



IV. Informes 1900-1901 a 1907- 1908



Año 1900-1901

ANNUAL REPORT
OF CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE

From May 1, 1900, to May 1, 1901

PUBLIC ORDER

From May 1, 1900, to May 1, 1901.

When the civil government assumed control of public affairs in Porto Rico of course the military forces were primarily charged with the maintenance of public order. These consisted not only of the regular troops stationed here, but also of eight companies of volunteers in the United States service known as the Porto Rican regiment. Their efforts were supplemented by the municipal police in each town and municipality throughout the island, and by the insular police, which at that time numbered 420 officers and men under Col. Frank Techter as its chief. These peace officers were kept moderately busy preventing disturbances and making arrests for infraction of the law. The municipal police, however, were found to be in a great degree inefficient, owing to various causes, and the legislative assembly passed an act increasing the force of the insular police and abolishing the municipal police except in six of the larger cities and towns, and authorizing the governor to replace the police of those places at any time with the insular police. By the same act the potential strength of the insular police was increased to 739 men. Since the adjournment of the legislature, on petition of the city council of San Juan, the municipal police in that city has been abolished, and their places supplied with a detachment from the insular force. The change has been found to be beneficial. The insular police now number 664 all told; consisting of 1 chief, 1 assistant chief, 4 captains, 7 first lieutenants, 5 second lieutenants, 11 sergeants, 70 corporals, and 565 privates. They are stationed at sixty-seven different places over the island. They have

cost the Government during the first ten months of this year \$160,648.30, a monthly average of \$16,064.83, or an average of \$29.16 for each man per month. They have made during the eleven months ending on the 31st. of March 3,902 arrests for various crimes and misdemeanor, ranging from murder to gambling, and including escapes from prisons and petty misdemeanors. On the whole this little island has been reasonably orderly and law-abiding under the control of the civil government. Full details in regard to the valuable services of the insular police will be found in the report of its chief--Appendix, Chapter VIII.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE

Headquarters of the Insular Police,

San Juan, P. R., March 31, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the following report on the insular police of Porto Rico, covering the period from May 1, 1900 to March 31, 1901.

The insular police was organized on February 13, 1899, for the protection of lives and properties in the rural sections of the island, and its strength was increased from time to time until on May 1, 1900, the date of your inauguration as governor of Porto Rico, it consisted of 1 chief, 1 assistant chief, 4 captains, 5 first lieutenants, 5 second lieutenants, 2 secretaries, 49 corporals, and 353 privates, a total of 420 officers and men, distributed throughout the island in 50 posts.

On July 1, 1900, the insular police was ordered to furnish the wardens and guards for the penitentiary and jails of the island, and its strength was increased by 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 6 sergeants, 14 corporals, and 109 privates, so that it then consisted of a total of 551 officers and men.

The legislative assembly, on January 31, 1901, passed a law creating and providing for an insular police of Porto Rico, which was approved by you on the same day. Under its provisions the wardens of the penitentiary and jails ceased to be members of the insular police, and the duties of the insular police were extended by abolishing all municipal police forces in all towns of less than 6,000 inhabitants and requiring the insular police to perform police duties therein.

This act further established a commission of insular police, consisting of the chief of insular police as president and two other members. It conferred powers on the commission to increase the force and fix the salaries within a

certain limit established by law and subject to your approval, to make all enlistments and discharges, and to exercise a general supervision over the force.

On February 23, 1901, the commission of insular police, with your approval, increased the strength of the insular police by 1 sergeant, 7 corporals, and 68 privates. This force was then distributed by me throughout the urban and rural sections of the entire island with the exception of the cities of San Juan, Ponce, Mayaguez, Arecibo, Aguadilla, and Yauco, which continued their municipal police under the act above mentioned.

On the petition of the municipal council of San Juan and by your direction the insular police on March 23 replaced the municipal police of said city, performing all police duties therein. For this purpose the commission increased the force by 4 sergeants and 35 privates.

The total force consists at the present day of 1 chief, 1 assistant chief, 4 captains, 5 first lieutenants, 5 second lieutenants, 1 first lieutenant and paymaster, 1 first lieutenant and adjutant, 11 sergeants, 70 corporals, and 565 privates-a total of 664 officers and men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INSULAR POLICE

The island is divided into 5 districts, each under the command of a captain; each district contains 3 precincts, the captain commanding one and a first lieutenant and a second lieutenant the others. A precinct contains four or more posts, each in command of a noncommissioned officer; from each post one or more detachments are thrown out.

The total number of posts in the island is 67. It may therefore be said that all sections of the island are thoroughly patrolled by the insular police.

ENLISTMENTS.

All enlistments are for a period of two years and are made by the commission of insular police after applicants have successfully passed a rigid examination. The requirements are that applicants must be citizens of Porto Rico, between the ages of 21 and 40 years, not less than 5 feet 6 inches in height, weight not less than 130 pounds, physically sound, of good moral character, and able to read and write.

PROMOTIONS.

Vacancies of noncommissioned officers are filled by the promotion of privates who have recommended to the chief by their captains after competitive examination.

Vacancies in the grade of second lieutenant are filled by the promotion of noncommissioned officers, who are recommended to the governor by the commission of insular police after a severe competitive examination.

Vacancies in the higher grades of officers are filled at the pleasure of the governor.

PUNISHMENTS.

Slight breaches of discipline are punished by the captains, who have authority to impose upon the offender a fine of not exceeding \$10 or arrest not exceeding ten days. Appeal from such sentence may be made to the commission of insular police.

Graver crimes are punished by sentence of a court-martial. All proceedings, findings, and sentences of a court-martial are reviewed by the commission, who has the power to approve, modify, or disapprove any such sentence.

TRANSFERS.

The members of the force, especially the officers and noncommissioned

officers, are frequently transferred to another station, as a long stay at one station interferes with efficient service on account of the friendships and familiarities.

ARMS AND EQUIPMENTS.

All arms and equipments in use by the force are the property of the United States Government. Most of the equipments, such as cartridge-belts, gun-slings, etc., have after more than two years' constant service become entirely worn-out and unfit for further service. It is an absolute necessity that these be replaced.

I would also respectfully recommend that the whole force, or at least a part of it, be armed with carbines instead of rifles, as at present, as a great part of the service of the insular police is performed mounted, and the long and heavy Springfield rifles are a great hindrance, especially in the mountainous regions.

SALARIES.

The yearly salaries of the force have been established by the commission of insular police to be as follows, since February 1, 1901:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Chief ----- | \$2,500 | First lieutenant----- | \$1,000 |
| Captain and assistant chief ---- | 1,600 | Second Lieutenant ----- | 900 |
| Captain ----- | 1,500 | Sergeant ----- | 600 |
| First Lieutenant and adjutant-- | 1,000 | Corporal ----- | 480 |
| First lieutenant and paymaster-- | 1,200 | Private ----- | 360 |

A number of privates, not exceeding 125, who furnish and maintain a serviceable horse for the use of the insular police, are classed as mounted, and receive a salary of \$420 yearly.

COST OF MAINTENANCE

The total expenses of the insular police for salaries, transportation, rent of quarters and stables, furniture, and incidentals during the ten months from May 1, 1900, to February 28, 1901, were \$160,648.30, a monthly average of \$16,064.83, and an average per man per month of \$29.16.

SERVICES

The important services rendered by the insular police are recognized by all citizens, and very few complaints are received about the conduct of its members or the efficiency of its service. The insular police has succeeded in providing ample protection to lives and property, preventing serious crimes from being committed, and maintaining the public order at all times.

Large labor strikes throughout the island and the elections of the past year have been the means of demonstrating that the insular police can be relied upon to fulfill the duties for which it was created.

Since the installment of civil government it has furnished the guard for the palace of the governor.

Since July 1, 1900, it has guarded all the prisons on the island and also the prisoners at work outside the prisons. It can be pointed out, with pride on my part, that during this entire time only a single prisoner has succeeded in making his escape from its custody.

ARRESTS.

From May 1, 1900, until March 1, 1901, the following number of arrests have been made by the insular police, and for the causes indicated:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Murder ----- | 56 | Rape ----- | 83 |
| Attempted murder ----- | 18 | Gambling ----- | 192 |
| Assault ----- | 70 | Escape from prisons --- | 65 |
| Highway robbery ----- | 39 | By order of judge ----- | 571 |
| Horse and cattle stealing --- | 260 | Other causes ----- | <u>1,165</u> |
| Burglary ----- | 327 | Total ----- | 3,902 |
| Theft ----- | 1,015 | | |
| Arson ----- | 41 | | |

REGULATIONS.

New regulations for the government of the insular police were drafted by me, adopted by the commission of insular police, and approved by you on March 1, 1901. They are very complete, and will require very few alterations in the future.

EMERGENCY FUND.

Each member of the insular police is required to deposit from his monthly pay the sum of 50 cents with his captain. The fund so accumulated is used for advancing money to members who may have to meet extraordinary expenses on account of transfer, detached service, or special duty; also to make advance payments on purchases of uniforms, etc., for the members.

On his discharge each man receives the full amount deposited by him in the fund, which may therefore be considered as an attempt to institute a savings band among the members of the force.

MUTUAL AID SOCIETY.

The mutual aid society was organized about eighteen months ago for the purpose of providing a fund for the families of members who are killed or

permanently disabled in the performance of their duties; in each such case every member contributed the sum of \$1; lately, however, this contribution has been reduced to 50 cents on account of the increase in the force.

Every member of the Insular police is also a member of this society. The officers of the society are elected by ballot.

Since its organization the society has contributed to the relief of the families of seven deceased members, in each case donating sums of \$350 to \$400.

CONCLUSION.

The relations of myself with the officers and men of the Insular police as their chief, and with the members of the commission as their president have at all times been extremely pleasant.

Hoping that the past conduct of myself and all other members of the Insular police has met with your approval and may continue to do so in future, I am, sir.

Very respectfully,

Frank Techter,
Chief of Insular Police.

Hon. Charles H. Allen,
Governor of Porto Rico, San Juan, P. R.

INSULAR POLICE

While the United States soldiers stationed in the island, commencing with the general in command, have always been ready and willing to respond to any demand of the civil government, it is a pleasure to be able to say that since the 1st of May the conditions have been such that not a soldier has been called upon by the civil government to perform civilian work, nor has a single soldier been so employed.

The apprehension and arrest of criminals, the preservation of law and order, has been attended to by the insular police, which is practically the constabulary of the island.

This body of men, from the chief down through the whole organization, has been governed by an esprit de corps most commendable. As a force it is well disciplined, made up of an excellent personnel, and by the quality and impartiality of its membership commands respect all over the island. Placed often in trying circumstances, among people of its own nationality, it has never failed to respond to its duty with promptness, loyalty, and faithfulness. I have been closely associated with the force, and consider it a pleasure to bear witness to its general excellence and to commend it as an organization.

It would be well for you to consider whether or not in all towns and cities below 20,000 inhabitants protection to persons and property and efficiency and economy of administration would not be subserved by increasing the force to sufficient numbers to enable it to police the smaller towns under the alcaldes, and to be paid from the funds of the central government. Such an efficient control could be easily had by an increase of the force, and the details could be easily arranged.



Año 1901-1902

May 1, 1901 to July 1, 1902

REPORT OF CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE

Headquarters of the Insular Police,

San Juan, P. R., June 15, 1902

To His Excellency the Governor of Porto Rico.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the following report on the insular police of Porto Rico, covering the present fiscal year:

Since rendering my annual report in the past year very few changes have taken place in the organization of the force. During their last session the legislature passed an act to provide for the regulation and government of the insular police of Porto Rico, which went into effect on March 1, 1902. This act is a modification of the one passed a year ago, and many improvements have been introduced in the same. Among these must be counted the clearer definition of the several duties of the police commission and of the chief, which permits the affairs of the force to be handled without the slightest friction between these authorities.

The increase in the number of police districts from five to six, and the corresponding increase in the number of officers, has had a very good result by not only increasing the efficiency of the force, but by also stimulating the efforts of its members by well-merited promotions.

The greatest modification, however, introduced by the new act is the suppression of courts-martial. These resulted during the past year to the detriment of the force, as the punishment awarded to offenders by sentence of court-martial proved to be inadequate and uncertain in too many cases. Under the present system of trial by the police commission punishment of offenses is sure and swift, thereby greatly improving the discipline of the force.

The act also provides for transportation to be furnished to members of the force by the alcaldes of the various towns when traveling under orders from headquarters or in obedience to summons from the courts; for free medical assistance to the members of the insular police, and counsel for their defense when on trial for homicide committed in the line of duty; it also established rewards by awarding gold and silver medals to a few of the members distinguished by the performance of conspicuous acts of bravery.

As many of these changes are of great financial benefit to the members of the force by saving them large expenses formerly payable out of their meager salaries, their appreciation is shown by increased zeal in the performance of their duties.

The personnel of the force is being constantly improved; incapable and worthless men are being weeded out; and great care is exercised by the commission in the appointment of new men, only the best of the large number of applicants being selected for the vacancies.

The force at present consists of

| | |
|---|-----|
| Chief ----- | 1 |
| Captains ----- | 6 |
| First lieutenant and adjutant ----- | 1 |
| First lieutenant and paymaster ----- | 1 |
| First lieutenants ----- | 6 |
| Second lieutenant and inspector ----- | 1 |
| Second lieutenant and band leader ----- | 1 |
| Second Liwutenants ----- | 6 |
| Sergeants ----- | 12 |
| Corporals ----- | 70 |
| Privates (guardsmen) ----- | 565 |
| Total ----- | 670 |

In my last report I suggested the advisability of arming the force with carbines instead of rifles. The use of the rifle has now been entirely discontinued, as carbines have been secured from the United States Ordnance Department; a large part of the equipment has also been renewed. These arms and equipments were issued under the allotment of a part of the appropriation made by Congress for arming the militia of the several States and Territories. Such armament and equipment as remain worn out and unfit for service can be replaced within a few months from the above-mentioned appropriation for the coming fiscal year.

The salaries of the force remain the same as stated in my last report, excepting an increase of \$250 in the yearly pay of the chief and the discontinuance of the additional compensation to guardsmen who furnish and maintain a horse for the service.

The cost of maintaining the force for the eleven months of the present year, including all expenses for salaries, transportation, rent of quarters, furniture, postage, and incidentals, and including also the sum of \$1,000 expended in purchasing band instruments and music, amounts to \$259,06.78. This is a monthly average of \$23,555.16, and an average per man per month of \$35.16.

The insular police has continued to perform important services, and in such a manner that the policing of this island can be compared favorably with that of the States of the Union. During the last twelve months the following arrests have been made:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Murder ----- | 41 | Drunkenness ----- | 1,053 |
| Attempt to murder ----- | 52 | Disorderly conduct ----- | 1,858 |
| Arson ----- | 46 | Fighting ----- | 2,639 |
| Highway robbery ----- | 133 | Carrying concealed weapons ----- | 256 |
| Horse and cattle stealing ---- | 204 | Resisting police ----- | 298 |
| Burglary ----- | 282 | Violation of municipal ordinances | 1,097 |
| Rape ----- | 42 | Violation of sanitary laws ----- | 498 |
| Counterfeiting ----- | 7 | Cruelty to animals ----- | 164 |
| Perjury ----- | 5 | Prostitution ----- | 81 |
| Forgery ----- | 10 | Discharging firearms ----- | 92 |
| Theft ----- | 1732 | Vagrancy ----- | 136 |
| Receiving stolen property ---- | 25 | Escaped prisoners ----- | 66 |
| Swindling ----- | 50 | Fugitives from justice ----- | 170 |
| Gambling ----- | 1378 | By order of judge ----- | 2,415 |
| Abduction ----- | 525 | Other causes ----- | 2,492 |
| Smuggling and revenue frauds-- | 114 | | |
| Assault ----- | 1592 | Total ----- | 19,553 |

The large increase in the number of arrests, compared with the number in the previous year, is accounted for by the fact that the present report includes all arrests made in the cities and towns (with the exception of Ponce and Mayaguez), all of which had their own municipal police formerly.

During October, 1901, a band was organized from among the members of the force, consisting of 27 pieces. These men are stationed at the executive mansion and perform the guard duty there. As a guard their services have been efficient, and as a band they have proven themselves first-class musicians. The weekly concerts given by the band in San Juan and in Río Piedras are attended by large numbers of persons, who give well-deserved applause

to the classic and popular selections rendered by the band.

Of the 565 guardsmen composing the force about 125 are on special duty as guards at the penitentiary, jails, and public buildings. Adding to these the usual percentage of guardsmen sick and absent with leave, the number remaining for actual police duty is very small considering the extent of the country which is being policed by the insular police. After July 1, 1902, it will become necessary to make a still further reduction in this small force by detailing 41 guardsmen to act as court officers to the justices of peace. I would therefore respectfully recommend that on July 1, 1902, a slight increase be made in the present force by the appointment of 8 sergeants, 5 corporals, and 35 guardsmen, which is within the limit authorized by law.

Another recommendation which I feel it my duty to make is the establishment of a mounted section of 150 officers and guardsmen. The former system of additional compensation to such guardsmen as furnished and maintained their own horses having been discontinued, there are at present no mounts for the use of the insular police. It is almost impossible to perform the rural service on foot, especially during the rainy season, when the roads and rivers become impassable. Every post and subpost of insular police should have two mounted men for performing service in the rural sections.

The new law provides for the formation of a mounted section and; for the purchase of horses and equipment; it carries, however, no additional appropriation for such purpose. The equipments could be secured from the United States Ordnance Department under the appropriation for arming and equipping the militia; the cost of purchasing and maintaining for one year

150 horses should not exceed \$25,000. I believe that the police commission should be authorized to expend this amount, on account of the evident necessity of a mounted force, and in the firm conviction that the coming legislature will make provision for any deficiency in the appropriation that may be caused by such action.

On the whole, the services performed by the insular police during the past have proven its efficiency and its ability to maintain public order throughout the entire island. Further progress is being steadily made, and your approval of the foregoing recommendations is earnestly solicited in order to accomplish a still further and more rapid increase in the efficiency of the force which I have the honor to command.

Trusting that my labors and those of the entire force meet with your approval and may continue to deserve the same.

I am, very respectfully,

Frank Techter,
Chief of Insular Police

INSULAR POLICE

May 1, 1901 to July 1, 1902

The system of insular police, so wisely established by the first session of the legislative assembly, has proven most successful in its field of operation, and that field has been so extended that at the present time there are but two cities on the island in which municipal police are maintained, i. e., Mayaguez and Ponce; and it is a great pleasure to report that the operations of the police department, under the efficient control of the board of police commissioners and the chief appointed by the governor have proven a most efficient aid, not only in the preservation of peace and good order throughout the island, but also in making effective the administrative orders issued by this office. Being entirely nonpartizan in its character, it becomes at once a most effective agent in this direction, and I am thoroughly convinced it is as nearly an ideal institution of this character as has yet been formulated in any city or country in the world. The last session of the legislative assembly amended and revised the law relating to the insular police, in some respects extending its jurisdiction and perfecting the method of its operations, so that at the present time it would be hard to suggest any better agency for the effective administration of law and administrative orders than is thus afforded, and the only suggestion occurring in connection with this subject would be the further extension of its field of operation to the two cities which are still, at an unjustifiable expense, laboring under a heavy burden of indebtedness in maintaining their municipal police system.



Año 1902-1903

July 31, 1903

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE

Headquarters Insular Police
San Juan, P. R., July 31, 1903

SIR: In response to your communication requesting a report on the insular police for the past year I regret to say that I can not wholly and satisfactorily comply with your demand, as my incumbency as chief of this department dates only from February 1, 1903. Upon assuming my duties I found the insular police organized on the following basis:

On February 1, 1903, the insular police was composed of the following officers and men: One chief, 6 captains, 8 first lieutenants, 8 second lieutenants, 20 sergeants, 75 corporals, and 600 guardsmen.

The police were on duty in every town on the island, with the exception of Ponce and Mayaguez, the island being divided into six districts, with headquarters of each in the following cities: First district, San Juan; second district, Juana Dfaz; third district, Aguadilla; fourth district, Arecibo; fifth district, Humacao; sixth district, Cayey.

Each district is commanded by a captain who has a first lieutenant under him. The subordinate officers are charged with the custody of all records and equipments of the district, being responsible to the captains for same.

The equipments of the police consists of United States Springfield carbine, caliber 45; United States Colts revolver, caliber, 45, and the United States Army regulation web belts; 100 black leather McClellan saddles and regulation saddle blankets, and 100 regulation bridles (black leather) and bits, latest model. These arms and equipment are issued by the United States Ordnance Department, being authorized under the annual appropriation

made by Congress for the equipment of the militia of the several States and Territories.

The horses' equipments are not wholly used, there being only 20 horses which are now distributed among the six districts. The animals are mostly employed by the officers in their inspection of the respective posts.

The internal affairs of the police department in so far as they pertain to the conduct, and the moral character of the men, their enlistment and discharge, and the approval of accounts, are under the supervision of police commission, composed of two honorable and efficient Porto Ricans, Drs. Ricardo Hernández and Quevedo Baez, and Mr. James H. Harrison.

The law enacted by the legislative assembly at its last session, which ended March 1, 1903, did not make any material change in the police. The most important feature of the legislation was the creation of lieutenant-colonel as the title of the chief, and the appointment of an assistant chief and inspector with the rank of major. This practically completes the military character of the police in so far as it concerns the ranks, except for the men who are known as guardsmen instead of privates. An appropriation of \$10,000 was made for transportation, that was formerly by the cities, but which caused so much complaint, being considered too heavy a burden for the small cities that the legislature decided to make a separate appropriation for this purpose. The new law also provides for a detail of policemen to guard 300 convicts employed in building roads; this work was never done heretofore by prisoners. Many important changes have taken place in the police force since my installation in office. I desire, however, to call your attention to the fact that these changes have not wholly been effected by a radical change in the system, or in consequence of its inadequacy.

The changes have been mostly in the personnel, the commissioned and noncommissioned officers who have gone out, with the exception of Captain Wilcox, have held their ranks practically since the creation of the insular police on February 7, 1899. The withdrawal of these officers from the insular police took place under the following circumstances: Capt. E. B. Wilcox, resigned to accept the office of judge of the Ponce district court; Capt. José Urrutia, resigned on account of physical disability, being appointed later warden of the insular penitentiary; Lieut. Joaquin Ferran, resigned to accept the position of interpreter of the Arecibo district court; 2 captains resigned, their resignation being requested after an investigation of their conduct as officers; 10 noncommissioned officers were dismissed for various charges; 61 guardsmen were dismissed for various charges and 41 were discharged for physical disability.

The retirement of these officers necessitated a general promotion, which at the time caused a general transfer. The promotions were made upon the efficiency, service, and character of the individual officers, which also served as a guide in making the transfers.

On April 15, 1903, the city of Mayaguez was placed under the command of the insular police, leaving Ponce the only city not patrolled by this department. The conditions at Mayaguez up to occupancy of the town by this force were such that the municipal police were unable and incompetent to cope with them, the only security and safeguard being the insular police.

A school of instruction has been established in the governor's summer palace, at Rio Piedras. This innovation was deemed necessary to maintain the military base upon which the insular police had been organized and which had been considerably abandoned and neglected for some time, due to

the insufficient number of men doing actual duty in the island. Sacrifices had to be made in order to secure a sufficient number to start the school, but the work has been productive of results, especially in the discipline which have more than paid for the sacrifices. Ten men were drawn from each district, making a total of sixty, and assigned to the school for instruction, together with all the new men appointed as policemen.

The course of instruction which has been adopted at the school consists of the following subjects: Close order drills, manual of arms, physical drill with and without arms, police regulations, and the penal code, which are given in the class in written and oral recitations.

The men remain at the school until they are reported fit for duty by the officer in charge of the school. They are then assigned to a post for duty on the street.

The need of an assistant chief and inspector in order to secure a more perfect organization, guarantee justness and impartiality in all investigations of charges against the officers and men, and competently substitute the chief during his absence, became a necessity. For the position created Wilhelm Lutz was appointed on March 15, 1903, with the rank of major. Major Lutz has served in the cavalry service of the United States Army for years, leaving the Army after reaching Porto Rico to become a deputy marshal of the United States district court for the district of Porto Rico, which position he resigned to accept his present appointment.

The work of the police has been satisfactory during the six months that I have held the office of chief. The men have displayed a zealousness, efficiency, and fearlessness which makes them worthy of high praise. They have more than ever inspired the people with a feeling of safety and

security for their persons and property. There have been many indications for a notable improvement, which continues day by day, the men giving evidences of this in their physical appearance and the services which are being rendered.

Every effort has been made to stamp out gambling, which has flourished here for years and rid the island of gamblers. The success that has been attained is found in the records of the courts, which show that more arrests have been made for gambling during the last six months than has been made, perhaps, since the organization of the force. No similar period of time since the American occupation shows less crime, excluding, of course, gambling.

The following number of arrests have been made for crimes indicated:

| | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Murder----- | 52 | Attempt to kill ----- | 37 |
| Robbery----- | 146 | Abduction----- | 477 |
| Rape----- | 110 | Bigamy----- | 5 |
| Seduction----- | 216 | Crimes against nature ----- | 10 |
| Incest ----- | 1 | Burglary ----- | 43 |
| Arson ----- | 37 | Counterfeiting ----- | 5 |
| Forgery ----- | 6 | Cattle stealing ----- | 154 |
| Grand larceny ----- | 180 | Extortion ----- | 54 |
| Receiving stolen property | 16 | Perjury ----- | 46 |
| Swindling ----- | 253 | Smuggling and defrauding revenues | 372 |
| Bribery ----- | 19 | Resisting arrest ----- | 193 |
| Petit larceny ----- | 1392 | Gambling ----- | 2687 |
| Assault ----- | 2270 | Disorderly conduct ----- | 3088 |
| Drunkenness ----- | 636 | Cruelty to animals ----- | 473 |
| Fighting ----- | 1957 | Discharge of firearms ----- | 150 |
| Carrying weapons ----- | 359 | Prostitution ----- | 43 |
| Vagrancy ----- | 52 | Violation of sanitary laws ----- | 1064 |
| Violation of municipal ordinances ----- | 1323 | Fugitives from justice ----- | 286 |
| Escaped prisoners ----- | 61 | | |
| Other causes ----- | 3779 | Total ----- | 22078 |
| Manslaughter ----- | 26 | | |

Though the work has been very favorable it might still be bettered if all the men in the force were doing actual duty, such as patrolling towns and highways. The insular jails and penitentiary are guarded by 66 police-

men, while 46 are used as court officers in the justice courts; the guard at the executive mansion and men working at the headquarters number 38, making a total of 150 men who should be doing street or road duty. This leaves 450 men on actual duty, not counting the sick and the men on leave.

The population of the island, according to the last census, taken in 1899, was 953,245 inhabitants, including that of the island of Vieques. The actual number of men on duty are 450, making 1 policeman for every 2,116 inhabitants. The area of the island covered by this number of policemen is about 3,600 square miles.

The only remedy for the present conditions is an increase in the number of men, the duty devolving upon the legislature to augment the force, and there by insure absolute protection both in the cities and rural districts to personas and property. If any dissatisfaction or complaint is expressed by owners of plantations or other lands in the country as to the police duty, it can generally be attributed to the insufficient number of policemen.

The need of mounted detachments is becoming more imperative, one half of the total number of posts being in the country districts, which are connected by many impassable roads and trails, and which places many difficulties and hardships in the way of the police to reach the scene of crime in time to lend the proper assistance and duty. The men are compelled very often to walk many miles to some particular point, and so much time is consumed that a criminal has every opportunity to escape, and making it difficult at times to secure witnesses to a deed, who make off in order not to become complicated in the affair.

To overcome this I would suggest to your excellency that you recommend in your message to the legislative assembly the establishment of a

mounted detachment of 150 men, making 25 for each district. At two different sessions of the legislature appropriations were made for 125 mounted men, but for some reason they failed to appropriate money for the horses.

I would suggest that the number of dismounted men, which are now 600, be increased to 700, which, with the 150 mounted, would make a total of 850 men, or 250 men more than the appropriation allow for the year 1903-4. I would further request that 112 men doing duty in the penal institutions and the courts be withdrawn and assigned to city or country duty.

I would also suggest the establishment of a detective bureau, with headquarters at San Juan, in command of an officer. At present there are four detectives connected with the department, and the services they are rendered are of unequally importance. They have been ordered from time to time to make investigations of cases which have been either of a secret nature, or remained a mystery to the police, and it may be stated with satisfaction that they have never failed.

The present force includes the following number of officers and men:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Lieutenant-colonel (chief) ----- | 1 | Second lieutenant (band leader) ----- | 1 |
| Major (assistant chief) ----- | 1 | Second lieutenants ----- | 7 |
| Captains ----- | 6 | Sergeants ----- | 20 |
| First lieutenant, adjutant ----- | 1 | Corporals ----- | 75 |
| First lieutenant, paymaster ----- | 1 | Guardsmen ----- | 600 |
| First lietenants----- | 6 | | |

I feel that I am under obligations to your excellency and the police commission, which at present includes Dr. Ricardo Hernandez, Dr. Quevedo Baez, and Mr. James H. Harrison for the counsel and assistance in solving difficult problems which have arisen.

I wish to assure you that it is my intention to make this force second to none both in discipline and efficiency.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all the officers, commissioned and noncommissioned, of the force for their valuable aid in maintaining the high standard of efficiency of the insular police.

T. Hamill,
Colonel, Insular Police.

The Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

INSULAR POLICE

In all the cities and towns of Porto Rico save Ponce public order is now maintained by the insular-police system. The force is semi-military both in organization and appearance. Its members wear uniforms made of khaki and are provided with arms and equipments from the United States Ordnance Department, under allotment by Congress, just as are the militia of the varios Territories and States. The discipline, drill, and regulations of the force are in many respects similar to those of the Army. By enactment of the last legislative assembly the privates are called guardsmen, and the chief has the military title of lieutenant-colonel. There is also an assistant chief and inspector, who has the title of major.

The guardsmen are recruited from among the citizens of the island. In order to possess eligibility the candidates must be between the ages of 21 and 40 years, of good character and sound health, able to read and write, weighing not less than 130 pounds and being not less than 5 feet 6 inches in height, and possessing a chest movement of at least 2 inches. That these rules are adhered to rigidly is demonstrated by the fact that we have to-day a body of tall, well-built and efficient men. Appointments to the force are made by a commission of three, who constitute the insular police commission.

A school of instruction has been established at Rio Piedras, near San Juan, in order to drill and improve the corps. The school consists of ten men selected from each of the six districts in which the force of the island has been divided. These sixty men are given thorough practice and teaching in close-order drills, manual of arms, physical drill with and without arms, police regulations, and the penal code. They remain

at the school until reported fit for duty, when they are assigned to duty.

Promotions as corporal or sergeant are based upon the result of competitive examination and merit. The efforts to prevent political interference or activity by the insular force have been successful, and to this impartiality is to be attributed the high respect shown their authority.

During the past year the insular police made 22,078 arrests as compared with 19,553 for eleven months of the previous year. A detective bureau has been established in connection with the body.

The insular police will remain for several years to come directly in charge of life and property until the condition of the various towns permit of the organization and maintenance of municipal forces which will be as zealous, fearless, and efficient as the insular guard.



Año 1903-1904

July 1, 1903 to June 30, 1904

PUBLIC ORDER

July 1, 1903 to June 30, 1904

Order prevails throughout the island. This is due principally to the efficiency of the insular constabulary force, commanded by Col. Terrence Hammill as chief. On the 1st of June it was found necessary to replace the last of the municipal police in the city of Ponce by the insular police. The inefficiency of the former forces rendered this imperative, so that now the police regulations and administration are uniform throughout the island and the entire police force is responsible to the governor. The discipline of the police is good and the personnel of the force is being constantly bettered. The entire force of 600 is composed of natives, except the colonel, the major, and the paymaster. In no branch of governmental efficiency has there been a more decided improvement. Never, since civil government was established, has there been a call for the military forces. We have relied upon the Porto Rican insular police, which is well able to meet any situation that may arise.



Año 1904-1905

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1905

REPORT OF THE INSULAR POLICE

FISCAL YEAR 1904-1905

Porto Rico can be justly proud of its insular police force, composed entirely of Porto Ricans, with the exception of the chief and ; the assistant chief. The force numbers 550 men with 95 noncommissioned and 24 commissioned officers. They have the duty of policing the entire island, Ponce, the last city maintaining municipal police, having discontinued that body on June 1, 1904. The police, owing greatly to the energy and enthusiastic devotion to duty of their chief, Col. Terence Hamill, have shown themselves and impartial, model, and well-disciplined force. It is to a great extent due to the judgment and untiring watchfulness displayed by both officers and men that absolute prevailed during the election period, when the remarkable political excitement of the time rendered excesses and crimes of violence likely. This success is still more remarkable when it is considered that an island of 3,600 square miles with more than 1,000,000 inhabitants, which during Spanish times was guarded by over a thousand men in addition to the regular force of municipal police, is now policed by this small body of men alone. I am happy to say that the legislature at its last session increased this force by 100 men. The report of the chief of the insular police force may be found in the Appendix marked "Exhibit H".

In this connection I desire to say a word in support of the policy of maintaining the Porto Rican provisional regiment-a regiment composed of 548 Porto Rican soldiers and 31 officers, 8 of whom are citizens of Porto Rico. This regiment was originally organized as a single battalion in

March, 1899. In 1900 another battalion was added, and a regimental organization, including a band, was formed. The field officers are detailed, with their rank from the Regular Army, while the line officers hold commissions in the regiment for a term of four years. Owing to the most fortunate selection, at the time of the organization of the regiment, of Col. James A. Buchanan, now brigadier-general in the United States Army, as commanding officer, the regiment increased rapidly in efficiency and discipline. It was carefully instructed on military subjects, and daily schools for instruction in the English language were held, a fact which has been instrumental in extending a knowledge of this language into the remote parts of the island. It is true that the maintenance of this regiment is unnecessary in so far as it affects the peace of the island, but the same may be said of the regiments stationed in posts throughout the United States. The continuance of the regiment is of great moment to the people of Porto Rico, affording, as it does, a school for the mental and physical development of many of the natives of the island. It is a noticeable fact that after service with the regiment, owing to the regular life, nutritious food, and daily exercise, the men improve considerably in size and physique. Of the 800 men who have been discharged from this regiment, many have been enabled through their knowledge of the English language, secured in the regiment, to pass civil-service examinations for entrance to the Federal service. In others, the habits acquired of discipline and steady attention to duty have caused them to be sought after by the plantation owners and merchants to fill responsible places. The existence of the regiment, composed of native Porto Ricans, is a source of great satisfaction and pride to these people, and does much to inspire and impressive respect for the American flag.

EXHIBIT H

HEADQUARTERS INSULAR POLICE OF PORTO RICO

San Juan, P.R., June 30, 1905

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the following report regarding the services rendered by the insular police of Porto Rico during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905.

The organization, with the exception of a few changes, remains the same as last year. The changes made are as follows: The paymaster to have the rank of captain, and on July 1, 1904, the insular police ceased to guard the prisons and to serve process for courts, the latter, though only nominally, as they are daily called into service by the courts. On the same day the number of policemen was cut down to 550. That the last-mentioned change- that is, the reduction of the force by 50 men- has not been a wise one will be seen in this report hereafter.

The strength of the insular police at present is 669, including officers and men, all of whom below the rank of paymaster, with the exception of his clerk, are Porto Ricans. The island is divided into six districts, viz: San Juan, Ponce, Mayaguez, Arecibo, Humacao, and Guayama. Each district is divided into two precincts, and each precinct is again divided into posts and subposts and detachments, as the necessities may require. In all there are 47 posts, 27 subposts, and 20 detachments, covering an area of territory embracing 3,668 square miles and a population of about 1,000,000, this requiring the force to be distributed as follows:

| Name | : | Rank | : | Location |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Terence J. Hamill | : | Lieutenant-colonel chief | : | Headquarters, San Juan, P. R |

| Name | Rank | Location |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Wilhelm Lutz | Major, assistant chief and inspector | Do |
| William H. Hylan | Captain and paymaster | Do |
| Pedro A. Guerrero | Captain | Commanding Guayama district |
| Ernesto López Díaz | do | Commanding Mayaguez district |
| Francisco Cabera | do | Commanding Arecibo district |
| Ramon Fernandez Nater | do | Commanding Humacao district |
| Felipe Silen | do | Commanding Ponce District |
| Miguel Hurtado | do | Commanding San Juan district |
| John D. Gillies | Chief clerk | Pay department |
| Sergio Noa | First lieutenant | Commanding the first precinct, Arecibo district |
| Francisco Tallada | do | Commanding the first precinct, Mayaguez district |
| Mario Mas Padilla | do | Commanding the first precinct, San Juan district |
| Mariano Reyes | do | Commanding the first precinct, Humacao district |
| José Judice | First lieutenant and adjutant | In charge of department records |
| Arturo de la Rosa | First lieutenant | Commanding the first precinct, Guayama district |
| Francisco Verar | Second lieutenant | In charge of band and palace guard |
| José G. Iturrondo | do | Commanding the second precinct, Humacao district |
| Angel C. Villariny | do | Commanding the second precinct, Mayaguez district |
| Francisco Schettini | do | Commanding the second precinct, San Juan district |
| Francisco Casals | Second lieutenant | Commanding the second precinct, Arecibo district |
| José Soto Rodríguez | do | Commanding the second precinct, Guayama district |
| Juan Quiñones | Second Lieutenant, chief of detectives | Headquarters, San Juan, P.R. |
| Ramón Guanill | Second lieutenant, | Commanding the second precinct, Ponce district |

| Name | Rank | Location |
|-----------------------|----------|---|
| Ramón Salgado | Sergeant | Commanding post of Guayama |
| Eugenio Santaella | do | Commanding post of Arecibo |
| German Arguinzony | do | On duty with police band |
| Miguel de Jesús | do | Commanding post of Humacao |
| Gabriel Padial | do | Commanding post of Rio Grande |
| Rufino Torres | do | Commanding post of Vieques |
| José M. Pietrantonio | do | Commanding post of Mayaguez |
| Alfonso T. Cuin | do | Commanding post of Aguadilla |
| Esteban Lavergne | do | Commanding post of Fajardo |
| Ramón Paoli | do | Commanding post of Bayamón |
| Leonardo Recio | do | Commanding post of San Germán |
| Juan Lopez Diaz | do | Commanding post of Juana Diaz |
| Ramón Martínez Chapel | do | Commanding post of San Juan |
| Francisco Carreras | do | Commanding post of Caguas |
| Ezequiel Mongil | do | Headquarters, San Juan district |
| José C. Jimenez | do | Commanding post of Ponce |
| Miguel A. Franco | do | Headquarters, adjutant's office San Juan |
| Luis de Sanquirico | do | Private secretary to the chief, San Juan |
| Rafael San Millán | do | Commanding post of Río Piedras |
| Waldemar Bithorn | do | Commanding post of Camuy |

In addition to this there are 75 corporals and 550 guardsmen. The corporals command posts and subposts, according to their importance, and guardsmen are assigned to duty to posts according to the population of same. Detachments consist as a rule of two or three guardsmen, the senior in service being in charge.

The work of the insular police on this island is probably more varied than that of any other police force in the United States. Besides protecting life and property and prosecuting criminals, they assist nearly every department of the government on this island in the performance of their duties, and on many occasions policemen have done duty from fourteen to sixteen hours ~~out~~ of twenty-four, owing to the limited number of guardsmen at the disposition of a post commander.

The past year especially has been an ^eventful one for the insular police. Officers as well as guardsmen often were placed in very deliligence to bring matters to a succesful ending.

The most important of these were the elections and the strikes in the sugar-cane districts. It will be remenbered that in January, 1903, the Hon. William H. Hunt, then governor of Porto Rico, found it necessary to order a reorganization of the insular police. For this purpose he appointed Col. Terence Hamill, then a captain of the Porto Rico Provisional Regiment who took command of the force on February 1, 1903. The reorganization was no easy task, and it took several months to weel out undesirable officers and men, but finally, by tenaciously sticking to the work, the force showed a ~~marked~~ improvement in every respect, and Colonel ^{Hamill} had the satisfaction of being able to make mention thereof in his last annual report.

But the real trial of the force was yet to come. While everybody admitted the noticeable improvement of police force, still a large majority was very skeptical regarding the effect this improvement would have during the election period.

The conditions being very unfavorable for the police department, when it is considered that 180 untried men had to be enlisted for service during the

elections, they had to be distributed in such a manner that there was no chance for them to show any partiality toward any one of the political parties. Although most of them were unknown to the officers of the force, be it said to their credit that each and every one did their duty well and faithfully.

The number of voting booths for the three registration days was 449, out of which 170 were located in the different towns of the island and 279 in the country districts. This number of polling places was found to be quite inadequate for the number of voters that registered, and consequently they were increased to 649 for election day. This also necessitated an increase of the police force, and from October 1 to November 1 the force gradually augmented to 849 officers and men. They were so distributed on election day that one was stationed at each voting booth; the rest were mounted and patrolled the towns and country districts. There was not the least disturbance on either registration or election day, nor were any complaints received against the police; on the contrary, the manner in which they performed their duties was favorable commented upon by the public.

It is unnecessary for me to comment upon the efficient manner in which the strike situation was handled by the insular police. The services rendered by the members of the force can only be estimated by the enormous loss that would have been the consequence had the police not interfered with the twenty of thirty discontented agitators, who, preaching incendiarism, were ready to sacrifice the sugar crop of the island. This again caused the appointing of 75 men for temporary duty, besides compelling this department to practically withdraw police protection from other parts of the island to send them to the sugar-cane districts. Whenever new men have to be put on

such important duties the efficiency of the force is weakened.

In connection with the strike, I feel it my duty to specially mention Captains Silen and Fernandez Nater, Lieutenants Iturrondo, Guanill, and Soto, and the noncommissioned officers and guardsmen under their command, for the excellent service rendered by them under the most trying circumstances.

This department has at present 76 horses for service in the interior of the island. They have given full satisfaction, and, in my opinion, the addition of 50 horses would put the mounted-patrol service in a high state of efficiency.

During the present fiscal year and up to June 30, 1905, the insular police made 61,867 arrests as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|---|--------|
| Murder | 81 | Counterfeiting of coin | 20 |
| Attempt of murder | 35 | Grand larceny | 242 |
| Robbery | 182 | Petty larceny | 2,154 |
| Rape | 201 | Stealing cattle | 135 |
| Abduction | 140 | Receiving stolen property | 25 |
| Seduction | 395 | Extortion | 28 |
| Bigamy | 2 | Abuse of confidence | 566 |
| Incest | 1 | Perjury | 30 |
| Crime against nature | 9 | Bribery | 22 |
| Arson | 51 | Smuggling and fraud of Government funds | 526 |
| Burglary | 126 | Resisting the police | 529 |
| Falsification of documents | 20 | Prostitution | 162 |
| Assault | 3,450 | Violation of municipal ordinances | 11,303 |
| Gambling | 4,247 | Violation of sanitary laws | 8,367 |
| Drunkenness | 878 | Fugitives | 80 |
| Disorderly conduct | 12,785 | Requisitory | 124 |
| Fighting | 3,076 | Other offenses | 6,366 |
| Cruelty to animals | 3,971 | | |
| Carrying arms without licence | 1,381 | | |
| Firing arms | 118 | | |
| Vagrancy | 39 | | |
| | | Total ----- | 61,867 |

The increase in arrests made, as compared with former years, is due to the department vigorously enforcing the law.

The armament of the force is the same as it has been since its organization

with the addition of the regular policeman's club as used in the United States, while for duty in the rural districts the Springfield carbine and Colt's revolver are used. The latter-mentioned arms are the property of the United States Government, and are loaned to this island upon memorandum receipt.

The concentrating of the police force for drill and instructions is of the greatest importance. A great deal has been accomplished toward bringing the force to a high degree of efficiency by concentrating the men four or five days, teaching them their duties and maintaining thorough discipline. These concentration should take place at least twice a year, and each time in a different section of the island, so that those guardsmen who take part in the first concentration would not have to be called upon to take part in the second, thereby making them less expensive.

The pay department of the force deserves special mention. Since Captain Hylan took charge of this department he has completely reorganized the same and brought it to a point of efficiency second to none. In this he was ably assisted by Mr. John D. Gillies. Payments are promptly made, and difficulties of former years caused by delay of disbursements, such as inability to obtain transportation for the purpose of quickly concentrating men, have not been known since Captain Hylan is in office. The following disbursements have been made during the last year:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Salaries ----- | \$273,843.93 |
| Transportation | 10,684.96 |
| Rent of quarters | 7,980.80 |
| Incident expenses | 6,848.65 |
| Care of horses | 4,252.20 |
| Furniture | 926.79 |
| Postage | 1,200.00 |
| Salaries special police | 6,627.00 |
| Purchase of horses | 2,350.00 |
| Purchase of band instruments | 500.00 |
| Total | <hr/> 315,214.33 |

This report would be as incomplete without mentioning the insular police commission, composed of Drs. Ricardo Hernandez and Manuel Quevedo Baez, Porto Ricans, and Mr. James H. Harrison, American, as would be the police force without policemen. Words are inadequate to express the eulogy due to these three gentlemen for the services they have rendered this department. A great deal of the efficiency of the police force is due to their unentering efforts and just dealings with the cases brought before them and their constant cooperation with Colonel Hamill, the chief of this department, who is at present on leave of absence in the United States, as well as with myself, whenever concerning the betterment of the police force, and this in the face of vicious attacks by newspapers. Colonel Hamill and I feel deeply grateful to these gentlemen for the services they have rendered us, and take advantage of this occasion to thank them most heartily.

The services performed by the insular police during the present fiscal year have not been equaled since its organization, and I can assure you, sir that it is the desire of Colonel Hamill, as well as every officer of this department, to bring the efficiency of the force to a still higher standard.

Very respectfully,

William Lutz,
Major and Acting Chief of Insular Police.

His Excellency the Governor of Porto Rico.



Año 1906-1907

JULY 1, 1907

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF THE INSULAR POLICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE

San Juan, P. R., July 1, 1907

SIR: In compliance with article 25, paragraph 5, of "Rules and regulations for the government of the insular police," approved March 3, 1902, I have the honor to submit herewith the following report regarding the services rendered by the insular police, and the changes the organization has undergone during the fiscal year beginning and ending July 1, 1906, and June 30, 1907, respectively:

On July 1, 1906, the amended law governing the insular police, enacted by the third legislative assembly of Porto Rico in its second session, and mentioned in detail in the last annual report, went into effect. This required the redistribution of the island from six to seven districts, and again the districts from two to three precincts, also the suppression of all subposts, so that under the new law the island is divided as follows:

| Headquarters | : | District | : | Posts | : | Detachments |
|--------------|---|----------|---|-------|---|-------------|
| San Juan | | First | | 18 | | 8 |
| Ponce | | Second | | 10 | | 7 |
| Mayaguez | | Third | | 10 | | 3 |
| Arecibo | | Fourth | | 12 | | 4 |
| Humacao | | Fifth | | 14 | | 4 |
| Guayama | | Sixth | | 11 | | 5 |
| Aguadilla | | Seventh | | 8 | | 3 |
| Total | | | | 83 | | 34 |

The distribution of districts into precincts, with headquarters at the towns named, is as follows:

| District | : | First precinct | : | Second precinct | : | Third precinct |
|----------|---|----------------|---|-----------------|---|----------------|
| First | | San Juan | | Bayamón | | Carolina |
| Second | | Ponce | | Yauco | | Juana Díaz |
| Third | | Mayaguez | | San Germán | | Cabo Rojo |
| Fourth | | Arecibo | | Manatí | | Utua |
| Fifth | | Humacao | | Caguas | | Fajardo |
| Sixth | | Guayama | | Santa Isabel | | Cayey |
| Seventh | | Aguadilla | | Lares | | Añasco |

Captains, besides being in command of their respective district, are also in direct command of the first precinct thereof.

The first lieutenants are in command of the second, and the second lieutenants in command of the third precinct.

All posts of the insular police are stationed in cities and towns, and are commanded by warrant officers, while detachments are stationed in rural districts where the distance is too great to be reached, by patrols that are sent out daily from the different posts. Detachments are usually commanded by some experienced guardsman. The new law provides for 850 privates; but owing to the insufficient sum provided in the budget for salaries of insular police the force could not be raised to that strength, and the entire enlisted force (privates) was only raised to 695. The highest number of enlisted men (privates) doing service any one time during the past year was 820, of which 125 were special policemen, and only served during the months of October and November; that is, during the election period.

The insular police is composed of the following officers and enlisted men:

Officers:

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| Colonel, chief ----- | 1 | |
| Major, assistant chief and inspector ----- | 1 | |
| Captains ----- | 1 | |
| First lieutenants ----- | 8 | |
| Second lieutenants ----- | 8 | |
| | | <hr/> 25 |

Civilians:

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| Voucher clerk (civilian) ----- | 1 | |
| Stenographer-telegrapher (civilian) ----- | 1 | |
| | | <hr/> 2 |

Enlisted men:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------|
| Sergeants ----- | 20 | |
| Corporals ----- | 75 | |
| Privates ----- | 695 | |
| | | <hr/> 720 |

Total number of entire force ----- 817

The law enacted by the last legislature (1907) provides for twenty men to be detailed as detectives with a slight increase in pay. This number is insufficient for the work coming under their bureau, and more men from the regular force had to be detailed for duty in plain clothes, without receiving the extra compensation.

The greatest hindrance to making this force more efficient is the lack of a special fund set aside for this bureau, to pay expenses accruing from services rendered and for which it is impracticable to furnish receipts as required by the office of the auditor of Porto Rico. Arrangements should be made to remedy this defect, as this is one of the most important branches of the service.

The present strength of the mounted force is 65. The horses are distributed over the island where most needed. This force has been gradually reduced, due to deceases, from 76 to 65 within the last two years. Steps should be taken to bring it up to its original strength.

The following changes in officers and enlisted men were made during the last fiscal year:

Capt. Pedro A. Guerrero, dismissed July 14, 1906, for conduct prejudice to good order and discipline.

Second Lieut. Ramón Guanill, resigned April 15, 1907

First Lieut. José G. Iturrondo, resigned May 3, 1907

First Lieut. Sergio Noa, dismissed May 31, 1907, for intending to frustrate justice by interfering with witnesses in a certain criminal case tried before the municipal court of Manati.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of enlisted men honorably discharged ----- | 546 |
| Number of enlisted men reenlisted----- | 398 |
| Number of enlisted men dismissed for offenses ----- | 37 |
| Number of new men enlisted ----- | 185 |

Though it is a well-known fact that in past years the election of public officers was the cause of more or less disturbances, I take pleasure in stating that the election during the last fiscal year was the most peaceful since the American occupation, no disturbance of consequence taking place during the whole period.

It is not necessary for me to go into detail as to the services rendered by the insular police during the election period, which practically lasted from May until November, nor during the visits of the President of the United States; of the Secretary of State, Hon. Elihu Root, as well as that of Secretary of War, Hon. William H. Taft. They are well known to you, and I think it sufficient to state that every member of the insular police felt proud of the public commendation made by the Governor regarding their work during the election, and those made by the President of the United States during his visit to this island.

Labor strikes in the past year were limited, and, with the exception of the cigarmakers' strike of the Porto Rico American Tobacco Company, which lasted about four weeks (the strikers finally going back to work at the same rate of pay), none were of serious consequence.

The number of arrests during the past fiscal year is practically the same as during the fiscal year of 1905 to 1906. Notwithstanding such being the case it will be seen from the following comparison that the criminal element has considerably diminished:

| Crimes | : 1905-6 | : 1906-7 | Crimes | : 195-6 | : 1906-7 |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|---------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Robbery | 62 | 55 | Gambling | 4429 | 3313 |
| Rape | 100 | 70 | Drunkenness | 333 | 175 |
| Seduction | 377 | 320 | Fighting | 3002 | 1372 |
| Burglary | 125 | 112 | Cruelty to animals | 6577 | 4545 |
| Petit larceny | 1928 | 1577 | Carrying firearms | 3139 | 2439 |
| Cattle stealing | 29 | 15 | Violation of sani- tary laws | 8011 | 6945 |
| Receiving stolen property | 23 | 4 | | | |
| Extortion | 13 | 7 | | | |
| Abuse of confidence | 5056 | 471 | Total---- | 33455 | 21527 |
| Resisting the police | 251 | 107 | | | |

This shows a total decrease of 11,928 of the crimes above mentioned within the last year.

The augmentation to last year's figures is caused by the increase of lesser offenses, coming principally under the heading of "Violation of municipal ordinances", with 3,514; "Disorderly conduct", with 2,503, and "Other minor offenses", with 1,286.

The total arrests, and the crimes or violations of laws for which they were made, from July 1, 1906, to June 30, 1907, are as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|-----------------------------|-------|
| Murder----- | 30 | Petit larceny----- | 1,577 |
| Attempt of murder ----- | 26 | Stealing cattle----- | 15 |
| Attempt of suicide ---- | 10 | Receiving stolen property-- | 4 |

continued....

| | | | |
|---|--------|--|--------|
| -Robbery ----- | 55 | Extortion ----- | 7 |
| Rape ----- | 70 | Abuse of confidence ----- | 471 |
| Abduction ----- | 65 | Perjury ----- | 5 |
| Seduction ----- | 320 | Bribery ----- | 4 |
| Bigamy ----- | 6 | Smuggling and defrauding in- ternal revenue ----- | 150 |
| Incest ----- | 6 | Resisting the police ----- | 144 |
| Crime against nature- | 4 | Assault and battery ----- | 3,593 |
| Arson ----- | 24 | Gambling----- | 3,313 |
| Burglary ----- | 112 | Drunkenness ----- | 158 |
| Falsification of documents | 5 | Disorderly conduct ----- | 10,861 |
| Counterfeiting | 6 | Fighting ----- | 1,372 |
| Grand larceny | 155 | Violation of sanitary laws -- | 6,945 |
| Cruelty to animals----- | 4,545 | Figitives from justice ----- | 166 |
| Carrying concealed weapons | 2,439 | Other minor offenses ----- | 7,807 |
| Discharging firearms ---- | 95 | | |
| Vagrancy ----- | 7 | Total arrests | 56,475 |
| Prostitution ----- | 38 | | |
| Violation of municipal ordinances----- | 11,865 | | |

The insular police commission, composed of Dr. Manuel Quevedo Baez, Messrs. Eduardo Acuña, and Donald E. Richardson, have been of great assistance toward obtaining and maintaining the discipline and efficiency of this department, and I take this opportunity to thank these gentlemen in the name of Col. Terrence J. Hamill, as well as myself, for their untiring efforts in dealing justly in all matters brought before them.

I also desire to thank the officers and men of the force for the faithfulness and loyalty displayed at all times and the efficient manner in which they performed their duties.

Very respectfully,

Wilhelm Lutz,
Major and Acting Chief of the Insular Police

Hon. Régis H. Post,
Governor of Porto Rico, San Juan

POLICE

Attention is called to the report of the acting chief of the insular police of Porto Rico, attached hereto.

The act amending the police law, passed at the session of 1905, created 7 police districts. Each district is under the immediate command of a captain, who is responsible to the colonel and the major stationed in San Juan.

On June 30, 1907, the numerical strenght of the force was as follows:
One colonel, chief; 1 major, assistant chief and inspector; 7 captains, 8 first lieutenant, 8 second lieutenants, 1 voucher clerk, 1 stenographer-telegrapher--
20 sergeants, 75 corporals, 695 privates.

During the past year the police have proved themselves a well-disciplined and efficient body, and law and order have been rigidly preserved throughout the island.

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Año 1907-1908

FISCAL YEAR 1907-1908

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE FOR PUERTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF INSULAR POLICE,

San Juan, July 5, 1908

SIR: In compliance with article 25, paragraph 5, of the "Rules and regulations for the government of the insular police," approved March 3, 1902, I have the honor to submit herewith the following report covering the period from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

The force during this period consisted of 820 officers and guardsmen, and were distributed in the following manner:

| | : Chief | : Assist- : chief | : Cap- : tains | : First : lieuten- : ants | : Second : lieuten- : ants | : Ser- : geants | : Cor- : porals | : Guards- : men |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Headquarters | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | 3 | 9 |
| Band | | | | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 29 |
| Detectives | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 21 |
| First district, San Juan | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 15 | 159 |
| Second district, Ponce | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 93 |
| Third district, Mayaguez | | | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 4 | 75 |
| Fourth district, Arecibo | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 78 |
| Fifth district, Humacao | | | 1 | | 2 | 3 | 12 | 100 |
| Sixth district, Guayama | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 77 |
| Seventh district, Aguadilla | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 59 |
| Total ----- | 1 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 20 | 75 | 700 |

Division of districts into precincts and names of towns comprising same

| District. | First precinct. | Second precinct. | Third precinct. |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| First (San Juan)--- | San Juan ----- Puerta de Tierra ----- Santurce ----- Rfo Piedras ----- Martín Peña ----- Culebras ----- ----- ----- | Bayamon----- Cataño ----- Toa Baja----- Toa Alta ----- Dorado ----- Corozal ----- Naranjito----- Comerio ----- | Carolina Rfo Grande Trujillo Alto Loiza |
| Second (Ponce)----- | Ponce ----- Adjuntas ----- ----- ----- | Yauco ----- Guanica ----- Guayanilla Peñuelas ----- | Juana Díaz Coamo |
| Third (Mayaguez)--- | Mayaguez ----- Maricao ----- Las Marías ----- | San Germán ----- Lajas ----- Sabana Grande -- | Cabo Rojo Hormigueros |
| Fourth (Arecibo)--- | Arecibo ----- Camuy ----- Hatillo----- Quebradillas ----- ----- ----- | Manatí ----- Barceloneta----- Vega Baja ----- Vega Alta ----- Ciales ----- Morovis ----- | Utuado Jayuya |
| Fifth (Humacao)----- | Humacao.----- Las Piedras ----- Yabucoa ----- Maunabo ----- | Caguas ----- Juncos----- San Lorenzo ---- Gurabo ----- Aguas Buenas---- | Fajardo Naguabo Ceiba Luquillo Vieques |
| Sixth (Guayama)----- | Guayama ----- Arroyo ----- Patillas ----- ----- ----- ----- | Santa Isabel --- Salinas ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- | Cayey Barros Aibonito Barranquitas La Plata Cidra |
| Seventh (Aguadilla)- | Aguadilla----- Moca ----- Isabela ----- | Lares San Sebastián -- ----- | Añasco Rincón Aguada |

In all, 79 towns, with an area of about 3,640 square miles, and a population of approximately 1,200,000.

This area is systematically patrolled, that is, the patrolling of each district is so regulated that patrols going out from a town to visit the

different sections (barrios) of their jurisdiction will meet the patrols from contiguous towns at a certain place and hour given, where they exchange such notes and information as they may have. Of course, meeting places, as well as the time, are changed whenever it is deemed necessary.

The number of hours of duty is about fifteen out of twenty-four, though in many cases it is from fifteen to eighteen hours. This is principally due to extra work, such as duty at theaters, places of amusement, race tracks, and the celebration of the traditional feasts of the island. Owing to the inadequate number of men and the large territory covered, it has been impossible to cut down the number of hours of duty.

On several occasions, especially during labor strikes, it has been necessary to practically withdraw the force from one section of the island for the purpose of reenforcing the men stationed in the troublesome district. This, besides causing a large expense to the government, leaves the districts from which the men were withdrawn without the necessary police protection. In connection with this I would invite attention to figures given below regarding the duty of the police in cities in the United States in comparison to the duty performed by the insular police:

| City | : Total : force | : Area : covered | : Inhabitants : per man | : Hours duty per : day |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Sq. miles | | |
| New York | 9,900 | 326 | 501 | 7 |
| Chicago | 4,541 | 196 | 662 | 9 |
| Philadelphia | 3,351 | 129 | 448 | 9 |
| Saint Louis | 1,626 | 65 | 498 | 8 |

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| City | : Total : force | : Area : covered Sq. miles. | :Inhabitants: : per man | : Hours duty per : day |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| San Francisco | 804 | 46 | 600 | 8 |
| Cincinnati | 635 | 43 | 661 | 8 |
| Buffalo | 624 | 42 | 565 | 8 |
| Cleveland | 614 | 41 | 855 | 10 |
| New Orleans | 343 | 192 | 1,020 | 9 |
| San Antonio | 127 | 36 | 708 | 12 |
| Tampa | 50 | 4 | 1,020 | 8 |
| Insular police | 820 | 3,640 | 1,463 | 15-18 |

It will be seen that not only does the insular police do nearly twice as many hours duty as most of the forces enumerated, but they also cover eleven times the area covered by the police of New York, which is the largest territory covered by any police in the United States (to my knowledge), and the number of inhabitants to each policeman is 400 more than any of those enumerated.

I would therefore earnestly request that the number of guardsmen be augmented to no less than 1,000, as at the present rate of increase in agricultural cultivation and in population this already overworked force is absolutely inadequate to attend to their many arduous duties.

I also respectfully request that the detective force be augmented to 50, instead of 20 as at present, and that a special appropriation be set aside for the purpose of facilitating the work of this bureau.

The number of arrests made during the past fiscal year and the offenses committed were as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--|--------|
| Murder ----- | 21 | Smuggling and fraud of govern- ment funds ----- | 86 |
| Attempt of murder ----- | 9 | Resisting the police ----- | 39 |
| Attempt of suicide ----- | 3 | Assault and battery ----- | 2,725 |
| Robbery ----- | 17 | Gambling ----- | 3,303 |
| Rape ----- | 7 | Drunkenness ----- | 77 |
| Abduction ----- | 20 | Disorderly conduct ----- | 8,233 |
| Seduction ----- | 54 | Fighting ----- | 558 |
| Bigamy ----- | 8 | Cruelty to animals ----- | 2,265 |
| Crime against nature --- | 7 | Carrying concealed weapons ---- | 1,899 |
| Arson ----- | 1 | Firing arms ----- | 168 |
| Burglary ----- | 81 | Vagrancy ----- | 130 |
| Falsification of documents | 13 | Prostitution ----- | 33 |
| Counterfeiting ----- | 2 | Violation of municipal ordinances | 10,334 |
| Grand larceny ----- | 95 | Violation of sanitary laws --- | 4,815 |
| Petit larceny----- | 1,467 | Fugitives from justice ----- | 63 |
| Stealing cattle ----- | 5 | Requisitory ----- | 63 |
| Receiving stolen property | 3 | Other offenses ----- | 6,159 |
| Extortion ----- | 2 | | |
| Abuse of confidence ---- | 463 | Total arrests made | 43,241 |
| Perjury ----- | 2 | | |
| Bribery ----- | 1 | | |

Of this number, the force of the district of San Juan made 12,624; district of Ponce, 4,728; district of Mayaguez, 3,452; district of Arecibo, 5,322; district of Humacao, 7,895; district of Guayama, 6,189; district of Aguadilla, 3,021.

Changes in the Force during the past year

| | Sergeants | Corporals | Guardsmen |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Discharged by reason of expiration of term of service ----- | | | 28 |
| Discharged for physical disability ----- | 1 | 2 | 58 |
| Dismissed for offenses committed ----- | 1 | 4 | 75 |
| Total ----- | 2 | 6 | 161 |

The disbursements made during fiscal year of 1907-8 were as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Salaries ----- | \$384,968.12 |
| Transportation ----- | 12,000.00 |
| Rent of quarters ----- | 10,000.00 |
| Stabling and keeping of horses ----- | 5,000.00 |
| Purchase of arms and equipment ----- | 20,000.00 |
| Postage ----- | 1,500.00 |
| Incidentals ----- | 10,900.34 |
| Total ----- | 444,368.46 |

The Insular Police Commission, composed of Messrs. Juan R. Baiz Donald E. Richardson, and Dr. Francisco del Valle, have been at all times untiring in their efforts toward maintaining the efficiency and discipline of this department, and the excellent showing made by the insular police during the past year is largely due to their constant support and cooperation given me at all times, and I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to these gentlemen.

I also desire to thank the officers and men for their faithfulness, loyalty and the efficiency displayed at all times in the performance of their duties.

Very respectfully,

Wilhelm Lutz,
Chief of the Insular Police.

Hon. Régis H. Post,
Governor of Porto Rico, San Juan, P. R.