

STATE OF NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE TROOPERS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

For the Year 1927



ALBANY
J. B. LYON COMPANY, PRINTERS
1928

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HEADQUARTERS

JOHN A. WARNER, Superintendent.
GEORGE P. DUTTON, Deputy Superintendent.
ALBERT B. MOORE, Captain-Inspector.

STANLEY C. BEAGLE.....Chief Clerk
THOMAS A. KEMMYPersonnel and Pay Roll Clerk
JOSEPH C. RAUSCHRequisition and Supply Clerk
JOHN R. MCCORMICKCriminal Record Clerk
JAMES W. WHITESecretary to the Superintendent
JOSEPH L. MCGIVERNClerk and Stenographer

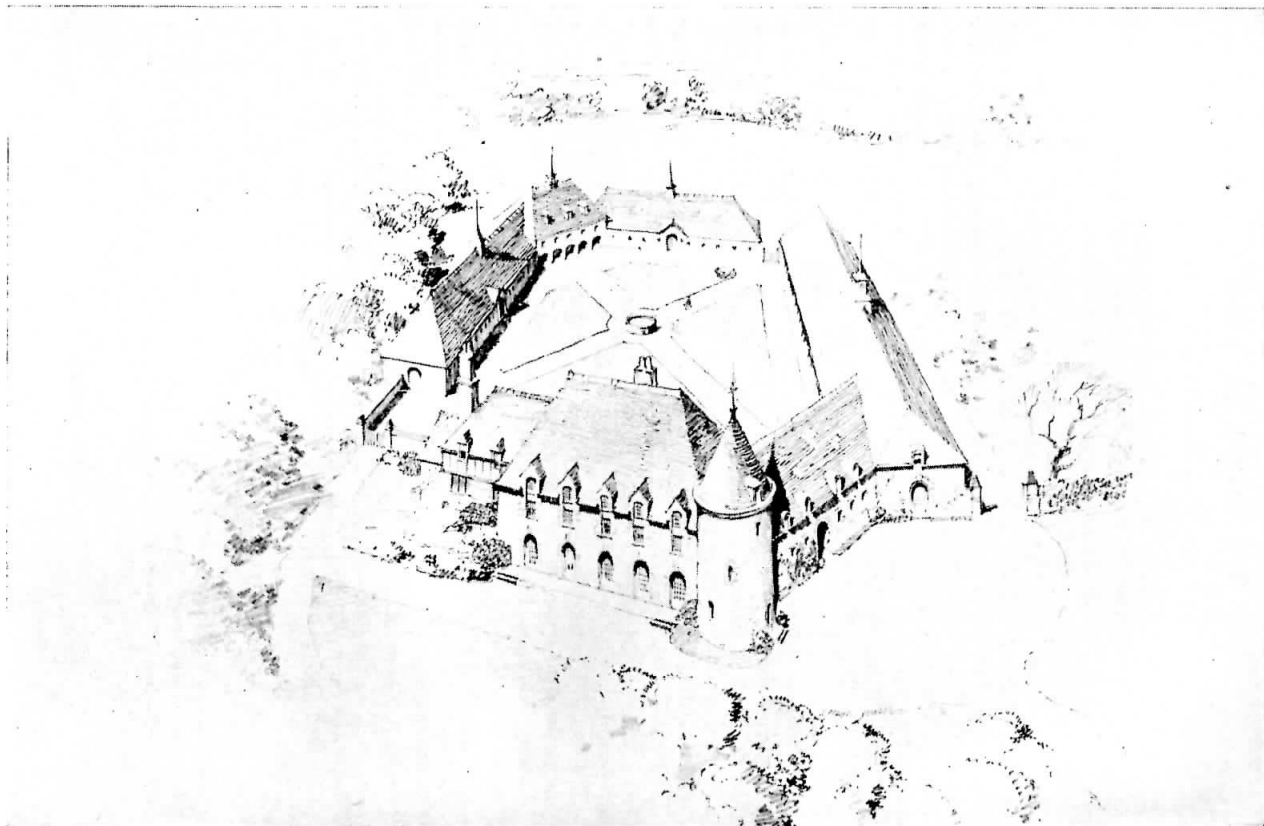
Captains:

Winfield W. Robinson, Troop A.....Batavia
Charles J. Broadfield, Troop B.....Malone
Daniel E. Fox, Troop C.....Sidney
Stephen McGrath, Troop D.....Oneida
John M. Keeley, Troop GTroy
Elihu F. Tobey, Troop KWhite Plains

Lieutenants:

William J. George, Troop ABatavia
Lawrence C. Nelson, Troop ABatavia
Samuel Freeman, Troop ABatavia
Edward F. Heim, Troop B.....Malone
Herman H. Gorenflo, Troop BMalone
Harold C. Herrick, Troop BMalone
Daniel Faber, Troop CSidney
Jacob B. Lockman, Troop CSidney
James J. Montgomery, Troop CSidney
John A. Cosart, Troop DOneida
Charles B. McCann, Troop DOneida
Frank E. Orser, Troop D.....Oneida
Harold J. Nagell, Troop GTroy
Tremain M. Hughes, Troop GTroy
Merritt E. Doescher, Troop GTroy
Francis S. McGarvey, Troop KWhite Plains
Joseph B. Lynch, Troop KWhite Plains
James Flynn, Troop KWhite Plains

Dr. J. Lewi DonhauserSurgeon-Inspector
Poultney BigelowChaplain
Each troop consists of ninety-five officers and men.



New Barracks About to be Erected in Westchester County for Troop K

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

To His Excellency, the Honorable ALFRED E. SMITH, Governor of the State of New York, Albany, N. Y.:

SIR.—This is the tenth annual report of the Division of State Police.

The year 1927 marks the close of ten years' operation of the New York State Police as the bill creating it was authorized by the Legislature of 1917 and was signed on April 11th of that year. The close of this ten year period also marks the first year of the operation of this force under the reorganization as a division instead of a separate department, and therefore it would seem proper to summarize its history and growth during this period.

The Division of State Police of the Executive Department was authorized by law as the Department of State Police through the addition of article 9-a to the Executive Law in April, 1917. The force at that time consisted of four troops of fifty-eight men each, making a total of two hundred and thirty-two officers and men, and in addition a superintendent, deputy superintendent and three clerks in the Albany headquarters. The summer months of that year were spent in recruiting and training and the first actual duty performed was the policing of the State Fair in September, 1917. As a large part of the months remaining in 1917 was spent in becoming settled in the four temporary barracks located at Batavia, Onondaga Valley, Troy and White Plains, the report for the calendar year of 1918 contains figures, without separation, covering these months of 1917 and the year 1918.

The first annual report for 1918 shows as follows:

Total number of arrests.....	3,750
Investigations without arrests.....	4,836
Total miles of road patrolled.....	766,278

During 1919 and 1920 the work of the force was carried on with the same number of men except for the addition of an inspector and one clerk to handle the work which was constantly on the increase at the headquarters of the department in Albany. These two years showed constant progress in efficiency, as is shown by the figures for these years respectively:

1919

Total number of arrests.....	4,271
Investigations without arrests.....	12,859
Total miles of road patrolled.....	948,438

1920

Total number of arrests.....	10,652
Investigations without arrests.....	28,625
Total miles of road patrolled.....	963,669

In 1921 the first important changes were made in the organization of the State Police. In April, 1921, a bill was signed adding two troops of fifty-eight men each, increasing the force



Show Horses, Troop "C," Sidney, N. Y.

by one hundred and sixteen officers and men. These two troops had headquarters at Malone and Sidney which divided the State, for administrative purposes, along the same lines as are at present in existence. These troops are Troop "A," Batavia, Troop "B," Malone, Troop "C," Sidney, Troop "D," Oneida, Troop "G," Troy, and Troop "K," White Plains. In the same year a law was passed transferring the authority of appointment and revocation of all railroad and steamboat policemen from the Governor of the State of New York to the Superintendent of State Police. This law relieved the Governor of the State of writing signatures which had no part in the functions of the Executive Department proper and more consistently belonged to the Department of State Police. Another forward step was made by the inauguration of the New York State School for Police, the curriculum and ideals of which were laid before the State Board of Regents and this body, after a careful study of its course and an understanding of its methods, placed upon it the stamp of their approval. All members of the State Police force are required to attend this school unless they have already graduated from it at a previous session. Eight sessions have been held up to the present time under the excellent supervision of Captain-Inspector Albert B. Moore and ten hundred and forty-four men have been graduated, including representatives of many outside police forces. Any duly authorized police officer is at liberty to attend this school without charge. The instructors are heads of various State departments, judges, district attorneys and authorities from the New York city and other police forces. The service of all instructors are contributed, so that the expense of this school has been kept under \$2,000 annually. In 1921 also the State Police were given the same powers and duties as Game Protectors and have since then cooperated closely with the Conservation Commission in the protection of the wild life in the State. During 1921 arrangements were made with the New York Telephone Company so that any one calling central and saying, "I want the State Troopers," is brought into connection with the Trooper headquarters of the district at any hour of the day or night. This is the same service as given by the telephone company locally when any one asks for the fire department or the local police. The regular toll rate is charged by the telephone company when it is a long distance call.

1921

Total number of arrests	12,664
Investigations without arrests	22,798
Total miles of road patrolled	1,503,864

In 1922 the force continued its work without any legislative change.

1922

Total number of arrests	10,797
Investigations without arrests	18,109
Total miles of road patrolled	1,838,572



Trooper Making Investigation of Arson Case at White Sulphur Springs, Which Resulted in Conviction

In 1923 the Legislature authorized and appropriated the funds for the purchase of five barracks built by local capital and rented to the State at Batavia, Malone, Sidney, Oneida and Troy. These barracks had been projected by local Chambers of Commerce and leased to the State at an annual rental of 10 per cent of their cost, which made a total of \$36,150 annual rental. These barracks were purchased for \$407,275, which, if the money had been borrowed by the State at 4 per cent, would result in a saving of approximately \$20,000 a year. Provision was also made by the Legislature for pensions for the dependent families of troopers who lost their lives in the performance of their duty, and under this provision the widow of Corporal Harold C. Mattice, who was shot while making an arrest for arson, and the widow of Trooper Roy A. Donovan, who was shot while attempting to arrest a gang of three holdup men, are now receiving pensions of approximately \$775 a year each.

1923

Total number of arrests	14,166
Investigations without arrests	13,992
Total miles of road patrolled	2,078,158

In 1924 each of the six troops were increased by twenty men, bringing the force up to a total of 468 men in these troops, and a superintendent, deputy superintendent, inspector and five clerks in Albany headquarters.

1924

Total number of arrests	22,923
Investigations without arrests	14,962
Total miles of road patrolled	2,782,341

In 1925 and 1926 there was no additional legislation, and the work of the State Police was carried on along the same lines, with an increase of results as shown:

1925

Total number of arrests	25,734
Investigations without arrests	15,903
Total miles of road patrolled	3,442,395

1926

Total number of arrests	22,679
Investigations without arrests	16,088
Total miles of road patrolled	3,815,971

In 1927 seventeen men were added to each of the six troops, making a total of one hundred and two additional, under the provisions of the reorganization in order to take over the police functions formerly exercised by the Motor Vehicle Bureau. A few of these additional men were appointed during April, May and June of 1927, and since then every two weeks more have been added, so that that State Police is now practically up to its authorized force.

1927

Total number of arrests	33,691
Investigations without arrests	19,383
Total miles of road patrolled	5,113,132



Photograph Taken Immediately After Apprehension by Trooper E. M. Simpson of Two Holdup Men at Phoenixia, N. Y.
Trooper Simpson was Later Killed in the Performance of His Duty

The summary of operation of the State Police for ten years from January 1, 1918, to December 31, 1927, is

Total number of arrests.....	161,345
Total number of convictions.....	146,735
Total number pending or of which records are not available....	9,341
Total discharges.....	5,269
Total miles of road patrolled, mounted and motor.....	23,252,818
Total investigations without arrests.....	167,555
Automobiles recovered (record for 9 years only).....	3,143
Fines imposed (record for 8 years only).....	\$1,780,707 38
Value of stolen property recovered and contraband property seized (record for 9 years only).....	\$6,109,149.35

These figures do not show, or can it be shown, how much crime was prevented by the State Police, as the deterrent effect such an organization would have cannot be estimated.

Something of this can be seen from the figures of reported thefts of farm produce for the years 1925 and 1926 as made to this Division. In 1926 a system of cooperation on this type of theft was instituted with the New York State Farm Bureau Federation. In 1925 four hundred and twenty thefts of farm produce were reported to the State Police, and in 1926 this number was cut to one hundred and seventy-six.

In addition to the above over 23,000 inspections of places of public assembly, outside of cities in the first and second class, were made pursuant to a law enacted by the Legislature in 1922, and certificates of compliance with the provisions of this law have been issued where the places inspected came within the law.

The expense connected with the State Police has not increased on a pro rata basis since 1921, and at the present time averages \$8.62 per man per day. This includes all salaries, transportation, food, uniforms, automobiles, horses, fodder, telephones, supplies, pensions and every item in connection with the Division of State Police from the Superintendent to the newest recruit.

Provision has been recommended in the budget for the coming fiscal year to provide for fourteen additional men who will be assigned to the exclusive work of policing the various parks and parkways of the State on Long Island. This is the only change that is considered necessary for the successful operation of the force. The appropriations requested are \$2,001 less than for the present fiscal year, notwithstanding the addition of these fourteen men, and, economically administered, should prove sufficient for the proper carrying on of the work of this Division.

The ten-year period covered above has not been without its tragedies, and in the appendix will be found a list of the men who lost their lives in the performance of their duties.

During the coming year it will be the endeavor of every member of the New York State Troopers to render helpful service to the people of this State as in the past, and to continue the constant improvement in this service which has been in evidence since the force was first organized.

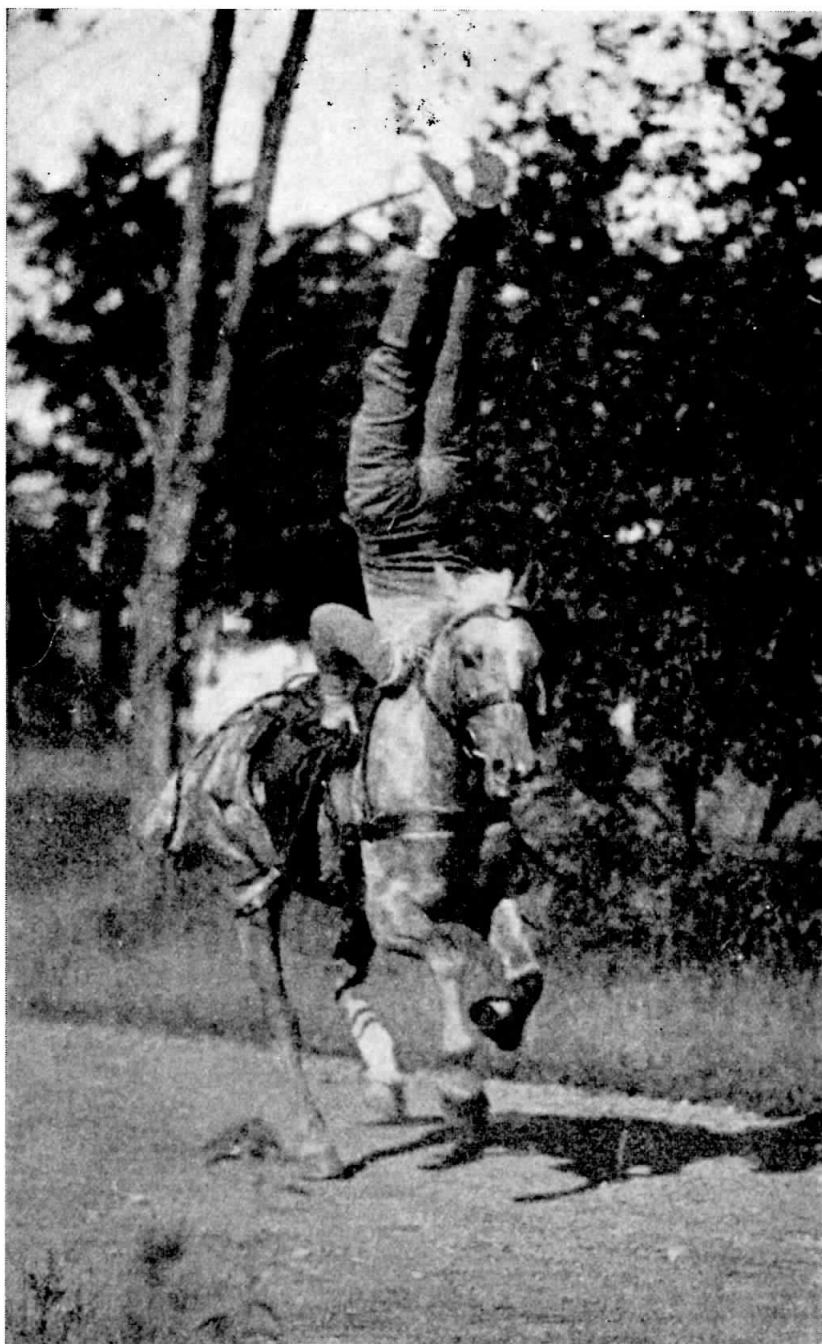
JOHN ADAMS WARNER,
Superintendent.



Trooper Checking Up for Possible Overloaded Trucks

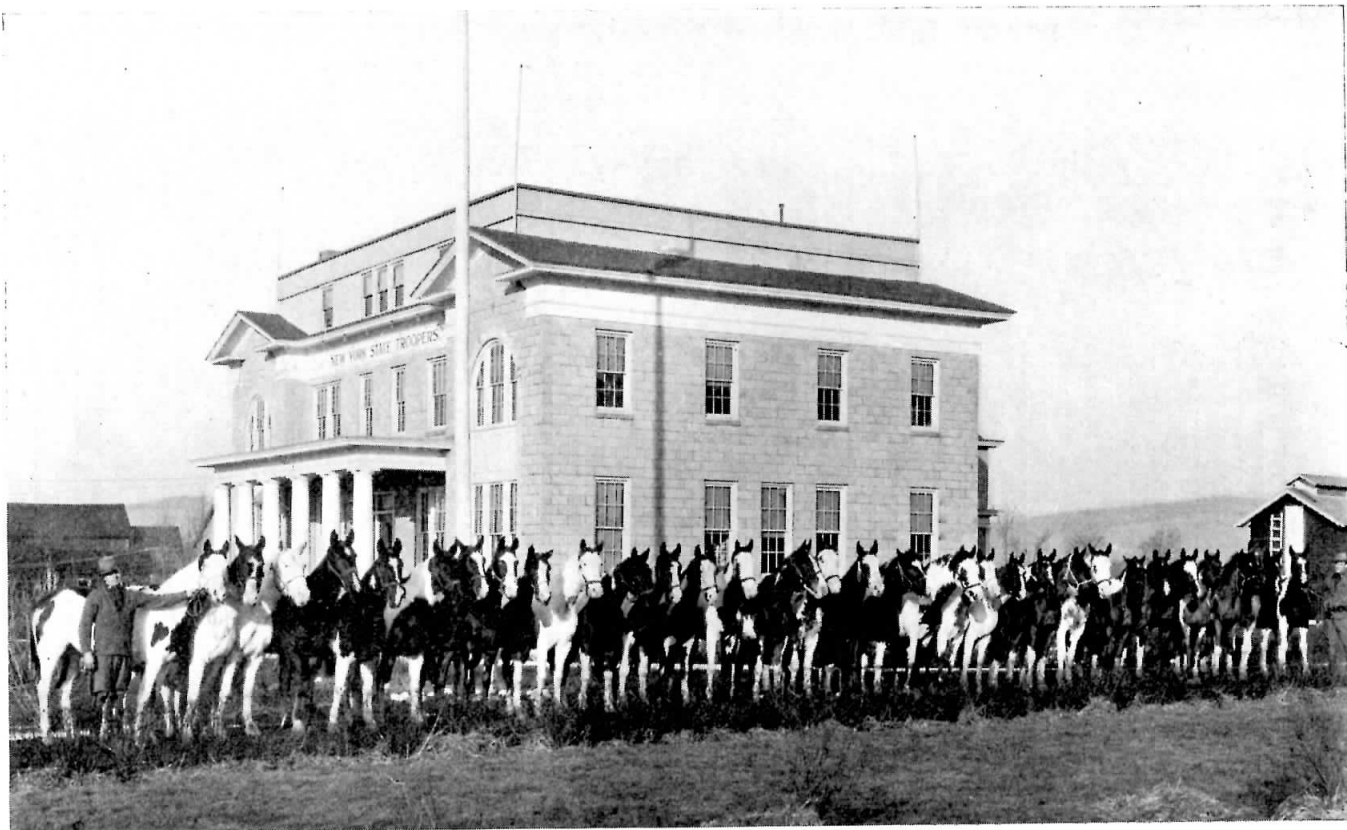
RECORD OF ARRESTS

Crime	Arrests	Con- victions	Pending
Abandonment	56	33	13
Abduction	19	6	8
Adultery	29	10	17
Agricultural Law, violations of	9	7	0
Aiding prisoner to escape	1	0	1
Animals, cruelty to	391	373	4
Arson	30	13	8
Assault	881	580	182
Bastardy	23	12	9
Bigamy	12	5	3
Billiard Room Law, violations of	38	31	1
Bribery	4	2	2
Burglary	233	80	127
Checks, passing worthless	8	5	3
Children, cruelty to	17	12	4
Children, endangering life and health of	9	7	2
Children, endangering morals of	30	19	8
Children, failing to provide for	28	22	4
Children, incorrigible	1	1	0
Children, improper guardianship of	13	6	3
Cockfighting	26	26	0
Coercion	2	0	0
Conservation Law, violations of	419	406	1
Conspiracy, criminal	1	1	0
Contempt of court	46	41	1
Crime, aiding and abetting	3	3	0
Crime, attempt to commit	5	1	1
Crime, threat to commit	15	12	0
Defrauding innkeepers	102	84	5
Deserters, U. S. Army and Navy	36	36	0
Disorderly conduct	2,936	2,837	19
Disorderly houses	28	8	18
Disorderly persons	192	165	17
Education Law, violations of	38	35	0
Escaped inmates	34	34	0
Escaped prisoners	49	46	3
Extortion	6	0	0
Federal violations, counterfeiting	1	1	0
Federal violations, Customs Law	38	19	16
Federal violations, Immigration Law	38	26	12
Federal violations, Liquor Law	697	127	554
Federal violations, Narcotic Law	2	1	1
Federal violations, Postal Law	1	0	0
Federal violations, stealing and disposing of government property	1	0	1
Federal violations, Motor Vehicle Theft Act	13	10	3
Federal violations, White Slave Law	2	0	1
Felony, accessory to	1	0	1
Firearms, unlawful discharge of	6	5	0
Firearms, unlawful sale of	1	1	0
Forgery	28	8	19
Fraud	75	53	13
Fraudulently selling mortgaged property	12	9	3
Fraudulently secreting mortgaged property	8	6	2
Fraudulently secreting personal property	5	2	3



Rough Riding Exhibition

Crime	Arrests	Con- victions	Pending
Fugitive from justice.....	52	52	0
Gambler, common.....	17	13	2
Gambling.....	80	73	4
Gambling devices.....	148	114	33
Gambling houses.....	2	0	0
General Business Law, violations of.....	5	5	0
General Highway Traffic Law, violations of.....	38	32	1
Incest.....	9	8	1
Indecency.....	34	32	1
Insanity Law.....	80	80	0
Intoxication, public.....	1,364	1,355	1
Juvenile Delinquency.....	355	314	27
Kidnapping.....	6	3	0
Labor Law, violations of.....	14	10	4
Larceny.....	1,703	1,334	203
Lost persons.....	18	18	0
Malicious mischief.....	202	179	13
Manslaughter.....	44	7	27
Material witness.....	18	11	6
Mental Deficiency Law.....	18	18	0
Motor Vehicle Law, violations of.....	19,343	18,753	207
Motor vehicle, unauthorized use of.....	4	1	3
Murder.....	19	3	13
Nonsupport.....	11	4	4
Nuisances.....	85	72	4
Officer, impersonating.....	3	2	1
Officer, interference with.....	6	3	3
Officer, resisting.....	17	13	2
Parole, violation of.....	19	18	1
Peddling without license.....	10	10	0
Perjury, subornation of.....	3	1	2
Probation, violation of.....	2	2	0
Public Health Law, violations of.....	6	4	2
Public Safety Law, violations of.....	14	8	5
Rape.....	140	35	85
Receiving stolen goods.....	22	15	4
Robbery.....	34	10	21
Sabbath breaking.....	24	24	0
Security to keep peace.....	5	4	0
Seduction.....	1	0	0
Sodomy.....	7	3	3
Threatening letters.....	2	2	0
Town ordinance, violations of.....	28	27	0
Trains, riding on illegally.....	17	17	0
Tramps.....	2,623	2,623	0
Trespassing on private property.....	6	4	0
Unlawful entry.....	40	30	5
Vagrancy.....	165	160	4
Wayward minor.....	16	14	1
Weapons, carrying concealed.....	72	36	13
Weapons, possessing dangerous.....	39	27	10
Weight, short.....	2	0	2
Total.....	33,691	30,810	1,811
Total number of arrests.....	33,691		
Total number of convictions.....		30,810	100%
Cases pending.....		1,811	91.4
Discharged cases.....		1,070	5.4
			3.2



Troop "C" Barracks, Sidney, N. Y.

STATEMENT OF MILES PATROLED

Mounted patrols	230,619
Motorecycle, automobile, etc.....	4,882,513
	<hr/>
Total miles of road patrolled	5,113,132
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Investigations without arrests	19,383
Automobiles recovered	528
Sheep-killing dogs killed	310
Value of property recovered	\$461,533 99
Fines collected	\$263,777 90
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Trooper Arnold Trasmussen Killed at Caneadea, N. Y., by Wilmont Roy Wagner

APPENDIX

RECORD OF MEN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES

Corporal Harold C. Mattice, while investigating an arson case at Morris, N. Y., on April 28, 1923, had reason to believe that one, Franklin Yates, at that time out on bail on a charge of rape, was responsible for the fire, and went to his house to place him under arrest. On the second floor of the house Corporal Mattice ordered Yates to come out of a small room where he had hidden himself in the attic. The answer was a shot from this dark hole fired from a 12-gauge shot-gun. The full charge entered the left shoulder and upper portion of the heart of Corporal Mattice and he died instantly. Franklin Yates, who committed the murder, shot himself in the same attic before he was apprehended by Corporal Mattice's partner. His widow, Mrs. Maude H. Mattice of Howes Cave, N. Y., receives a pension of \$775 a year for herself and child.

Trooper Roy A. Donovan, while patrolling the highway known as the Wilton road in the town of Wilton, county of Saratoga, at 4 o'clock in the morning of October 8, 1923, was stopped by a gang of highway men and ordered to hold up his hands. At this command Trooper Donovan opened fire with his revolver in the direction of said command. The persons attempting to commit the crime of robbery shot at Donovan, two of the shots entering his body and causing his instant death. Of the perpetrators of this crime, George Haupt, was tried twice in Saratoga county. The first time the jury disagreed, the second time he was acquitted. Matthew Salvinsky pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the second degree and is now serving his sentence. The third man whose name was supposed to be William King was never apprehended. Trooper Donovan's widow, Mrs. Auguste Muller Donovan, is now receiving a pension of \$780 a year for the support of herself and her two sons, aged nine and five years old, respectively.

Trooper Arnold T. Rasmussen, while in the company of Trooper Robert Roy on September 8, 1927, went to the home of Wilmont Roy Wagner in the town of Caneadea, Allegany county, to serve a warrant charging Wagner with the crime of petit larceny. Wagner went up stairs ostensibly to get his coat and hat and from an upper window shot Trooper Rasmussen, killing him instantly. Immediately afterwards Trooper Roy entered the house and was shot and killed instantly by Wagner on the stairs. Wagner was recently tried in Buffalo on a charge of first degree murder and convicted. Trooper Rasmussen left a widow, Mrs. Margaret R. Rasmussen, and two little girls, one aged a year and three months and the other two months old. She has just been awarded a pension of \$750 a year.

The circumstances which led to Trooper Robert Roy's death are related in the case of Trooper Arnold T. Rasmussen. Trooper Roy left a step-father, Henry A. Steinbock, a lawyer with offices at 42nd street and Madison avenue, New York city.

The three widows and minor children enumerated above are dependent entirely on these pensions and are living in most moderate circumstances.

Trooper Ernest Fowler Rudd was killed by a train while on duty in an automobile. His widow is receiving a similar amount for the support of herself and her two children.

Trooper Thomas J. Scanlon was killed at the same time and under the same circumstances as Trooper Rudd. His dependent mother is receiving a similar pension.

Trooper Alexander E. Boehm died from a combination of injury from a horse and exposure. His widow is receiving a similar pension for the support of herself and child.

Trooper William Henry Curley was killed while on duty in a motorcycle accident, and his mother is receiving a pension.

In addition to the above the following men were also killed in the performance of their duty, but did not leave dependents within the meaning of the law.

Trooper James V. Brown contracted pneumonia while on patrol in the vicinity of Hornell, N. Y., and later died there.

Trooper James M. Skiff received injuries when a motorcycle in which he was riding collided with a trolley car and died shortly afterwards.

Trooper Theodore Dobbs, while returning on a motorcycle from patrol duty on Long Island, collided with a mail truck and died from pneumonia while being treated for his injuries in a hospital.

Trooper James B. Losco died from injuries received when his motor cycle collided with an oil truck at Gardenville, N. Y.

Trooper Andrew J. Lawrence died after the amputation of his leg which had been severely injured in a collision while on motorcycle patrol duty near Hudson, N. Y.

Trooper Phillip E. Gonterman died as a result of a collision in Pulaski, N. Y., while on motorcycle duty.

Trooper C. M. McGinn died at Remsen, N. Y., from a fractured skull when an automobile collided with his motorcycle.

Sergeant Harry J. Wheeler died from a fractured skull which resulted from his motorcycle skidding on a slippery pavement between Sherrill and Oneida, N. Y.

Lieutenant Walter Croasdale died from injuries received when an automobile in which he was riding collided with a steam roller on a highway under construction near Lafayette, N. Y.