

merely recorded his licence number. On a second offense, however, the licence was endorsed. Traffic on Kingsway became so thick that the Chief Constable recommended where traffic lights be installed. In 1924 Reeve A. K. McLean made a subtle suggestion to the force when he officially discouraged the taking of a deposit for any violation of the Motor Vehicle Act.

As early as 1920 Burnaby's council felt the need for a provincial police force. That year, in preparation for the convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, council moved "that the existing system of several police organizations throughout the province be abolished, and that the police and the administration of justice be co-ordinated and operated under the direct control of the Province."

Burnaby's second police car was purchased in 1930. It was not until 1933, however, when the Vancouver police offered the use of a radio, that it became possible for headquarters to contact policemen on duty directly. Unfortunately, the driver was able to receive only. The Burnaby Broadcast reflects the community's pride in this modern device.

April 27, 1933

Thanks to Chief Cameron of Vancouver, the Burnaby prowler car is now equipped with radio. Chief Cameron found that he had two sets not being used. He has loaned one of these to Burnaby and one to New Westminster.

The police office at Edmonds has had a police radio set in the office for some months and it has been found of great use in getting rapid information from Vancouver. By its use our police have had information on major and minor crimes as quickly as the city police, and had passed it on to New Westminster, who have no set in their offices.

The prowler car, which operates mainly on Kingsway during the evening, has been found to cut down the police work in Burnaby to a large extent.

Fearful of missing a call during his supper, Cst. Jeffery would have his children sit in the car with pencil and paper ready to take any messages in his absence.

Bush fires were a problem which continually plagued police in the 1920's. Although Burnaby's fire fighting equipment was inadequate, the police worked quickly, and they were often praised for their efforts. In recognition of their assistance in putting out fires, Burnaby council frequently made gifts of \$25 to the Benevolent Funds of the Vancouver and New Westminster Fire Departments. In 1925 council approved payment of \$3 plus reimbursement for damage to clothing and boots to officers fighting fires when off duty.

According to Ex-Cst. William Smedley, only surviving member of the Burnaby municipal police, policemen worked on eight-hour shifts and were on call twenty-four hours a day. "We doubled as firemen, and if word was received of a fire, we had to go to one of two stations - one located at Edmonds equipped with a twelve-cylinder Packard with two wheel brakes, and the other at the east side of the 400 block South Carlton equipped with a Dodge Truck." The Chief of Police acted as Fire Chief as well.

Other developments during these years included the hiring of a woman warden at \$4 per day, and the instigation of plainclothes men.

All applications for beer licences and dance hall permits were processed through the Police Department. One night in 1925 the Board of Police Commissioners resolved to advise the Attorney-General's Department that they were opposed to the granting of any beer licences in the municipality. At the same meeting the Chief Constable was instructed to issue no further dance hall licences. This attitude was reinforced by F. A. Browne (MLA), council, and even a letter of commendation from the Jubilee Women's Christian Temperance Union.

In April 1925 a North Burnaby branch of the police was opened at 4095 East Hastings Street to provide office accommodation. Rent was paid to Mr. R. C. Hirst at \$15 per month. The substation remained at this address until 1933 when offices were moved to the North Burnaby Fire Hall.

Cst. Smedley routinely patrolled North Burnaby on his motorcycle. His four-year diary, dated from 1926-30 tells that many of the calls he answered were common complaints about animals - vicious dogs who attacked people, chickens and rabbits; stolen rabbits; stray or loose goats, chickens, horses and cows. He also investigated broken windows, stolen wood, bush fires, auto accidents and complaints about obscene language. Cst. Smedley reported burned-out arc lamps, served summonses, and collected trade licences. Some of his more unusual duties included investigating stolen roses and chocolates, posting mumps notices (1926) and measles notices (1927), retrieving children from atop the

water tower on Capitol Hill, and even the case of a man who complained that someone was milking his cows at night.

Following are three rather humorous excerpts taken from Smedley's diary:

March 8, 1926

On March 7th received word from the office to go to No. 12 Delta Ave. Proceeded there and saw Mrs. P. Bradley, occupant of the house, who claimed Mrs. Wm. Jackson next door neighbor had stole one of her chickens. Mrs. Bradley claimed that Mrs. Jackson came over and took it out of her chicken house but could not prove that she did. So I went and saw Mrs. Jackson and she said that she had not as she had sixteen chickens and were all there, so I counted them and found there was sixteen. Then Mrs. Jackson claimed that Mrs. Bradley had one of hers and it came home. But Mrs. Bradley said no. So they agreed that I come up on Monday evening between half-past four and five o'clock and they would both let their chickens out. On Monday at the set time, I went up and they let their chickens out. When the chickens came out of Mrs. Jackson's hen house one a Rhode Island red went around to Mrs. Bradley's pen, and then Mrs. Jackson said it was not hers and that she had been mistaken, so then Mrs. Jackson still claimed that one of her hens was still in Bradley's pen, so I told Mrs. Jackson to leave them alone and they would come home to roost in their own chicken houses. Then I seen Mrs. Bradley and told her if she wished, she could swear out an information and summons Mrs. Jackson for theft. I left there and came off duty at 6:30 pm. About 8:00 o'clock Mrs. Wm. Jackson came down for me to go up and count the chickens again. I went with Mrs. Jackson, and went to the chicken house and counted sixteen chickens, so both parties got their chickens back.

August 5, 1926

From 8 pm to 12 am received instructions to proceed to Barnet to see Mr. Sunday. On arriving there saw Mr. A. A. Sunday who said that he has a seal and that he had got it down on the waterfront. It is a baby seal, and a dog had been worrying it so he brought it up to his house and is quite a playmate for the children.

December 20, 1926

Mrs. M. G. Brindley, 3735 Parker Street complained of cow manure causing stench. This manure was across from her front door and when the wind blew carried

the smell over to her place. The manure belonged to A. Manifold 3753. Saw Mrs. Manifold and gave her one week to remove same.

For his involvement in capturing two hunted youths, Wilcox and McDougall, Smedley received considerable recognition in the form of pictures and stories in Vancouver's News-Advertiser and "True Detective" magazine. When he left Burnaby in 1935, he had put over 150,000 miles on his bike!

Beginning in 1926, new appointees to the force had to produce certificates of physical fitness. The same year a Broadcast editorial congratulated the force for its efforts in seeking superannuation benefits.

That our Police Commissioners are far seeing is shown in their action, last week, in recommending that a superannuation scheme be introduced into the local force. It would have been so easy for them to sidetrack this issue while the force is small. Provision is made in Part III of the 1924 Superannuation Act, for the municipality to contribute to the fund equal with the members. The members must pay 4% and may pay up to 8% of their salaries into the fund. Interest at 5% is compounded semi-annually. Pensions are paid upon the basis of money paid in and the age of the employee when retiring. If the employee leaves the force he may withdraw the money with 5% interest, or he may leave it in the fund until the age of retirement and draw the pension on the amount actually paid in. The retiring age of policemen is 55. The Act makes the same provision for firemen, but their retiring age is 50.

About this time M. H. McMullen, Commissioner of Provincial Police, wrote letters to police departments throughout B.C. asking the costs of employing his force in place of the existing ones. Reeve Bell approved the idea of a metropolitan police force for the lower mainland but did not favour the policing of Burnaby by the BCPP. The existing force, he thought, was quite efficient and performed many

other duties such as the collection of various licence fees, sanitary inspection work and fire fighting which would not be done by the provincial police.

The subject arose again in 1929 when Superintendent McMullen reported to council that the Burnaby municipality could be policed by the provincial men for \$19,000 per annum. This would represent a saving of \$3,113 per year for salaries and a further \$6,000 for equipment. Salaries and uniforms would be provided for one sergeant, two corporals and seven constables. One sergeant, one corporal and five other men would be stationed at Kingsway, with the remainder on East Hastings. Prisoners would be housed at Oakalla.

Reeve Bell's original support for a metropolitan force was again discussed in a Broadcast editorial dated March 27, 1930:

The creation of a metropolitan police force under municipal control would...provide opportunity for members to that particular line of duty to which they were specially adapted but would also create a corps of experts in the several departments that would prove of the greatest value in the detection of crime...it would render possible a system of rotation of contingents policing the several municipalities from time to time that would make for greater prestige and effectiveness.

In 1929 new salary increases were approved as follows:

Chief Constable to \$225.00 per month, Sergeants to \$175.00 per month, Detective to \$175.00 per month, 1st Constable to \$157.50 per month, 2nd Constable to \$147.50 per month and 3rd Constable to \$137.50 per month. In March, 1975, Burnaby RCMP Constables start at \$12,000 (per annum)

rising to \$16,100 after five years; Corporals start at \$17,116 (first level) rising to \$17,630 at the end of one year; Sergeants start at \$18,657 rising to \$19,217 at the end of one year and Staff Sergeants start at \$20,243 rising to \$20,850 in the second level.

Following is one of the few complete police reports available. It is for the year 1930 and was prepared by Police Chief Devitt:

Reports investigated in 1930:	
Accidents (motor)	244
" (motor and animal)	8
" (motor and bicycle)	15
" (motor and person)	35
" (motor and St. car)	9
" (motor and train)	9
" (motor and vehicle)	4
" Other	5
" Fatal	12
Autos stolen in Burnaby and recovered	26
Arc lights reported out	394
Arrested for Outside Police	16
Animals destroyed	34
Complaints Rec'd and Att'd.	5106
Complaints to Juvenile Court	35
Cases to Juvenile Court	318
Dead Animals reported	55
Fires (Bush)	122
Fires (Insur. Dept.)	59
Housebreaking	75
Inquests	9
Murders	3
Premises found insecure	53
Persons lost and found	72
Persons injured by auto	101
Persons injured otherwise	5
Robbery with violence	6
Stolen autos Recovered	66
Sudden Deaths	18
Suicides	4
Thefts	138

RECEIPTS

Pines assessed.	\$2,555.00	
Costs	1,202.75	\$ 3,757.75
Pines Paid	2,315.00	
Costs Paid	1,159.75	3,474.75
Pines outstanding	85.00	
Costs outstanding	34.50	
Dog Tax		958.00
Trades licence fees		<u>9,711.50</u>
		\$ 14,144.25

\$180 fines and \$35.50 cost not paid, the defendants serving time in default.
\$25 fines and \$27 costs outstanding from 1929 paid.

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Offence	
Animals Act	3
Assault	22
Attempted Arson	1
Breaking and Entering	3
Deserted Wifes Maintenance Act	5
Drunk Driving Auto	2
Escape Custody	1
False Pretences	4
Forest Act	7
Gaol Breaking	1
Highways Act	40
Health Act	1
Indecent Assault	3
Indecent Exposure	2
Juvenile Delinquency Act	4
Liquor Act	5
Live Stock Act	3
Manslaughter	4
Mental Hospital Act	18
Motor Act	271
Municipal Election Act	1
Non-support	4
Parents Maintenance Act	5
Public Schools Act	2
Possessing Stolen Goods	2
Seduction	1
Sheep Protection Act	1
Taxation Act	2
Theft	22
Ticket-of-Leave Act	4
Tobacco Rest. Act	2
Vagrancy	7
Wilful Damage	6
Wound Dog	1

BY-LAWS	
Blasting	2
Building	1
Electrical	1
Poll Tax	6
Pound	2
Plumbing	1
Road Tax	6
Street Traffic	24
Trades License	39
Town Planning	<u>1</u>
	612

One of the prominent commissioners, William Mathews, was affectionately dubbed "Pussyfoot" for he had a reputation of sneaking up on and apprehending vandals. Mathews, Cst. Waddell, Sgt. Parker and Detective Maxwell all lived in Burnaby and were good friends. Mathews' son, W. C. Mathews, remembers how his father, after a day's work as head messenger at the Bank of Montreal, frequently rode in the motorcycle's sidecar with one of his friends on evening patrol. Occasionally they met at the Mathews residence for a night of cigars, whiskey and conversation. On weekends, father and son would climb in the sidecar while a patrolman would drive them out to Barnet for a day of fishing, to be picked up in the evening when the patrolman had finished his shift. London-born Mathews was also a Justice of the Peace and spent much of his spare time at the North Burnaby substation swearing out complaints and signing legal documents. "Pussyfoot" used as his motto: "Enforcement of the Law and No Interference" during his twelve years of service. He was very proud of the force and was quick to write letters to local papers for any reason to protect his men and their

image. His pride is reflected in two "Letters to the Editor" in the Burnaby Broadcast.

January 7, 1932

In answer to Mrs. Freeman's letter in your last issue, in which she states that Burnaby is infested with moonshiners, bootleggers, gangsters, liquor and stills, (rather a bold statement for a lady to make) she is very truthful when she says she has informed the police. We are quite aware that she has done so. Not only has she complained to the police but has also complained to other officials, and also to the councillor of her ward, who in turn relayed the information on to us, and we still remember the wild goose chases she has subjected the department to on several occasions. The last time the department investigated her complaint the detective was accompanied by an Inland Revenue Officer, and the result was the usual one - nil which is very annoying. Now, apparently, she suspects another poor individual. A person should be able to live in the bush without being looked upon with suspicion every time smoke goes up from his chimney. You can believe me, Mr. Editor, that if a still exists in the vicinity of this lady's house, it would not be there long before the Department of Inland Revenue would get to know of it. During my twelve years as a police commissioner in Burnaby, this municipality has never been charged one cent by the provincial police for liquor enforcement, a record we should all be proud of. Our police are performing their duties efficiently and faithfully. I would not bother to reply to Mrs. Freeman's letter only it is very annoying to read something which is not true, and if another one of its kind appears I shall request the lady's appearance before the Board of Police Commissioners and ask her to lay all her cards on the table.

She also states that only \$3392 was received in fines and costs during 1930. That is a very fine compliment which I feel sure she did not mean to hand us. The less fines, the less crime. Police departments are not supposed to be revenue producers.

I apologise for taking up so much space, and in conclusion would say I am very well satisfied with the way the police are performing their duties. They have kept crime down to a minimum and have cleaned up nearly all major crimes during the past year, and we compare very favorably with other municipalities. Remember we have 43 square miles to cover with only twelve men.

November 13, 1930

Re your editorial in last week's paper please accept my sincere thanks on behalf of the various police officers who took part in the recent patrol in trying

to help the New Westminster police in rounding up the culprits who staged the recent burglary at Murrayville and Langley. Our men received the call a little after 3 am and left their warm beds to go out in a blanket of cold fog and patrolled out to Barnet, thence to Port Moody, and circled round to New Westminster accompanied by a Vancouver officer. The men they were after were desperate and did not hesitate to shoot at sight, as was shown when the New Westminster police endeavoured to stop them at the bridge at New Westminster. Although the police were not successful at the time in capturing the culprits, it was not through any fault of theirs. They were hampered by the heavy fog and strange country. However, an arrest was made later by the Vancouver police.

But what I want to stress upon is the very close co-operation which exists between the various police forces - New Westminster in particular. They have at all times given us every assistance when necessary. At the recent Rowing Regatta held in Burnaby, Chief Cameron sent us two mounted men and an inspector to help our men on account of the heavy traffic. During my eleven years on the Burnaby Board of Police Commissioners I have admired from the first the loyalty one policeman shows to another in never hesitating to go to one's help when in danger. I shall always have in mind an incident that took place on our waterfront a few years back when two of the men stationed in the North were sent down there to arrest a lunatic. The lunatic grabbed an axe and was in the act of bringing it down on the head of one of the officers, and had not the other officer not been quick enough to jump on his neck there would have been a terrible tragedy. So, in concluding, I feel we can feel very fortunate when we go to bed tonight to know that while we sleep, we are well protected.

Negative criticism was rarely directed at the police regarding performance of their duties. A "Letter to the Editor" once appeared in the Broadcast from a fellow who had plums stolen off his trees. He complained that it took eight hours for a policeman to come after he called about it.

In 1929 the power of the press was not to be undermined. After Sgt. Parker was demoted to the rank of Constable for no apparent reason (the reason, if any, only being known to the Police Chief and Commission), taxpayers were

very angry. The action evoked strong criticism from G. Conway, owner and editor of the paper, with the result that Sgt. Parker was reappointed to his position.

May 16, 1929

A petition signed by representative business men of North Burnaby and presented to Reeve Burdick as chairman of the Police Commission has been met with a refusal. The petition asked that the Reeve call a special meeting of the Police Commission without delay to investigate the circumstances in which Sergeant Parker was reduced to the rank of constable by the Chief of Police last week; that the enquiry be public; and that in the meantime Sergeant Parker be allowed to retain his former rank.

Reeve Burdick's reply reads:

May 15, 1929

I have your petition of recent date with respect to the demotion of Sergeant Parker and have carefully considered same.

Allow me to say that I do not consider a public meeting of the Police Commission would be in the interests of Burnaby.

The members of the Police Commission were fully aware of the intended action of the Chief of Police, before such action was taken and were quite in accord with same, and they feel it was fully justified.

May 16, 1929

"Moscow in Burnaby"

To be found without investigation of trial, and to be punished without even a charge being made against the victim, much less giving him a chance of defending himself against any accusations which might have been made, is something which one does not expect to find in any British Dominion. Yet that is what happened in our own Burnaby last week, much to her disgrace unless those in authority take immediate steps to rectify matters.

Contrary to all of the accepted principles of Fair Play, without warning, and without stated reason, Sergeant Parker has been ordered by the Chief of Police to revert to the rank of constable. British justice demands that even the vilest criminal shall be informed of the charges against him, and that a fair trial shall be given before the most minor punishment can be inflicted. A soldier on active service cannot be demoted unless evidence is brought before a Court Martial that he has been guilty of an act to deserve it.

But not so in Burnaby Police Force. Presumably British Fair Play is unknown and Moscow methods prevail. And it is all the more interesting to fair minded people

in Burnaby because the victim happens to be one of her most capable police officers, and a man who has served the Corporation faithfully for fifteen years. Sergeant Parker has an enviable reputation not only on our police, but during his service in the Great War, in which he received a coveted decoration for bravery in the face of the enemy.

Just at the moment we do not care to make further comment on the case. We must consider the matter sub judice for surely the Board of Police Commissioners will take immediate steps to remove the disgrace which has descended upon it.

And perhaps it might be an opportune time to investigate all the other little rumours which are so persistently being circulated regarding police matters. The present case shows that there is something wrong, and we may as well thrash the whole affair out at one time.

June 6, 1929

Since giving publicity to the demotion of Sergeant Parker and reporting the statement of the Reeve that the Police Commission intended taking no action to review the circumstances under which the reduction in rank took place, we have had nothing more to say in this matter. But the many enquiries we have received from all parts of Burnaby as to what is being done about it, and the many expressions of opinion that the fair name of Burnaby stands in disgrace force us to refer to it again.

Nothing has been done. A public servant who has served the municipality for fifteen years with credit and honor is suddenly reduced from sergeant to constable with no charges which might have been made. He is not even given the same square deal as the vilest criminal who, under the system of justice in force everywhere else in the British Empire, is acquainted with the nature of the charge against him and allowed to put in whatever evidence he cares to in his own defence.

And we have it from Reeve Burdick that nothing will be done. Well, if the Police Commission will not clean up the police department, the electors will have an opportunity next January, of cleaning up the Police Commission.

Another of G. Conway Brown's editorials, "The Local Tragedy" illustrates the great responsibility of the press in reporting crimes to the public. Brown stresses that prevention of crime is the responsibility of the whole community, not just a handful of police workers.

March 31, 1931

One of the penalties of publishing a weekly paper is that, when a big piece of news breaks, it is handled by the nearby dailies so fully that repetition in a weekly seems useless. But there is some reward this week, for instead of writing all the miserable details of Friday's tragedy, we have had time to get the proper perspective upon the whole matter.

The dailies milked every bit of sensationalism out of the affair, given to describing how the parents of the dead lad "clutched hands stricken by shame and grief" as one had it, while another began the report - "The thirteenth hour of the thirteenth day was Nemesis for--" etc.

But now, when further news items about the affair fail to sell a few more papers, it appears to us that the more important aspects might be profitably reviewed. Two young men, little more than boys, had some mental kink which has led one to a tragic death at the age of 21, and the other to possibly a long term of imprisonment at 25. What caused the mental kink? Do similar causes exist in other homes around us, and can we locate those homes and remove the cause? Was it some parental inattention? Are we, as parents, playing perfectly fair with our children?

From another angle we see the display of a considerable amount of courage on the part of Chief Devitt and some of his officers. How easy it would have been for the Chief, receiving information of the whereabouts of the hunted youths, to have sent out his entire staff of men, calling assistance from other nearby forces, and to have stayed in safety. Instead of which he ordered two constables to guard roads while he himself, rifle in hand, approached Wilcox and McDougall and called upon them to surrender. He got bullets in reply, and even then fired only at the hand holding a revolver pointed towards him. No one regrets more than the Chief himself, that the bullet, after taking off Wilcox's finger, glanced off and killed the victim.

And yet, after all, perhaps one of the most important points is that it seems possible for convicted criminals to become possessed of firearms and hold up the very wardens who are conveying them from the Court of sentence to the prison, and thus make their get-away.

Burnaby did not rely solely on its municipal police force; the BCPP were present and played an equally important role. One such BCPP branch was the mounted section, formed in October 1931 by Cst. E. C. Williamson (later to become the

BCPP's youngest sergeant), Cpl. Morley Greene and Cst. Dan Weir. They were stationed at the Oakalla Prison Farm in Burnaby, which had been built by the provincial government during World War I. According to Ex-Sgt. Williamson, the troop quelled disturbances connected with hunger strikes and travelled by train throughout the province to related incidents such as the riots at the Princeton and the Tula-meen mines. The troop also patrolled the more sparsely settled districts adjacent to the training ground in Burnaby and on the north shore of Burrard Inlet, and furnished escorts for distinguished visitors. They were frequently seen patrolling school playgrounds, much to the delight of the children who wanted to feed the horses. Williamson remembers Vancouver's Police Chief, Colonel Foster, calling him to the Ballantyne Pier to assist at a riot. He arrived with twelve mounted men, dressed in their green and khaki uniforms, each carrying .38 sideguns and leather billies. They joined forces with Foster's ten men and ten horses; the ensuing battle involved 5,000 people and lasted four hours in the pouring rain. Sympathizers, including street car conductors, hurled debris at the police and sent four men to hospital while two of Williamson's horses suffered severe injuries.

On the lighter side of life, Williamson recalls salvaging feed sacks which could be sold for three cents each. With the money saved, he and his men bought forty ounce bottles of beer, to be enjoyed in their relaxing moments.

The mounted men stationed at Oakalla were not the only people who enjoyed a wee nip inside its walls. Williamson tells how the prisoners were caught making rum in a pumpkin. When vegetables were harvested in the fall a few pumpkins mysteriously fell into the hands of cooks who scooped out the seeds and replaced them with demerara sugar and fruit juice.

One of the most publicized stories involving a Burnaby police officer occurred in 1932 when Detective David Maxwell was shot by hunted criminal William Bagley. The item is further explained by a front-page story from the Vancouver Sun dated March 28.

William Bagley, an underworld rat turned cobra, was hunted by the police of two nations while Detective David Maxwell, the 47-year old Burnaby Police Officer whom he shot down on Hastings Street near Clark Drive, at 11 p.m. Saturday, lies near death in Vancouver General Hospital.

Bank robber, safecracker, bandit, jail-breaker and cocaine-sniffer, Bagley emerged with startling suddenness from the obscurity that had shrouded his movements since his escape with four other criminals (all recaptured) from Oakalla Prison Farm on January 3.

The stoop-shouldered 39-year old Bagley and his pal, Gordon Fawcett, Saturday afternoon kidnapped Game Warden W. H. (Slim) Cameron of Ladner, tied him to a tree in Burnaby Bush.

Fawcett went into Vancouver for more ammunition and supplies, fell, instead into the provincial police net at 8 p.m.

Bagley then let Cameron go and a few minutes later was encountered by Maxwell. Burnaby citizens were very proud of their police force, and this particular incident brought out the great respect people displayed for the lawman. The Burnaby Broadcast tells the rest.

March 31, 1932

The news that Dave Maxwell had been shot by a dastardly villain on Saturday night indeed cast a gloom upon his many friends. We do not here intend relating all the details of the circumstances which have been so fully dealt with in the daily papers. Yet we feel that the one real important detail which the dailies appear to have missed is Dave's high moral character.

Detective Maxwell is a man who held the respect of a large number of persons. There are youths and others in Burnaby, who, getting into some minor trouble, have him to thank for direction to the right path. There are many who have had occasion to place family trouble before him, and they have never failed to receive kindly advice. Where an infraction of the law was concerned, one had only to call on Dave for immediate and satisfactory action. He has probably been the means of preventing a great deal of crime.

And lest we should be accused of withholding praise until some calamity occurs, let us take this opportunity of expressing appreciation of the manner in which the police of Burnaby do their work. With only eleven policemen in 43 square miles on the edge of a great seaport city, it would not be remarkable if Burnaby had considerable crime and its citizens were frequently disturbed by criminal activities. That we are practically free from major crime, and that minor offences are infrequent, is due entirely to the efficiency of Chief Devitt and his little staff of men. They do not spare themselves on our behalf.

The depression years hit Burnaby hard. Because the municipality had to pour so much money into relief payments, by the end of 1932 Burnaby owed thousands of dollars to merchants and employees. The District's financial situation became so desperate that council finally asked the provincial government to step in. Horace L. Brittain, considered an authority on municipal management, was subsequently appointed as a consultant. His task was to try to find a remedy for the District's financial problems.

Such a move resulted in the 'firing' of the entire police force and their reinstatement at lower salaries. In

1933 the Chief Constable's salary was reduced by 17.5 percent as were those men earning over \$2000. Those earning less than \$2000 had their salaries cut by 15 percent. Ex-Sgt. Williamson reports that some men were not paid at all.

Here's what an anonymous Broadcast columnist (identified only as "Onlooker") had to say in the February 9, 1933 edition concerning a report by Brittain:

The Brittain report commends the work of our police force; but Burnaby people already knew they had a good police force...I think the democratic custom of electing our own commission is one to be preserved - we shall not always have a commissioner - and it is, I believe, healthier for the community to have our own local force manned by men who like ourselves are citizens of Burnaby. In any case I question if such a revolutionary step could be looked upon as being within the legitimate activities of a commissioner. Surely the electors have some rights left...It seems to me that there is room for some kind of modification in the law in favour of the elector; there is room for a little self-assertion on the part of the rate-payers.

Ironically, during the heat of the depression, Chief Devitt asked Commissioner Bennett for three more men. "With unemployment demonstrations and major crime in our largest neighbour, it follows we are more or less inflicted with the bad effects of unsatisfactory conditions just over our back fence" he rationalized. The Chief had a point considering the fact that Burnaby had a larger area to police than other Canadian cities. Burnaby's population had now soared to nearly 30,000, and on the London Metropolitan Police basis of one policeman to 1,000 population, the force ideally should have had thirty men instead of only twelve.

Despite the drop in salaries, Burnaby's police remained dedicated to the community. The generosity of some policemen did not go unnoticed.

February 16, 1933, Broadcast
KINDLY ACT OF POLICE HELP UNEMPLOYED

Expressing their sympathy for the unemployed, the provincial police called to the North Burnaby relief office Friday were asked by a man present to show their sympathy in a practical manner. The hat was passed around and \$3 contributed by the twelve police present. Coffee and cakes were purchased at once and handed to women and children.

The affair of Friday, when relief recipients refused to leave the North relief office was said to result from officials refusing to issue emergency orders, which, it was stated, had been promised by Commissioner Bennett on Wednesday when a delegation met him at the municipal hall.

During the winter months of 1934-35, Sgt. Williamson, accompanied by fourteen horses and sixty foot men from the BCPP and Vancouver City mounted sections camped in tents for three months at Boundary and Marine, adjacent to the Bloedel, Stewart and Welch shingle mill. A strike was in progress, and the company needed the forces to keep hunger marches from getting out of hand.

On February 28, 1935, Burnaby's municipal police force was officially dissolved when the provincial police took over at a cost of \$25,000 per year. Each member of the force was given a notice of termination and an application for enlistment in the new force. All badges were returned and Chief Devitt tendered his resignation. It was snowing on the morning of March 1 when Sgt. Williamson let his troop up the hill to Edmonds for official ceremonies commemorating the takeover of policing by the BCPP.

Within six months Corporal Dunn, head of the Burnaby detachment and a few of his men raided the Coconut Grove, a cabaret on Grandview Highway. They were looking for liquor, allowed in private homes but not in cabarets. Cst. Smedley accompanied the men and went inside while others surrounded the building. He found two New Westminster men, Sheriff Cotton and a lawyer, Sullivan, seated at a table sheepishly looking at empty glasses. In quickly trying to erase their guilt, Cotton and Sullivan had thrust their whiskey bottles out the window, unknowingly into the waiting arms of the BCPP. The cabaret owner was fined and his liquor taken to headquarters and later handed over to the Liquor Control Board. Occasionally Smedley and his friends enjoyed sampling confiscated booze. "After all," he quips, "how could we make an arrest without proving that the bottles actually contained liquor!"

During the next fifteen years, the Burnaby detachment became more involved in the community, particularly in schools and athletic clubs. The Report of the BCPP for 1947 includes a section "Youth and the Police" as follows:

Csts. C. E. Estlin, H. E. Klick and J. E. Clark, highway patrol, have done much in respect to youth work, and their efforts have been the subject of favourable press publicity and letters of appreciation from the Burnaby School Board. They have lectured on traffic safety, etc. to the school children.

Cst. H. Twist, identified with the Lions Club, has promoted extensive athletic performances among the youth of Burnaby. His boxing instruction has been responsible for an interchange of shows throughout the Lower Mainland.

During the war years, several BCPP detachments held dances, with profits contributed to the Police Spitfire Fund. Here's what the Shoulder Strap of 1943 had to say about one such dance sponsored by the Burnaby detachment.

Nearly 270 people attended the first annual British Columbia Provincial Police Ball in aid of the Police Spitfire Fund at the Coconut Grove, Grandview Highway, and enjoyed dancing to the music of Billy Jones and his eight-piece orchestra.

A total of \$200 was collected for the fund which will go towards putting another Spitfire in the air, for the War Effort.

The Spitfire Fund to date has been responsible for putting two planes in the air, and it is hoped that a third one will be in readiness soon. The second plane is called "The General Draper" which was named after the Provincial Chief of Police in Toronto.

In 1946 two Burnaby men received the Provincial Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. To qualify for the sterling silver medals, Staff-Sgt. A. Macdonald and Cst. R. C. Barrington-Foote each had twenty years service with an unblemished record in the last ten behind them.

By September of 1932, Sgt. Kelsberg and Cst. Woollen had each completed twenty years service. Special mention should be made of Peter Kelsberg. He was the only man who served - for almost forty years - in all three police forces. A native of Norway, Mr. Kelsberg joined the Burnaby mounted police on September 14, 1912 and he retired from the RCMP on February 28, 1955. All of his police service was continuous except from 1916-1919 when he served overseas with the 72nd Battalion, C.E.F., during World War I.

When the RCMP took over there was little salary difference. However the basic pay was much higher. BCPP force received additional benefits. All RCMP pay as well as allowances plus a fixed amount of \$120 per annum for clothing and medical treatment were pensionable, whereas the BCPP pension was based on basic pay only. Also medical and dental treatment and hospitalization were paid for. Promotional opportunities increased and free clothing and kits were issued on a substantial scale.

On August 15, 1950, the brown and scarlet uniforms of the RCMP replaced the khaki uniforms of the BCPP. As well as achieving unity of policing in the interest of national security, a considerable saving of \$1,500,000 (provincially) was anticipated during the first full year. Under the terms of the first agreement (August 15, 1950 - August 15, 1956) the RCMP undertook to maintain a force of 550 men throughout 124 detachments in British Columbia.

No ceremony or fanfare marked the changeover from the historical British Columbia force to the scarlet riders and the great majority of BCPP entered the ranks of the RCMP.

BURNABY POLICEMEN 1896 - 1935

(in alphabetical order)

BAILLEY, William	LINDQUIST, C.
BROWN, W.	LYNE, John H.
COOK, A.G.	MCCALL, A. S.
CORBETT, Thomas	MAXWELL, David
COWIN, Fred	MIDDLETON, Fred
DENYER, Frederick	MORTIMER, W. A.
DEVITT, W. J.	NICHOLSON, Wilfred F.
DICKSON, Robert D.	NORMAN, W. J.
DOIDGE, Richard L.	PARKER, Herbert
EDWARDS, W. J. R.	PARKINSON, William
EVELEIGH, Ronald	PENNINGTON,
FARQUHARSON, W. A. K.	POWELL,
GILBERT, R. F.	RALPH, William
GLEN, A. V.	SCOTT, Alexander
GODWIN, Eddie	SELDON, W. A.
GRANT, James	SENIOR, Ernest N.
GRAY, Peter	SHALVEY, Pat
GREEN, George	SMEDLEY, William
HATT-COOK, Harold	STEVENS,
HENDERSON, Robert	THOMAS,
HERRING, A. J.	TOWNSEND, Frederick
HORNBY, Harry	WADDELL, C. J.
JAMES, Albert W.	WATERS,
JEFFERY, George	WHITFIELD, Frank
KELSBERG, Peter	WILLIAMS, William
LESLIE,	WOOLLEN, Robert J.
WRIGHT, David S.	

NOMINAL ROLLS, BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL POLICE,
1935 - 1947, BURNABY.

These rolls do not include members of the mounted troops as the BCPP Reports list all those members as being in Vancouver.

As of December 31, 1935

Corpl. Dunn, R.

A/2 Cst. Ellis, W. G.

A/2 Cst. Roberts, C. T.

A/2 Cst. Cliffe, P. M.

3/Cst. Lindsay, G.

Prob. Vise, Robt.

Prob.. Hayes, R. S.

Prob. Butler, H. J.

Prob. McGeachan, J.

Prob. Cummings, Roy

Prob. Bradner, F. E.

Prob. Asel, Norvel E.

As of December 31, 1936

Corpl. Dunn, R.

2/Cst. Ellis, W. G.

2/Cst. Cliffe, P. M.

3/Cst. Vise, R.

3/Cst. Gladholm, T. W.

3/Cst. Bradner, F. E.

3/Cst. McGeachan, J.

3/Cst. Asel, N. E.

3/Cst. Cummings, R.

3/Cst. Butler, H. U.

3/Cst. Smyth, H.

Prob. McMillan, L. C.

As of December 31, 1937

Sergt. Dunn, R.

Corpl. Ellis, W. G.

1/Cst. Cliffe, P. M.

3/Cst. Vise, R.

3/Cst. Gladholm, T. W.

3/Cst. Bradner, F. E.

3/Cst. McGeachan, J.

3/Cst. Asel, N. E.

3/Cst. Cummings, R.

3/Cst. Butler, H. J.

3/Cst. Smyth, H.

Prob. Siddons, M. A.

As of December 31, 1938

Sergt. Anderson, C.

Corpl. Ellis, W. G.

1/Cst. Williams, J. A.

1/Cst. Kirkup, J.

1/Cst. Cliffe, P. M.

1/Cst. Johnson, J. A.

2/Cst. Bradner, F. E.

2/Cst. McGeachan, J.

2/Cst. Asel, N. E.

2/Cst. Cummings, R.

2/Cst. Butler, H. J.

2/Cst. Smyth, H.

3/Cst. Siddons, M. A.

Prob. Cave, E. E.

Prob. Peat, N. B.

Prob. LeSaunier, M. J.

As of December 31, 1939

Sergt. Anderson, G.

Corpl. Phipps, M.

1/Cst. Williams, J. A.

1/Cst. Kirkup, J.

1/Cst. Johnson, J. A.

2/Cst. Bradner, F. E.

2/Cst. McGeachan, J.

2/Cst. Asel, N. E.

2/Cst. Butler, H. J.

2/Cst. Smyth, H.

2/Cst. Pearson, G. S.

3/Cst. Siddons, M. A.

3/Cst. Dilworth, G. R.

3/Cst. Cave, E. E.

3/Cst. Fraser, T. C.

As of December 31, 1940

Sergt. Anderson, C.

Corpl. Baker, T. R.

1/Cst. Williams, J. A.

1/Cst. Gauld, Geo.

1/Cst. McLaughlin, W. G.

1/Cst. Johnson, J. A.

1/Cst. Bradner, F. E.

1/Cst. Smyth, H.

1/Cst. Pearson, G. S.

1/Cst. Cameron, J.

2/Cst. Siddons, M. A.

3/Cst. Dilworth, G. R.

3/Cst. Nelson, N. C. B.

3/Cst. Cave, E. E.

As of December 31, 1941

Sergt. Anderson, C.

1/Cst. Sims, R. A.

1/Cst. Gauld, G.

1/Cst. Thomson, D. S. E.

1/Cst. Johnson, J. A.

1/Cst. Smyth, H.

1/Cst. Pearson, G. S.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Trant, W. F. C.

1/Cst. Marsh, T. B.

1/Cst. Dilworth, G. R.

1/Cst. Cave, E. E.

1/Cst. Walker, R.

2/Cst. Nelson, N. C. B.

Spec. Cst. Abrahamson,
A. A.

As of December 31, 1942

Sergt. Anderson, C.

1/Cst. Gauld, G.

1/Cst. Thomson, D. S. E.

1/Cst. Johnson, J. A.

1/Cst. Smyth, H.

1/Cst. Pearson, G. S.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Trant, W. F. C.

1/Cst. Marsh, T. B.

1/Cst. Dilworth, G. R.

1/Cst. Cave, E. E.

As of December 31, 1943

Sergt. Anderson, C.

1/Cst. Asel, N. E.

1/Cst. Pearson, G. S.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Dowling, J. T. E.

1/Cst. Marsh, T. B.

1/Cst. Dilworth, G. R.

1/Cst. Cave, E. E.

1/Cst. Nelson, N. C. B.

3/Cst. Brown, T. G.

3/Cst. Abrahamson, A. A.

2/Cst. Curle, L. G.

3/Cst. Innis, R. J.

3/Cst. Smith, L. G.

3/Cst. Klick, H. E.

3/Cst. Stringer, R. I.

As of December 31, 1944

Sergt. Anderson, C.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Marsh, T. B.

1/Cst. Nelson, N. C. B.

1/Cst. Hopcott, G. H.

2/Cst. Brown, T. G.

2/Cst. Abrahamson, A. A.

2/Cst. Curle, L. G.

2/Cst. Smith, L. G.

2/Cst. Klick, H. E.

3/Cst. Stringer, R. I.

3/Cst. Ehly, J. J.

As of December 31, 1945

S/Sergt. Macdonald, A.

Corpl. Emsley, G. J.

1/Cst. Foote, R. C. B.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Nelson, N. C. B.

1/Cst. Abrahamson, A. A.

1/Cst. Gilbert, R.

1/Cst. Tuttle, A. J.

1/Cst. Smith, L. G.

1/Cst. Klick, H. E.

2/Cst. Hughes, G. B.

2/Cst. Stringer, R. I.

3/Cst. Ehly, J. J.

3/Cst. Lamb, J. F.

3/Cst. Johansson, B. L.

Spec. Cst. Lee, E. F.

As of December 31, 1946

S/Sergt. Macdonald, A.

Sergt. Williamson, E. C.

Det. Corpl. Emsley, G. J.

1/Cst. Foote, R. C. B.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Abrahamson, A. A.

1/Cst. Gilbert, R.

1/Cst. Tuttle, A. J.

1/Cst. Klick, H. E.

1/Cst. Smith, L. G.

1/Cst. Turtle, E. M. C.

3/Cst. Lamb, J. F.

3/Cst. Johansson, B. L.

3/Cst. Bishop, J. H.

3/Cst. Tabbutt, L. J.

3/Cst. McKay, R. G.

Spec. Cst. Nidle, F.

As of December 31, 1947

Det.-Corpl. Emsley, G. J.

1/Cst. Foote, R. C. B.

1/Cst. Twist, H.

1/Cst. Abrahamson, A. A.

1/Cst. Tuttle, A. J.

1/Cst. Smith

1/Cst. Klick, H. E.

1/Cst. Turtle, E. M. C.

2/Cst. Johannson, B. L.

3/Cst. Bishop, J. H.

3/Cst. McKay, R. G.

3/Cst. Mayne, B. C.

3/Cst. Clarke, J. E.

3/Cst. Brown, D. N.

3/Cst. Brown, L.

Spec. Cst. Service, S.

Spec. Cst. St. Pierre, V. H.

Nominal rolls of British Columbia Provincial Police in
Burnaby for the years 1948 - 1950 are not available.

WHAT'S A WHOOPEE?

The best description of a whoopee might be "a roller coaster for cars". Constructed out of wood, whoopees were about 60 feet wide by 200 feet long and had several dips built into them. They were sometimes known as "whoopee dips" and people would pay a small amount to drive their car over this device. Such were the thrills of 1929!