

1956

(SECOND SESSION)

PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES

REPORT
OF THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
of New South Wales
(Together with Appendices)
For 1955

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1956

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES
FOR THE YEAR 1955

Police Department,
Commissioner's Office,
Sydney, 27th April, 1956.

The Premier of New South Wales.
Dear Sir,

I submit hereunder the Annual Report of the New South Wales Police Force and the activities of the Police Department for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

SCOPE OF THE FORCE AND POLICE DUTY.

The area of New South Wales is 309,428 square miles, the whole of which is covered by the New South Wales Police Force, there being no separate Police Forces for cities or counties. The estimated population as at 30th September, 1955, was 3,505,100.

The Sydney Metropolitan area has a population of nearly 2,000,000 and Police duties there and in the City of Newcastle are on the lines ordinarily experienced in large cities. In

other parts of the State, Police perform town and country patrol duties. Police in the more sparsely settled parts of the State cover very large patrol areas. A wide range of extraneous duties on behalf of many different Government Departments is a feature of the work performed by Police over and above normal Police duties. This applies particularly in the country.

POLICE ESTABLISHMENT.

(1) Personnel of the Police Department.

The following figures show the strength of the Police Force and of the ancillary staffs as at 31st December, 1955:—

Police Force proper—

Authorised strength	4,736
Actual strength	4,607
Vacancies then existing	129

(Ratio of Police to population:—1 to 761 or
1.31 per 1,000.)

Ancillary Staffs	647
Total of all employees as at 31st December, 1955	5,254

DISTRIBUTION IN RANKS AND DUTIES.

The distribution of the Police in the various ranks and classes of duty performed as at 31st December, 1955, was as shown in the following table:—

	Commissioner.	Deputy Commissioner.	Metropolitan Superintendent.	Superintendent 1/C.	Superintendent 2/C.	Superintendent 3/C.	Acting Superintendent.	Inspector 1/C.	Inspector 2/C.	Inspector 3/C.	Sergeant 1/C.	Sergeant 2/C.	Sergeant 3/C.	Senior Constable.	Constable 1/C.	Ordinary Constable.	Probationary Constable.	Total.
General Police	1	1	1	3	4	10	2	11	29	47	136	257	506	310	657	937	331	3,243
Criminal Investigation Branch .....	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	1	4	10	4	67	56	96	48	1	291
Other Detectives and Plain Clothes Police employed on Detective work .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	8	29	93	63	225	129	..	550*
Traffic Police .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	4	6	14	58	35	128	216	27	492
Water Police .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	3	11	10	..	31
Totals	1	1	1	3	6	13	3	13	31	57	161	306	728	467	1,117	1,340	359	4,607

* Includes Police attached to Pillage Squad, Vice Squad and Mobile Section.

Employees of the Police Department, other than members of the Police Force proper, as at 31st December, 1955, were as follows:—

Special Parking Police	92
Police Cadets	151
Women Police	37
Matrons	4
Special Constables (employed on various duties)	22
Bandmaster	1
Choirmaster	1
Cliff Rescue Instructor	1
Aboriginal Trackers	8
Clerical Staff employed under the Public Service Act—	
Males	169
Females	123
	292

General Staff employed under the Public Service Act (Motor Mechanics, Testers, Farrier, Grooms, Gardner, Telephone Operators, Lift Drivers, Night watchman, etc.)—

Males	37
Females	1
Total	38
	647

During the year approval was obtained for the number of Women Police to be increased from 36 to 38 to permit of the appointment of two Women Police at Wollongong.

Approval was given during 1954 for increase in the authorised number of Police Cadets from 133 to 175, and intensive efforts have been made to recruit suitable types of lads, as a result of which the number of Police Cadets employed rose from 92 at the beginning of 1955 to 151 at the end of the year.

(II) Maintenance of Strength of the Police Force.

The following table summarises the variations in the Police strength during 1955:—

Vacancies existing on 1.1.1955	277
Casualties:—	
Discharged on pension or gratuity .	86
Dismissed	32
Appointment not confirmed	1
Resigned	117
Died	6
	242
Total vacancies	519
Appointments	390
	—
Vacancies unfilled at 31.12.1955	129

The intensified campaign for recruiting has been continued throughout the year, and sufficient recruits were obtained to effect a considerable reduction in the number of vacancies. The demand for Police is such that it is desirable that existing vacancies be filled as soon as possible.

The number of resignations from the Force (117 in 1955) continues to be high and while some of those resigning did so after only short service, many were experienced Police who represent a material loss to the Department.

Although there was no overall increase in the authorised strength of the Police Force proper, the Premier approved of the established strength of Superintendents 3rd Class and of Inspectors 3rd Class being increased by two each. Further details are reported under "Administrative changes, reforms, etc."

DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS—GENERAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

Although few outstanding events call for special mention, the steady growth of population in the State has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in Police activities. Expansion and population changes in various parts of the State have necessitated certain re-arrangements in organisation to provide for better supervision which will be referred to later.

The figures relating to crime published in this report disclose some increase in the number of crimes reported.

Very severe floods over the Hunter River System and the river systems of the north-west part of the State occurred during February, 1955, and further floods occurred elsewhere during the year. Special Police arrangements at different places were made to meet the emergencies. The February floods were of record intensity and very widespread, causing enormous damage and losses and imposing very heavy tasks on the Police. Further details are reported under the heading "Police Services in connection with National Emergencies".

A number of aircraft crashes occurred, and there were unfortunately a record number of motor accidents with their attendant deaths and injuries.

A strike by Fire Brigade employees in Sydney between 13th and 24th October, 1955, left the city dependent for protection on a few executive Fire Officers. Special Police organisation was, therefore, necessary to meet any emergency which might have arisen.

As from 1st February, 1955, the hour of closing hotels was changed from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

I was detailed to represent the Police Forces of Australia at the 24th General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Commission, which was held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 5th to 9th September, 1955. With the approval of the Government, I visited the United States, Canada, Great Britain and a number of Continental countries, where inquiries were made in connection with matters affecting the operations and administration of the Police services. I observed a number of matters in respect of which I felt improvements might be effected in this State, and certain of these have already been implemented. A detailed report on my trip has been submitted to the Premier. Leaving Sydney on 3rd June, 1955, I returned to Sydney on 11th November, 1955. The Secretary of the Police Department, Mr. C. L. Gentle, accompanied me to the United States and London.

INFORMATION RELATING TO CRIME.

As Appendix "A" to this Report is published a return showing the number of serious crimes of different kinds known to the Police during the years 1954 and 1955 respectively (for comparison) and the number of such offences which were cleared up during 1955. The figures disclose that there has been an increase of 9.7 per cent. in the total of serious crimes reported during 1955 over the figure for 1954.

Police efforts were successful in clearing up 76 per cent. of the crimes reported, a very satisfactory level of achievement which reflects creditably on the efficiency of the Force.

In the following table are shown, for comparison purposes, figures for 1955 and the previous five years, in regard to the number of serious crimes reported to Police and the number cleared up:—

Year.	No. of Serious Crimes Reported.	No. of Serious Crimes Cleared Up.	Percentage Accounted For.
*1950	16,593	12,282	74.02
*1951	18,318	13,813	75.4
*1952	21,150	15,701	74.23
1953	21,753	15,759	72.4
1954	21,147	14,822	70
1955	23,199	17,679	76

* NOTE.—The figures above for years previous to 1953 included a few offences in classifications which are now excluded from the new Table Appendix "A". The number of such offences was comparatively small and does not substantially affect the comparison between years.

Property of a total value of £939,433 (excluding motor vehicles) was reported stolen during 1955, this representing an increase of about £100,000 over the same figure for 1954. Action by the Police by way of arrest, etc., accounted for property of the value of £730,702, representing 78 per cent. of that reported stolen, though naturally not all of such property was recovered. The value of property actually recovered was £128,956, which is approximately 14 per cent. of that stolen.

Motor vehicles reported stolen during 1955 included 3,825 four-wheeled vehicles, caravans, trailers, etc., of which all but 96 have been recovered, and 1,181 motor cycles, of which 108 are still outstanding. The number of four-wheeled vehicles stolen represents an increase of 634 over the number for 1954, and motor cycles an increase of 114.

Murders known to the Police during 1955 totalled 48, including 10 cases where the offenders afterwards committed suicide. All of these cases were cleared up except two, namely—

- (1) The shooting of Nunziata Inzitari at Fairfield on 10th March, 1955, by a person whose identity has been established but who has not yet been arrested.
- (2) Body of an unknown female child found in the Harbour.

As Appendix "B" to this Report is submitted the Annual Return of Cases dealt with by the Courts of Petty Sessions during 1955. This Return shows a decrease of 16,618 in the total number of cases dealt with by the Courts over the figure for last year. However, it must be pointed out that in addition 61,179 cases were dealt with under the provisions of the Minor Traffic Offences Regulations, under which fines for parking offences were paid direct to the Police Department without appearance at Court, whereas in 1954 only 23,177 cases were dealt with in this manner, due to the fact that the Regulations took effect for part only of 1954.

Those sections of Appendix "B" dealing with offences of a criminal nature all disclose increases over the year 1954.

Appendix "B" also discloses that during 1955 there was a total of 81,199 cases of drunkenness. This represents an increase of 8,608 cases or 11.8 per cent. increase over the figure for 1954. There has been a good deal of public controversy as to the effects of 10 o'clock closing on public sobriety, and I do no more here than record the total number of cases of drunkenness dealt with by the Police. The number of cases dealt with by the Courts for driving motor vehicles under the influence of intoxicating liquor or of a drug rose from 4,235 in 1954 to 4,477 in 1955, an increase of 5.7 per cent.

For purposes of comparison, the numbers of charges of drunkenness and of driving under the influence during each of the past 10 years are quoted hereunder:—

	Charges of drunkenness.	Charges of driving under the influence.
1946	62,211	1,483
1947	67,524	1,487
1948	82,900	2,019
1949	78,401	2,243
1950	78,727	2,529
1951	83,178	3,230
1952	79,217	3,588
1953	72,765	3,822
1954	72,591	4,235
1955	81,199	4,477

Offences Committed by Juveniles.

It was formerly the practice in these Reports to publish figures as to the number of cases in which juveniles were dealt with for offences. In view of the special responsibility of the Child Welfare Department in regard to all matters affecting juvenile welfare, it has been decided that for the future the Police Department will not publish figures respecting juvenile offenders, but leave it to the Child Welfare Department to publish such statistics.

Thefts of Stock, Wool and Wheat.

The following table contains figures respecting the theft or alleged theft of stock, wool and wheat during the year 1955:—

	Reported Stolen.		Cleared Up by Arrest.		Not Stolen as Reported.		Outstanding.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£		£		£
Horses	33	3,535	23	3,171	1	12	9	352
Cattle	97	2,043	60	1,009	10	251	27	783
Sheep	6,993	24,163	84	227	449	1,522	6,460	22,414
Wool (bales)	88½	4,958	36½	2,131	...	...	52½	2,827
Wheat (bags)	462	815	212	330	30	60	220	425

Extraditions.

No extraditions to or from places beyond the Commonwealth of Australia were undertaken during 1955.

Inquests.

A total of 2,376 inquests were held during 1955, as compared with 2,103 during 1954. The inquests comprised 2,352 on 2,364 bodies and 24 into fires.

VICE SUPPRESSION.

Gaming, Betting and Sly Grog Selling.

The following table shows the number of arrests made during 1955 for offences of this nature, together with the fines inflicted and money seized and forfeited:—

Offence.	Arrests.	Fines.	Money Seized and Forfeited.
		£	£
Illegal betting	3,290	49,031	672
*Gaming offences	2,186	7,852	315
Selling liquor without license and allied offences	192	3,575	...

* These are persons charged with gaming offences at places where organised gambling was carried on. In respect of such places Police made a total of 156 raids during the year.

The number of cases of selling liquor without license and allied offences showed a fall from 273 in 1954 to 192 in 1955. Undoubtedly changed conditions of sale of liquor, following the amendment of the Liquor Act, would be a material factor in this regard.

A case of some interest in respect of illegal betting was one where a man was found to be receiving betting odds by telephone, and passing the information through a wireless transmitter to a colleague who in other premises was conducting illegal betting. The services of the technicians of the Postmaster General's Department assisted the Police in the location of the transmitter which was operated illegally.

Machines seized.—Six pin machines and one poker machine which were seized by Police were ordered by the Court to be confiscated. A number of similar machines were seized by Police, but although convictions were sustained in respect of their use, the Courts refused to order their forfeiture.

Liquor seized.—Police seized various quantities of liquor in connection with prosecutions for selling liquor without license and allied offences, and also in connection with proceedings under section 161 of the Liquor Act, such liquor being confiscated in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The liquor seized included 117 gallons and 8,020 bottles of beer, 66 gallons and 1,228 bottles of wine and 203 bottles of spirits.

Premises declared.—A total of 32 premises were declared to be common gaming houses under the provisions of the Gaming and Betting Act and eight premises were declared to be disorderly houses, under the provisions of the Disorderly Houses Act.

Other forms of vice.—There have been a number of prosecutions during the year for offences against the Obscene and Indecent Publications Act. Following newspaper publicity respecting alleged "witchcraft" operating in part of Sydney, Police made inquiries as a result of which the two men were convicted for having possession of pornographic literature, and a male and female were charged with buggery. In another case a cafe proprietor was charged with exhibiting indecent pictures.

The suppression of prostitution as far as possible continues to receive special attention. Of the eight premises referred to above which were declared disorderly houses, the declarations were obtained in six cases because the premises were used solely for the purpose of prostitution. Eight proprietors of city residentials were prosecuted for suffering prostitution on their premises.

An improvement in public conduct at Centennial Park has been effected by an amendment of the Centenary Celebrations Act, whereby the taking of liquor into the Park is now prohibited. This action was taken following on representations by the Police Department, due to a practice which had developed in which sporting bodies took large quantities of liquor into the park, with consequent intoxication and disorder among both players and supporters.

Offences by sexual perverts continue to give grave concern. This type of offence must be regarded most seriously from the point of view of public morality, and also having in view the possible serious consequences to younger members of the community. The very nature of some practices and the clandestine manner in which they are carried out makes the subject a difficult one to deal with; however, Police are active in endeavouring as far as possible to suppress such offences. The table hereunder shows the number of cases before the Courts during the years mentioned for the crimes of sodomy, indecent assault on male persons and bestiality. There have, in addition, been many prosecutions for wilfully and obscenely exposing person and other offences of the kind.

1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.
232	307	286	302

The Vice Squad.

Members of the Vice Squad staff total 74 in the Sydney Metropolitan area, seven at Newcastle and two at Wollongong. The Squad is intended primarily to deal with gaming, betting and other forms of vice, and its members have been active in this direction. In addition, many other offences were dealt with by the Squad, including some serious crimes.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH.

Set out hereunder are brief particulars of work carried out by various sections of the Criminal Investigation Branch:—

I. Fingerprint Section.

The Fingerprint Section operates as central fingerprint bureau for the various Police Forces of the Commonwealth. The following figures illustrate the work carried out by the Section during 1954 and 1955:—

	1954.	1955.
Total prints received	63,294	68,201
Total prints identified	40,179	42,309
Prints received from other Forces in Australia	22,619	26,279
Number identified	14,738	16,137
Prints received from outside Australia	614	683
Number identified	112	129
Prints sent to other Forces in Australia	220	292
Number identified	35	74
Prints sent to Forces outside Australia	58	74
Number identified	18	11
Exhibits brought to office for identification	386	304
Visits to scenes of crimes	2,657	2,983
Prints from scenes of crimes identified	213	230
Cases in which fingerprint evidence given	20	17
Cases where accused admitted guilt	186	207
Cases pending	7	6
Prints taken of unknown deceased persons	54	44
Number identified	33	24
Prints received for miscellaneous purposes	1,800	2,199
Names checked against records (application for licenses and other non-criminal purposes) .	59,507	68,230

These figures indicate a general increase in the work handled at the Section during the year. In order to permit of the staff coping with the work, it was decided to discontinue the fingerprinting of persons charged with certain minor offences.

The two-hand grouping system (an auxiliary of the main Single Fingerprint collection) was installed during the year and has proved a valuable adjunct to the Battley method of searching latent fingerprints from the scenes of crimes.

II. Modus Operandi Section.

A total of 17,405 Modus Operandi Forms were received, classified and dealt with. Where the offences had not been cleared up, 1,587 of the forms were forwarded to Police who had likely suspects under arrest, 1,269 forms being definitely connected with offenders who were later charged with the offences set out in the forms. As a result of photographs of likely suspects being forwarded to investigating Police, following searches of the classified records, 446 of such photographs were identified as those of persons responsible for offences, 231 of which were related to the passing of valueless cheques.

Special Circulars numbering 136 in relation to crime were distributed, in addition to the Weekly Wanted List. New cards added to the indices totalled 19,367.

Property Tracing Section.—A total of 1,798 articles of property valued at £9,844 were traced through the records of the Section and returned to owners, and 152 charges were preferred against persons in connection with such property.

III. Scientific Investigation Bureau.

Document Examination.—There were 313 cases in which documents were submitted for examination, such examination revealing information of value in 123 cases involving 47 prosecutions. Handwriting specimens received numbered 10,612, the total number of specimens being now 73,345,

The system inaugurated some years ago, under which the Vice Squad includes experienced Detectives interchangeable with Detectives on the Criminal Investigation Branch staff, has proved very beneficial from the point of view of both the Vice Squad and the Criminal Investigation staff.

Firearm Examination.—Firearms received comprised 201 weapons confiscated, 114 found and 385 surrendered by owners. These included 560 pistols and revolvers, 5 machine and sub-machine guns, 45 Verrey pistols and the remainder rifles, shot-guns, etc.

In addition, 232 firearms which were exhibits in criminal charges, accidental shootings, etc., were received for examination and testing. In 32 cases, firearms were identified with cartridge cases or bullet exhibits and in six cases, firearms were examined for evidence purposes on aspects incidental to identification.

Criminal Photographs.—2,100 photographs of criminals taken in State Gaols were circulated to other States and New Zealand, and 2,842 special photographs of prisoners were taken.

Miscellaneous Photographs taken (motor vehicles, cheques and other documents, fingerprints, exhibits, etc.) totalled 12,443.

Scale Plans of the scenes of crimes and serious accidents were prepared in 248 cases. Miscellaneous sketches, documents, etc., totalled 98.

Scenes of crimes, accidents and other occurrences visited for the purpose of photography and examination for physical evidence and reconstruction totalled 1,063. In 27 cases tool marks were reproduced, tyre marks reproduced in 14 cases and footprints reproduced in 9 cases. Ninety-one exhibits were submitted to the Government Analyst or other laboratory for examination.

Miscellaneous Examinations.—Treatment of metals to restore obliterated numbers or brands were undertaken in 73 cases, clothing or textiles in 9 cases, footprint comparison in 8 cases and tool marks in 21 cases. Information of value was disclosed as a result of such examination in 67 cases. A total of 404 unclassified examinations and investigations were made.

Exhibits submitted to the Government Analyst for examination numbered 361, to the Government Microbiologist 110, and to other experts 20.

Court attendance to give evidence.—The following figures summarise the attendances at Court of members of the staff to give evidence during the year:—

Examination of documents	31
Examination of metals, clothing, tool marks, etc.	17
Firearms identification, etc.	25
Unclassified	123
Total	196

In order to provide better facilities for country Police, arrangements have been made for a member of the Service to perform scientific investigation duty at Newcastle, Dubbo, Orange, Grafton, Tamworth, Goulburn, Broken Hill, Wollongong and Wagga Wagga.

IV. Drug Bureau.

The Police Offences Amendment (Drugs) Act of 1954 became law from 1st October, 1955. The effect of this Act is to prohibit the manufacture, use, sale or possession of heroin. Provision is also made that the Governor may, by proclamation, declare that the same prohibition shall apply to any other substance.

The Drug Regulations in this State were amended during 1955 to require medical practitioners and veterinary surgeons to write their prescriptions themselves instead of signing prescriptions prepared by others; other amendments were made with a view to making more effective the records of drugs kept by chemists, wholesalers and others.

Police attached to the Drug Bureau, as well as members of the Force in the country districts, continue to police the drug laws with a view to ensuring that by strict compliance diversion of drugs from the legitimate trade to illicit channels is prevented as far as possible. A total of 68 persons were brought before the Court for breaches of the drug laws. These included a person sentenced to six months' imprisonment for imposing on a hospital to obtain drugs, a nurse released on bond for stealing drugs, a person sentenced to 9 months'

imprisonment for obtaining prescription by false representation, two persons convicted for fraudulently altering prescription (one was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and the other placed on bond), and two persons convicted of unlawfully inducing chemists to dispense a drug (one sentenced to six months' imprisonment and the other placed on bond). Nine persons were convicted for unlawful possession of drugs, eight being fined various amounts, and one released on bond. The remainder of the persons charged were fined or placed on bonds for various offences in connection with the prescribing, recording, dispensing, etc., of drugs. The total of fines imposed was £784. One person known to be an addict was committed to an institution under the Inebriates Act. One medical practitioner was de-registered by the New South Wales Medical Board and another severely censured. The authority of one medical practitioner to have and use drugs was withdrawn by the Minister, and three chemists and a license holder were officially cautioned by the Minister.

Various quantities of drugs seized in connection with these prosecutions were handed to the Customs Authorities in the usual way. These drugs included approximately 4 ozs. of Indian Hemp seized from one of the persons prosecuted.

V. Wireless Section.

There are no material developments to be reported for 1955. The Wireless Section continues to provide very efficient two-way communication with an extensive fleet of vehicles in the Sydney and Newcastle Metropolitan areas, as well as broadcasting direct to Police Stations in those areas. Interstate communication has been satisfactorily maintained with the Police Forces of all other States of the Commonwealth. The transmitting and receiving equipment required to establish Police radio telephone stations at the Superintendents' Offices at Dubbo, Goulburn, Wagga Wagga, Parkes and Tamworth, referred to in this Department's Report for 1954 has been obtained but not yet installed, pending a decision from the Postmaster-General's Department in regard to certain proposed frequency changes. When these have been decided upon, action for installation of the service will proceed.

VI. The Company Squad.

The staff of this Squad, numbering 11 are employed upon investigations into alleged frauds, thefts, embezzlements, misappropriations, etc., in connection with business activities. The Squad is also concerned with the policing of Statutes such as the Business Agents Act, the Auctioneers, Stock and Station and Real Estate Agents Act, the Lay-By Sales Act, the Companies Act and the Money Lenders and Infants Loans Act.

During the year 1955, at the request of the Justice Department, members of the Squad visited all shops in the city area offering goods to the public on lay-by sale and instructed the proprietors as to their responsibilities under the Lay-By Sales Act. Twelve breaches of the Act were reported.

Following inquiries by members of the Squad, 146 persons were brought before the Court on a total of 465 charges. The value of the property involved amounted to £109,631. In addition, many lengthy and intricate inquiries were made into matters which did not call for criminal proceedings.

Among the cases dealt with were:—

- A bank teller charged with the theft of £15,000 from the funds of the Bank during the course of his employment. He was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment.
- Two Solicitors committed for trial on charges of failing to account for trust funds, the amounts involved being over £2,000 in each case.
- A Real Estate Agent sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment for misappropriating a total of £4,795 belonging to different clients.
- A Stock and Station Agent committed for trial for fraudulently omitting to account for moneys received and false pretences. The various amounts involved totalled £7,000.

VII. Consorting Squad.

In their efforts to prevent activities by pickpockets, spielers and other types of criminals who follow large public gatherings, members of the Consorting Squad visited the Showgrounds and race and sport meetings in the Metropolitan area and country districts, a number of persons being arrested from such places. Valuable assistance in this regard is rendered by Detectives from other States who perform interchange duty with New South Wales Police. The Squad also paid visits to various parts of the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Scheme and to places in the canning areas where criminals might attempt to operate.

The most important part of the work of the Consorting Squad is to prevent the ultimate formation of gangs by discouraging the consorting together of criminals. The law in this State provides a penalty for persons who habitually consort with reputed criminals. When persons are found so doing, they are spoken to and warned by Police. If they do not heed the warnings they are "booked" and if they continue to consort with criminals they are brought before the Court. Members of the Consorting Squad made approximately 1,900 "bookings" for consorting during 1955. The total number of charges preferred against persons who were arrested for consorting, having ignored the warnings given them, was 203.

The total number of arrests made by the Squad during 1955 was 596, these being for offences of all kinds, many cases being for crimes of violence.

VIII. Arson and Safe Squad.

A number of fires presenting suspicious features called for investigation by the Arson and Safe Squad during 1955. Outstanding among these was the fire which destroyed the premises of the "Torch" Newspaper at Bankstown on 11th April, 1955. An explosion was heard and the building was immediately enveloped in flame, but although it was strongly suspected that the origin was malicious, the actual cause of the fire could not be established. The circumstances surrounding the fire were overshadowed by a political atmosphere, allegations respecting the conduct of certain persons being made in the Federal Parliament. The Coroner's inquiry into the fire lasted for nearly a month, and ultimately an open verdict was recorded.

On 20th March, 1955, a fire was found to be burning in various part of the Sydney Stadium. On arrival of the Fire Brigade, it was found that four separate attempts had been made to set fire maliciously to the building, petrol-soaked materials being found at the point of origin of each fire. It was also found that forced entry had been made to the building. Notwithstanding Police inquiries, the identity of the person or persons responsible has not been established.

The Arson and Safe Squad were concerned in the investigation of approximately 150 reports of breaking or attempted breaking of safes during the year. This figure is relatively high, and as pointed out last year it has been found that a number of comparatively inexperienced persons have been involved in some of these attempted robberies. It is of interest to note that attempts were made on two different bank strong rooms during the year which it was inevitable must prove abortive due to the special resistant nature of the doors.

IX. Wool, Hide and Skin Bureau.

During the year the records maintained by Dealers of purchase, etc., of wool, hide and skins have been regularly inspected, as well as stocks of skins held by them, and a check made to ensure that persons obtaining licenses under the Wool, Hide and Skin Dealers Act were of good character. Particulars respecting skins which were being exported have been supplied to the Chief Secretary's Department, with a view to having a check made of such skins before actual export. Many inquiries have been made in conjunction with country Police in regard to wool, hides and skins forwarded to Sydney brokers, with a view to detecting skins which may have been stolen, or skins of protected animals obtained without license. A number of persons were arrested for wool and sheep stealing.

X. Pawnbrokers' Squad.

Police attached to the Pawnbrokers' Squad have continued the regular checking of books of pawnbrokers and second-hand dealers and inspecting articles pledged with or sold to them. Considerable quantities of stolen property have been recovered and the identity of offenders established. The total value of property actually recovered by the Squad during 1955 was £16,369, comprising jewellery, wearing apparel, household effects, office machines and other articles of many different kinds. The Squad was responsible for the arrest of 168 persons who were charged with a total of 467 offences.

XI. Motor Squad.

Information as to the number of vehicles stolen and recovered is shown in the Section "Information relating to crime". The increasing number of these thefts is a matter of public concern. By the Crimes (Amendment) Act, 1955, an amendment was made to the law under which persons who illegally use vehicles are now deemed to be guilty of larceny and punishable as such.

The Motor Squad are particularly concerned in investigations into the theft, the fraudulent disposal, etc., of motor vehicles. Outstanding among these was the arrest of a former car dealer who was charged with 98 charges of stealing vehicles, fraudulent misappropriation, forgery and uttering and similar charges involving a total of £42,000.

Members of the Motor Squad are also occupied in the investigation of hit-and-run accidents, where drivers of vehicles concerned in accidents do not wait, but drive away, and frequently long and involved inquiries are necessary to establish their identity.

XII. Pillage Squad.

During 1955, 8,750,820 tons of cargo passed through the Port of Sydney. A proportion of this is of highly pillageable nature, and during the year there were 54 reported pillages of the total value of £10,607. However, although from the shipping angle these losses were reported at Sydney, the thefts may have occurred at a time prior to the ship arriving there.

Police arrested 325 persons during the year on a total of 423 charges, which included criminal charges as well as offences against Port Regulations. Property to the value of £10,235 was accounted for by arrest. The introduction of skin divers equipped with aqualung equipment has proved of valuable assistance to the Pillage Squad. In one case a suspect was seen to throw certain property into 40 feet of water. The Water Police were contacted and within a matter of minutes a Police launch arrived, a skin diver descended and a bag containing stolen property was recovered which led to the arrest and conviction of the suspect.

At Newcastle 59 interstate and overseas vessels are alleged to have been pillaged during the year. A Detective-Sergeant and a Constable perform anti-pillage duty as required; when no ships are in port requiring Police supervision, they perform general criminal investigation duty.

In view of the development of Port Kembla, two additional Detectives have been stationed at Wollongong to carry out ordinary duty and also to pay special attention to the matter of pillaging as required.

XIII. Co-operation with Railway Detectives.

Four Police attached to the Criminal Investigation Branch are on loan to the Railway Investigation Service. The arrangement under which a Detective-Inspector of Police was seconded to the Railway Investigation Service was terminated in May of this year.

Close co-operation still exists between the Railway Department's own Investigation Staff and the four Police on loan to that Department and other members of the Police Department's Criminal Investigation Staff. All the facilities of the Police Department are made available in connection with the investigation of offences on the railways. Arrests effected by the Railway Investigation Section during the year totalled 818 and the number of charges preferred was 1,475, in connection with property of a total value of £86,000. There were also 404 arrests made for minor offences against the Railways Act and by-laws. 716 juvenile offenders came under notice for similar breaches, 640 of them being prosecuted and 76 cautioned.

A number of armed hold-ups committed on the staff of Railway Booking Offices occurred during the year, seven of such cases being cleared up by arrest. Other cases of interest were the theft of mail bags from the Railways.

XIV. Women Police.

The strength of Women Police was increased by two during 1955 to permit of two being stationed at Wollongong. The arrangements for decentralisation of the Policewomen from the Criminal Investigation Branch have been extended, and two Women Police are now stationed each at Darlinghurst, Balmain, Campsie, North Sydney, Wollongong and Newcastle for plain-clothes duty, leaving eight at the Criminal Investigation Branch. In addition, there is normally a staff of 16 uniformed Policewomen attached to the Traffic Office and two at Newcastle.

The Policewomen stationed in the Metropolitan District during 1955, were concerned in 332 cases where children and young girls were charged under the Child Welfare Act, or with stealing. Many of these young offenders were found by the "Dawn Patrol" of Women Police and Vice Squad personnel in parks, residential and places of doubtful repute. Assistance was rendered in 275 cases where women were charged by male Police. The Women Police were also concerned in a number of cases where women were charged with

being deemed to be insane. Assistance was rendered in cases involving criminal offences committed on women and children and a total of 579 statements were obtained from women and children, mostly in cases involving sexual offences where it was undesirable that male Police should interview the complainants alone. Where necessary, complainants have been taken to the Board of Health for medical examination and in many cases they accompanied investigating Police to the scenes of alleged crimes. Medical examinations in such cases totalled 148. The Women Police were concerned in 339 cases where males have been charged with various offences.

Escorts of females and children carried out by Women Police to and from the country totalled 98, in addition to 326 escorts of juveniles to and from the different Metropolitan Children's Courts and Child Welfare Institutions, Police Stations, etc. It was also necessary for the Policewomen to undertake guard duty at hospitals in a number of cases where matrons could not be provided for this work.

There were 1,885 interviews with members of the public regarding missing relatives and friends, children alleged to be neglected, family disputes, difficulties in regard to employment or accommodation, and similar matters affecting the welfare and conduct of women and children. Assistance and advice were given wherever possible. A feature of the work of Women Police is the approach by various persons, mothers with families, destitute young women, etc., who seek assistance. Steps are taken by the Women Police to help, where possible, by obtaining accommodation, employment, etc., and assistance has been obtained from the Department of Social Services, Denominational Welfare Agencies and other bodies.

The tracing of missing women and girls is another matter which receives attention by the Women Police, in conjunction with the general organisation of the Police Department. During 1955, there were 529 females reported missing, of whom 468 were reported from various sources as located. During their patrols, Women Police spoke to and questioned women as to their manner of living, and advised them of the consequences of living a vagrant type of life.

Two of the Women Police attached to Newcastle Police Station carry out work of similar nature to that outlined above.

The Women Police attached to the Traffic Office and two of those at Newcastle perform duty in Police uniform; their particular task is the delivering of safety talks to school children, and the control of traffic in the vicinity of schools when children are crossing to and from the schools. When the schools are on vacation, the services of these Women Police are utilised where necessary to assist in the control of pedestrian traffic, etc.

XV. Criminal Cases Possessing Special Features.

Brief details are set out hereunder of certain criminal cases which, among the many thousands dealt with by the Police during the year, presented features of interest:

(1) Early in 1955, Police undertook investigations into the circumstances surrounding the death of Alfred Henry Carl Smith, a farmer, of Woodford Island, near Maclean, N.S.W. Smith had died on 11th October, 1951, a certificate of cerebral thrombosis being issued and he was buried at the Maclean Cemetery. Following certain inquiries the body was exhumed and analysis disclosed the presence of quantities of thallium. Further investigation culminated in the arrest of Alice Aileen Smith, widow of the deceased, on a charge of murder. She was arraigned before the Supreme Court, Lismore, on 6th September, 1955, and after a trial lasting several days was acquitted. The case caused considerable public interest, having in view that there have been a number of other cases in recent years in which poisoning by thallium has been disclosed.

(2) On 21st April, 1955, Elsie May Daley, aged 19, single, who had been to a dance at Fairfield, and her escort, Barry Myers, aged 18, accepted the offer of another youth to drive them home in his motor lorry. As the vehicle moved off, six other young men and youths joined the vehicle, which was driven to a remote spot where Barry Myers was told to go elsewhere, while the other seven males dragged the girl, Daley, from the vehicle and each raped her once or more. Following complaint to the Police, all the offenders were speedily arrested. They appeared at the Central Criminal Court on 4th November, 1955, when four were sentenced to six years' imprisonment, two to 4½ years' imprisonment and one to three years' imprisonment.

(3) About 11 p.m. on 21st May, 1955, Police at Cooma were advised that a brawl was in progress. Sergeant Chapman and Constable Graham attended, and there saw Harry Edgar Rymal dragging a woman along the footpath by the hair. The woman called to the Police, "Do not come near, he has

got a gun. He will shoot you". Rymal then pushed the woman into a doorway, drew a pistol from the waistband of his trousers and fired a shot at her. Although wounded in the thigh, she ran to the Police and sought shelter. Rymal then fired two shots at Sergeant Chapman, both bullets going wide, and two more shots at Constable Graham, who returned four shots. Rymal took shelter behind kerbside petrol pumps, but was partly in view of Constable Graham, who fired again and Rymal was apparently dead when the Police reached him. Examination of Rymal's body revealed three bullet wounds in the chest and one in the left leg. At the subsequent Inquest into Rymal's death, the Coroner found that Rymal died from the effects of a pistol wound in the chest justifiably inflicted by Constable Graham whilst in the execution of his duty. Police inquiry disclosed that Rymal was an expert marksman and a specialist in firearms. The courage and devotion to duty of the two Police have been recognised by the award of the British Empire Medal—see later.

TRAFFIC BRANCH.

The year 1955 has witnessed a continuance of the growth in the number of motor vehicles on the roads of New South Wales and of persons licensed to drive. It is to be regretted that there was also a material increase in the number of road accidents. The Department of Motor Transport is in this State the authority for licensing drivers and registering vehicles. It also undertakes the compilation of statistics respecting accidents, and the following figures (the latest available from that Department) are quoted principally to indicate the volume and growth of traffic on the roads:—

	Year ended 31st December, 1954.	Year ended 31st December, 1955.	Approximate Increase. (per cent.)
Total motor vehicles registered	738,828	803,000	8·7
Total licensed drivers and riders	960,473	1,024,729	6·6
Total accidents for year	32,500	37,000	13·8
Deaths resulting	755	822	8·9
Persons injured	15,600	16,500	5·8

The figures quoted disclose that the increase in the volume of traffic on the roads is unfortunately accompanied by an increase in the number of accidents and of persons killed and injured. While abroad I made inquiries and took observations in connection with a number of matters affecting traffic, and was left with no doubt that the matter of road accidents is one causing the utmost concern to Police and Traffic Authorities all over the world. During my trip, I gathered certain ideas which could be of some benefit in dealing with accident prevention and road safety. These matters are being considered.

As reported in previous years, the Police co-operate in all possible ways with other authorities in endeavours to secure safe driving by the public and to prevent accidents. Road dangers are being eliminated where possible and facilities, warnings, signal lights, etc., provided and these measures undoubtedly contribute towards the greater safety of the roads. In the light of my observations abroad, I feel satisfied that, valuable as all road aids, warnings and similar facilities are to reduce the accident rate and prevent dangerous driving practices, there can be no substitute for active and vigorous enforcement of the traffic laws by Police and by the Courts when offenders are prosecuted.

Traffic Offences.

In an effort to secure compliance with the law, Police in 1955 submitted a total of 699,443 reports of breaches of all kinds. A considerable percentage of these were, of course, for parking and other less serious offences, but a large number were for serious driving offences. The following table shows the number of some of the more serious types of offences reported during 1954 and 1955:—

	1954.	1955.
Drive at a speed dangerous to the public ...	168	123
Drive in a manner dangerous to the public	238	208
Drive negligently	14,992	11,968
Exceed speed limit	33,037	43,026
Fail to stop after accident	404	471
Fail to give way to vehicle on right	6,678	5,499
Having defective brakes	764	635

(4) On 23rd September, 1955, a Postal Clerk at Portland, N.S.W., reported the theft of £2,542 in bank notes from a registered mail bag en route from Sydney to Portland by rail on the previous night. Following widespread inquiry, Thomas Barker Farrell, a former railway employee, was arrested at the Rosehill Racecourse where he was betting with portion of the stolen bank notes, the numbers of which were known. When questioned he admitted the theft of the £2,542 and other robberies from registered mail bags and from railway passengers, the latter offences being committed whilst the owners were occupying sleeping berths. In connection with the commission of these offences, Barker had made use of his knowledge of railway systems. £2,082 of the stolen money was recovered. Barker was subsequently brought before the Court and sentenced to 3½ years' imprisonment.

There were, of course, also reports submitted for many other types of driving offences, while a number of people were arrested for such offences. The Annual Return of Cases dealt with by the Courts (Appendix "B" to this Report) shows the number of prosecutions for various types of traffic offences, as well as the number of prosecutions for certain indictable offences arising from the driving of vehicles.

The large number of breach reports submitted and prosecutions undertaken has raised as a problem the matter of congestion in the Courts, a considerable period sometimes elapsing between the date of commission of an offence and the date the case comes before the Magistrate. Representations were made to the Justice Department and an additional Court was established at Redfern to deal with the traffic cases. Nevertheless, congestion still occurs.

System of Fines by Post.

The system of fines by post which was inaugurated in 1954 has assisted to relieve congestion in the Courts by permitting persons charged with minor parking offences to pay fines, in accordance with a prescribed scale, direct to the Police Department without the necessity for Court attendance. Details were published in last year's Annual Report. The system has worked very satisfactorily during the year 1955; a total of 76,850 defendants were offered the opportunity of paying the prescribed penalty in this way, and 61,179 payments were made. The total amount so paid was £49,557. The remaining cases were dealt with by Court action in the ordinary way.

This scheme has worked satisfactorily both so far as the Police Department and defendants are concerned by relieving Police and the defendants of the necessity for taking up time attending Court upon matters which, undoubtedly, would not be defended.

Driving Under the Influence.

The total number of cases of driving under the influence of liquor brought before the Court during 1955 as disclosed by the Annual Return of cases dealt with by the Courts (Appendix "B") was 4,477, representing an increase of 5·7 per cent. over the figure for 1954.

Figures supplied by the Commissioner for Motor Transport disclosed that (including the result of appeals to Quarter Sessions) out of 3,851 cases of this nature which were found proved, 2,223 persons were convicted, and thereby automatically disqualified from holding licenses, while in 1,628 cases representing 42 per cent. of the total the defendants were dealt with under Section 556A of the Crimes Act.

While the infliction of penalty is a matter entirely for the Courts, and while it is recognised that every case must be determined on its merits, it must be pointed out that 42 per cent. is a large proportion of offenders to be dealt with in this manner. Effectively it means that, although found guilty of this offence which is so very serious from the point of view of the life and limb of the community, they escape the disqualification provided for by law, and in fact suffer no monetary or other penalty.

Parking.

Congestion in the City of Sydney and elsewhere due to parked vehicles continues and until adequate off-the-street provision for parking is made, there is no alternative to maintaining severe restrictions on parking. The Police Department's staff of Special Parking Police has done valuable work in this regard.

During 1955 a new method of reporting breaches of the Parking Laws was devised and is at present being tested. It is anticipated that it may be adopted during 1956, as it is expected to save clerical work and enable the Parking Police to spend more time on the streets.

For some months, the Police Department has been represented on a Parking Advisory Committee set up by the Government to investigate parking problems in New South Wales. Towards the end of 1955, the "Local Government, Motor Traffic and Transport Amendment Act" was passed, which gives statutory authority for setting up Parking Advisory Committees in Sydney and elsewhere and vests the Committees with certain powers and responsibilities in regard to parking. The Act also authorises installation of parking meters by local Councils, subject to the concurrence of the Committees.

Road Patrols.

The staff of the Public Safety Bureau in Sydney, and of the special road patrols in the country, make a most important contribution towards road safety. There are 90 Police attached to the Public Safety Bureau Headquarters, Sydney, 25 are attached to different suburban Stations in Sydney and 80 men are performing special road patrol duties in different parts of the country. Some high-powered cars equipped with wireless are used at Safety Bureau Headquarters in Sydney and at Cooma a motor car is provided. Elsewhere these Police ride high-speed solo motor cycles.

Some crews of the patrol cars wear plain clothes, and the cars have no distinguishing Police marks, in order to deal with drivers who offend when Police are not about.

These Police patrol the roads for the purpose of preventing and detecting excessive speeding and other breaches of the Traffic Laws. As indicative of the work performed by these men, the 115 Police engaged on safety bureau work in the Sydney Metropolitan area alone submitted a total of 83,939 traffic breach reports and also made many arrests for various offences, including criminal charges. One of the vehicles operated from Sydney is equipped with radar (referred to in last year's Report), which has demonstrated its value in detecting speeding offences. However, for practical purposes the Police must largely rely upon pursuit of vehicles to obtain the necessary evidence to prosecute for speeding offences as well as other offences against the traffic laws.

Pedestrian Traffic Squad.

With a view to better regulation of pedestrian traffic on Sydney streets and the prevention of congestion by pedestrians on carriageways, the Pedestrian Traffic Squad was reconstituted during the year. Aided by Mounted Police at the busiest intersections every effort is made to cause pedestrians to comply with the signals of point-duty Constables, many pedestrians being reported for disobeying such signals. In addition, many pedestrians have been reported for "jay-walking", walking on carriageways where footpaths are provided and similar offences.

WATER POLICE.

During 1955 the Sydney Water Police maintained their normal supervision over the waters of Port Jackson, the arrival and departure of overseas vessels, the movement of harbour ferry traffic, supervision of small craft, etc.

Rescues effected included six males and one female, who were occupants of two craft in distress in the vicinity of Sydney Heads, as well as 98 males and 18 females who were occupants of 41 capsized or disabled small craft on the harbour. The vessels were towed to safety and the occupants given assistance. Many of these rescues were carried out in bad weather, and undoubtedly the Police saved loss of life.

The dead bodies of 10 males and 5 females were recovered from the waters of the harbour, and one male and one female from the ocean.

Police investigated the reports of three collisions involving ferry steamers and 5 collisions involving other vessels, as well as one case where a ferry ran aground in a fog. Four minor fires aboard ships and two small fires on wharves were reported and attended to by the Police, as well as fires in small craft.

Among other matters which called for Police attention might be mentioned the finding of six stowaways; eight persons injured in accidents on ships, four persons injured on wharves and the fumigation of 15 ships.

There were a number of small strikes during the year, but none called for special Police measures. Police co-operated with the Maritime Services Board Officials in enforcement

Children's Safety Patrols, School Lecturing, Etc.

The Police School Lecturing Staff in Sydney comprises 18 male Police and 18 Policewomen. In addition, there are two male and two female Police at Newcastle, and two Policewomen at Wollongong are engaged on this duty part-time. The Sydney School Lecturing staff regularly visit all schools in the Metropolitan area, 7,680 visits being made to 4,500 schools, and 11,323 talks given to the children during 1955. These talks to children are felt to be specially valuable in endeavouring to instil safety mindedness. The speakers talk on all aspects of safety, with particular emphasis, of course, on road safety. In addition, the staff made visits to 129 country schools and delivered 320 talks to children.

The School Lecturing Exhibit was again presented at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney and again at the Health Week Exhibition in the Sydney Town Hall. This exhibit is considered to be a valuable means of disseminating safety propaganda. A bicycle and pedestrian demonstration was presented at the St. Patrick's Day Sports, and again at the Royal Easter Show.

The number of School Safety Patrols actively operating in the Metropolitan area has grown to 109, these being organised to permit children crossing roads to and from schools with safety, where Police are unable to attend. Competitions are organised between schools to stimulate and maintain interest and keep the efficiency of the Patrols high.

An innovation which should assist towards the safety of children crossing the roads when going to and from school is the erection at a number of schools (situated on busy roads) of a special type of traffic beacon. These are of the same design as ordinary traffic signal lights, but are painted blue and white (instead of the conventional yellow and black) and they are in use and manually operated only during the times children are expected to be crossing the road.

In the country, the local Police made 2,056 visits to schools and delivered 7,010 talks to children on safety matters.

Many Broadcasting Companies have extended help to the Police in broadcasting safety talks and similar features. A total of 214 such talks were delivered from the major Sydney broadcasting stations, while in the country local stations made time available enabling Police to give a total of 640 talks. The Police Authorities can only repeat the thanks which have been offered in previous years to the various broadcasting organisations concerned for their generous allocation of time and facilities for this valuable work.

In addition to their other work, Police School Lecturers have been much in request to address various gatherings such as clubs, societies, etc., on matters affecting road safety. A total of 66 of such addresses were given. The Police also delivered 22 similar talks to members of the Defence Forces.

of the Port Regulations, and in this regard it is mentioned that the Masters on eight vessels and one oil company were prosecuted for allowing oil to leak into the Port.

A total of 44 boats of various types were reported missing, 9 of them being recovered. In addition, 42 craft found adrift were recovered by Police, and returned to their owners or handed over to the Maritime Services Board.

During 1955 four sets of aqualung diving sets were purchased and a special squad of eight Police trained in their use. Since the acquisition of this equipment, diving operations have been carried out on nine occasions.

Four members of the Water Police rendered valuable service in the Hunter River Valley during the severe floods in March, 1955. It is conservatively estimated that the four Police and eight Army personnel operating DUKWS and Police floodboats rescued perhaps 1,600 people from danger of losing their lives and evacuated 6,000 other people from flood affected areas.

It is to be regretted that during these operations one of the Police, the late Constable B. A. Orrock, and two Army signalmen, were electrocuted when the aerial of their DUKW struck high tension power lines.

The late Constable Orrock has been posthumously awarded the Queen's Police Medal for gallantry and the Queen's Commendation for brave conduct and has been conferred upon the other Police for their brave actions during the floods.

INSPECTION OF PREMISES LICENSED UNDER THE LIQUOR ACT.

The numbers of licenses of different types under the Liquor Act which were in operation in New South Wales at the end of 1954 and 1955 were as follows:—

Type of License.	Existing.		Increase.
	31st December, 1954.	31st December, 1955.	
Publicans	2,028	2,026	-2
Spirit Merchants	596	603	7
Australian Wine	347	347	...
Brewers	10	9	-1
Packet .....	...	7	7
Canteen Permits	11	12	1
Restaurant Permits	132	156	24
Club Registrations.....	398	790	392

The numbers of licenses granted, transferred, etc., during 1955 were as shown in the following table:—

Type of License.	New Licenses Granted.	Licenses Transferred to other Persons.	Licenses Removed to other Premises.
Publicans .....	...	614	25
Spirit Merchants	14	88	21
Australian Wine .....	...	147	21
Restaurant Permits	34	30	...
Club Registrations.....	392	...	4
Canteen Permits	2	...	...
Packet Licenses	7	...	...

Application was made for suspension or cancellation of 19 publicans' licenses. Ten of the applications are still pending, seven were withdrawn or struck out, and two licenses were cancelled (an appeal is pending in one of these cases). Licenses surrendered or allowed to lapse comprised one publican's license, seven spirit merchants' licenses, 10 restaurant permits and one canteen permit.

Police lodged a total of 674 objections to various applications made to the Licensing Magistrates for new licenses, transfers, renewals or removal to other premises. Of these applications, 449 were granted, 90 were refused and 135 were withdrawn or are still pending. It might be mentioned that these 674 objections included 526 against applications for new registrations as clubs, it being the practice of the Police to lodge a formal objection to all these applications in order to require the applicants to satisfy the Magistrates in regard to their bona fides.

Police have maintained their efforts to secure better accommodation and facilities at hotels for the public, particularly for the travelling public, and many applications have been lodged by licensees or owners for permission to increase or modernise licensed premises and to provide better facilities. District Licensing Inspectors have taken action through the Courts in an endeavour to secure rebuilding, where necessary, or modernising of licensed premises and also for the purpose of having new furniture, furnishings, etc., provided. There has been a considerable improvement in the standard of hotel accommodation during the year. Sixteen new hotels were erected in the State, these being modern and up-to-date premises, replacing old, existing buildings on the same spot or at sites elsewhere.

The Licensing Court approved during the year of applications to have improvements effected as follows:—

To effect material alteration in premises—470 applications granted, the estimated cost of the work being £4,499,500.

To effect repairs and general improvements on the buildings (Section 40A of the Liquor Act)—173 orders at an estimated cost of £816,568.

For improvements in furniture, facilities, utensils, linens, etc. (Section 40B of the Liquor Act)—13 orders at an estimated cost of £3,760.

The erection of new hotels and modernising of existing premises has contributed to meeting the demand for hotel accommodation, and except during the Christmas and Easter holiday times there is not now the acute shortage of such accommodation which was reported some years ago.

As from 1st February, 1955, a number of important changes in the liquor law of this State became effective. The most important of these, from the Police point of view, were the change of hours of hotels and wine bars, which may now remain open until 10 p.m. instead of 6 p.m., change of hours during which licensed restaurants may serve liquor (now up to 12 midnight) and the removal of the limit previously operating on the number of club licenses which may be granted.

As was expected, there has been some change in the drinking habits of the people since the change of trading hours for hotels was introduced. A tendency towards drinking during the evenings is shown, and those hotels (especially in the suburbs) which provide beer gardens or similar places with some form of entertainment are usually well patronised. In the inaugural period of the new hours, special Police arrangements were made to deal with any need which might have arisen. However, Police did not experience any special difficulties in dealing with the public or the various licensed premises. Additional Police supervision is obviously necessary in view of the lengthened trading hours.

With the emphasis now placed on beer gardens, etc., at the suburban hotels, there have been many applications for improvements to the premises to provide such facilities. One result of this which has called for Police attention at a number of places is complaints by local residents as to noise emanating from hotels during evening trading hours. In some places there have been complaints of unnecessary noise from loud-speakers relaying entertainment, and in one case it was necessary for application to be made to the Court to soundproof certain parts of an hotel in the interests of the neighbouring public.

The increase in the number of registered clubs has also called for much Police attention. The limit on the number of clubs which formerly operated has been eliminated, and during 1955 there were 526 applications for registration of new clubs in various parts of the State. Many of these were from bona fide clubs which had been operating previously and which had all the requirements for club registration. However, it was, of course, necessary for Police to scrupulously review every application.

These new provisions of the liquor laws, as well as many other matters have necessarily made considerable in-roads upon the time of licensing Police, and it has been necessary for the strength of the licensing Police to be augmented.

To co-ordinate the work of licensing Police in the Metropolitan District and to assist the Metropolitan Licensing Inspector in his work, a system of supervision by Sub-District Licensing Sergeants has been introduced.

Provision is made in the Liquor Act for appointment of a Superintendent of Licenses, to superintend and co-ordinate the work of all Police in connection with licensing matters. However, there is a desperate shortage of office accommodation for the licensing Police (as well as the licensing Magistrates) and because of this it has not been possible to implement this and other important provisions of the amended Act.

Successful prosecutions against the holders of licenses under the Liquor Act for various offences during 1955 were as follows:—

After-hour trading and similar offences	416
Refusing to supply meals or accommodation ..	2
Breaches of the Pure Food Act (dirty premises, adulterated food and similar offences)	100
Other offences	18

GENERAL MATTERS.

I. Police Stations established, closed, etc.

New Police Stations were established during 1955 at Adaminaby Dam, Wangi Wangi, Happy Jack, Greenethorpe (closed during the War) and Lambton. A new Police Station was also established at Keepit Dam, the Station previously at Somerton being closed. The Police Station at Thirroul, temporarily closed in 1954 due to lack of premises, has been reopened. A Police Call Box was established at Toongabbie.

II. Police buildings.

New Police residences were completed during the year at Willow Tree, Coff's Harbour (2), Ungarie and Tamworth, the latter being for occupation by the District Superintendent. Remodelling operations at Darlinghurst Police Station were completed.

Work in connection with the provision of additional classroom accommodation and canteen at the Police Training Centre progressed further, but was not fully completed at the end of the year. The erection of a new Police Station and residence at Darlington Point was delayed through the death of the contractor and this item is not yet completed.

Building operations commenced during the year in respect of the erection of new residences at Boolaroo, Tweed Heads, Hermidale and Ivanhoe, and new Police Stations and residences at Bullahdelah and Dareton, and these are progressing satisfactorily.

During 1955 three residences for Police purposes were purchased, all of which had previously been rented by this Department. These are at Shellharbour, Blacktown and Urbinville. In addition, a residence was purchased at Dubbo, for occupation by the District Superintendent.

III. Transport Equipment.

The following summarises the transport equipment available to the Police Department as at 31st December, 1955:—

Motor Vehicles:

Motor cars	255
Patrol vans	8
Lorries, utility trucks, etc.	90
Trailers	2
Jeeps and Land Rovers	34
Estate cars	3
Motor cycles with side-cars	332
Motor cycles with side-boxes	7
Solo motor cycles	200
	931
Bicycles	229
Launches	10
Horses (including the troop at the Police Training Centre)	43

(These figures represent only those vehicles which are actually available for service.)

Comparison with the figures for last year shows some increase in the number of four-wheeled vehicles and a decrease in the number of motor cycles with side-cars. This is in conformity with the Department's policy of replacing motor cycles and side-cars wherever possible in areas where the terrain and road surfaces do not favour three-wheeled vehicles.

In addition to the departmental vehicles, a number of Police use their private cars for transport, being recouped on a mileage basis.

IV. Licensing of pistols, etc.

Pistol licenses issued during 1955 totalled 9,467, comprising 9,216 original and renewal pistol licenses, 154 free licenses, 88 dealer's certificates, 6 duplicate licenses and 3 visitor's permits. Applications to import pistols numbered 35.

Three Military rifles which were confiscated under the Police Offences (Firearms) Amendment Act, 1947, were received at Headquarters for destruction.

V. Administrative changes or reforms, new legislation, etc.

In view of the growing importance of the South Coast of New South Wales, particularly the industrial areas, arrangements were made during 1955 to constitute a new South Coast Police Administrative District under a Superintendent of Police stationed at Wollongong. The District comprises the whole of the South Coast, including all that portion which was formerly in the Metropolitan District, and the coastal Police Stations in the Bega Sub-District which were formerly

in the Southern Police Administrative District. At the same time, the Police Stations at Moss Vale, Mittagong, Bowral, Bundanoon, Robertson and Berrima, previously in the Metropolitan District, were transferred to the Goulburn Sub-District of the Southern Police Administrative District. The effect of this is to provide closer supervision over Police affairs in the South Coast District and also to effect a desirable reduction in the size of the Metropolitan District.

Having in view the foregoing changes as well as the current activity in the Snowy Mountains area, approval was given for establishment of a Sub-District under an Inspector with Headquarters at Cooma.

In order to permit of better supervision of Police affairs in the North-Eastern Police Administrative District (which includes the City of Newcastle), approval was given for appointment of an additional Superintendent of Police to act as Assistant Superintendent for the District.

Approval was also given for establishment of a new Sub-District under the charge of an Inspector with Headquarters at Wallsend, in order to reduce the size of the existing Newcastle Sub-District and thus permit of better supervision of Police affairs in that area.

To meet the rapid expansion and development, both industrial and residential, in the Bankstown District, arrangements were made for establishment of a No. 19 Division under an Inspector with Headquarters at Bankstown. The new Division embraces a considerable area which was formerly part of No. 13 Division.

To provide the Officers required to fill the new positions mentioned above, approval was given for the established strength of Superintendents 3rd Class and of Inspectors 3rd Class to be increased by two each, without increase in the overall strength of the Force.

The Police Regulation (Superannuation) Amendment Act, No. 35 of 1955, increased pensions payable to Police who had already retired.

The Police Regulation (Amendment) Act No. 55 of 1955 provided increased penalties for persons offering bribes to members of the Police Force and for members of the Force accepting bribes.

VI. Police Stations visited by the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police during 1955.

Adaminaby.	Gunning.
Adaminaby Dam.	Jindabyne.
Armidale.	Jugiong.
Berridale.	Lismore.
Collector.	Mudgee.
Cooma.	Newcastle.
Coonabarabran.	Quirindi.
Currabubula.	Somerton.
Dubbo.	Tamworth.
Geurie.	Tenterfield.
Gilgandra.	Tooraweenah.
Goulburn.	Tumut.
Grafton.	Wellington.
Gulgong.	Werris Creek.
Gundagai.	West Tamworth.
Gunnedah.	Yass.

VII. Police Training and Instruction.

There were no changes during 1955 in the system of training and instruction for Police.

VIII. Police Sports and Recreations.

Organised sports of various kinds continue actively among Police teams. During 1955 Rugby Union Teams of Police and Cadets competed with other non-Police teams in a mid-week competition, the No. 1 Police team being successful in winning the premiership.

Police cricket, swimming, golf and rifle clubs continued actively during 1955.

The Police athletic club was reformed and entered the field competition. The Police bowling club reformed and took part in social games.

Apart from the organised Police teams, many individual Police took part in non-Police teams, and some distinguished themselves in their efforts.

IX. Federation of Police-Citizens Boys' Clubs.

The work of the Police-Citizens Boys' Club Movement was maintained at a very satisfactory level during 1955. Evidence of the success and popularity of the movement is shown by the many requests received to establish new clubs, both in the city and country.

A big step in the Federation's programme was the opening of a new club at Canterbury-Bankstown. A modern building has been provided, and the club is extensively patronised by the lads in the area it serves. Renovations and additions were effected at Burwood and Balmain, and both clubs are now well equipped to meet the demands of growing membership. Old club premises at Bathurst (old church building) were disposed of and new premises are to be provided.

An ambitious project at the Federation's country hostel, Camp MacKay, Kurrajong, was brought close to fruition. It provides for a modern brick kitchen and dining room block, recreational hall and commodious staff quarters. The new buildings will be opened early in 1956 and will be the means of providing first-class accommodation for hundreds of boys at week-ends and holidays. This camp has many attractions and interests including the tiled swimming pool, acres of grassy slopes and bushland, a model dairy, stud piggery, orchards and vegetable gardens. The farm pursuits, as well as providing educational interest for the boys, have also provided valuable contribution towards meeting expenses. The camp is very highly regarded by the boys of the Federation, and visits to it are eagerly sought.

It has been the policy of the Federation, wherever possible, to provide quarters for the Club Superintendents at or near the clubs. During the year good progress was made in this direction and permanent accommodation was obtained at Broken Hill, Cessnock and Maitland.

The clubs have maintained a wide range of activities which are, of course, essential to sustain the interest of the boys, aged from 8 to 18 years. The sports in which teams were fielded included football of the various codes, basketball, cricket, hockey, sailing and cycling. Large numbers of boys participated in boxing and wrestling and many inter-club matches were organised. Of particular interest were the inter-club matches between city and country members, which did much to foster good relationships between the lads and emphasised the State-wide character of the Movement. Some club members successfully competed in State and National titles.

Cultural activities have been maintained at a high level on the lines reported in previous years.

Membership of the clubs at the close of the year totalled 42,827, an increase of 7,700 over the previous year, and attendance figures for the year rose by approximately 7,000 to 470,000. Attendance figures would have been much higher, but for the disastrous floods early in 1955 which damaged some of the country clubs, and rendered them inoperable for some considerable time. The assets of the Federation are now close to £700,000.

The State Government contributed £10,000 during the financial year ended 30th June, 1955, to the funds of the Federation, which was utilised in connection with the capital cost of building work. Many functions were conducted during the year by the Federation and individual clubs to raise funds and generous support was received from the public by way of outright donations. Over 200 members of the public, and a great number of Police other than those permanently employed on boys' club work served the Federation throughout the year in a voluntary capacity as instructors and helpers. Without this aid it is certain the work would have been greatly curtailed.

The work of the Boys' Club Movement in this State has now become a recognised feature. It is a most valuable work in the interests of the youth of the nation and of the community itself in helping to build better citizens—the motto of the Federation is "Making Men"—and once again I can only offer the thanks of the Police Department to all those who assist in any way in this work.

X. Police Musical Activities.

The Police Band, a full-scale military band, has had a busy and successful year and the high quality of its performance has been maintained. Some success has been found in attracting new members. During 1955 the Band played at a number of public and State functions, including such occasions as the Anzac and Remembrance Day Ceremonies, functions at Government House and the Six-Hour Day Procession. Programmes were rendered monthly at the Prince Henry Hospital and the Concord Repatriation Hospital, and nine other hospitals were visited. Performance were given for a number

of charitable purposes. In company with the Police Choir, three performances were given for the purpose of the Boys' Club Movement, and the Band also played at the combined Police Carnival at Wiley Park.

The Police Pipe Band continues to be a most popular unit. Its membership is 18 at present; all members are of very fine physique, dressed in traditional Highland attire, and the Band presents a most impressive appearance. During 1955 it attended 40 State, public and charitable functions, as well as providing pipers at certain other functions. The Band competed successfully in two contests.

The Police Choir performed at eight concerts for charitable purposes, visited a number of hospitals, and took part in public functions, including the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day functions. It gave four music club recitals, and also made three broadcasts through the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The Choir competed in two Eisteddfods, and was successful in gaining first prize in the male choir contest at the City of Sydney Eisteddfod.

XI. Police Charitable Activities.

Police were active in various directions in raising money for the Boys' Club Movement. In addition, a number of functions were organised by Police at different places for the benefit of hospitals, ambulances and similar bodies. By this means various sums aggregating £7,500 were raised during 1955. This amount includes the sum of £1,532 raised by the Manly Police for the benefit of the widow of a comrade accidentally killed.

XII. Police Services in Connection with National Emergencies—Bush Fires, Floods, etc.

Bush Fires.—Some bush fires occurred during 1955 but none on such a scale as to call for special mention. Police have continued their active co-operation, on the lines previously reported, with local municipal and shire councils and in many places play a leading part in connection with the voluntary bush fire brigades.

Floods.—During February and March of 1955, the most devastating floods in history occurred on the Northern Tablelands and north-western parts of the State. The McIntyre, Gwydir, Namoi, Castlereagh, Bogan, Barwon and Darling rivers and their tributaries were all affected and most of the towns and cities situated on these rivers were flooded to varying degrees. The towns affected included Inverell, Moree, Tamworth, Gunnedah, Dubbo and Bourke, as well as a number of smaller centres. Damage to property and crops ran into many millions of pounds and enormous losses of sheep and cattle occurred. Seven persons lost their lives and innumerable rescues were effected by Police, civilians and Army personnel.

At the same time, very severe floods also occurred in the Hunter Valley, the river reaching a record height. The levee banks at Maitland collapsed, allowing a large volume of water to wash through the low-lying areas of that town. A great number of homes were washed away and many others suffered extensive damage. Other towns on the Hunter River were also affected to varying degrees but Maitland in particular suffered very badly. Many of its citizens sustained severe losses, some losing their homes and all their possessions. Five persons were drowned in this flood and three are missing, believed drowned.

The number of people rendered homeless and requiring assistance in the form of food, shelter, clothing, etc., assumed major proportions, and it was necessary for Police to take special measures, in conjunction with the other authorities concerned, to provide immediate assistance for those unfortunate people.

During these floods, Police everywhere played a very active part in warning of the flood danger, rescuing people and stock where possible, and finding accommodation for evacuees. The Police and citizens co-operated in the establishment of flood relief committees, to which assistance was rendered by the R.A.A.F., Army, Local Government organisations and State and Federal Government Departments, as well as many private organisations. Army DUKWS were sent from Sydney and manned by Army personnel and Police. An air lift of food and other supplies for the people and of fodder for the cattle and sheep was necessary in some districts, and material assistance was rendered by the Police in this regard. The Police wireless system was invaluable in maintaining communications during the floods on the Hunter River, assisted by amateur stations, whilst elsewhere, amateur radio operators played a most important part. Had it not been for this activity, it is probable there would have been greater loss of life.

After the floods the Police continued to render such assistance as they could in finding shelter for the homeless, restoring property, seeking lost persons and so on. Long after the floods had passed, the task of dealing with flood relief claims called for attention. For months Police were still finding owners for lost and straying cattle which had been washed away.

The work and conduct of the Police during these floods reflected very great credit on them and on the Department. As I pointed out last year, it has become customary to look to the Police for assistance in disasters of this nature, but only those who were present can appreciate the quality of the work done by the Police, and I desire to pay this public tribute to them.

A number of Police (and some citizens) have been granted special awards in recognition of brave conduct displayed during the floods. Details as far as Police are concerned are shown under the heading, "Acts of Bravery by Police". In addition, in recognition of the splendid work done both in organising Police and other bodies in rescues, relief, etc., Inspector (now Superintendent) P. J. McLaughlin, of New castle, has been awarded the British Empire Medal, and Inspector W. L. Jefferson, of Maitland, has been awarded the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service.

During the Maitland flood, an Army DUKW fouled high-tension electric wires and Constable B. A. Orrock and two soldiers who were with him were killed.

Further flooding occurred in the Moree and Tamworth districts during October, though not on so serious a scale. One person was drowned near Narrabri.

Some minor flooding occurred on the Clarence River in March, and on the Richmond and Tweed rivers in March and again in December, but very little damage was occasioned and no lives lost. Floods also occurred at Deniliquin and other parts of the Riverina district in September, 1955.

Police Rescue Squad.—This squad is maintained at the Police Training Centre to rescue people or recover bodies from inaccessible places, and deal with similar emergencies. It was called out 27 times during 1955, and was instrumental in rescuing three persons and recovering nine dead bodies from cliffs.

XIII. Acts of Bravery by Police.

A number of members of the Police Force came under notice during 1955 in respect of acts of bravery performed or recognised during the year. Brief particulars are quoted hereunder:—

On 13th October, 1954, Constable H. Brennan, while patrolling on a Police motor cycle, saw a car which had been reported stolen, and requested the driver, Robert Michael Brown, to drive to the Police Station. Brown agreed, but instead accelerated and endeavoured to ram the Constable's motor cycle. The Constable then gave pursuit, and after Brown had fired a shot at him, fired several shots at Brown's car. Sergeant N. B. Townsend, and Constables L. Ryan and C. J. Melton joined in the chase in a Police truck and endeavoured to draw alongside the stolen vehicle. Further shots were exchanged between the Police and Brown, during the course of which Sergeant Townsend and Constable Ryan were wounded. The wounded Police were then driven to hospital, while Constable Brennan continued to pursue Brown, who escaped. He was subsequently arrested and sentenced to terms of imprisonment. In pursuing Brown in the circumstances, the Police displayed courage and outstanding devotion to duty; advice has been received that the George Medal has been awarded to Constable Brennan and the British Empire Medal to Sergeant Townsend and Constables Ryan and Melton.

Constable 1st Class B. Pearson was called to the scene of a disturbance on 31st January, 1955, when complaint was made that a man named Hogan had been firing a rifle. Hogan then fired at a group of other men, wounding one of them. Constable Pearson approached Hogan and directed him to put the gun down, but Hogan fired again. Constable Pearson continued to walk towards him and took the rifle from his grasp. Advice has been received that in recognition of the bravery displayed by Constable Pearson, Her Majesty the Queen has awarded him the British Empire Medal.

Sergeant 3rd Class A. E. F. Chapman and Constable W. A. Graham displayed outstanding bravery on 21st May, 1955, in connection with an exchange of shots with Harry Edgar Rymal at Cooma. The circumstances of this matter are reported under the heading "Criminal Cases Possessing Special Features". In recognition of their bravery, the British Empire Medal has been awarded to both Police.

Constable L. J. McCoy and Probationary Constable J. W. Lumsden were called to a house at Unanderra on 8th November, 1955, and informed that a man named Holowaczow

was armed with a rifle and threatening to shoot his wife and commit suicide. Police entered the house and found Holowaczow with a rifle (found to be fully loaded), with which he threatened them. Constable McCoy entered the room and Holowaczow pointed the rifle at him, but the Constable seized the rifle and was able to hold Holowaczow until Constable Lumsden came to his assistance and Holowaczow was overpowered. The question of an award in recognition of the bravery displayed by Constable McCoy is under consideration. Probationary Constable Lumsden has been departmentally commended for his courage and devotion to duty.

Sergeant 3rd Class J. Kolanji and Constable K. J. Matthews displayed courage of a high order when called to a Sydney office, where a woman was menacing the staff with a rifle. The Police attempted to approach her but she continuously threatened to shoot them, and it was necessary for them to edge closer in the face of her threats. They were hampered in this regard by the presence of office furniture. Ultimately other Police came on the scene and distracted her attention, which permitted Sergeant Kolanji to get close enough to seize her rifle. The question of an award to mark the bravery of these two Police is under consideration.

Detective Senior Constable B. L. Brotherson and Constable W. G. Martin went to a post office at Wentworthville on 9th September, 1955, and there surprised two men who had attempted to blow the post office safe. Detective Senior Constable Brotherson arrested one man, who was armed with a screw-driver with which he threatened the Detective Senior Constable. In the meantime Constable Martin found a second man, masked and armed with a .45-calibre revolver with which he threatened to shoot. Constable Martin grappled with this man, but the offender continually attempted to point the revolver at the Constable, who then called for assistance. Detective Brotherson ran to his assistance (leaving his own prisoner) and was able to place his own thumb between the firing pin and hammer of the revolver to prevent it being fired. Other Police then arrived on the scene and both prisoners were secured. Constable Martin displayed outstanding courage grappling with the armed offender, and Detective Senior Constable Brotherson subsequently showed bravery in going to his assistance and seizing the weapon. The question of awards is under consideration.

As reported elsewhere, devastating floods occurred in various parts of the State during February and March, 1955, and many acts of heroism were performed by Police and others in rescues, etc., at the risk of their own life. The following awards have been made to Police in recognition of bravery displayed:—

Posthumous award of the Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry and also the Posthumous Award of the Bronze Medal of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society.

The late Constable B. A. Orrock.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct.

Senior Constable W. E. Stevens.

Constable 1st Class M. J. W. J. Bourke.

Constable 1st Class R. L. Munns.

Constable S. A. Ivarsson.

Constable G. E. Davis.

Bronze Medal of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society.

Sergeant L. F. Newman.

Detective Sergeant L. V. Moore.

Detective Senior Constable T. A. Cole.

Constable R. J. Mills.

Constable K. H. Baker.

Constable W. T. Sunderland.

Certificate of Merit of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society.

Constable 1st Class R. D. Masters.

Constable F. M. Aldred.

Constable C. N. Paff.

Constable G. A. A. Riley has been awarded the Bronze Medal of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society and departmentally commended for his courageous conduct in rescuing a woman from the edge of the Gap, Watson's Bay, at considerable personal risk, when she was threatening to cast herself over the cliff, on the 19th November, 1955.

Constable G. Carnes was awarded the Certificate of Merit of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society for his bravery in attempting to rescue a man swept away by flood waters on 16th October, 1954.

Senior Constable L. R. Lorenz was awarded the Certificate of Merit of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society for his action in diving into the waters of a creek in an endeavour to rescue a child who was drowned on 8th August, 1954.

Constables 1st Class G. P. Shonk and T. E. Sneyd have been awarded the Certificate of Merit of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society for their actions in endeavouring to rescue a drowning man on 4th August, 1955.

Constable J. M. Willis was awarded the Certificate of Merit of the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society for his action in rescuing a child from the river at Wagga Wagga on 8th December, 1954.

The following Police have been departmentally commended for courage and devotion to duty:—

- Constable 1st Class B. B. Kelaher—arrest of an offender believed armed.
- Constable 1st Class C. J. Alt and Constable J. Oliveira—arrest of offender armed with knife.
- Constable J. J. Myers—arrest of offenders believed to be armed.
- Senior Constable, E. R. W. Williams—arrest of armed offender.
- Detective Constable 1st Class J. J. F. Wills and Constables K. W. Kennedy and L. B. Fox—diving to recover bodies of men trapped in submerged vehicle.
- Probationary Constable S. McCorkindale—rescue of child from drowning.

XIV. Police Killed in the Execution of their Duty.

Constable B. A. Orrock was electrocuted on 26th February, 1955, when a DUKW in which he was travelling while on duty during the floods at Maitland fouled overhead high-tension wires.

XV. Special Awards to Police.

Police were presented with Awards during 1955, as shown hereunder:—

The British Empire Medal.

- Sergeant 3rd Class Robert Arthur Newman.
- Constable Thomas Arthur Williams.

The Queen's Police Medal (for Distinguished Service).

- Superintendent 1st Class L. J. Schumacher.
- Superintendent 1st Class D. E. Ryan.
- Superintendent 2nd Class J. Young.
- Superintendent 3rd Class H. E. Snowden.
- Superintendent 3rd Class H. E. Boswell.
- Inspector 1st Class J. E. Forsyth.

The Imperial Service Medal.

The Imperial Service Medal was presented to 39 ex-members of the New South Wales Police Force during 1955.

The George Lewis Trophy.

This is a trophy presented annually by Mr. George Lewis, a Sydney business man, for the most courageous act by a member of the New South Wales Police Force.

In respect of the year 1953, the trophy has been awarded to Constable H. J. Beveridge in recognition of his courageous conduct on 13th April, 1953, when he arrested an armed offender (see Annual Report for 1953).

For 1954, the award has been made to Constable H. Brennan in recognition of his brave conduct on 13th October, 1954, in the pursuit of a man in a car who had fired on him. (See under "Acts of Bravery" above.)

The award for the year 1955 has yet to be determined.

The Alfred Edward Award.

This award is made, under the will of the late Mr. Alfred Edward, a former Superintendent of Traffic, for the pluckiest or most commendable act during the year by a traffic Constable or Constables.

For the year 1954, the award was made to Constable H. Brennan (see above).

The award for 1955 has yet to be determined.

XVI. Police on Sick Report.

(a) Absences where sickness not due to injury on duty:—

Male Police on sick report for 1955 totalled 2,166 (representing 47.04 per cent. of the total strength of the State, 4,605), for a total of 47,045 days, being an average of 21.72 days for each man on sick report or 10.21 days for each member of the Force. The time lost by Police on sick report represented 2.79 per cent.

Policewomen on sick report numbered 38 off duty for 237 days.

Cadets on sick report numbered 179 off duty for 1,699 days.

One Special Sergeant was off duty for 15 days and one Tracker off duty for 19 days.

(b) Injuries suffered on duty:—

345 male Police were off duty sick for a total of 11,760 days.

Two Women Police were off duty for 174 days.

23 Cadets were off duty for 337 days.

In addition, 214 Police, 3 Cadets and two Women Police sustained injuries whilst on duty but did not report off duty sick.

*(a) and (b) combined:—*The total average daily number of male Police on sick report was 161.11, which represents 3.5 of the total strength of 4,605.

XVII. Appendices.

As Appendices to this Report are submitted the following:—

"A"—Return of serious crimes known to the Police during 1954 and 1955, and number of such crimes cleared up during 1955.

"B"—Return of cases dealt with by the Courts of Petty Sessions in New South Wales during 1955.

"C"—Table showing the Police strength, population and number of prosecutions during each of the years 1936 to 1955 inclusive.

(NOTE.—As indicated earlier, the Return of Juveniles dealt with for offences has been discontinued.)

XVIII. Administration and Conclusion.

In concluding this Report, I would like to record my appreciation of my Senior Officers who have rendered assistance in maintaining discipline and efficiency in the Force. The conduct of the Police has been generally good, and its work has been maintained at a satisfactory level of efficiency.

The Public Service staff under the direction and supervision of the Secretary continues its excellent work in the general administration of the Department and I must again pay a tribute to the loyal and efficient service rendered by this staff.

C. J. DELANEY,
Commissioner of Police.

APPENDIX "A".

Serious Crime in the State of New South Wales,
1954—1955.

Type of Offence.	Offences known to the Police.		Offences Cleared Up.
	1954.	1955.	1955.
Abduction	14	13	13
Abortion and Attempts	4	6	6
Actual Bodily Harm—Occasioning	156	162	160
Arson	40	25	20
Assault and Rob	84	104	86
Bigamy	43	41	41
Break and enter	4,678	5,165	3,069
Carnal Knowledge	199	192	192
Conspiracy.....	5	3	3
Demand Property with Menace	9	7	7
Embezzlement and Larceny as Clerk or Servant	293	294	290
False Pretences	1,165	1,670	1,588
Forging and Uttering	379	472	452
Grievous Bodily Harm (including malicious wounding)	209	173	171
Indecent Assault on Females	193	257	256
Indecent Assault on Males	233	257	257
Larceny (all types of thefts not otherwise listed)	12,329	12,904	9,824
Larceny of Animals	56	104	90
Larceny from Persons	51	56	53
Larceny in Dwellings	343	405	229
Manslaughter	95	127	124
Misappropriation	149	209	208
Murder	36	48	46
Murder—Attempts	26	44	44
Perjury and False Swearing	11	7	7
Rape and Attempts	35	35	35
Receiving Stolen Property	300	391	391
Robbery being Armed	10	22	11
Any other offences	2	6	6
Totals	21,147	23,199	17,679

APPENDIX "B".

Return of Cases dealt with by Courts of Petty Sessions, New South Wales, for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

OFFENCES.	Arrests.		Summons Cases.		How dealt with.										Total.	Total for Previous Year.	In-crease.	De-crease.
					Committed for Trial.	Disposed of Summarily.						Withdrawn or Discharged.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	
Offences Against the Person :—																		
Abduction	17	...	2	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	19	23	...	4
Abortion, attempts, etc. ....	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	7	...	5
Assault and rob or with intent to rob	136	2	1	...	94	1	...	...	...	...	25	1	18	...	139	104	35	...
Assault, common, female or in company	1,933	76	3,150	722	27	...	1,037	97	170	8	1,030	107	2,819	586	5,881	5,774	107	...
Assault Constable or Special Constable in execution of duty	337	37	2	...	9	...	237	26	33	...	46	9	14	2	376	310	66	...
Bigamy	36	9	...	1	32	10	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	46	55	...	9
Bodily harm, causing actual or grievous and malicious wounding (excluding cases arising from driving).....	306	29	9	...	195	16	3	...	2	...	22	7	93	6	344	309	35	...
Concealment of birth .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Demand property by menaces or threat	6	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	7	11	...	4
Manslaughter (excluding cases arising from driving)	36	1	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	24	...	37	14	23	...
Murder	39	9	...	...	27	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	5	48	37	11	...
Murder, attempt or inciting	23	6	1	...	18	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	4	3	30	20	10	...
Railways, endangering passengers	6	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	6	9	...	3
Setting fire to dwelling, person being therein.....	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	1
Suicide, attempted	83	32	...	...	2	...	1	...	20	5	30	17	30	10	115	115	...	...
Other offences against the person	3	3	7	1	1	3	2	...	...	...	4	...	3	1	14	20	...	6
Sexual Offences :—																		
Rape and attempts	39	...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	39	36	3	...
Bestiality and attempts	8	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	8	7	1	...
Buggery and attempts	31	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	31	54	...	23
Carnal knowledge	211	...	...	...	151	...	...	...	2	...	19	...	39	...	211	271	...	60
Indecent assault on females	281	...	...	...	193	...	1	...	6	...	41	...	40	...	281	262	19	...
Indecent assault on males	262	1	...	...	229	1	1	...	...	...	17	...	15	...	263	225	38	...
Other sexual offences	12	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	1	...	12	24	...	12
Offences Arising from Driving :—																		
Bodily harm by wanton or furious driving.....	23	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	7	...	23	28	...	...
Bodily harm by negligent act or omission	76	1	1	...	43	1	2	...	...	...	6	...	26	...	78	126	...	48
Culpable driving	20	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	7	...	20	14	6	...
Manslaughter	82	...	...	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	43	...	82	58	24	...
Total	4,008	210	3,173	724	1,180	42	1,284	123	235	13	1,263	142	3,219	614	8,115	7,912	203	...

APPENDIX "B"—continued.

OFFENCES.	Arrests.		Summons Cases.		How dealt with.										Total.	Total for Previous Year.	In-crease.	De-crease.
					Committed for Trial.	Disposed of Summarily.						Withdrawn or Discharged.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.			
Offences Against Property :—																		
Burglary, break and enter, attempts, etc.	3,135	50	8	4	1,600	22	14	1	195	3	1,131	21	203	7	3,197	2,659	538	...
Cattle, unlawfully kill, maim or wound	31	1	7	...	5	...	28	1	2	...	1	...	2	...	39	16	23	...
Malicious injury to property	990	56	192	63	44	2	641	47	92	...	173	14	232	56	1,301	1,051	250	...
Maliciously setting fire to property of any kind and attempts...	11	3	...	...	8	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	14	58	...	44
Sacrilege	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...
Any other offences against property	16	...	1	1	1	...	6	...	...	...	7	...	3	1	18	7	11	...
Total	4,188	110	208	68	1,659	27	689	49	293	3	1,313	35	442	64	4,574	3,796	778	...
Larcenies, Frauds and Kindred Offences :—																		
Embezzlement and larceny as clerk or servant	453	19	11	...	161	7	79	2	15	3	179	6	30	1	483	310	173	...
False pretences and attempts	1,686	146	25	6	349	4	299	58	515	28	376	50	172	12	1,863	1,359	504	...
Forgery or uttering	286	70	...	1	105	17	58	22	57	6	57	18	9	8	357	409	...	52
Found at night with intent to commit felony	45	2	...	...	18	...	...	...	9	...	16	2	2	...	47	46	1	...
Found in enclosed yard with intent to commit felony	56	1	1	...	1	...	5	1	29	...	15	...	7	...	58	64	...	6
Illegally using vehicle or boat	1,340	26	12	1	93	...	410	...	313	6	467	21	69	...	1,379	1,479	...	100
Illegally using animal	8	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	10	14	...	4
Larceny as bailee	54	...	4	...	7	...	21	...	11	...	13	...	6	...	58	32	26	...
Larceny of animals	99	...	2	...	13	...	30	...	20	...	25	...	13	...	101	95	6	...
Larceny from person	147	15	...	...	6	...	40	5	30	3	51	2	20	5	162	375	...	213
Larceny in dwelling	273	27	20	2	87	1	40	4	64	4	88	15	14	5	322	333	...	11
Larceny (all thefts not specially listed)	9,594	1,335	59	12	677	22	3,688	798	2,048	73	2,704	380	536	74	11,000	9,235	1,765	...
Misappropriation	210	1	1	1	116	...	31	...	2	...	28	1	34	1	213	219	...	6
Receiving	406	21	...	...	64	2	182	8	34	...	82	8	44	3	427	323	104	...
Other offences under this heading	32	1	...	...	19	...	...	...	5	...	5	1	3	...	33	36	...	3
Goods in custody suspected stolen	852	42	20	...	10	...	374	22	96	2	183	8	209	10	914	847	67	...
Total	15,541	1,706	157	23	1,726	53	5,257	920	3,248	125	4,299	512	1,168	119	17,427	15,176	2,251	...
Offences Against the Currency.....																		
...
Offences Against Good Order :—																		
Indictable Offences—																		
Conspiracy	6	...	4	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	10	44	...	34
Contempt of court	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	3
Incite to commit crime .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Escape from custody.....	38	1	...	...	21	...	...	...	12	...	5	1	...	...	39	36	3	...
Lewdness	19	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	11	...	...	...	19	21	...	2
Perjury and false swearing	7	...	1	...	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	6	2	...
Public mischief	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	1	2	...
Riot and unlawful assembly .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sedition and treason .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other indictable offences against good order	52	2	4	...	8	...	3	...	27	...	13	1	5	1	58	7	51	...

Appendix "B"—continued.

OFFENCES.	Arrests.		Summons Cases.		Committed for Trial.		How dealt with.								Total.	Total for Previous Year.	In-crease.	De-crease.
							Disposed of Summarily.						Withdrawn or Discharged.					
							Fined.		Imprisoned.		Otherwise dealt with.							
	M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Summary Offences—																		
Absconding from bail	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	5	...	3
Beg or gather alms	272	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	182	1	84	...	6	...	274	251	23	...
Behaviour—riotous, indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting	5,487	3,229	413	61	...	...	4,408	2,649	13	...	1,261	603	218	38	9,190	7,544	1,646	...
Betting	2,739	208	15	5	...	...	2,679	206	7	...	43	3	25	4	2,967	3,055	...	88
Bribery and attempts	33	3	6	1	...	...	31	4	...	...	5	...	3	...	43	35	8	...
Common gaming house, keeper, etc.	164	2	13	2	...	...	165	3	...	...	5	1	7	...	181	81	100	...
Common gaming house, found therein	2,052	31	...	...	...	...	1,959	29	7	...	77	2	9	...	2,083	2,102	...	19
Consorting	159	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	30	89	12	6	2	203	144	59	...
Constable, assume designation of	30	1	...	...	...	...	26	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	31	28	3	...
Cutting instrument in possession	44	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1	18	1	9	...	46	35	11	...
Deserters, Military, Naval or Air Force	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	5	...	...	...	7	14	...	7
Drunk, drunk and disorderly	76,957	4,228	14	...	...	...	12,132	1,107	51	3	64,094	3,070	694	48	81,199	72,591	8,608	...
Evade fare on public vehicle	110	12	1,186	640	...	...	1,230	614	2	...	20	14	44	24	1,948	1,752	196	...
Firearms, or machine gun, etc.—unlawful possession	42	1	17	1	...	...	24	2	11	...	16	...	8	...	61	59	2	...
Firearms—shoot or carry on Sunday	14	...	198	1	...	...	181	1	...	...	14	...	17	...	213	305	...	92
House breaking implements in possession	29	1	...	...	14	1	...	...	7	...	4	...	4	...	30	21	9	...
Idle and disorderly person (vagrants)	1,697	467	...	...	...	...	...	...	989	164	415	188	293	115	2,164	2,035	129	...
Language—profane, indecent, obscene, insulting or threatening	3,301	350	472	188	...	...	2,900	315	11	1	534	81	328	141	4,311	4,303	8	...
Pistol, unlicensed, in possession	178	1	14	...	8	1	122	...	12	...	40	...	10	...	193	200	...	7
Play at a game to annoyance, etc.	674	...	1	...	...	...	390	...	2	...	283	...	...	...	675	960	...	285
Prostitution, suffer	4	11	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	10	1	...	15	25	...	10
Prostitution, male person living on	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	5	...	3	...	18	12	6	...
Resist arrest and inciting thereto	635	12	2	...	...	...	561	8	...	...	55	4	21	...	649	554	95	...
Selling liquor without license	91	23	5	1	...	...	78	20	...	...	10	2	8	2	120	175	...	55
Ship, absent without leave, deserting, disobey order aboard, etc.	157	...	...	...	...	...	42	...	93	...	11	...	11	...	157	83	74	...
Soliciting by known prostitute .....	...	55	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	36	...	15	...	3	55	32	23	...
Trespass on inclosed land	138	7	121	9	...	...	169	3	5	...	34	4	51	9	275	264	11	...
Other summary offences against good order	287	9	47	4	1	...	48	4	112	5	119	2	54	2	347	238	109	...
Total	95,445	8,702	2,535	913	73	3	27,154	4,967	1,639	242	67,278	4,014	1,836	389	107,595	97,022	10,573	...
Offences Against Traffic Laws :—																		
Drive motor vehicle under influence, or attempt.....	4,337	44	94	2	...	...	2,542	24	46	...	1,535	19	308	3	4,477	4,235	242	...
Other driving offences of all kinds	5,454	48	54,754	1,280	...	...	53,412	1,185	29	...	2,630	87	4,137	56	61,536	56,257	5,279	...
*Parking and allied offences	59	...	16,536	712	...	...	15,464	685	...	...	563	12	568	15	17,307	50,602	...	33,295
Offences against licensing, registration, taxation provisions...	1,558	13	6,651	138	...	...	7,712	140	24	...	260	10	213	1	8,360	8,249	111	...
Any other offences against the traffic laws.....	873	...	816	14	...	...	1,604	9	...	...	37	1	48	4	1,703	1,464	239	...
Offences by pedestrians	34	5	2,124	211	...	...	2,135	210	...	...	19	6	4	...	2,374	1,774	600	...
Total	12,315	110	80,975	2,357	...	...	82,869	2,253	99	...	5,044	135	5,278	79	95,757	122,581	...	26,824

*NOTE.—In addition, 61,179 persons paid fines for parking offences to the Police Department, without Court appearance, in accordance with the Minor Traffic Offences Regulations.

Appendix "B"—continued.

OFFENCES.	Arrests.		Summons Cases.		How dealt with.										Total.	Total for Previous Year.	In-crease.	De-crease.
					Committed for Trial.	Disposed of Summarily.						Withdrawn or Discharged.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.					F.
Breaches of Acts Generally (including offences not provided for under the foregoing headings):—																		
Aberigines Protection	574	37	104	12	...	...	594	48	25	...	40	...	19	1	727	802	...	75
Auctioneers, Stock and Station and Real Estate Agents.....	14	...	36	...	13	...	3	...	...	...	11	...	23	...	50	45	5	...
Billiards and Bagatelle	1	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	2	3	...
Bush Fires	6	...	68	9	...	...	52	1	...	...	6	...	16	8	83	210	...	127
Cattle Slaughtering and Diseased Animals and Meat .....	...	...	10	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	10	17	...	7
Child Welfare	240	187	95	21	...	...	47	2	47	24	185	150	56	32	543	530	13	...
Companies .....	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	4	19	...	15
Crimes (Commonwealth)	92	...	4	...	...	...	56	...	10	...	24	...	6	...	96	103	...	7
Customs (Commonwealth)	4	...	3	1	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	41	...	33
Defence (Commonwealth)	10	...	254	...	...	...	153	...	2	...	41	...	68	...	264	319	...	55
Deserted Wives and Children	153	6	180	2	...	...	23	...	31	...	190	7	89	1	341	212	129	...
Dog and Goat.....	2	...	260	172	...	...	227	155	1	...	11	12	23	5	434	400	34	...
Electoral Acts (State and Commonwealth) .....	...	...	76	13	...	...	69	11	...	...	1	...	6	2	89	169	...	80
Factories and Shops	2	...	133	9	...	...	106	9	...	...	5	...	24	...	144	66	78	...
Fauna Protection	2	...	42	...	...	...	38	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	44	70	...	26
Fisheries and Oyster Farms	25	...	503	1	...	...	449	1	...	...	17	...	62	...	529	591	...	62
Forestry .....	...	...	65	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	65	84	...	19
Gaming and Betting	203	4	8	1	...	...	180	5	...	...	31	...	...	...	216	263	...	47
Government Railways—and By-laws.....	331	24	1,266	259	...	...	1,467	257	5	...	48	8	77	18	1,880	2,074	...	194
Hawkers and Pedlars	42	...	9	...	...	...	46	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	51	35	16	...
Immigration (Commonwealth)	33	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	26	1	4	...	4	1	37	34	3	...
Inebriates	74	23	20	5	...	...	...	...	75	25	14	3	5	...	122	111	11	...
Inflammable Liquid .....	...	...	6	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8	...	2
Landlord and Tenant .....	...	...	306	43	...	...	4	1	...	...	159	12	143	30	349	230	119	...
Liquor (other than sly grog)	172	10	2,532	79	...	...	2,434	54	...	...	84	13	186	22	2,793	2,626	167	...
Local Government and Ordinances	60	...	3,416	236	...	...	2,969	172	...	...	85	9	422	55	3,712	3,452	260	...
Lotteries and Art Unions	36	1	63	2	...	...	71	2	...	1	3	...	25	...	102	28	74	...
Lunacy	127	44	3	...	...	...	...	...	29	16	30	4	71	24	174	116	58	...
Marriage .....	...	...	23	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	9	11	10	42	35	7	...
Medical Practitioners	18	...	2	1	...	...	19	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	21	2	19	...
Money-lenders and Infants Loans .....	...	...	11	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	4	...	13	85	...	72
Navigation (Commonwealth)	2	...	6	...	1	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	24	...	16
Obscene and Indecent Publications	11	...	16	...	1	...	14	...	4	...	6	...	2	...	27	13	14	...
Pastures Protection	13	...	669	7	...	...	584	5	1	...	27	...	70	2	689	1,252	...	563
Pistol License (other than unlicensed pistol)	2	1	8	1	...	...	4	1	1	...	2	1	3	...	12	21	...	9
Poisons .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	42	...	40
Police Offences	91	2	178	5	1	...	192	3	3	...	54	2	19	2	276	279	...	3
Police Offences (Drugs).....	11	4	44	7	...	...	41	5	2	1	7	2	5	3	66	44	22	...
Police Regulation	2	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	13	...	9
Post and Telegraph (Commonwealth)	52	...	395	48	11	...	420	48	5	...	10	...	1	...	495	472	23	...

Appendix "B"—continued.

OFFENCES.	Arrests.		Summons Cases.		How dealt with.										Total.	Total for Previous Year.	In-crease.	De-crease.	
					Committed for Trial.	Disposed of Summarily.						Withdrawn or Discharged.							
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	Fined.		Imprisoned.				Otherwise dealt with.		M.	F.		
Breaches of Acts generally (including offences not provided for under the foregoing headings)—continued.	25	2	106	22	...	...	85	15	5	...	15	...	26	9	155	107	48	...
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	4	...	4	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	8	5	3	...
Printing	2	...	267	27	...	...	198	8	...	...	19	3	52	16	296	155	141	...
Public Health .....	...	...	78	...	...	...	74	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	78	64	14	...
Public Roads .....	...	...	1,351	52	...	...	1,241	50	...	...	48	1	62	1	1,403	1,418	...	15
Pure Food	10	...	8	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	18	34	...	16
Second-hand Dealers and Collectors .....	...	...	31	1	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	32	15	17	...
Stock Diseases .....	...	...	9	1	...	...	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	28	...	18
Sunday Trading (Refreshment Rooms)	7	...	28	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	35	40	...	5
Sydney Harbour Trust	24	1	45	1	...	...	63	2	...	...	6	...	...	...	71	46	25	...
Theatres and Public Halls	1	...	43	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	42	2	47	26	21	...
Venereal Diseases .....	...	...	131	3	...	...	129	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	134	118	16	...
Weights and Measures .....	...	...	84	25	...	...	78	23	...	...	...	...	6	2	109	94	15	...
Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection	6	1	4	...	...	...	9	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	11	9	2	...
Wool, Hide and Skin Dealers	138	5	3,369	266	1	...	2,640	175	36	1	136	17	694	78	3,778	7,301	...	3,523	
Any other Acts	142	22	121	16	...	...	125	14	72	13	34	8	32	3	301	219	82	...
Vagrancy (except offences specially provided for elsewhere)...	Total	2,764	376	16,507	1,372	29	...	15,085	1,074	380	82	1,395	264	2,382	328	21,019	24,618	...	3,599
RECAPITULATION.	Offences against the person	4,008	210	3,173	724	1,180	42	1,284	123	235	13	1,263	142	3,219	614	8,115	7,912	203	...
Offences against property.....	4,188	110	208	68	1,659	27	689	49	293	3	1,313	35	442	64	4,574	3,796	778	...	
Larceny, frauds and kindred offences	15,541	1,706	157	23	1,726	53	5,257	920	3,248	125	4,299	512	1,168	119	17,427	15,176	2,251	...	
Offences against the currency .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offences against good order	95,445	8,702	2,535	913	73	3	27,154	4,967	1,639	242	67,278	4,014	1,836	389	107,595	97,022	10,573	...	
Offences against the traffic laws	12,315	110	80,975	2,357	...	...	82,869	2,253	99	...	5,044	135	5,278	79	95,757	122,581	...	26,824
Breaches of Acts generally	2,764	376	16,507	1,372	29	...	15,085	1,074	380	82	1,395	264	2,382	328	21,019	24,618	...	3,599	
Total	134,261	11,214	103,555	5,457	4,667	125	132,338	9,386	5,894	465	80,592	5,102	14,325	1,593	254,487	271,105	...	16,618	

Appendix "B"—continued.

Application For Orders, 1955.

CLASSIFICATION.	Orders Made.		No Orders Made (after evidence).		Cases Withdrawn, etc.		Total Cases.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
For Maintenance—									
Wife	1,532	2	157	1	1,416	3	3,105	6	3,111
Child.....	1,210	7	60	...	319	4	1,589	11	1,600
Under Lunacy Act	3	1	1	...	...	...	4	1	5
Varying order for maintenance	881	246	97	37	232	76	1,210	359	1,569
Preliminary Expenses	49	...	7	...	19	...	75	...	75
Uncontrollable Child	37	25	11	8	3	4	51	37	88
Neglected Child	174	250	28	36	12	7	214	293	507
Breach conditions of release	224	17	47	7	26	...	297	24	321
Detention of property	2,334	1,417	34	10	1,741	1,075	4,109	2,502	6,611
Fraudulent removal (Landlord and Tenant)	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Prohibition (Liquor Act)	258	19	34	3	94	14	386	36	422
Sureties (Threats, &c., and apprehended injuries to property)	107	9	26	...	135	21	268	30	298
Lunacy Act. Orders for detention in institutions	1,130	1,263	1,061	583	202	108	2,393	1,954	4,347
Under—									
Forestry Act	1	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	3
Landlord and Tenant (other than fraudulent removal)	2,787	658	607	225	2,102	470	5,496	1,353	6,849
Local Government Act	46	1	67	...	30	6	143	7	150
Masters and Servants Act	505	18	127	9	609	22	1,241	49	1,290
Public Health Act	54	20	5	4	47	21	106	45	151
Child Welfare Act	57	7	11	2	36	6	104	15	119
Industrial Arbitration Act (Trade Union levies)	711	15	110	9	187	1	1,008	25	1,033
Other Acts	462	120	88	18	338	65	888	203	1,091
Total	12,563	4,095	2,578	952	7,550	1,903	22,691	6,950	29,641

Non-Compliance With Orders, 1955.

CLASSIFICATION.	Cases Withdrawn or Discharged.		Cases in which orders were sub- sequently obeyed.		Cases in which defendants were imprisoned.		Total persons brought before the Court.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
For Maintenance—									
Wife	935	1	3,185	...	389	...	4,509	1	4,510
Child.....	166	...	468	...	59	...	693	...	693
Under Lunacy Act .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Preliminary Expenses	1	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	3
Detention of property	5	2	...	...	2	...	7	2	9
Sureties (Threats, &c., and apprehended injuries to property)	24	...	1	1	...	...	25	1	26
Under—									
Forestry Act	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Landlord and Tenant Act	29	6	106	25	9	...	144	31	175
Local Government Act	6	2	4	1	...	...	10	3	13
Masters and Servants Act .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Public Health Act	3	1	2	...	...	...	5	1	6
Child Welfare Act	3	...	7	...	4	...	14	...	14
Industrial Arbitration Act (Trade Union levies)	1	...	5	...	...	...	6	...	6
Other Acts	11	...	10	...	6	...	27	...	27
Costs of Court	42	...	99	4	...	...	141	4	145
Total	1,227	12	3,889	31	469	...	5,585	43	5,628

APPENDIX "C".

TABLE Showing—

- (1) The relative strength of the New South Wales Police Force to the total population.
 (2) The number of cases before the Courts, and number relative to the population for the 20 years 1936 to 1955 inclusive :—

Year.	Strength of Force. (a)		Cases Before the Court.		General Population.
	Number.	Per 1,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 1,000 of Population.	
1936	3,727	1.39	144,707	54	2,681,736
1937	3,818	1.40	125,791	47	2,710,738
1938	3,803	1.40	115,521	42	2,735,695
1939	3,905	1.42	144,848	52	2,770,348
1940	3,904	1.42	149,421	53	2,793,321
1941	3,851	1.37	133,470	47	2,797,027
1942	3,763	1.31	154,531	55	2,828,639
1943	3,676	1.29	135,503	47	2,858,273
1944	3,598	1.25	126,501	44	2,870,956
1945	3,677	1.27	141,079	49	2,893,656
1946	3,958	1.35	173,311	59	2,929,447
1947	4,196	1.41	180,835	60	2,985,285
1948	4,298	1.42	198,456	66	3,025,319
1949	4,344	1.39	205,817	66	3,113,659
1950	4,410	1.36	214,917	66	3,244,597
1951	4,470	1.35	242,190	73	3,317,182
1952	4,641	1.36	269,197	79	3,405,389
1953	4,776 (b)	1.38	276,566	80	3,454,243
1954	4,719 (b)	1.38	294,282 (c)	86	3,423,887
1955	4,921 (b)	1.40	315,666 (c)	90	3,505,100 (d)

(a) Including Trackers and Police Cadets.

(b) Includes Parking Police, Women Police, Special Constables and Matrons.

(c) Includes also cases of parking fines paid to the Police Department and not brought before the Court.

(d) Latest estimate, 30th September, 1955.