

On Call All Hours, Policeman's Work Never Is Done

Training and Drills Take Up Time Off Duty

Final article of a series about
the Cincinnati Police Department.

BY ROBERT L. STEVENS

With more vehemence than the average housewife, the Cincinnati policeman can say his work never is done.

Though he is on duty eight hours a day, six days out of seven, he must be on call for duty at any hour of the day or night.

From the time he enrolls as an applicant for the job of patrolman, he finds he must keep up his studies and training in police work.

This includes not only physical drill, handling of firearms, self defense and the like, but also a knowledge of the law and the social sciences.

He must be prepared at any time to risk his life in the protection of his fellow citizens and in the just enforcement of the law. He is expected to, and does, utilize part of his spare time in the police school, in civic and youth activities designed to prevent crime, and in testifying in the courts in cases in which he is officially involved.

As a deterrent of slackness in police work, according to Chief Weatherly, officers are graded on their efficiency by the use of the Probst rating system. An average of at least 80 per cent must be maintained to obtain step-up raises in pay.

Salary Starts at \$1500

The starting salary of a patrolman is \$1500 a year and ranges upward according to years of service in three steps, \$1620, \$1740 and \$1860. Detectives' salaries are \$2100, \$2200 and \$2300 a year, with the lieutenant of detectives receiving \$3000.

A police sergeant receives \$2200, lieutenant \$2400, captain \$3000, major \$3300, assistant chief \$4000, and chief \$6000. Men assigned to motorcycle duty receive an additional \$120 a year and officers who serve as inspector or bureau chiefs receive \$400 additional.

The Police Department appropriation for 1938 is \$1,441,000. At present, employees of the department number 713, compared with 633 at the start of 1937.

The increase was made possible through an increased appropriation and the creation of the post of rookie patrolmen where men who have passed the Civil Service examination for the force are required to take a vigorous training course for several months before being assigned to regular duty. During this time they receive \$1200 a year.

"Force Is Credit to City"

Members of the force now include 553 patrolmen, 48 detectives, 30 sergeants, 29 lieutenants, four captains, nine majors, an assistant chief, a



Cincinnati police can shoot straight. They have to! Criminals, it seems, can shoot straight and often police have to face crime guns. That is why they engage in target practice like this.

previous articles, is a squad of picked men and its efficiency was illustrated in its annual report which showed that in 1937, for instance, 47,992 persons were cited, charged with violation of road and driving laws, compared with 20,846 in 1936, with similar or greater increases all down the line of traffic offenses.

The police radio, Station X, serves not only the city but the metropolitan area of Cincinnati where messages are sent to police of other communities and counties which have radio equipment.

During 1937 Station X broadcast 167,138 radio calls, an average of one almost every three minutes, in addition to handling thousands of other telephone calls. Julian W. Bronson is the chief police radio-trician. The day dispatcher is Sergt. Henry Royer and the teletype operator is Patrolman Joseph Doll.

Night Force Is Largest

Patrolmen on their beats "pull a box" every hour and the box number is punched in a tape at headquarters. In addition, they telephone into their district station where their reports are entered on special forms. Not the least of a policeman's duties is the filling out of proper reports on scores of forms which are used by the department.

The police work in eight-hour shifts and the largest force is on duty at night. Hours are from 7 a. m. to 3 p. m.; 3 to 11 p. m., and 11 p. m. to 7 a. m.

Figures available at present show the average length of foot-beats downtown is 3.68 miles and the motor patrol territory in the suburbs averages 2.06 square miles per officer. Average age of the force is 40 and average length of service about 13 years.

Besides their regular work, the police have a number of athletic teams, a drum and bugle corps and also sponsor Boy Scout troops and other youth and civic activity.

THE END.

chief, a court officer, four matrons, seven assigned to radio and 21 to clerical duties.

City Manager Sherrill has the following to say about the department: "Cincinnati has a splendid police force that is a real credit to the city.

It is largely because of the activities of the police force that Cincinnati is practically free of organized gangster crime. Organized crime cannot exist without some measure of police protection and there is none of this protection in Cincinnati from the police or other administrative officials.

"One of the important reasons for the absence of organized crime in Cincinnati is the fact our police are honest. They are non-partisan. They enforce the law without fear of favor. Insofar as the police force goes, the war on crime is successful.

"When it comes to the number of actual offenses committed, our situation in Cincinnati is not satisfactory. Out of 10 classes of major crimes, there was a larger number of crimes committed in nine of these classes

in 1937 than in 1936. The only one exception in which there is a better showing this year in crimes than in 1936 is under the heading of murder; 59 were committed against 61 in 1936.

"A considerable part of the crimes of housebreaking, burglary, theft and robbery was the responsibility of juveniles, but insofar as police activity goes, there has been a steady increase in proportion of arrests made as compared with offenses committed in this type of cases."

Wide Range of Study

The report on activities of the police training school for 1937 made by Capt. Earl Reynolds, indicates the work the department does in keeping up to date, Chief Weatherly said.

There were 1129 one-hour class periods held for 113 recruits. They studied criminal law, city ordinances, first-aid, military drill, use of the revolver, accident investigation and prevention, court procedure and general police procedure.

Fifteen one-hour classes on ad-

vanced police work were given for commissioned and non-commissioned officers; eight two-hour classes on accident prevention and investigation for three officers and 78 patrolmen who attended voluntarily while off duty, and six three-hour classes in the same subject for officers and motorcycle patrolmen, conducted by Lieut. Frank M. Kreml and Sergt. George L. Van Arsdale, safety expert of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Special instructors are provided in a number of courses, many of them from the faculties of education institutions in the city, including the University of Cincinnati.

Many Other Factors

The annual report of crimes and arrests made by the department was made public recently. As noted by Col. Sherrill, the problem of an increasing crime rate is one the police are endeavoring to deal with the best way they can, but many other factors besides police work enter into this condition.

The Safety Patrol, described in