

323. Have you files of documents in the Inspectors' offices that have never been to the Commissioner?—Yes.

324. Do you remember the case of Constable Gantley: was that in your time?—He was doing plain-clothes duty since I was here.

325. Do you remember correspondence in which a charge was made against him, just prior to his removal to Oamaru?—In connection with what?

326. Do you remember any charge made against him? What was the cause of his going to Oamaru?—I cannot tell you what was the cause of his going to Oamaru.

327. Do you remember if there was a charge made against him for an offence of some kind?—No, there was no proper charge made.

328. What do you call a proper charge?—No one charged him. I believe there was some inquiry made in regard to his showing photographs in the bar of some hotel. I think he was called upon for some explanation by Colonel Hume.

329. Would a matter of that kind be conducted verbally?—It ought not to be, but I cannot find any documents. I was looking yesterday, but I cannot find any record. My recollection is that Colonel Hume wrote a memorandum asking why Constable Gantley was showing a photograph in a public bar; and the constable explained that it was the photograph of a criminal, and the matter dropped.

330. Was it not that he was showing French cards in the bars in Wellington?—I am positive it was not that.

331. Was he not showing obscene pictures?—I do not remember such a thing.

332. Do you remember that he was shifted very suddenly—on the very day that the complaint was made?—I do not think so for a moment. It was some time after that. At any rate, no reason was given for his transfer; we simply got a memorandum that he was to be transferred, and he went.

333. Do you remember Sergeant Shirley being removed from Mount Cook to Dunedin?—Yes.

334. Do you remember whether any complaint was made against him in connection with his conduct?—I do not recollect anything.

335. If there was a complaint, would not that record be in your office?—It might be, or it might be in the Commissioner's office. If a complaint was proved against any member of the Force it would certainly go to the Commissioner's office for permanent record. If there was nothing in the complaint, the Inspector would mark it "File," and it would be filed in the district office.

336. Do you remember Constable McCormack?—Yes; he was here in Wellington.

337. Was there an order in connection with an affiliation case passed through your hands in connection with that man?—I do not think there was while he was in Wellington.

338. Do you remember it being sent to Dunedin after him?—I believe there was an order made in the Court.

339. Was it an order for imprisonment for the non-payment of the maintenance of an illegitimate child of his?—I believe there was a warrant of commitment sent down, and he paid the money. In fact, I think he paid the money before the warrant reached Dunedin.

340. What is your rank now?—Third-class sergeant.

341. When you were appointed to do clerical work were you promoted?—I was eight years third-class constable doing clerical work without getting any promotion.

342. Do you remember Constable McGill? Was he not promoted to be a first-class constable on being made district clerk?—He was promoted to the rank of first-class constable because he was taken into the Commissioner's office to replace a man who was getting £240 a year.

343. Do you consider that a fair promotion, from your standpoint?—I do. I think he was worth more. I was very sorry to lose him; he was an excellent man.

344. Do you know that the district clerk at Christchurch has not received any promotion?—I know he received promotion to the extent of £44 a year. He was promoted from third-class to first-class constable, and got 10s. a week house-allowance.

345. Do you know what happened to the Dunedin man when he was appointed?—Sergeant Bell has been there over thirty years.

346. Do you know if he gets any special pay?—Oh, yes; I think so. Sergeant Bell's salary is about £246 a year.

347. Referring to the documents about Gantley: you expected to find the document, or you would not have looked for it yesterday?—I expected to find a record in our minute-book.

348. I suppose the Commissioner's office sometimes sends to your office for records?—Yes.

349. Do you keep a record of what goes from your office to them?—Yes.

350. So if any document went from your office to them, you would have a record of it?—Yes.

351. *Mr. Tunbridge.*] In regard to Constable McCormack: Can you say whether this was a case of bastardy that occurred before the constable joined the service, or otherwise?—I cannot say.

352. Is McCormack a young man?—Yes.

353. Probably it was a case of bastardy before he joined the service?—It might have been.

354. *Colonel Hume.*] What position did you hold when you were made district clerk?—I was a third-class constable.

355. Where?—At Invercargill.

356. And you were specially brought to Wellington to be district clerk?—Yes; from Dunedin.

357. Were you told before you came what pay was to be given?—My telegram said that I was appointed district clerk, with rank of first-class constable.

358. Did you get any allowance at all on coming here?—I got an allowance of 1s. a day that I had been drawing for years in Invercargill and Dunedin struck off me. In fact, I had 17s. per week knocked off me when I came here.