

# Commission's Report on Chicago Police

## CONCLUSIONS.

From the evidence obtained by it the commission has come to the following conclusions:

(a) That there is and for years has been a connection between the police department and the various criminal classes in the city of Chicago.

(b) That a bipartisan political combination or ring exists, by and through which the connection between the police department and the criminal classes above referred to is fostered and maintained.

(c) That to such connection may be charged a great part of the inefficiency, disorganization, and lack of discipline existing in the department.

(d) That, aside from such connection, inefficiency also arises through faults of organization and administration.

(e) That the police department, as now numerically constituted, can enforce any reasonable regulation in regard to gambling, crime, and other forms of vice, if honestly and efficiently administered, as well as perform all other routine police duty.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

The commission at this time makes the following suggestions, not in the sense of finality, but merely to bring up for discussion the ideas that have come to it as a result of its investigation:

(1) That the division of the city into police divisions and districts be abandoned.

(2) That the position of inspector be abolished.

(3) That captains be assigned to command important precincts, and lieutenants the balance, and each be held strictly accountable for conditions therein, these officers reporting directly to general headquarters.

(4) That such number of captains and lieutenants be detailed to general headquarters to constitute an efficient working staff for the general superintendent, at all times subject to return to former duty.

(5) That a system of inspection be installed that will insure proper performance of police duty on the part of officers and men.

(6) That improved methods of reports and correspondence be introduced and the record system thoroughly overhauled and revised, and headquarters' records consolidated as far as practicable.

(7) That all assignments to "special" duty other than city police duty in the strictest sense be discontinued, to the end that every available patrolman may be on beat.

(8) That the present method of assignment of sergeants be so revised as to

secure, as far as possible, equality as to numbers of men to be supervised.

(9) That transfers as a punishment or at the request of persons outside the department be discontinued.

(10) That the standard of promotion examinations be raised.

(11) That so far as possible there be established in the police department a system of efficiency markings that will insure, through means practically automatic, the recording of efficiency for purposes of promotion of every officer and man in the department.

(12) That a system of ascertaining and recording individual efficiency, as nearly automatic as possible, be installed and maintained, and as a factor thereof annual or biennial medical examinations be held.

(13) That in all promotions the person at the top of the list be taken, unless some valid and substantial reason exists why he should not be promoted.

(14) That an age limit be fixed for compulsory retirement of members of the department.

(15) That the police pension law be revised so as to prevent payment of pensions to persons discharged from the force.

(16) That the possible appointment and use of substitute patrolmen be considered.

(17) That the school of instruction for recruits be reestablished, and a system of station schools of instruction, uniform throughout the precincts, be devised and installed, as contemplated by the rules, and that a school for officers be established.

(18) That the rules regarding vice be revised and amplified.

(19) That the ordinances prohibiting street walking be amended so as to provide for a graded increase of fine for each offense, eliminating judicial discretion as far as possible.

(20) That the laws regarding vagrants and persons of known bad character be studied, with a view to a revision of the same.

(21) That a card index system be installed in every precinct station that will show at all times, up to date, the name, description, character, haunts, habits, associates, and relatives of every known person of bad character residing in or frequenting such precinct, including pickpockets, holdup men, safe blowers, confidence men, cadets, disorderly women, and people who have operated gambling or gaming houses.

(22) That immediate and stringent measures be taken to disband the organization known as the United Police and to prevent the creation of any organization whose influence and tendency are to break down departmental organization and efficiency.