

123. *Colonel Pitt.*] Solely from fines?—Largely made up from fines; but when the two forces were separated in 1886 it was halved—the police got their half, and the Armed Constabulary their half.

124. *The Chairman.*] Made up of fines inflicted on the men themselves?—Inflicted on the members of the old Armed Constabulary Force. It is at the discretion of the Commissioner to give these rewards for meritorious conduct, showing any special aptitude in any special case—detection or anything of that sort. I generally asked the Minister to approve it; but I believe there is no reason why the Commissioner should not do it. I think I have given it myself in some cases. There is also an item on the estimates for rewards for sly-grog selling. The Minister has to approve of that. I may say rewards are always given in the cases of detection of sly-grog-selling.

125. *The Chairman.*] That reward is at the disposal of the Minister?—Yes; a separate fund. Anything over £5 in connection with the Police Reward Fund has to get the sanction of the Governor. Then, there is £8 given for every deserter from the Navy.

126. *Colonel Pitt.*] That is paid by the Admiralty?—£3 is paid by the Admiralty, and £5 by the Colonial Government.

127. Who gets the £8?—The constable that makes the arrest. Then, £3 is given for stragglers by the ship.

128. That is for over-staying leave?—Yes. Of course, the ship deducts it from the men's pay. Merchantmen also give a reward for the apprehension of their men.

129. *The Chairman.*] In those cases the reward is a personal one to the constable apprehending?—Yes, and it is entered in the man's merit-sheet.

130. *Colonel Pitt.*] One matter we have to inquire into, Colonel Hume, upon which you might give us your experience, is as to the morality of the Force during the time you were Commissioner?—It seems to me that in regard to that it would be well to produce the defaulters' sheets. They will show you for the last ten years how many men have been punished. Of course, I cannot say whether men have been immoral and not been detected, or whether they have been drunkards and not been detected. If any particular case is brought up the papers can be produced. I may say I am entirely satisfied with the morality of the Force, and its sobriety, and I consider that in this colony we have a thoroughly reliable and efficient Police Force, and that there is no disorganization.

131. *The Chairman.*] Can you suggest an improvement in the system of rewards for the detection of crime?—No; I think the rewards are ample.

132. Ample with respect to the arresting of deserters, and so on. Do you suggest any system of rewards for the detection of crime, or do you think it unnecessary?—You can go up to any amount you like, only the Governor's sanction has to be obtained after £5, but I have never known it to be refused.

133. Have you anything further you would like to state at the present moment?—No, I think not.

134. *Mr. Poynton.*] How do the rates of pay of the warders compare with the police?—A warder on entering the service gets £125 a year and quarters, or £20 a year in lieu of quarters—that is to say, if we have not got a house to give him, and he is a married man, he gets an allowance of £20.

135. He also gets his uniform?—Yes; uniform free, but not food.

136. *Colonel Pitt.*] How long is his uniform supposed to last him?—He gets a serge suit and two pair of boots and an extra pair of winter trousers once a year, and a dress suit, which he has to wear on Sundays and at the Supreme Court, every three years, and a great-coat every three years, and a cap every year. Of course, he gets nothing else—no rewards, or anything of that sort.

137. *Mr. Poynton.*] Are they recruited from the Police Force or the Artillery?—Principally from the Artillery, and some outsiders, too. If a policeman asks to be transferred he generally is if he is a good man.

138. What is the system of granting leave in both branches?—The police get twelve days' leave a year on full pay, and the warders fifteen days—fourteen days, and an extra day for Queen's birthday.

139. A man cannot forego his leave one year and take double the period of leave next year?—No, it is not cumulative.

140. You were getting no pay as Commissioner of Police?—None whatever. I never had a penny; and part of the time I was Under-Secretary for Defence, for which also I got nothing.

141. *The Chairman.*] You ceased to be Commissioner of Police when?—On the 25th October, 1897. When I handed the department over to Mr. Tunbridge I received the thanks of the Minister for having satisfactorily performed the work.

142. *Mr. Taylor.*] I propose, first of all, to ask Colonel Hume some questions about the police regulations. The regulations that are in force now were gazetted on the 12th January, 1887, I think, with some slight alterations which took place in March of last year?—That is so.

143. Section 7, or regulation 7, and regulation 59, were repealed on the 18th March, 1897?—Yes.

144. Regulation 7 reads: "Applications for enrolment in the Police Force (hereinafter termed 'the Force') are to be made from the Permanent Militia exclusively (see section No. 59)". That was supposed to be in full operation from the 18th October, 1887, up to the 18th March, 1897. Was the rule fully enforced?—No. Of course you cannot get blood out of a stone. There were no men, and the police could not wait.

145. In your report of 1891 you say "the recruiting from the Permanent Force continues to work very satisfactorily"?—Yes, that is right.