

1905.
NEW ZEALAND.

POLICE FORCE OF NEW ZEALAND

(REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE).

Laid on the Table of both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

COMMISSION.

PLUNKET, Governor.

To Helyar Wedderburn Bishop, of Christchurch, Esquire, a Stipendiary Magistrate, and to Joseph William Poynton, of Wellington, Esquire, Public Trustee: Greeting.

WHEREAS certain members of the Police Force stationed in the City of Dunedin have recently been convicted of receiving stolen goods; and whereas it is expedient that a Commission should be appointed to make inquiry as hereinafter mentioned:

Now, therefore, I, William Lee, Baron Plunket, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in exercise and pursuance of the powers and authority conferred upon me by "The Commissioners Act, 1903," and of every other power and authority enabling me in that behalf, and acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said colony, do hereby appoint you, the said

HELYAR WEDDERBURN BISHOP and
JOSEPH WILLIAM POYNTON,

to be a Commission for the purpose of making inquiry into the following matters and things, namely:—

- (1.) As to the circumstances of the enrolment in the Police Force of Thomas Moses (one of the persons convicted as aforesaid), and as to the failure of the Police Department to ascertain that prior to such enrolment he had been convicted of an offence.
- (2.) As to the causes which led to the offences committed by certain members of the Police Force in Dunedin as aforesaid remaining undetected, and whether any laxity of administration contributed to such non-detection.
- (3.) And, generally, as to the system of control and supervision exercised by Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, and sergeants of the Police Force, and whether proper control and supervision has been exercised in Dunedin.

And for the better enabling you, the said Commission, to carry these presents into effect, you are hereby authorised and empowered to make and conduct any inquiry under these presents in the City of Dunedin aforesaid, and at such other place or places as you may deem expedient, with power to adjourn from time to time and from place to place as you may think fit, and to call before you and examine on oath or otherwise as may be allowed by law such person or persons as you may think capable of affording you information in the premises; and you are also hereby empowered to call for and examine all such books, documents, and papers as you may deem necessary for the purposes of this inquiry, and generally to inquire of and concerning the premises by all lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And using all diligence you are required to transmit to me, under your hands and seals, your report and recommendations in respect of the several matters and things inquired into by you not later than the thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine hundred and five, or such extended date as may be appointed in that behalf.

And it is hereby declared that these presents shall be in full force and virtue, although the inquiry be not regularly continued from time to time or from place to place by adjournment:

And, lastly, it is hereby further declared that these presents are issued under and subject to the provisions of "The Commissioners Act, 1903."

Given under the hand of His Excellency the Right Honourable William Lee, Baron Plunket, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies; and issued under the seal of the said colony, at the Government House, at Wellington, this first day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five.

JAS. MCGOWAN.

In Executive Council.

ALEX. WILLIS,
Clerk of the Executive Council

REPORT.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable William Lee, Baron Plunket, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the Commissioners appointed by Your Excellency's Letter's Patent of the 1st July, 1905, to inquire,—

- (1.) As to the circumstances of the enrolment in the Police Force of Thomas Moses, and as to the failure of the Police Department to ascertain that prior to such enrolment he had been convicted of an offence;
- (2.) As to the causes which led to the offences committed by certain members of the Police Force in Dunedin remaining undetected, and whether any laxity of administration contributed to such non-detection;
- (3.) Generally as to the system of control and supervision exercised by Inspectors, Sub-inspectors, and sergeants of the Police Force, and whether proper control and supervision has been exercised in Dunedin,

have to report as follows:—

1.

Thomas Moses was born in Cornwall, England, on the 20th August, 1877.

On the 20th December, 1890, he was arrested by Detective Livingstone at Timaru on a charge of breaking and entering. On this charge he was convicted and sentenced to three months' probation.

He was afterwards, on the 12th March, 1895, arrested by Detective (now Inspector) O'Brien at Oamaru on a charge of shopbreaking. He was convicted on this charge, and ordered to come up for sentence when called upon.

After the second conviction he remained in South Canterbury, doing contracting and general work, until he joined the Sixth Contingent New Zealand Mounted Rifles, in which he served from the 7th January, 1901, to the 19th May, 1902. On the 30th July, 1902, he joined the New Zealand Permanent Artillery, and did duty in Wellington until his transfer to the Police.

On the 8th January, 1903, he applied for enrolment in the Police Force. His application was made on the usual form. This form requires the signature of some person recommending the applicant. Mr. Francis McParland recommended him. His knowledge of Moses was limited, as he had not known him before he became an artilleryman, six months previously. Mr. McParland became acquainted with him through residing near the barracks.

Sir William Jukes Steward, M.H.R. for the district in which the parents of the applicant resided, supplied the application-form, and wrote the Commissioner as follows:—

“ SIR,—

“ Ashburton, 26th February, 1903.

“ A young man named Thomas Moses, who hails from St. Andrew's, in my constituency, applied some six weeks ago to join the Police Force. He passed his examination, and has received notice that his name has been entered on the candidates' list.

“ He served in South Africa in the 6th N.Z.M.R., and was discharged with an excellent record. He is also well spoken-of by the clergyman at St. Andrew's—Rev. I. C. Brady.

“ I hope, therefore, that you will be able to take him on at an early date.

“ Yours, &c.,

“ Mr. Commissioner Tunbridge.”

“ W. J. STEWARD.

Neither Sir William Jukes Steward nor Mr. McParland had any knowledge whatever of the convictions recorded against Moses.

The Minister replied to this letter as follows:—

“ SIR,—

“ 27th February, 1903.

“ In reply to your letter dated the 26th instant, addressed to the Commissioner of Police, recommending Thomas Moses for an early appointment in the Police Force, I have the honour to inform you that there are not likely to be any appointments to the Training Depot for some months to come, but when the next selection is being made Mr. Moses's claim will be considered with others.

“ I have, &c.,

“ JAS. MCGOWAN,

“ Minister of Justice.

“ The Hon. Sir W. J. Steward, Ashburton, Canterbury.”

Inquiries were made through the police in the usual way, the memorandum, minutes, and report being as follows:—

“ Police Department (Commissioner’s Office), Wellington, 10th January, 1903:

“ Memorandum for Inspector Gillies.

“ *Re attached application from Thomas Moses for enrolment in Police.*

“ PLEASE submit a confidential report from any of the constables in your district who may know the candidate as to his private character; *also verify his height and chest-measurement, bare.*

“ Should the candidate not be known to any of the men, then let discreet inquiry be made, and the result submitted.

“ J. B. TUNBRIDGE,

“ Commissioner of Police.”

“ Referred to Sergeant Warring for report.—R. J. GILLIES, Inspector. 12/1/03.”

“ CONSTABLE CHRISTIE,—The candidate lives near Stevenson’s place, Otaio. Please measure carefully, and also report as to character.—W. WARRING, Sergeant. 12/1/03.”

“ SERGEANT WARRING,—This candidate is in the Artillery Depot, Wellington, at present.—A. CHRISTIE, Constable. 21/1/03.”

“ THE INSPECTOR,—Please see what Constable Christie says. The candidate is in the Artillery Depot, Wellington.—W. WARRING, Sergeant. 21/1/03.”

“ SERGEANT WARRING,—Please report what is known of the candidate as regards private character, &c.—R. J. GILLIES, Inspector. 23/1/03.”

“ CONSTABLE CHRISTIE,—For careful attention, please.—W. WARRING, Sergeant. 24/1/03.”

“ SERGEANT WARRING,—Report herewith.—A. CHRISTIE, Constable. 29/1/03.”

“ THE INSPECTOR,—Please see Constable Christie’s report at back of file.—W. WARRING, Sergeant. 30/1/03.”

“ Police Office, Waimate, 29th January, 1903.

Report of Constable Christie, No. 463, relative to Thomas Moses, a Candidate for the New Zealand Police Force.

“ I BEG to report from inquiries I have made in and about Otaio and St. Andrew’s, where this candidate resided prior to leaving for South Africa in the Sixth Contingent. He is very highly spoken of as a very sober, honest, hardworking, respectable young man.

“ A. CHRISTIE,

“ Constable No. 463.

“ Sergeant Warring, Timaru.”

“ Forwarded to the Inspector.—W. WARRING, Sergeant. 30/1/03.”

“ Submitted to the Commissioner.—R. J. GILLIES, Inspector. 2/2/03.”

On the 9th October, 1903, Sir William Jukes Steward again wrote,—

“ SIR,— “ House of Representatives, 9th October, 1903.

“ In your letter (No. 206) of 27th February last, *re* the application of Thomas Moses for an early appointment in the Police Force, you informed me that there were not likely to be any appointments to the Training Depot for some months, but that *when the next selection* was made Mr. Moses’s claims would be considered with others.

“ I understand that two squads have been formed since date of your letter—*viz.*, one about four months ago, and another in the first week of this month. As Moses was not included in either of these, it occurs to me that his application may have been overlooked. I therefore send you this reminder.

“ Yours, &c.,

“ Hon. James McGowan, Minister of Justice.”

“ WM. J. STEWARD.

The reply was,—

“ SIR,—

“ 13th October, 1903.

“ In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, *re* candidate Mr. Thomas Moses, I have the honour to inform you that two squads have been formed since February last, and this candidate’s application was considered with others when the selections were made, and will again be considered when further applicants are called on, but I cannot at present say when he will be selected.

“ I have, &c.,

“ JAS. MCGOWAN,

“ Hon. Sir W. J. Steward, Kt., M.H.R., Wellington.”

“ Minister of Justice.

On the 19th February, 1904, the Minister of Justice wrote further,—

“ SIR,—

“ 19th February, 1904.

“ I have the honour to inform you that candidate Mr. Thomas Moses, whom you recommended for employment in the New Zealand Police service, has now been selected for examination preparatory to his appointment.

“ I have, &c.,

“ JAS. MCGOWAN,

“ Hon. Sir W. J. Steward, Kt., M.H.R., Waimate.”

“ Minister of Justice.

Moses was medically examined on the 9th February, appointed on probation on the 1st March, sworn in on the 27th April, and appointed constable on the 1st May, 1904.

The failure of the Police Department to ascertain that prior to his enrolment Moses had been convicted of offences was due to perfunctory inquiries made by Constable Christie. His report was apparently considered sufficient by the Department, and no further investigations were made.

The system of inquiries as to the characters of candidates for enrolment should be more complete than at present. We understand that inquiries are now more exhaustive than when Moses applied for enrolment. Dates are now required in testimonials covering practically the life of the candidate from the time of his leaving school. Even with such precautions there is no responsibility on the persons giving certificates, and no obligation on them to disclose anything known by them detrimental to the applicant. He might also have been convicted under a name other than his own in a district where he had lived for a short time only.

We suggest that every applicant be required to make a statutory declaration that he has not at any time been convicted of an offence, or, if convicted, to supply particulars. Trivial matters such as breaches of by-laws should not bar a candidate otherwise qualified, but any conviction for fraud or dishonesty should exclude any one for ever from the Police Force. An applicant would hesitate to make a declaration, involving severe punishment to him if found to be false, when he knew permanent records were in existence proving its falsity.

While serving in Dunedin Moses was under Inspector O'Brien, who, as a detective, had arrested him for his second offence. Detective Livingstone was also stationed in Dunedin while Moses was there. Neither of these officers recognised him as their former prisoner, and so were not to blame for not reporting as to his previous character.

2.

The causes which led to the offences committed by certain members of the Police Force in Dunedin remaining undetected were:—

- (a.) No portion of the stolen property was sold or given away to any person except to those concerned in the thefts;
- (b.) The goods stolen were not reported as missing until shortly before the arrest of the thieves.

It is improbable that thefts will be promptly detected if the thief does not sell or part with the goods stolen, and if the owners of the goods are not aware of, or do not report, the loss of them.

We do not find that any laxity of administration of the Police Force contributed to such non-detection. The thieves were arrested and evidence obtained by the detectives sufficient to convict them within a few days of the goods being reported as missing.

The laxity of administration in Dunedin hereafter mentioned did, however, in our opinion, give opportunities for the committal of some of the offences by the ex-constables.

3. AS TO CONTROL AND SUPERVISION GENERALLY.

Dunedin.

Evidence was taken here at considerable length, and it has been shown conclusively that the discipline and control and supervision, which are absolutely necessary to the efficient carrying-out of police duties in a large centre of population, have not been as they ought to be. The beats as laid out by the present Inspector are too large for the proper supervision of the men working thereon. There can be no doubt whatever that the sergeants who have been doing duty in Dunedin for a considerable time past have not exercised proper control and supervision over the men under them, even after making every allowance for local difficulties. A lax system had grown up, and each sergeant in turn seems to have been drawn into it. The constables doing duty on the beats, and especially between midnight and 5 a.m., knew in most cases when and where the sergeant would be likely to be met with, and, indeed, appointments with the men were frequently made. This naturally left the men on certain beats absolutely free to do as they liked for as long a period as three hours at a time. The results speak for themselves. Inspector O'Brien and Sub-inspector Green knew of the existence of this practice. In October, 1904, the Inspector's attention had been drawn to it, but, beyond writing the following minute in connection with a sectional report that had been brought under his notice, neither he nor the Sub-inspector took any steps to actually satisfy themselves that the practice had been discontinued. The minute reads as follows:—

“MR. GREEN,—This is most unsatisfactory as regards the sergeant. There should be no customary time or place for visiting constables on their beats, but they should from time to time be visited in different parts of their beats, and the sergeant should thus satisfy himself that constables are working their beats honestly and faithfully. If the sergeant (as seems to be the case) knows the exact time to meet the constable on No. 1 beat at the corner of George Street and the Octagon, he (the sergeant) should also know when he should meet that constable, say, at the corner of Hanover and Cumberland Streets, or at the corner of King and St. Andrew's Streets, &c., and insure a proper working of the beat. A constable who may be inclined to be lax is, under the present custom, enabled to go to some quiet spot and lay down for an hour or more after each visit from the sergeant, instead of attending properly to the work for which he is paid.

“T. O'BRIEN, Inspector. 12/10/04.”

The Inspector had previously, by a Station Order dated the 22nd September, 1903, warned the sergeants against such a practice in these words: “Sergeants in charge of sections are strictly enjoined to see that each constable working under them knows the manner in which his beat should be worked, and they (the sergeants) will see that each constable works his beat faithfully, and for that purpose the sergeants shall from time to time meet constables at different points of their beats instead of always at a given point.”

After making every allowance in favour of Inspector O'Brien, by considering the fact that he had under him a weak Sub-inspector and inefficient sergeants, it is quite impossible to hold otherwise than that he did not carry out his duty as Inspector in a way that could be reasonably expected of him, and the same remark in a minor degree applies also to Sub-inspector Green.

We found that the Chief Detective in Dunedin does not conduct any prosecutions in the Magistrate's Court. We think that he should be required to do so in all cases in which the evidence has been worked up by the detective branch, for the man who has got up the evidence is in a better position to conduct the prosecutions than the Sub-inspector, to whom the papers are handed perhaps only a few minutes before the case is called on in Court. The detective remains in Court while his case is going on, and so two men are kept engaged when one should be doing other work elsewhere. If the Chief Detective prosecuted in detective cases, the Sub-inspector would have a good deal more time than he has at present to devote to other duties. In Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch the Chief Detective prosecutes in such cases, and the same practice should be adopted in Dunedin.

Christchurch.

We are pleased to find here that the discipline, supervision, and control are very good. The men are specially instructed weekly in their duties as police officers, a system of great value, and one that we should like to see followed in the other large towns. The use of bicycles by the sergeants is of valuable assistance in enabling them to exercise special supervision over the men on their beats. Their use has been specially sanctioned and approved by the Commissioner of Police, and a bicycle allowance is granted. We think that their use should be encouraged in other large towns whenever such is possible.

Wellington.

The discipline here is good throughout the Force. The sergeants appear to exercise satisfactory supervision over the men on the city beats. If anything, the beats are too long and too numerous for one sergeant to perfectly control at night, but the very best would appear to be done under the circumstances. If the sergeants in charge of the night-reliefs were encouraged to use bicycles generally when going their rounds, the supervision would be still better than it is.

Our attention has been drawn to the accommodation provided at the Central Station on Lambton Quay. We have found this very poor and very inadequate. It would seem that an extension of the present building is urgently required in the interests both of health and efficiency. Some of the internal arrangements are wretched in the extreme. The building at present does not afford the necessary accommodation required for the men who are actually on duty in the city. Eleven of these men are quartered in a house at some distance from the station. The house is rented for the purpose at a weekly rental of £1 10s. This arrangement must seriously interfere with the proper control and supervision of the men. There is ample space for a suitable extension of the present building, and, in the event of this being carried out, it would undoubtedly be of advantage if suitable office accommodation were provided in the new building for the Commissioner of Police and his staff. The excellent accommodation and perfect conveniences provided in the police-station at Auckland, by comparison with this, the capital city of the colony, emphasize the need for an improvement.

We also visited the Mount Cook Station, where the recruits for the Police Force of the colony are housed and trained. Excellent work is carried out here under most disadvantageous circumstances. It appears to us most important that a properly equipped depot should be provided. The present quarters are entirely too small for the recruits and duty-men together, and no proper conveniences exist to enable the Instructor to do full justice to his valuable system of instruction. If a separate building were provided for the recruits, the present station would be large enough for many years to come. Additional constables must soon be appointed to this station, as population is rapidly increasing in that direction. The present congestion will then be greatly accentuated.

Invercargill, Greymouth, Wanganui, and Napier.

There is nothing in connection with these smaller and less important police districts that calls for special mention.

Auckland.

The discipline here under Inspector Cullen is strict. He has charge of a large district, and appears to keep it well under control. The system of supervision by Inspector, Sub-inspector, and sergeants is generally everything that could be desired. This satisfactory condition of things is in a large measure due to the exertions of the present Inspector, as when he took charge police matters in the Auckland District were in a state of great disorganization. A great deal of evidence was taken by us, showing a lamentable amount of friction between Inspector Cullen and Sub-inspector Black. This did not seem to us to have in any way affected the efficiency of the Force. It was apparently due to incompatibility of disposition and temperament. There was really nothing of any great importance underlying the quarrels between the two men, and there was certainly nothing to justify them. Both are good men in their respective offices, and capable of rendering good service in the Force. However, in the face of what has transpired, the two officers should be separated by the transfer of Sub-inspector Black to another district, as has already been requested by that officer.

GENERAL.

A great deal of evidence was tendered to us on matters that we did not consider properly coming within the scope of our Commission. A portion of what we did actually admit, would at first glance, appear to be outside the order of reference. Where, however, that evidence bore, in our opinion, in the most remote degree upon questions affecting the control and supervision of the Police Force generally, we admitted it. We felt that the recent occurrences in Dunedin had somewhat shaken public confidence in the police throughout the colony. We therefore deemed it our duty to make the fullest inquiry into all matters bearing in any manner, however indirectly, on these occurrences. We took the statements in Dunedin of those ex-constables who are now undergoing sentences for theft. In addition to the published evidence taken on oath, we obtained statements made by each of the prisoners separately to the Commissioner of Police. We considered that they would speak more freely under these conditions, and that, if they could give us proof of complicity in the thefts by any one now in the Force, it would assist us in purging it. On getting the statements, we consulted with Commissioner Dinnie, and agreed that it would be desirable for the Inspector in charge of the district, where any constable whose name was mentioned was stationed, to closely question him, and get his written statement as to facts mentioned by the prisoners, without either the Inspector or constable in any way being made aware as to the reason for such questioning. This was done, and the constables were afterwards examined by us on oath as to all such matters. After the most careful and thorough investigation, we are wholly unable to find any satisfactory corroboration of the allegations made. All those constables who could be found to be connected, however slightly, with irregular acts in Dunedin have either resigned, under compulsion, or been discharged. We believe we are justified in saying that at the present time none of those implicated remain in the Force.

Statements were also made by one of the convicted men to the effect that thefts had been committed for some considerable time past by constables in other parts of the colony. We consider these statements entirely disproved, and to have no foundation in fact.

Some evidence has been given of the inadequacy of the present rates of pay. Although not perhaps coming strictly within the scope of our inquiry, we might be allowed to say that, so far as the single constables are concerned, there would appear to be no cause for dissatisfaction. In the case of the married constables a slight concession might with advantage be made by granting the usual lodging-allowance at the expiration of one year's service, instead of three. There may be, and probably are, inequalities in some other grades, but with respect to these we have no recommendation to make.

It is very apparent that in the four large centres a great deal of the Inspector's and Sub-inspector's time is occupied in attending to correspondence of an unimportant nature. We shall hereinafter make a recommendation which, if carried out, will leave these officers much more free to attend to the duties of close supervision, such as we deem essential to the proper control of the Force.

In our opinion, the watch-houses in the four principal cities are at present not under proper control at night. They are left in charge of constables as watch-house keepers, who are sometimes junior men. The appointment of additional sergeants, as recommended by us, will remedy this defect.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Looking to the fact, as we have already stated, that it is quite impossible to avoid holding Inspector O'Brien responsible for the laxity that to a considerable extent led to the occurrences in Dunedin, we recommend that he be transferred from there without delay, and that an officer be appointed in his place who may be considered specially qualified to place police matters there on a proper footing, and carry out that control and supervision which is essential to the due efficiency of the Force.

2. As we consider that Sub-inspector Green is also responsible to some extent for the extreme laxity of control and supervision in Dunedin, we recommend that he also be transferred from there, and that an officer be appointed in his place who will be likely to be a valuable coadjutor to the Inspector in carrying out rigid reforms.

3. To secure proper police protection in the four centres of population, we recommend that the following additional constables be appointed: Dunedin, 6; Christchurch, 6; Wellington, 6; Auckland, 6.

4. With a view to relieve the Inspector and the Sub-inspector of a great deal of unimportant clerical work, which at present occupies far too much of their time, and thereby prevents them from giving a due share of attention to the supervision of police duty proper, we recommend the appointment of an additional officer at each of the four centres. This officer should have authority over all sergeants and constables, and should be specially and carefully selected for the very important and responsible duties which he would be called upon to perform.

5. As we consider that it is practically impossible to control and supervise in the most effective way the night-reliefs on the beats as at present arranged, we recommend the appointment of an additional sergeant in each of the four centres for night duty.

The suggested increase to the numbers of the Force will involve but a trifling cost. The colony has at present the cheapest Force in Australasia, and the additions recommended will cost less than 1d. per head per annum of the population.

The following tables will show the position of the Police Force in relation to cost and population each year during the last twenty-five years; also the cost per head and proportion of police to population in New Zealand as compared with each of the Australian States:—

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.—RETURN SHOWING PROPORTION OF POLICE TO POPULATION AND COST PER INHABITANT SINCE 1885.

Year ending 31st March.	Number of Police.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Cost of Police per Inhabitant.	Expenditure for the Year.	Population.
			s. d.	£	
1885	474	1 to 1,293	3 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	94,477	613,212
1886	494	1 to 1,266	3 2	99,402	625,849
1887	502	1 to 1,265	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	102,191	635,215
1888	487	1 to 1,328	3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	101,922	646,913
1889	484	1 to 1,347	2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	94,482	652,125
1890	494	1 to 1,346	2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	96,623	664,855
1891	486	1 to 1,375	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	99,335	668,353
1892	482	1 to 1,401	2 9	92,881	675,775
1893	481	1 to 1,439	2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	94,198	692,426
1894	485	1 to 1,472	2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	93,468	714,258
1895	487	1 to 1,495	2 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	93,525	728,121
1896	484	1 to 1,530	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	97,555	740,699
1897	516	1 to 1,461	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	99,350	754,016
1898	536	1 to 1,435	2 8	102,858	768,910
1899	554	1 to 1,414	2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	108,627	783,317
1900	586	1 to 1,359	2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	115,445	796,359
1901	591	1 to 1,381	2 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	116,420	816,290
1902	604	1 to 1,375	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	119,771	830,800
1903	613	1 to 1,388	2 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	122,900	851,068
1904	626	1 to 1,398	2 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	125,152	875,648
1905	655	1 to 1,375	2 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	128,878	900,682

POLICE FORCES OF AUSTRALASIA.

Place.	Number of Police.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Cost of Police per Inhabitant.	Vote for the Year.	Population.
			s. d.	£	
New Zealand ...	655	1 to 1,375	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	128,878	900,682*
Victoria ...	1,515	1 to 798	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	275,802	1,210,304
New South Wales ...	2,439	1 to 599	6 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	447,378	1,461,533
South Australia ...	373	1 to 999	4 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	76,000	372,682
Queensland ...	872	1 to 598	6 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	158,325	521,655
Western Australia ...	504	1 to 480	10 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	129,031	242,289
Tasmania ...	235	1 to 766	3 2	28,564	180,200

* Including Maoris.

NOTE.—Population taken from official estimates as on 31st December, 1904.

The evidence taken before us is now being typed, and will be forwarded to Your Excellency as soon as possible.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this nineteenth day of August, one thousand nine hundred and five.

[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]H. W. BISHOP.
J. W. POYNTON.

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