REPORT of CHIEF OF POLICE
Covering REORGANIZATION, ACTIVITIES, and ACCOMPLISHMENTS of the Kansas City, Mo., POLICE DEPARTMENT
For Calendar Year 1940

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December 31, 1940

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS,
Police Headquarters,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Gentlemen:
The end of the calendar year 1940 marks the close of the first twelve months, January through December, of the operation of the department under your administration, and mine as chief of police.

I therefore desire to report to you the activities and the accomplishments of the department during this period. In looking back over the record of 1940 in order to plot our course for the new year, I find it difficult to complete this calendar year report without frequent reference to that period, July 11 - December 31, 1939, during which we took over one of the worst police departments and began the groundwork which has brought it today to what is nationally acknowledged to be one of the best in the United States.

During the last six months of 1939 you gentlemen laid down policies without which it would have been impossible to have made the record of which we have every right to be proud.

It therefore is not only fitting, but a privilege, to extend to you, in behalf of every employe of the department, our deep appreciation for the courageous, uncompromising stand you have taken and maintained in the interest of honest, impartial, uninfluenced law enforcement for ALL of the people of Kansas City.

In the following pages I have tried to cover, briefly but completely as possible, every phase of departmental activity, and the same is

Respectfully Submitted

CHIEF OF POLICE

L. B. Reed

FOREWORD

The calendar year 1940 has brought to the people of Kansas City a new high in police service. This statement is based on facts and figures taken from the records of the various divisions which constitute the Department, A study of these records shows tremendous progress in crime prevention, crime reduction, traffic safety, and many other phases of law enforcement.

These will be dealt with under their proper classifications later in this report. However, in
order that it may be clearly understood by the layman how it has been possible to bring about these accomplishments it is necessary to refer to the groundwork laid in the last six months of 1939, that period dating from July 11, last year, when the Department was returned to state control.

Many of the changes made in the Department came in the latter months of last year. They opened the way to the new efficiency in Kansas City police service, yet they had been little more than launched by the end of 1939, and their functioning has been at its peak during 1940.

Therefore, the reorganization of the Department, begun in July, 1939, and carried on slowly, carefully, as the result of intensive study of methods, physical set-up and personnel, could not have been completed quickly, and has extended into, and even throughout, 1940.

While it may be said that the major reorganization is in the past, it also is a truism that modern police service constantly is subject to changes as new and better methods are proved. These, of course, are in no way comparable to the wholesale changes that were necessary in the rebuilding of the old machine-controlled police department. Such additional changes as will come under this administration will continue to be, as in the past, in the interest of public service and that alone!

REORGANIZATION

It will be recalled that upon your Board assuming control of the Department, July 11, 1939, general demoralization was found in methods, physical set-up, and personnel, under what was known as "home rule."

A brief discussion of the conditions, and the methods of correction may not be amiss as a preface to what follows in this report. The efforts of the old regime to prevent the passage of the State Police Law had resulted in dismal failure, with a resultant panic that was far-reaching not only among the personnel of the Department, but among certain unsavory politicians, the underworld, the leeches and parasites that fed upon the rackets assigned to them by the "bosses," and those unwholesome business interests that had lived on the favors of those in control. Thus, a herculean task fell to the new state police administration to bring order out of chaos, and to begin the reorganization necessary to render the kind of public service to which you gentlemen had pledged your efforts. I cover this subject under three classifications:
METHODS— A complete reversal of the methods of the old regime was found to be the first necessary step by this administration. Officers had been instructed not to offend leaders or followers of the group that was in power. Protection was furnished to gambling and other forms of vice. Notorious criminals from other large centers found refuge in Kansas City. Offenders taken to district stations for booking were sprung by higher-ups. "Fixing" was a common practice. The public interest was not in the police picture.

THIS ADMINISTRATION IMMEDIATELY STOPPED ALL OF THESE EVILS. THE NEW POLICIES CALLED FOR UNBIASED AND IMPARTIAL POLICE WORK. FAVORITISM, FIXING, PROTECTION, SPRINGING OF PRISONERS, AND ALL OTHER PRACTICES INIMICAL TO HONEST PUBLIC SERVICE WERE BANNED.

Every employe of the Department was instructed to enforce ALL laws. Practical, sound, and thorough policies were adopted to bring about honest, impartial, intelligent police service; and these policies have continued to guide the operation of the Department throughout this administration.

PHYSICAL SET-UP— Previous to July 11, 1939, little had been done to bring the physical set-up of the Department up to modern standards of the best police practice. It was found that many units, or bureaus, were duplicating the work of others, in some cases actually working in conflict with each other. This situation meant wasted effort, high operating cost, inefficiency, loss of valuable records, and utter lack of facilities for the carrying on of modern municipal law enforcement.

THIS ADMINISTRATION IMMEDIATELY MADE A STUDY OF THE PHYSICAL SET-UP OF THE DEPARTMENT AND MADE THESE NECESSARY CHANGES:
1. Created the Technical-Record Division, by combining the Record, Identification, Photographic and Laboratory units, with the result that this division today is recognized throughout the United States for its accuracy and efficiency.
2. Created the Traffic-Safety Division, by combining the Motorcycle, Downtown Traffic, Accident Investigation and School Officer units, bringing about coordination of effort in this important field. The activities of this division have been broadened until it stands at the top in national recognition.
3. Created the Police Training and Public Relations Division, neither of which was a part of the
old regime-controlled Department. This division, essential to modern police work, is dealt with later in this report.

4. Increased the number of police districts from four to five in the interest of better public protection.

5. Combined, changed, and added to the units of the Detective Division, to increase the efficiency of this important arm of police service, as well as to provide facilities required to handle the great mass of work created by present world conditions.

6. Modernized other divisions to bring them to the plane of the best in police organization.

PERSONNEL—An exhaustive inquiry was made into the personal, as well as the employment, record of every member of the Department on the payrolls when this administration took over. Dismissals resulted from proof of criminal records, dishonesty, incompetence, and gross violations of the rules and regulations laid down by this administration.

In the last eighteen months the employment turnover has been less than fifty per cent. It was found that many members of the Department were good material for the highest type of police service, but needed training, and the opportunity to do honest enforcement work without political interference. These employes were retained, many of them have been promoted to positions of greater responsibility, and have had a prominent part in building the fine record that has been made to date.

In all personnel replacement, extreme caution has been used in the selection, investigation, and training of recruits. A greater number of young men of college education, many of them university graduates, have been accepted for police work than ever before in the history of Kansas City. This may, to some extent, be due to the general employment situation; but the ideals on which police service now is based, together with the opportunity for continuous training, have caused young men of the better class to recognize law enforcement as a profession, and to enter it with the hope of making it a life work.

We have as fine a personnel today as can be found in the best policed cities in America. The loyalty to public service, pride in their work, tireless energy, long hours of service, and ambition to learn shown by our employes is a source of deep gratification to me and should be to the public we serve.
OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I desire to call to your attention certain outstanding accomplishments in law enforcement in Kansas City that have been brought about during the year closing today. You will note that the first of these is called "Crime Prevention." Most of the others in this list have a direct bearing on the prevention of crime. It is generally conceded that crime prevention is a major activity of every police department, and the aggressiveness this Department has shown in this field during 1940 has saved potential victims a huge sum of money, as well as materially reducing the costs of crime, such as prosecution expense, imprisonment costs, resultant charity requirements for families of convicted offenders, ruined youth, broken homes, etc.

In discussing these outstanding accomplishments, I call your attention to the vast amount of routine activity involved in bringing about such favorable results. This activity is dealt with later in this report under the various division headings. Personnel limitations under the State Police Law have made it necessary for members of the Department, both enforcement and civilian, to put in many hours of overtime, in order to bring about these accomplishments.

CRIME PREVENTION— Our major activity, which requires constantly battling the causes of crime, keeping track of the lawless, picking up and checking on all suspicious characters, and the most thorough patrolling of every section of the city, especially after nightfall. In our crime prevention work we have fingerprinted hundreds of floaters, bums, drunks, and other suspicious characters, and through fingerprint identification have returned many wanted criminals to other cities.

APPREHENSION OF CRIMINALS— New records have been written this year in the apprehension of criminals through the fast work of uniformed officers, detectives, and laboratory experts working in the closest cooperation, instead of at cross-purposes. Few major crimes committed during 1940 have gone unsolved, and old mysteries inherited from previous administrations have been solved, suspects apprehended, and convictions obtained.

CRIME REDUCTION— Kansas City, formerly the hangout of the nation's most notorious crooks, now is shunned by criminals from other parts of the country. The word has gone out that Kansas City is the best policed city in America and that a crook gets all the worst of it. This has brought about a steady reduction in crime, as shown by the records of the Department.

NARCOTIC CLEAN-UP— The narcotic rings which long made Kansas City their
headquarters have all been broken up, through the work of members of the Department assigned to this activity. All of the major narcotic wholesalers and big-time peddlers making Kansas City their rendezvous have been convicted and sent to prison or are awaiting trial in federal court on cases built, and arrests made, by our officers.

GAMBLING AND VICE— We have closed the city tight against commercialized gambling and vice. Prostitution and street-walking has reached an all-time minimum as a result of the never-ending vigilance of the Department. All of the old gambling dens are out of business. No new place starts up before it is found and put out of business.

MARIHUANA CAMPAIGN— During 1940 we have conducted the most extensive campaign against the growth, peddling and use of marihuana in the history of the entire country. Under the direction of the Department, we conducted a two-state campaign through June, July, and August, in which the cooperation of the state agricultural colleges and departments, and county extension agents throughout Missouri and Kansas, was enthusiastically given us in an effort to cut and destroy all marihuana weed growing throughout the two states. In Kansas City alone city employes working under the direction of the police cut and burned more than 700 tons of hemp weed. An extensive educational campaign was carried on in the public schools, parent teacher associations, and other adult groups to gain support in stamping out the smoking of marihuana cigarettes by minors.

SEX PERVERSION CRUSADE— A general clean-up of Kansas City to minimize sex offenses, drive out or imprison perverts, and provide greater safety for school children has been carried on consistently daring 1940. In the late summer months, before the reopening of school special details patrolled park and residential districts assigned to this important phase of cleanup work in Kansas City. Conferences were held with school principals, heads of Parent Teacher Associations and other groups in an effort to bring about closer cooperation in the reporting by citizens to the Police of any exhibitionists, molesters of boys and girls or other moral lepers which infest our cities in these times. As a result of this crusade, more than 175 arrests and convictions have been obtained, and several hundred investigations have been made following reports to the Department. This work is so important that there will be no let-up in the future and it is our hope to make Kansas City the cleanest city in America in this respect.
JUVENILE GUIDANCE—Great progress has been made in the last year in Juvenile Guidance—more than ever before in the history of Kansas City. In November, 1939, we organized the first unit of the American Youth Club in the north side. This club got into operation in a club house at 5th & Harrison Streets at the end of last year and during 1940 has built a membership of more than 600 boys, ranging in ages from eight to twenty-five. Police officers are assigned to direct the activities, arrange programs of entertainment and keep the boys interested in wholesome activities. Later this year, the second unit of the American Youth Club was opened in the Northeast district with a club house located at 5321 E. 9th Street. This club took into its membership the boys of Troop 177, police-sponsored Boy Scouts, the Junior Police Drill Team and the Junior Police Band, Drum and Bugle Corps. The membership of this club is now more than 700. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN THESE DISTRICTS HAS BEEN REDUCED 80%. Three other Boy Scout Troops are sponsored by the Police and carry on many activities designed to build clean living and good citizenship. One of the most important of the Youth activities during 1940 was the organization of the Juvenile Unit in the Department. The chief function of this unit is crime prevention rather than apprehension and punishment of criminals. This unit handles the cases of boys and girls under seventeen years of age. Usually these are youngsters who have committed their first offense and whose wayward actions may be leading to crime. These juveniles ordinarily are not law-violators, their departure from normal child activities being due to home conditions, lack of parental influence, bad company and other harmful factors. Those assigned to Juvenile work thoroughly investigate every case in an effort to make the action fit the individual rather than the crime or offense committed by the child.

At the time this unit was established, youthful shoplifters had become a problem to the operators of large stores. As a result of the work of this unit, it is estimated the reduction in shoplifting by juveniles has been at least 70%. It is my opinion that the Juvenile Unit will become one of the most important departments of police service next year and in the years to come. Certainly no Police Department can overlook the importance of giving children every possible advantage in building good citizenship.

TRAFFIC-SAFETY—The record made by Kansas City this year in the reduction of traffic fatalities, as well as the regulation of daily traffic flow is one of our proudest accomplishments. Kansas City received National recognition in 1939 when deaths were reduced from 69 to 32.
Frequently during 1940, national recognition has come to us covering periods of safety accomplishment. While the reduction in fatalities is not as great this year as last, it must be realized that we had a difficult goal to shoot at this year in bringing the deaths under the low 1939 figure of 32. While personal injury accidents have been high this year, weather conditions and other factors must be taken into consideration and the lack of reduction in this particular field is merely a stimulus for greater effort in 1941 in bringing about greater carefulness in operating motor vehicles and walking upon the streets of Kansas City.

CLEAN ELECTIONS—Four elections were held during 1940—Charter Election, City Election, August Primary and General Election in November. Orders issued to every member of the Department that the election laws were to be rigidly enforced, that there was to be no intimidation, fraud or other attempts to violate the sanctity of the ballot, brought about the finest police enforcement Kansas City has ever known in connection with elections. I am proud to report that all four elections were free of all the evils complained of in past years and Kansas City has become known as a city where elections are honest and peaceful.

ACTIVITIES UNIFORMED FORCE

An increase in the number of districts from four to five was made in the interest of greater public protection on April 10. This change was advisable to divide the territory formerly covered by No. 1 District, which was too large because of heavily congested areas represented. The activities at all of the five districts are similar, although in some there are conditions that require specialized work.

The activities of the uniformed force are distributed as follows:

DISTRICT NO. 1—Extends from State Line on the west, the Missouri River on the north, Locust Street on the east, and 47th Street on the south, and is patrolled by six district cars. Throughout the year concentrated effort has been made to keep drunks off the streets of the North Side, resulting in a much better condition in that area. Floaters, gandies, moochers, and panhandlers have been arrested by wholesale, and the operations of these parasites in No. 1 District have been reduced to a minimum. Commercial gambling formerly ran wild, but has been wiped out in this district. Prostitution has been minimized through the work of plain clothes crews, as well as district patrol crews. Special
effort has been made to keep prostitutes out of the lower class hotels in this district and has been very successful. Taverns, night clubs, beer halls and dance halls have been required to closely observe all laws with respect to closing and the conduct of such establishments. The laws have been rigidly enforced with resultant improvement in the conditions.

DISTRICT NO. 2— Bounded on the west by Locust Street, on the north by the Missouri River, on the east by Indiana to 15th Street, then west to Paseo and south on Paseo to 27th Street, east to Woodland, and south to 47th Street. This district was created April 10 in order to bring about more intensive enforcement in an area that is heavily congested and included the old hotbed of prostitution, vice, honky-tonk joints, policy games, crap shooting, and other forms of gambling. The many problems of law enforcement in this district have required long hours and hard work by the members of the uniformed force, and they have done a fine job. The very nature of the district calls for an unceasing campaign against all forms of vice, and more raids have been conducted on vice and gambling joints than in any other district. More radio calls per car have been handled in this district than in any other. Five cars patrol this district day and night.

DISTRICT NO. 3— Boundaries are Paseo, 15th to 27th, Woodland, 27th to 47th, on the west; 15th Street to Hardesty, 27th Street to eastern city limits on the north; city limits on the east; 47th Street on the south. This district includes part of the negro district where conditions are similar to those of the same section of No. 2 District. This district presents many problems which have been met by continuous 24-hour patrol service, long hours of overtime on the part of many officers, and close cooperation between the uniformed and plain clothes forces. 18th Street is the gathering spot for the colored people, and problems are created by the congestion resulting from this situation. Taverns throughout No. 3 District have been cooperative in obeying the law and have aided in bringing about better conditions, especially in the colored area. Through the vigilance of the police, crime in this district has been confined principally to petty offenses. This district is patrolled by five cars.

DISTRICT NO. 4— Bounded on the west by Indiana Avenue, Missouri River to 15th Street, Hardesty to 27th Street; on the north by the Missouri River; on the east by the city limits; on the south by 15th Street, Indiana to Hardesty, and 27th, east from Hardesty to city limits. Four patrol cars operate in this district—an increase of one over the number operated during "home
rule”. The addition of this patrol car with smaller areas to cover has made a big improvement in law enforcement in this district.

A reduction of 58-60% in crimes is shown over the previous year. This district, which includes the Sheffield industrial area, is better policed today than at any time previously in the history of Kansas City. Raids have been made time and again on the "jungles" or the wilderness in the northwest part of the district, and floaters who come into Kansas City on freight trains have been arrested in large numbers. Through the identification of these prisoners, many wanted men have been discovered and returned to the authorities in other parts of the country, and the crimes committed by this class of people have been materially reduced in No. 4 District.

DISTRICT NO. 5— Bounded on the west by the State Line, the north by 47th Street, the east by the city limits. This district includes the best residential sections of Kansas City, a number of important suburban business sections, and is a large area covered by six patrol cars day and night. The problems include traffic and eternal vigilance to prevent major crime because of the wealth represented by the residents of the district. Assistance in traffic regulation by district crews is a major activity and special events in this district call for many overtime hours in furnishing public protection.

MOTORCYCLE UNIT— In spite of the fact that the Department is seriously undermanned in motorcycle officers, the record of the activities of this branch of the uniformed force during 1940 is outstanding. Primarily engaged in traffic regulation, the motorcycle officers also are required to cover many special assignments. This means many overtime hours for all members of this unit, and there are no harder workers in the entire Department than the men in this branch of service. On clear days they ride motorcycles, but when the pavement is slippery as a result of rain, snow, or ice, it is necessary to provide them with cars, which works as a serious handicap in providing all of the rolling stock needed to equip all branches of the Department. (9)

DOWNTOWN TRAFFIC UNIT— The regulation of traffic in the congested downtown districts is under the direction of this uniformed unit which protects all important intersections until the close of the rush hour in the evening. The members of this unit also are used in covering special assignments involving large public gatherings, and they likewise put in many hours of overtime.

SCHOOL OFFICERS— All public schools and most of the parochial schools are provided
protection for children en route to and from school through the assignment of school officers at the principal crossings at such institutions. These men are specially trained for this work, and the record made by Kansas City in the safety of school children is one of the proudest accomplishments of this Department.

DETECTIVE DIVISION

The activities of the Detective Division have been increased to meet new conditions during 1940. The National Defense Program has brought about the necessity of close cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other governmental agencies in matters pertaining to the national security, and a special unit, comprising men trained for this field of work, has been added. The Juvenile Unit, referred to elsewhere in this report, is a part of the Detective Division and is now also handling missing persons reports. Detectives are assigned to walk the downtown area at night in order to reduce the larcenies from stores and parked cars, and favorable results are shown in the work of these men. The Burglary and Robbery Unit is charged with the investigation of burglaries, larcenies, hold-ups, strong-arms, purse snatches, etc., and keeps 35 detectives and plain clothes officers busy day and night. The Homicide Unit is charged with the investigation of all crimes against person. Cruising trouble-areas to break up gangs, disbanding of drunken parties, the searching of suspicious characters for concealed weapons are activities carried on in addition to the investigation of homicides, sex offenses, and assaults. The personnel of the unit at this time comprises 17 men and 1 woman. During 1940 the Homicide Unit has investigated approximately 3025 complaints, 68 of these were suicides, 405 were natural deaths, 52 accidental deaths, 35 were homicides, and the remainder included all other crimes against person and miscellaneous investigations.

Again in this division many hours of overtime have been required to carry on the activities of the unit because of shortage of personnel. In spite of the reduction from 8 to 3 cars assigned to the Motor Theft Unit, it is indicated at this time, with records not yet completed, that the work of the Motor Theft officers has brought about a further reduction in the theft of cars in the year 1940 of around 100 under 1939. For the entire year only 19 cases of car stripplings have been reported, and tire thefts for the entire year are around 250. These are new low totals on these classes of crime, 6 teams alternate on the 3 cars, 1 sergeant being assigned to the unit. Through putting in long hours of overtime more has been accomplished in combating motor thefts with a
smaller personnel. Other units of the Detective Division have shown like records of service in their fields. The accomplishments, much credit for which goes to the Detective Division, are reflected later on in this report in the crime figures for the year. The limitation in number of detectives allowed under the State Police Law operates as a handicap in carrying on the vast amount of investigative work necessary in any city the size of Kansas City. It must also be taken into consideration that many hours of the detectives' time are taken up in court appearances and delays arising in connection therewith. In view of the handicap of small personnel, a most satisfactory record has been made by the Detective Division. The old jealousies that formerly existed between detectives and uniformed force have been eliminated. The closest harmony prevails between these two branches.

TECHNICAL-RECORD DIVISION

RECORD UNIT—During the year 1940, the record system of the Department was vastly improved. When F. B. I. Secret Service Agents, members of the Department, or other law-enforcement agencies ask for a record, it is now complete. For the first time in the history of this Department, final dispositions are forwarded to the F. B. I. in every case. This is made possible by the establishment of a desk for this purpose, More than 600 state and federal cases open for several years have now been completed in our files. The installation of new index guides, fluorescent lights, and operating routine has increased our operating efficiency 25%. This enables us to handle an estimated increase of 675% in volume of work. Whereas in the past, the record bureau was only a storage place for paper reports, the record unit now is the accounting or statistical unit of the Department. Every report is studied by statistical experts to develop all possible information as to the incidence and prevalence of crime. This information is given to the various commanding officers and enables them to more effectively place their men. During 1940 a mail desk was established in the record unit. All incoming and outgoing mail is read, proof-read, routed and filed. 128,984 pieces of mail were handled this year, and 32,429 telephone calls and 33,876 requests answered over the counter, making a total of 66,305 responses made to inquiries. In the past little effort was made by the Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department to efficiently or effectively handle the problem of city warrants. During the past year through a strict recording and follow-up of all city warrants, we were able to handle 10,542 occupation, dog, and city warrants. During 1940, 24 persons were
arrested for murder; 18 for manslaughter; 52 for rape; 273 for robbery, 126 for aggravated assault, 330 for burglary, 210 for grand larceny, 1025 for petty larceny, 137 for auto theft, 112 for common assault, 44 for forgery and counterfeiting, 159 for embezzlement by fraud, 73 for buying and possessing stolen property, 97 for violation of drug laws, 258 for violation of liquor laws, 8187 for drunkenness, 2200 for disorderly conduct, 738 for vagrancy, 1938 for gambling, 1232 for drunken driving, 15,324 for traffic violations, 290 for sex offenses and 6765 for all other offenses, a total of 40,469 persons arrested during 1940. Our records further reflect that 27,115 traffic tickets were issued for parking violations, and 28,217 tickets were issued for violation of driving laws, a total of 55,332. The uniformly courteous manner in which the employes of the record unit meet and serve the public has earned the approbation of all, as attested by the many commendatory letters and comments received.

TECHNICAL LABORATORY UNIT— The technical laboratory of the Department has been termed the best police laboratory in the United States by many visiting police officers and agents of federal investigative bodies. We take pride in the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation now submits fingerprints and other specimens of latent and minute evidence to our laboratory for analysis and comparison. We have installed ultraviolet, infra-red, X-ray, fluoroscope, microscope, photographic and chemical equipment. During 1940, 2245 cases were handled by laboratory technicians. In 670 of these, 1912 readable latent fingerprints were developed. Three hundred ninety one latent fingerprints of this total, identified 56 persons as having been involved in the commission of the crime. One hundred sixty seven palm prints found at crime scenes identified 25 individuals as having committed the crimes. Nine hundred twenty nine sets of single fingerprints, or a total of 9290 single fingerprint cards were added to our Battley single fingerprint file in the past year. One thousand two hundred forty nine civilians were fingerprinted by the laboratory staff; 66 persons who had lost their memory or had died unknown (11) were identified through fingerprint examination. Thirty-seven heel and footprint casts were made at crime scenes; 9 moulage casts assisted materially in solving many crimes during the year. The technical laboratory made 867 photographs and 96 photomicrographs. Sixty-four questioned documents were examined and typewriting or handwriting compared; 41 hair and fibre examinations, 11 micro-analyses, five petrograph, and 26 blood analyses were made. In 9
cases obliterated or erased writing was restored by the use of infra-red and ultra-violet photography. In 29 cases, obliterated numbers were restored on metal surfaces. Three X-ray and two paint examinations were made, and 884 drunkometer tests were conducted by the laboratory. Eighty-seven chemical analyses and 17 diohenyl-amine tests were made. The various investigative units of the department have indicated their confidence in the efficacy of the technical laboratory by their use of it. During 1940, 547 firearms, 123 cartridge cases, and 68 fired bullets were submitted to the laboratory. Two hundred twenty-six comparisons resulted in the identification of 72 bullets, cases and guns. Five hundred forty-three test shots were fired from submitted guns, 51 of which were found to have been stolen or lost. Four United States Army guns were recovered, and 565 test shots were fired from guns submitted by applicants for special officers' commissions. Two hundred twenty-three test shots of departmental guns were fired and filed. One thousand one hundred fifty Polygraph or lie detector examinations were made, resulting in 687 voluntary confessions. In 89 cases, recordings were made, totaling 36 hours and 39 minutes. Fifty-two investigative examinations and analyses were made for outside law enforcement agencies. Seventy-four lectures, demonstrations, and instruction periods were made by the laboratory staff which worked a total of 6082 hours overtime. It is with a feeling of pride that we refer to our technical laboratory which has been developed in its entirety under the present administration.

PHOTOGRAPHIC UNIT—During 1940, 4068 photographs of arrested persons were added to our files; 653 persons with previous records arrested by the police were re-photographed; 543 persons were photographed full length. This full length file is said by federal agents to be the most complete and effective in this country. One thousand two hundred eighty-seven copy pictures were made. Thirteen color, 27 infra-red and 9 ultra-violet photographs assisted in the solution of crime. Two thousand one hundred feet of movie film was made. It is interesting to note that 1357 photographs were made of crime scenes and that 5727 photographs were made of vehicle accidents. A total of 51,433 pictures was made during the year. Photographs were made for the F. B. I., the Narcotics Bureau, U. S. Secret Service, Federal Probation Officer, United States Marshal, Post Office Inspectors, Internal Revenue, Immigration and Naturalization Bureau, and United States Grand Juries. Other outside law enforcement agencies served by the photographic unit were the Automobile Insurance and Protective Bureau, American Express Company, Pinkerton and Burns Detective Agencies, Missouri State
Highway Patrol, Missouri State Parole Office, Board of Election Commissioners, Jackson County Sheriff, Jackson County Grand Juries, Jackson County Coroner, Excelsior Springs Police Department, Lexington Police Department, Platte County Sheriff's Office, Springfield, Missouri, Police Department and law enforcement agencies all over the United States, too numerous to note. In the state of Kansas, this unit served the Kansas State Bureau of Identification; Kansas City, Kansas, Emporia, Iola and Oswego Police Departments, and the Prosecuting Attorney of Parsons County. The four technicians in this unit worked 3627 hours overtime during 1940 in an effort to handle this terrific volume of work. Federal agents and other law enforcement officers rate this the finest police photographic unit in the country.

IDENTIFICATION UNIT—Shortly after the inauguration of this administration, experts from the identification division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., thoroughly surveyed the fingerprint file of this Department. Their estimate was that it was 75% wrong, that improper methods were being followed, and that incorrect classification and filing of fingerprint cards resulted. This made it impossible to identify individuals brought to the attention of the Police.

In a great many cases, persons wanted by other jurisdictions for serious offenses were arrested and released because this Department was unable to identify them. Later the Federal Bureau of Investigation would inform us that this subject was badly wanted elsewhere. Prior to July of 1939, one incompetent fingerprint classifier was handling about 600 fingerprints a month. During the past year, four men, trained by experts from the F. B. I, and members of the Department, and using the system of classification identical with that of the F. B. I., received, classified and searched 41,264 fingerprint cards. 29,271, or 70%, were identified as having previous records. 24,427 old fingerprint cards inherited from previous administrations were re-classified and properly filed. 18,106 wanted and old fingerprint cards were mounted to permit proper filing.

1896 persons, applicants for positions with this Department, Federal Communications Commission, and various other governmental agencies, and special officers, were fingerprinted by technicians of this unit. Six thousand eighty-six personal identifications were made, 22 dead persons, and 179 wanted persons were identified by fingerprints. Six hundred
eighty seven fingerprints were classified and searched for the United States Army and Navy; 72 of these persons were identified as having had previous records. More than 1000 hours were required to correct the 32/32 Primary Division alone. Technicians of this unit spent many hours instructing members of the Department in the value, use and classification of fingerprints. Members of the Rotary, Kiwanis, and other civic organizations were fingerprinted for the civilian file. More than 3,000 employees of the Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc., were fingerprinted and the cards are now filed in this Department. All employes of the Porterfield Aircraft and the municipal government of Kansas City have been fingerprinted and filed. At this time we are in the process of fingerprinting the employees of Socony-Vacuum and many other large business concerns of this city. The public interest in civilian fingerprints is well illustrated in the large number of inquiries that we receive requesting this service. Four employes of this unit worked 3536 hours overtime during 1940 in the revision, modernization and standardization of the fingerprint identification work of this division. The 32 employees of this division worked in excess of 22,000 hours overtime during 1940.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

This division is the heart of the Police System. It has revolutionized law-enforcement in the field. It has brought instant communications between the Police Department and surrounding law-enforcement agencies that makes it possible to build up a barrier around any escaping felon. The volume of work handled by the Communications Division, known over the air as KGPE, is shown in the number of radiograms handled during 1940 in comparison with the previous year. Last year, 3,955 radiograms were sent and received over KGPE. During 1940 this number increased to 8,114. The expanse of territory covered by radiograms was broadened so that now radiograms are sent and received from Michigan and Minnesota on the north, Buffalo, New York on the east, Florida and Texas on the south, California on the west and Portland and Seattle on the northwest. All intermediate points are served by radiograms. During 1940, 127,750 radio calls were handled by the dispatchers to police cars. 73% of the calls were received by dispatchers from two-way cars and 9,125 pick-ups and cancellations -were broadcast to all cars. This is a total of 209,875 calls. During the same year, approximately 400,000 telephone calls were handled by the switchboard operators. Many major improvements were completed in the
Communications Division, some of them being launched in the last half of 1939, others during the calendar year, 1940. These changes and improvements have increased the efficiency of this division more than 30%. We have replaced 35 old composite mobile transmitters with new type crystal controlled transmitters, reducing the operating cost 50% and materially increasing efficiency. All patrol cars are now two-way equipped. Five new type high frequency pick-up receivers have replaced 11 old type receivers resulting in a saving of $795.00 per year on telephone rental as well as saving the operating cost on six receivers.

4 old type communications receivers were replaced with two new types increasing the efficiency of the radio-telegraph system. A new control desk and new filing system have been installed in the transmitting room, this change being necessary to handle the traffic on the radio-telegraph net work which has more than doubled. Three new radio-telegraph antennas have been installed to enable us to properly handle the telegraph net work, A new test bench and test board have been built and installed in the radio shop. New test equipment has been purchased, and we are now able to make our tests and repairs with a, minimum loss of radio equipment from service. Four safety cars have been equipped with 30 watt sound system, making possible the use of these cars in safety and other educational work. Our Communications Division is recognized as the finest in the United States. Its equipment is the very latest type, a larger number of cars being two-way equipped than any other city except Boston, and our dispatching system being so accurate and fast that police departments from many cities have sent their communications men here to study our up-to-date system. We service eight two-way fire department vehicles; three two-way Jackson County Sheriff cars; two one-way Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff cars; one one-way Johnson County Sheriff motorcycle; three one-way Independence, Missouri, police cars which later will be two-way equipped; two North Kansas City, Missouri, police cars and eight Federal Bureau cars. We stand by on all Missouri State Highway Patrol broadcasts, that organization doing the same on our broadcasts. We send and receive all radiograms for the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department. Our service to the public has been speeded up 75% since the middle of 1939 through the increase of two-way equipped cars from twenty-five to sixty-nine. At the present time, all district patrol cars and detective cruisers are two-way equipped which permits the saving of time required in the use of the telephone by cars under the old one-way system. We never have been off the air. In case of a power failure, in less than one minute our own
emergency power plant goes into service and continues without interruption the police radio service. This insures continuous public protection through the instantaneous contact with all police equipment operating throughout the city as well as with other law enforcement equipment listed above. All banks are equipped with alarms direct to the dispatcher’s office. These alarms are tested at frequent intervals to insure their proper operation. This system is a valuable protection to banks in case of a holdup. The radio unit of the Communications Division is manned by experts who are also trained police officers. We require operators of police radio to have a first-class radio-telephone license and a second-class radio-telegraph license. Two of our operators hold first-class radio-telephone and first-class radio-telegraph licenses. We require them to have at least 1 year of operating experience in either broadcast or police communication work. Radio operators handle the police radio telegraph and may be considered the technical operating staff. The dispatchers handle all communications with the police cars of all divisions as well as those cars served by the radio operated by other law-enforcement agencies. Police dispatchers are required to have had a minimum of one year of service in the field as patrolmen and must know every foot of ground in Kansas City.

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TRAFFIC-SAFETY DIVISION

Our traffic safety program is a model studied by similar divisions of police departments in many other cities. It is strictly a selective enforcement program. Stop watches and automatic speed checkers are used exclusively in arresting speeders, and these instruments have been almost 100% successful in securing convictions of speeders. We have five hundred and ninety 110-foot speed checks painted on the street pavement throughout the city. These speed checks are located at the approach to or within intersections selected after a careful study of accident records. These speed checks have contributed materially to the reduction in speed in the operation of cars in Kansas City. Enforcement of our traffic ordinances is not confined to daylight hours but covers the entire 24-hour period with special attention given to night enforcement during that part of the week when use of the streets after dark is the heaviest. Brake, light, and speedometer checks have been made throughout the year. Our white cars are equipped to make these checks. It is difficult to estimate the actual number of cars inspected during the year, but 7,000 brake stickers were issued to drivers of cars where brakes were found in proper working condition, and 30,000 light stickers were issued to drivers.
of cars with lights adjusted properly and of sufficient candle-power. Speedometer checks were made as a result of our findings that many discrepancies existed in speedometer readings where drivers were arrested for speed violations. These three inspection services may be definitely considered as accident prevention measures and unquestionably have contributed much to the safety record made during the year. Inter-district safety contests have been conducted month by month among the five police districts covering the quality and extent of their safety work. This has kept alive the interest of all members of the uniformed force and brought about increased cooperation between district officers and those engaged in traffic safety work. Members of the Traffic-Safety Division have worked closely with the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Safety Council in the study and adoption of all recommended "safety practices applicable to conditions in Kansas City, At the same time we have been able to contribute many constructive traffic enforcement and educational activities to those organizations and through them to police departments throughout the United States. Last year we inaugurated what we have termed the "Blotto Squad," whose duty it is to keep a sharp watch in the vicinity of night clubs to prevent intoxicated persons from driving their cars. This phase of our safety program has been unusually successful in preventing intoxicated persons from operating their vehicles. Officers detailed to the "Blotto Squad" assignment are selected from the various units of the Traffic-Safety Division, and this activity is entirely conducted in overtime hours, not as part of regular time assignments. Persons charged with driving under the influence of liquor are, when willing, subjected to the drunkometer test, which is used to obtain the information listed on the intoxication report forms standardized by the National Safety Council and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The analysis of the drunkometer test and the intoxication report covering the officer's investigation are used as evidence in the presentation of cases in court. On following pages are shown the traffic safety activities of the Department in tabular form. These cover both the Traffic-Safety Division and the district stations. A study of these tables gives a clear understanding of the volume of activity necessary in the protection of the public in the use of Kansas City streets. Then, too, your attention is called to the list of special assignments filled by members of this division during the year. These assignments are in addition to routine police work—in other words, they represent extra public service.