

Department. My own opinion is that the present rate of pay is not inadequate, but that in some of the ranks the intervals between the regulation increments are far too long. It takes a constable sixteen years to rise from the minimum of 7s. 6d. a day to the maximum of 9s. 6d. a day. I think that if this period were shortened, and a small allowance made for long service and good conduct, good results would ensue. An alternative would be to fix a higher minimum and maximum rate, but the whole question is one of money, and later on it will receive careful consideration.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

Extracts from the annual reports of the Inspectors in charge of districts are hereto annexed.

F. WALDEGRAVE,
Commissioner of Police.

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF DISTRICTS.

INSPECTOR CULLEN, AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

The criminal statistics which were forwarded to you in due time show that the total number of offences reported was 6,385, being an increase of 322 over that of the preceding year.

The casualties amongst the constables have been as follows: 2 died, 1 retired on superannuation on reaching the age-limit, 1 retired on superannuation as medically unfit, 5 resigned to better their positions, and 5 were called upon to resign on account of unsatisfactory conduct on their part. There were no casualties in any of the other ranks.

The strength of the district has been increased by 1 sergeant and 13 constables, who have been distributed as follows: The sergeant replaced a constable in charge at Dargaville, 4 constables were posted in Auckland Station, and 1 each to each of the following stations: Newton, Eden Terrace, Freeman's Bay, Hamilton, Huntly, Te Kuiti, Taumarunui, Remuera, and Herekino, the constable sent to the latter place replacing a district constable there.

The steady increase in population which has taken place and is still going on in the city and suburban areas as well as in the country townships makes a further augmentation to the strength of the police necessary during the current year, as shown hereunder:—

Stations.	Ser- geants.	Con- stables.	Detec- tives.	Total.
Auckland City	1	8	2	11
Queen Street Wharf	..	2	1	3
Ponsonby	1	3	..	4
Newton	..	1	..	1
Eden Terrace	..	1	1	2
Newmarket	..	1	..	1
Onehunga	..	1	..	1
Otahuhu	..	1	..	1
Pukekohe	..	1	..	1
Hamilton	..	1	1	2
Huntly	1	..	..	1
Cambridge	..	1	..	1
Te Kuiti	1	..	..	1
Taumarunui	1	..	..	1
For new stations as under:				
Richmond, Grey Lynn	..	1	..	1
Mount Albert	..	1	..	1
Takapuna	..	1	..	1
Owen's Road, Epsom	..	1	..	1
Mount Eden Road South	..	1	..	1
	5	26	5	36

New stations have been opened at Remuera and Maungaturoto, and the station at Pahi, in the Maungaturoto district, has been closed. A site and residence have been purchased at Remuera for police purposes. A site has also been purchased at Maungaturoto, where station buildings are very much needed.

New stations should be opened at Richmond (Grey Lynn), Mount Albert, Takapuna, Owen's Road (Epsom), Mount Eden Road South. Sites for stations should be secured without delay in the above-named localities.

Sites for stations should also be secured at Freeman's Bay, Mount Roskill, Kingsland, Northcote, Hobsonville, Ohaeawai, Houhora, Herekino, Devonport, and Huntly, at all of which places except Hobsonville the Department is paying rents for the premises occupied as police-stations.

As the rank of station sergeant has not been a success, I beg to suggest that it be abolished altogether and that of senior sergeant substituted, and that a number of the most promising sergeants should be appointed senior sergeants, so that suitable men can be selected from their number to take charge of the large central stations when vacancies occur there from time to time. The present station sergeants should, of course, retain their present senior position at the head of the list of the senior sergeants.