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The Police Will Celebrate

The Thirtieth Anniversary of the Force Occurs Today

A Parade This Afternoon – Three Hundred Men To March

Under Command of Maj. Moore – Officers Who Will Be In Line –

The Several Original Veterans On The Force

In the police stations this morning the officers were all busily engaged cleaning their best suits of clothes, blacking their belts and polishing their shields, getting ready for the parade this afternoon.

The parade will be in celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the organization of the force. Just thirty years ago today 150 members of the force went out on street duty, besides eleven others, who were termed roundsmen, clerks, etc.

Business was dull at that time, and there were nearly 2,000 applicants for the positions.

The room that is now occupied by the Criminal Court was the place where they met and were sworn in.

Police Commissioner Brown was made acting chief, and he remained at the head of the force for about a week, when Mr. W.B. Webb was elected. After the men were sworn in they went out in front of the building and stood in line, and the acting chief told them to remove their hats. When they did so he remarked: "This is a fine looking set of men." The remark caused an uproar in the ranks.

Ex-Policeman Lewis and ex-Detective Kelly were put on duty at the central guard house, where all prisoners were taken. Each man was given a badge, which consisted of a strip of ribbon bearing the inscription, "Metropolitan Police," and a club such as was used by the old auxiliary guard. These clubs were about three feet long and at the end was an iron spear. They were not intended to be used on prisoners heads, but were to force open doors and windows in case of fire.

In those days there was scarcely any necessity for an officer to carry a club as officers of the law were respected more then than they are now. It was not an unusual thing for an officer and his partner to arrest a dozen men and march them to the guard house.

The First Arrest

Detective Mattingly was one of the first men sworn in, but he has not served continuously since that time. He made the first arrest, his victim being an army officer, who was found lying in the street drunk. He was locked up and released the next day without the payment of costs.

In those days there were no patrol wagons and the officers had to carry their prisoners from all parts of the city to the central guard house on foot unless they were fortunate enough to meet an empty wagon with an obliging driver.

From time to time the force has increased until it now numbers 418 men, besides patrol wagons, ambulances and appliances for the same.

Today's Parade

The procession this afternoon, which will be composed of seven companies of infantry, one of cavalry and the patrol service, will move along 17th street from south of the White House at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Maj. Wm. G. Moore will be in command, with Capt. Austin and Inspectors Swindells and Pearson members of the staff.

Lieuts. Amiss, Teeple, Vernon, Kelly, Hollenberger, Gessford and Heffner will have charge of the companies of infantry, while Lieut. McCathran will be in command of the cavalry troop. Lieut. Guy will have charge of the patrol service and ambulance corps.

There will be about 300 men in line, enough officers being left in the precincts to properly patrol this city.

The Men In Line

The men in line will be as follows:

First precinct – Lieut. Amiss, sergeants Boyle and Shilling; Privates Boyce, Hughes, Faller, Hartman, Nelson, Frayser, Sprinkle, Moore, Gilbert, Boyd, Loughman, Donovan, Nebb, Toler, Loftus, Helan, Settrght, Holsey, Williams, Aunen, Golway, Eaton, Lyda, Parker, Dean, Bowie, Pearson, Ceniari, Weedon, Kendall, Allen, Boardman.

Second Precinct – Lieut. Heffner, Sergeants Jones, Cross and McTaggart, and about thirty privates.

Third Precinct – Lieut. Guy, Sergts. Myers and Harbison; Privates Hanley Cooney, Maddox, Jacobson, McAndrews, Fitzpatrick, Lamb, Holmes, Cramer, Redgrave, Goucher, Stamler, Parham, O'Rourke, McManus, Bell, Gehrman, McNeely, Schneider, Campbell, Cunningham, Hause, Cattel, McGraith, O'Brien, O'Brien, Kersten, Wortz, Jackbson, Voebel, McGuiieu, Keefe.

Fourth Precinct – Lieut. Vernon, sergts. Barry, Smith and Acting Sergt. Treadwell, Privates Byer, Baur, Crowley, Eser, Espey, Filgate, Fenton, Hatton, Henry, Hutchison, Hogan, Hayden, Herbert, Kelley, Kemp, Klinger, Kenney, Loane, Melton, McNamara, Mulvey, Murphy, Maher, Perry, Rinck, Smith, Schrader, Sanford, Stenhouse, Sonntag, jr., Turnburke, Troster, Wagner, Williams, Whalon.

Fifth Precinct – Lieut. Gessford, Sergts. Burgess and Wright, Privates Wright, Kelley, Stewart, Stevens, Augusta, Kramer, Vanzant, Cotton, Robie, Lewis, Garraway, Foster, Fitz, Stahl, Kramer, Ciscle, Buckmaster, Clinton, Evans, Furey, Ragan, Wilson, Dyer.

Sixth Precinct – Lieut. Kelly, Sergts. Byrnes, Falvay and Brosnan, Privates Sullivan, Parker, Schultze, Costello, Denney, Groff, Kimmell, Jordan, Mendenhall, Rodgers, Creagh, Elliott, Jameson, Mooney, Gibson, Hamilton, Kenney, Estes, Langley, Brennan, Coghill, Bateman, Fitzgerald, Haynes, Newkirk Smith, Lynch Hartigan, Foley, Lamb, Riley, McCormick, Sullivan.

Seventh Precinct – Lieut. Hollinberger, Sergts. Volkman and Haney, Privates Hall, Bradley, Bloom, Pierce, Curren, Hess, Birkight, Sutherland, Mason, Conlon, Edwards, Jett, Passeno, Passau,, Gilmoie, Bailey, Hooke, Grealey, Vollandt and Upperman.

Eighth Precinct – Lieut. Gessford, Sergts. Daly, Lombardy and Dunnegan, Privates Appleby, Bryan, Barney, Clark, Crawford, Darcey, Dunster, Ellsworth, Garvey, Geaghan, Harrover, Hagerty, Hensey, Henrick, Kelly, Lynch, Mellen, McCort, McCormick, McDonald, Preston, Rhodes, Rogers, Skinner, Speer, Stuermann, Thompson, Upperman, Yoe.

Ninth precinct – Lieut. Heffner, Sergts. Bryan, Wall and Cross, Privates Anderson, Austin, Archambault Bushall, Browne, Bast, Curtis, Cook, Curry, Dunnington, Dailey, Dowling, Ehlers, Fisher, Flynn, Gordon, Hebrew, Johnson, Lee, Moore, McGrath, Markwood, Ohlsen, Pearson, Schultze, Stearns, Tracy, Wannall.

Cavalry troop – Lieut. McCathran, Sergts. Slattery, Hess and Kirby, Privates Boland, Pather, West, Wannell, Anderson, Marr, Hagan, Markward, Slack, Morgan, Sullivan, Branson, Amos, Hurd, Coleman, McCabe, Murphy, Law, Earley, Riley, Fifield, Rhodes, Mulloy, Nicholson, Breen, Elliott, McNamara and Matthews.

Among the guests of the police department will be three police commissioners and four captains from Baltimore.

The line will disband at the Peace monument after going over the route announced in The Star.

The Seven Original Veterans

There are seven men who went on duty the day the metropolitan police force was organized who are still in the service and of them three are now in charge of precincts, they being Lieuts. John F. Kelly, James W. Gessford and Charles R. Vernon. The others are Sergt. Cornelius Noonan and Privates Godwin Pierce, Caleb Sebastian and Augustus Brown. They are all in active service, although Sergt. Noonan has been off duty some weeks on account of ill health.

Lieut. Gessford

Lieut. Gessford is one of the most popular men on the force and celebrates his birthday on the 22d day of February, the anniversary of the birth of Washington. He came here from Baltimore about 1853 and learned how to build houses. He was not on the force many months before he was promoted. Under an act of Congress he was made lieutenant. He has since commanded a number of precincts and is held in high esteem by the men who have done duty under him. In addition to commanding several precincts he did duty as night inspector for some months, but was succeeded in that position by Lieut. Pearson.

Lieut. Kelly

Lieut. John F. Kelly of the sixth precinct has at some time had charge of nearly every police district. He is a Washingtonian, and during his younger days served as a bricklayer on many of the public buildings. When President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers John F. Kelly was laying brick on the Corcoran Art Gallery. He left the building and enlisted in the army as one of the defenders of the national capital. He is probably the only man on the force who has filled every position from private to chief, he having been acting chief on one occasion as well a night inspector and chief of the detective corps.

Lieut. Vernon

Lieut. Vernon is another officer who has filled nearly every position on the force. He is a Virginian, having been born in Alexandria county in 1832. He is a carpenter by trade, but during the early days he started out as a farmer and spent several years on the place where the Gentlemen's Driving Park is now located. He remained on the force as a private longer than necessary, because promotion to him meant to give up sports of which he was fond. He was made captain in 1879 and he held position until Maj. Walker was made chief, when he again assumed charge of the South Washington precinct.

Sergeant Noonan

Sergt. Noonan is one of the oldest men on the force and has had more years of police life than any other member, having done duty in Ireland before coming to this country. He was born in 1817 and served as

a member of the constabulary in Cork, where he rose to the rank of sergeant. He came here with excellent recommendations and proved himself an efficient member of the force. He was made lieutenant, and a few years ago, on account of his age, he was made a sergeant and detailed at the Police Court, where he has handled many thousand dollars.

Augustus Brown

Policeman Augustus Brown is now on duty at the Free bridge after many years of street duty. He bears the distinction of being the only man on the force who wore a badge the first day he went on duty. He was born in Georgetown, where he has spent most of his life. He was one of the successful applicants and he answered the first roll call in a little shanty in the rear of the present police station. During his thirty years' experience he has lost less than a month on account of sickness and less than six months from all causes.

Godwin Pierce

Policeman Godwin Pierce has served on the force as a private, roundsman and sergeant. He is a native of Philadelphia and is sixty-three years old. Before leaving his native place he mastered the brickmakers' trade and worked at it here from 1850 until a short time before he was appointed on the force. For two years he held the office of sanitary inspector. During his service on the force he figured in more than a dozen murder cases. In 1883 he was detailed to the office of the Commissioners and has been there ever since.

Caleb Sebastian

Policeman Caleb Sebastian was born in Fairfax county, Va., in 1818, but has resided in Georgetown nearly fifty-five years. His present position is a detail as food inspector in Georgetown, which relieves him from street duty. Many years before the war he sold butter and eggs from a stand in the old Georgetown market and when President Lincoln called for volunteers he was one of the first citizens of Georgetown to respond. At the expiration of the three months service he took charge of the first ambulance train to Bull Run, but was forced to return to Arlington before reaching the battlefield. For twelve years he has held the position of food inspector for Georgetown.