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Report of the
Commissioner of Police
of the Metropolis
for the year
1968

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by Command of Her Majesty
June 1969*

LONDON

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REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE OF THE
METROPOLIS FOR THE YEAR 1968

New Scotland Yard,
Broadway,
London,
S.W.1.

9th May, 1969.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the police of
the Metropolis for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. WALDRON.

CHAPTER I

The Year under Review

The year 1968 was indelibly marked by the tragic death on 20th March of Sir Joseph Simpson, K.B.E. The Metropolitan Police lost a truly great Commissioner at the start of a major reorganisation in the planning of which he had played a prominent and inspiring part. This was the culmination of ten years of office during which he was continuously striving to improve the organisation, strategy and tactics of police work, with no mean success. He was not content to regard himself as the architect of broad and imaginative policies for others to carry out but made the time to concern himself with the detailed working out of his ideas.

There is no doubt that fulfilling his conception of what he was called upon to do as Commissioner took tremendous toll of even his exceptional stamina, but he was nevertheless unstinting of his time in getting to know individually large numbers of officers of all ranks and in engaging himself in the social and recreational activities of the Force.

At his death many were the tributes paid to his outstanding personality, his great qualities of courage, integrity both of character and of intellect, and tolerance, his capacity for keen and objective thinking and above all his utter dedication to the police service in which he was an outstanding leader. The loss to the Metropolitan Police and to the police service as a whole has indeed been grievous.

It has been a busy, hard and in some ways stimulating year. Crime, the prevention and detection of which it must never be forgotten is the very bread and butter of our existence, was contained at approximately the same level as 1967 which in itself showed an improvement on 1966. A noticeable reduction in breaking offences was overtaken by a substantial increase in miscellaneous simple thefts. The maintenance of public order took up much of our time and there seems little likelihood of this aspect of our duty diminishing during the next twelve months. The free circulation of traffic is coming to depend more and more on automatic control techniques and the formation of the Joint Traffic Executive between the Metropolitan Police and the Greater London Council to control London's traffic is a considerable administrative achievement. Recruitment has been steady and of consistently good material; with wastage slightly down there has been an increase in strength of 444 men and 17 women. On 1st April, following upon the recommendations of the P.A. Management Consultants Ltd. report, the Force underwent a reorganisation primarily at Headquarters. These are some of the main features of the past year on which I shall expand below.

Crime

The number of indictable crimes recorded for 1968 was 275,222, an increase of 0.8 per cent on 1967 which showed a reduction of 3.3 per cent on 1966, the first decrease since 1954; thus the improvement shown in 1967 has been reasonably maintained. The detection rate rose to 24.8 per cent against 24.3 per cent in 1967 and 22.3 per cent in 1966. There was a fall in breaking offences of 1.5 per cent while cases of robbery and attempts to rob dropped from 2,012 to 1,910. The overall increase was due primarily to the miscellaneous simple thefts from

non-residential buildings, a virtually non-preventable crime; these rose by 13 per cent to over 5,000. Apart from two gangs whose activities have been brought to a close by the devoted and dedicated work of C.I.D. officers covering a long period of time, there is no evidence that crime is organised in London on a large scale and to the extent that "protection" does occur, the victims themselves are on the criminal fringe. Nevertheless, in spite of a reduction of 5 per cent, robbery remains a menace and a difficult problem to counter; of those arrested it is found that 30 per cent have not been previously convicted and 50 per cent are under 21 years of age. Young criminals whose highest ambition was to snatch a purse in the market place, now without hesitation attack elderly sub-postmistresses and ordinary men and women, many so unprepared, taking money to and from the banks. The rise in the proportion of these offences in which firearms were used or thought to be used, 14.6 per cent in 1968 against 10.6 per cent in 1967, does give cause for concern. One is, however, heartened by the improvement in the clear up rate for robbery, rising from 30 per cent in 1967 to 31.7 per cent in 1968. With this particular offence pickings are high and the risks can be calculated, so it is fundamental that the culprits, whatever their age or previous history, should when caught be made to understand that crime does not pay. It is a primary responsibility of the Regional Crime Squad to deal with this type of criminal.

During the year emphasis has been placed on the necessity for the highest possible specialisation in crime investigation. New sections have been set up to deal with art thefts and with philately. Much valuable assistance has been given to us by the trade in these two spheres and, in a combined effort, outstanding results have been achieved and many thousands of pounds of valuable property recovered.

The procedure under which investigations of less serious crimes are now carried out by members of the Uniform Branch whilst detective officers deal with major cases is overcoming its teething problems and settling down well; the results achieved are encouraging. I have, with your approval, increased the establishment of the Criminal Investigation Department by the addition of 100 temporary detective constables whose principal task is to patrol the streets to prevent and detect crime, and in the forthcoming year I intend to strengthen this Department still further. Detective officers are still carrying heavy case loads and are working extremely long hours. For the first time in recent history the Criminal Investigation Department played an important part in public order when on 27th October nearly 800 officers worked in support of their uniform colleagues in the West End of London and in Grosvenor Square in particular. They had no political purpose; their task was to detect vicious acts against the criminal law.

We were able to make a start in 1968 on a scheme in which the late Commissioner took a close personal interest. He had for some time been concerned about the number of criminals who could not be brought to justice because shortage of manpower precluded adequate searching of scenes of crime and he had encouraged the development of a Scenes of Crime Branch composed of specially trained civilian technicians. This new body of civilians will be sufficiently well trained in fingerprints, photography and forensic science to undertake the examination of a large number of scenes of crime which it is not possible for the present experts in each of these fields to cover. Twenty-one men have already been selected and started training and I have every hope that this

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scheme will prove successful, and that we shall eventually be able to provide for at least one civilian technician to be attached to each police station in the Metropolitan Police District. They will be the general practitioners while the divisional fingerprint officers and forensic science experts, who have made such a valuable contribution over the years, will remain the specialists.

Once more we have received many calls from provincial and overseas forces for assistance in the investigation of more complicated frauds and other serious crimes. It has for long been a tradition of this Force that we will always answer these requests, no matter what problems we have to face in our own police area and I should like to pay tribute to the individual officers who, with only a few hours' notice, have responded to these calls. Such investigations are often protracted and sometimes result in officers being away from their homes and families for long periods. That this is accepted as an occupational hazard is an example of the dedication to duty which exists amongst officers of this Force.

Public order: demonstrations

Perhaps the most troublesome and persistent manifestation of 1968 was the development of the technique of public protest. Between Spring and Autumn, culminating on 27th October, few weeks passed without some public demonstration or procession which threatened, or regrettably in some cases resulted in, actual disorder. Whatever the reason, and many were offered—the war in Vietnam, civil strife in Nigeria, anti-apartheid, Rhodesia, student demands—there was invariably the same underlying motive, a revolt against authority and the establishment signifying social and political unrest. The great majority of the people taking part were sincere and pacific but increasingly a militant element came to the fore whether Maoists, Trotskyists or anarchists, who felt that their aims could only be achieved by violence and who hoped that by the hysteria and excitement generated on these occasions they could carry with them many of the uncommitted. Nevertheless, in spite of this threatened violence and the inconvenience these marches create, I would always support the right of peaceful demonstration. If this were limited or curtailed the ban would unite many of those who at the moment have opposing policies.

Meticulous planning in the greatest detail is needed in such circumstances and a report by a working party set up at the end of March to study and assess police procedures in relation to public order proved invaluable in the months which followed. As a result I am glad to confirm that our planning proved effective when tested in actual operation. Understandably there will always be a tendency to err on the side of caution on these occasions and the calls on police manpower to deal with the continuing series of situations have been enormous. I take the view that we should deal with violent demonstrations by traditional methods, that the man in the front row of a police cordon may be working a foot patrol at Wimbledon on the day before and the day after he is called up for this special duty, that we do not wear protective clothing, and do not make use of tear gas, water cannon, barbed wire barriers or any equipment that could be said to give rise to provocation to the demonstrators, in order to keep the temperature cool, and prevent the battle from escalating, the men have to show a tremendous restraint, for they are pushed, kicked, abused and insulted and once again I would pay tribute to the loyalty, forbearance, patience and good humour that officers of all ranks have displayed in the face of considerable provocation and

frequent dislocation of their private lives. Success has been achieved by the fine example of steadiness and good sense that the Metropolitan Police have shown and one can be very proud of them. Particular events and the measures taken to meet them are described in greater detail in Chapter 2.

Football matches: hooliganism

Disorder and hooliganism have continued to be a serious problem at football matches and occasionally at other places of entertainment. This is a revolt by teenagers against discipline and they take the opportunity of expressing themselves within the anonymity of crowds at large football grounds. They do not necessarily support one side or the other but go primarily to make a nuisance, shouting and chanting obscenities. This is often extended after the game by damage and violence to windows, stalls and other property when they are careering in groups away from the ground, and again later when they travel home by train. We can ill afford to divert the police manpower required to provide the vigilance and extra supervision needed to deal with this problem.

Community Relations

While the maintenance of public order has been a matter of particular concern, it is of course one of the primary reasons for the existence of police and therefore not remarkable as such. On the other hand the social consequences of a rapid influx of coloured citizens from overseas throughout the Metropolitan Police District to which I drew attention last year are still comparatively new and provide matters of concern. This is a field in which police are among the first to become involved, since it is when difficulties and misunderstandings due to incompatibility and different habits and ways of life become major social problems that police come into the picture.

It is to enable changing social conditions and their relationship to every day policing to be studied, and acceptable measures taken to meet a fresh challenge, that a new "Community Relations" Branch has been set up in "A" Department. The Branch, under a chief superintendent, has responsibility not only for making and maintaining contact and liaison with immigrant organisations at Headquarters level, but also for the changed policy and procedures which are likely to be needed when Parliament has considered the proposals in the White Paper "Children in Trouble". This is another area in which police are necessarily in the forefront and where preparedness for change is equally important.

In many ways the formation of a special Community Relations Branch indicates a new and very different approach to what is basically an old problem. Police can no longer afford to remain withdrawn and play a waiting game, but must be extrovert and prepared to go more than half-way to make contact with sections of the public in a manner which would have been unheard of only a few years ago. It is not going to be easy, and many inhibitions and cautious procedures long hallowed by time and past attitudes will have to be abandoned. However, a promising start has been made and I am confident that a firm foundation is being established which will be of immense value in the years to come.

Reorganisation

At the change of the year, P.A. Management Consultants Limited, who were appointed to "investigate in the broadest possible way the distribution of

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functions and responsibilities within the Metropolitan Police" had completed their final report. Most of their recommendations were accepted either in full or in part by my predecessor and by the middle of February, 1968 you were able to approve their application to the Force. At the date of reorganisation had already been scheduled for 1st April 1968 there was little time to lose.

The report was pointed more at administrative functions at Headquarters than to operational methods in division.

By far the most far-reaching proposal was that the Receiver's Office should be merged with the Commissioner's and that while retaining his statutory functions the Receiver should assume wider responsibility as head of the unified Metropolitan Police civil staff. These arrangements have brought together the operational and support functions of the Force thereby creating conditions for quicker decision-making and the closer association of those concerned with forward planning, budgetary control and cost effectiveness; and they have provided for a more viable civil staff organisation with a wider range of work. The consequential far reaching administrative reorganisation has been carried into effect, and has been a success.

There has been some re-arrangement of the police departments at Headquarters. "A" Department is responsible primarily for all operations of the Uniform Branch, including communications. "B" Department controls all police officers and auxiliaries permanently employed on the traffic mission and a line development has been created from the Assistant Commissioner downwards. "C" Department remains the Criminal Investigation Department, but "D" Department, which traditionally has contained a rag-bag of subjects, now has firm responsibilities for all matters affecting personnel, except discipline, and, with few exceptions, all training.

A vital part of the reorganisation has been the setting up of the Management Services Department, including branches engaged on research and development, forward planning and organisation and methods. A research committee, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner and consisting of the Receiver, the Assistant Commissioners and other Heads of Departments and Home Office representatives, has been formed to consider priorities and review progress and I have high hopes that we shall be in the forefront of new ideas and the application of fresh techniques besides keeping our existing organisation and procedures under critical review. The department has been expanded to 22 police officers and has taken on six scientists, one of whom is a specialist in work study. A number of the police officers have attended Treasury O. & M. Courses and have had the opportunity to gain practical knowledge of business organisation and management techniques. A complement of civilian staff has also been provided for work on organisation and methods.

Another important matter to come out of the Consultants' review has been the proposals for a budgetary control system to be linked with forward planning and for the purposes of establishing this an Assistant Secretary was seconded to us from the Ministry of Defence; he works closely with the Head of Management Services. Reorganisation has brought the Finance Department into a much closer relationship with the Police Departments. This reflects the general trend in public administration for finance, in addition to its traditional regulatory aspect, to be accepted as an essential ingredient of planning and of the measurement of the effectiveness of current activities.

As regards the district and divisional organisation outside Headquarters, the Consultants claimed that there were too many levels in the structure of the Force which could only lead to bottlenecks. They suggested that district commands as such should be eliminated and in replacement eight super divisions, each with eight sub-divisions, should be created. In theory this appeared to be a reasonable alternative allowing for an excellent pyramid of command, but the Metropolitan Police underwent a substantial territorial reorganisation in 1963 when, at the advent of the Greater London Council, divisional and sub-divisional boundaries were brought in line with those of the new London Boroughs. Whatever permutations were considered, and we tried them all, it was not found possible to form sub-divisions of anything approaching equal size without cutting across or disturbing Borough boundaries. Further, I considered that the previous reorganisation should be allowed to have time to settle down for there had been signs of a loss of morale at those stations which had lost sub-divisional status in 1963; local traditions die hard and their value must never be underestimated. The existing divisions were therefore left undisturbed, each reporting to Headquarters.

With the termination of district commands, four inspectors of the Force, with the rank of commander, were introduced in lieu, one to cover each of the old districts. Their duties are to inspect divisions and ensure that my policy is carried out; to see that every station is run at a high rate of efficiency and morale is sound; and where equipment or buildings are deficient they should so report. One of their most important tasks is to appraise the capabilities and qualities of officers in the middle ranks of the Service, superintendents, chief inspectors and inspectors and to see whether they are suitable for higher command, to draw attention to their virtues and faults and in the case of the latter how they can be remedied. The Inspectors have no executive functions although chief superintendents can always call on them for advice and help. It is fundamental that they should not become weighed down with paper and administrative procedures, which prevented district commanders from carrying out the supervisory functions for which the original appointments at this level had been designed.

The majority if not all the decision making functions previously undertaken by district commanders are now carried out by chief superintendents and it is hoped that they in turn will leave more to superintendents in charge of sub-divisions. Management by exception should be the rule. It is my policy to encourage delegation down the line of command and I am hopeful that this will be accepted by those chief inspectors and inspectors who have their own units and those inspectors who are in charge of reliefs under the extended responsibility system. Considerable authority is vested in these officers and I am confident that they will respond and show the initiative and leadership of which most of them are capable. The Force has suffered in the past from too heavy a hand from above. In turn greater responsibility will fall upon sergeants and constables who will themselves often fill positions of authority and in any case will be members of a well-knit team determined to fight crime. The rank of deputy commander has been abolished, save for certain existing appointments retained on a personal basis for the time being.

Operations: systems of policing

Unit Beat Policing in one form or another has been extended to all but one of the 42 sub-divisions in the 11 outer divisions and the possibility of intro-

ducing a modified form of this system of policing in some parts of the inner divisions is being examined. Simultaneously, extension of the unit command system under which a chief inspector or inspector has operational command of a single station area is continuing and by the end of the year there were 98 such stations. We do not want to fall into the mistake of saying that any one particular system of policing is necessarily better than another in all circumstances: conditions vary and it is up to the officers in charge of sub-divisions who now have personal radio, transport and good equipment at their backs, to ensure, with the aid of criminal intelligence, that their ground is policed in the best way possible.

Wherever practicable within the method of policing, men are allocated to home beats, the urban counterpart of the village constable, as this is one of our safeguards to overcome loss of contact with the public, a danger excessive mechanisation creates.

The Special Patrol Group continues to justify its existence, performing tasks similar to those described last year. In 1968 it was responsible for 879 arrests for crime and 448 for other offences, an increase of 25 per cent compared with 1967. You have agreed that the Group be expanded by two units and that the strength of each unit be slightly increased; it is expected that this expansion or some part of it will be implemented during 1969.

Crime Prevention

The full-time crime prevention service, now little more than a year old, has seen the consolidation of its activities during 1968. It was created to operate both from Divisions and Headquarters, to provide a technical and advisory service to the public. Its aim is to reduce the opportunities for crimes to take place and it is in this specialised field that solid progress has been achieved. Crime prevention officers in sub-divisions, often in conjunction with staff from the Headquarters Unit, have carried out during the year over 15,000 inspections of premises, ranging from private dwellings to complex industrial and commercial organisations.

The Headquarters Unit has developed its contacts with the security industry and other organisations concerned with crime prevention. In keeping abreast of technical security developments, its members have acquired a degree of knowledge in their particular fields which is rapidly establishing their reputations as experts. They, and their colleagues in divisions, are the "nuts and bolts" men who are bringing about an awareness on the part of all sections of the community of the need for security, and giving practical advice on the right measures.

This is an important aspect of the work of the Force, and I am satisfied we have established a sound basis for future development.

Gaming

The gaming laws have beset us with legal problems. The Betting and Gaming Act of 1960, re-enacted as the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act in 1963, was introduced to control gaming; it was welcomed because we were tired of trying to catch up with underground gaming parties which cost us much in money and manpower. However, the new laws proved to be open to wide interpretation and their enforcement had of necessity to be based largely on the techni-

calities of gaming. In consequence I have had to take steps for some time past to ensure that policy time was not consumed unprofitably in dealing with alleged offences. Nevertheless, police action was tightened up following upon a decision of the House of Lords which clarified the position in regard to certain methods of playing roulette and other games of unequal chance, and also upon an undertaking given on my behalf to the High Court in the course of an appeal against a refusal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court to grant an Order of Mandamus requiring me to alter my previous policy (*R. v. the Commissioner of Metropolitan Police ex parte Blackburn*). This led to an increase in the number of prosecutions in gaming cases (Section 32, Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1963) from 21 in 1967 to 107 in 1968; further details are given in Chapter 5, page 80. Unfortunately no finality has been reached since many of the convictions were taken to appeal, and as fast as one method of play was held to be illegal a new method was invented to take its place, which in its turn has had to be tested in the Courts—a long and tedious process. The position is so complex that one can only hope that the provisions of the Gaming Act, 1968, will come into operation as soon as possible. It should enable a well run casino to operate within the law without giving trouble to the police. It has to be recognised, in my opinion, that gaming has come to stay and we cannot put the clock back; to be repressive would only lead to the evils prohibition inevitably attracts. The Gaming Board, set up by virtue of the Act, with its system of control, will enable a limited number of establishments operating casino games under rules laid down by Regulations to be run subject to a system of close supervision; this should reduce the need for police enforcement to a minimum.

Strength

As part of the economy measures to be taken in the light of the Prime Minister's statement in the House of Commons on 16th January, a limit was set on the number within the authorised establishment by which the Force was allowed to increase in strength during the year. The new personnel section of "D" Department managed with great skill to balance recruitment against wastage in such a way as to achieve the maximum permitted increase. The attested strength of the Force rose by 481 men and women to 20,439. Despite the restrictions, 1968 was a good year for recruiting. It was also decided for reasons of economy that the strength of full time civil staff should not be increased by more than 225 during the period until 31st March 1969. This figure was far below our estimated requirements and great difficulty was experienced in deciding the priorities between the various sections of the organisation in need of additional staff. We have to choose whether it is preferable to make up previously agreed complements or to meet unavoidable increases in work often dictated by new legislation or the effect of the introduction of new policing systems on the supporting civilian staff.

At the present time far too many policemen have been taken away from duties for which they were primarily trained; courts staff swallow 500 officers and administration units at stations 744. A large number of these posts could be filled by civilians and I am determined to make considerable inroads in these figures as the limitations on civilian recruiting are lifted. As an experimental measure I have been able to recruit eight civilian "process servers" to assist warrant officers at Magistrates' Courts by serving summonses by hand; this is a step in the right direction.

Training

The ever increasing demands made upon the skill and professional knowledge of all ranks, the introduction of new systems of policing and equipment, and the constant flow of new legislation continue to make heavy demands upon time, finance and expertise in the expanding field of training. Consequent upon the Management Consultants' recommendations all training (save dogs and horses) has now been grouped under one command in "D" Department which greatly facilitates co-ordination of the many and varied requirements in this field. In the 1970s it will be necessary to bring together all formal training in the new buildings at Hendon, on which work has now started, and I am confident that by careful forward planning the training programme will match the excellence of the Hendon project. With this aim in mind, I have appointed a working party representative of all ranks and departments to consider future training needs in the light of the developing role of police. Earlier in 1968 the new Cadet School, comprising Phase 1 of the Hendon redevelopment, was occupied. From your visit in June you will recall the high standard of the accommodation and training facilities provided there. I am pleased to say that many young men of good calibre continue to pass through this excellent establishment.

Police Personnel Department

We have suffered in the past from the lack of a Police Personnel Department. This was soon noted by the Management Consultants and a new branch has now been set up under the wing of "D" Department. In order to obtain a sound knowledge of appraisal systems, career management and training techniques, senior officers have looked at the Civil Service, Armed Forces and industry and as a result a revised system of annual qualification reporting is being introduced. In time there will be adequate personal records giving a full description of the qualities, capabilities and potential of all men in the Force. We shall know what talents they possess and how these can best be used and it will avoid, we hope, individuals being placed in jobs for which they have little aptitude. Those who are ambitious and can look forward to a promising career will have the opportunity of obtaining an insight into rather more aspects of the Force than they have had before.

Additional studies are being made into recruitment and wastage, job analysis and promotion procedures. A valuable exercise was undertaken in forecasting the number of inspectors' vacancies in the period 1971-1976 when retirements will be negligible because of the war years. There is the danger that on present establishments the number of officers passing through the Special Course at Bramshill, both those selected after competitive examination and those admitted through the graduate entry, will take up the great majority of posts available, leaving few to advance by the ordinary procedure. This will have to be carefully watched. This branch is an infant of which we have great hopes, and next year I shall report upon the impacts which it is bound to make.

Traffic

The most important development of the year in the traffic field, and one that will have far-reaching consequences, was the setting up by this Force and the Greater London Council of the Joint Traffic Executive for Greater London. This body is headed by the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Traffic

Department and the Council's Traffic Commissioner, and its terms of reference are to agree priorities for joint action in highway and traffic matters, to ensure that traffic regulations and orders are capable of economical enforcement, to increase the speed of executive decision and, generally, to promote good order and efficiency in the use of the roads of Greater London. It will have at its disposal the powers delegated and resources allocated to it by the Commissioner of Police and the Council.

The Executive meets at frequent intervals to formulate policies and plans, to direct or develop the general lines of joint or complementary action and to keep under review the activities of three permanent working groups to which as much work as possible is delegated. These groups are concerned respectively with traffic management, control systems and road safety. The Traffic Management Group supervises three sub-groups dealing respectively with major schemes, local schemes and controlled parking. The Control Systems Group is concerned with area traffic control systems such as the West London Experiment, which is referred to later, and with systems for the surveillance and control of traffic on motorways. The Road Safety Group examines and keeps under review road accident trends and the various means by which the trends can be influenced.

These arrangements will formalise and strengthen the close and fruitful working relationship in traffic matters that has developed between New Scotland Yard and The County Hall since the Greater London Council became the traffic authority for all but the peripheral parts of the Metropolitan Police District in 1965. They do not derogate from, or in any way affect, my powers as Commissioner or those of the Council, and our respective discretion to formulate policy concerning the exercise of those powers remains unfettered.

The West London Experiment was officially inaugurated from the control room at New Scotland Yard on 22nd January. The purpose of the experiment is to co-ordinate the operation of traffic signals in such a way as to minimise the total journey times of all vehicles passing through the area. Initial subjective reaction has been favourable and a scientific survey to determine journey times under comparable conditions showed a reduction of over 9 per cent attributable to computer control.

Before the experiment it was necessary for foot police to be present during peak periods at 22 points within the area. The new system of control and associated traffic management measures, so improved traffic conditions that it was found possible to withdraw police from all but five of these points.

Full development of the control system, leading eventually to the automatic selection of plans to cope with various traffic situations and tactical adjustment of the selected plans to take account of abnormalities, will take another two years; when complete the system will have built-in facilities to alert the control room staff automatically.

Remote surveillance of six of the more complex intersections within the area of the experiment is effected by means of closed circuit television. Experience has demonstrated time and again the value of this facility for initiating prompt police action at the scene to prevent local interruptions of the traffic flow caused by breakdowns, accidents or obstructive parking from developing into major traffic jams.

The Joint Traffic Executive also had under consideration at the end of the year the drastic slowing down of the rate of implementation of the Greater London Council's controlled parking programme which resulted from the manpower restrictions to which I have referred earlier. By cutting on reserves of traffic wardens who were in post when the restrictions were imposed, and by applying to all existing controlled parking zones the new method of assessing wardens' establishments mentioned in last year's Report, it was found possible to provide enough wardens to man five new zones in the Inner London Parking Area and one in a suburban town centre in 1968/69. But this was far short of the number of zones the Greater London Council had hoped to introduce. Further, owing to staffing restrictions the Central Ticket Office has been hard-pressed to cope with the influx of traffic tickets from the seven new zones referred to above despite the progressive transition from manual to computer processing of traffic tickets from June onwards.

A serious constraint on the pace of implementation of the controlled parking programme lies in the volume of personal enquiry work which has to be undertaken by the police to trace and identify recipients of traffic tickets who do not pay the fixed penalty or excess charge and ignore written communications from the Central Ticket Office. There were unmistakable signs towards the end of 1967 that traffic tickets were already being issued in such numbers as to throw on to the police an unmanageable burden of enquiry work. This weakness in the traffic ticket system of enforcement must clearly be remedied before new controlled parking zones are introduced in any great numbers, or the range of offences for which the procedure is used is widened as provided for under Section 131(1) of the Transport Act, 1968.

Augmenting the manpower engaged on enquiry work will help to some extent, and I am considering, as an experiment, the employment of some of the additional traffic wardens to be allocated to this Force in 1969/70 on making follow-up enquiries on behalf of the Central Ticket Office when they have been armed with the requisite statutory powers. But this can be only a palliative. A radical cure will involve altering the system itself so as to reduce the necessity for such enquiries to be made. Of the various suggestions that have been put forward for achieving a reduction, the most promising is that liability to conviction of minor traffic and parking offences dealt with by the fixed penalty procedure should fall absolutely on the registered owner of the vehicle concerned rather than on the person who was driving it at the time of the alleged offence. This is already the rule in some areas overseas and, although such a provision would not eliminate the need for enquiries to identify offenders, it would reduce the number of such enquiries and I feel sure that the fixed penalty procedure will eventually become unworkable unless it is adopted here. I made recommendations to you to this effect in the course of the year. As an interim measure I initiated discussions with the London Boroughs Association about a possible withdrawal of traffic wardens from meter attendants' duties in controlled parking zones, the duties to be undertaken instead by local authority staff, as is the case already in the London Boroughs of Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich and Kingston-upon-Thames.

The chief advantages for this Force of such a withdrawal would be that it would release some traffic wardens for redeployment and enable wardens employed on enforcement of waiting restrictions to be deployed more selectively and thus over a wider area. The meter attendant element of traffic wardens

duities involves the regular inspection of meters and the vehicles parked at them and as long as wardens are tied to meter supervision, little flexibility of deployment is possible to enable waiting restrictions to be better enforced. Another advantage is that follow-up enquiries in cases of non-payment of excess charges incurred at parking meters would no longer be a police responsibility. The resultant saving in police time can be gauged from the fact that over 33,000 enquiries of this kind were made in 1967 and nearly 44,000 in 1968.

I realise that my proposal would create difficulties for the Borough Councils but it seems to me to be indensible that scarce police resources should be employed on regulating the use of space within parking places and ensuring that the Councils receive the moneys owing to them.

The public support for the "drink and driving" provisions of the Road Safety Act, 1967, referred to in last year's Report was maintained. Towards the end of the year, however, there was apparent evidence in the accident figures that the initial impact of the new provisions was beginning to wear off. Following their introduction in October, 1967, there was a sharp reduction in accidents late at night. The improvement lasted well on into 1968 and at the end of the first twelve months which ended in September the number of accidents recorded as having occurred between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. was some 26 per cent lower than in the corresponding period before breath testing began. But in the last quarter of 1968, accidents between these times were substantially more numerous than in the last quarter of 1967.

Road accidents involving death or injury were marginally more numerous than in 1967, when the total was the lowest for ten years, but I am glad to report that the number of people killed or injured was slightly lower, the reduction being more marked in fatal and serious casualties than in slight casualties. The downward trend of recent years in casualties among car drivers and passengers and riders of motor and pedal cycles was maintained but pedestrian casualties took an upward turn, the deterioration being most noticeable in inner London.

CHAPTER 2

Administration of the Force and Operations

Manpower

The establishment and strength of the regular Force are set out in Appendix 1, Table 1. The strength at the end of the year was 19,976 men, leaving a deficiency of 5,441 in the authorised establishment of 25,417 men. The net increase in the strength of the Force was 444 men. Three hundred and fifty-seven or 28 per cent of the total recruits served as cadets.

There was a net increase of 17 in the strength of women police. The total strength at the end of the year was 563, a deficiency of 66 on the authorised establishment of 629.

During the year 9 graduates, including 2 women, joined the Force. Six of these (5 men and 1 woman) entered under the special scheme for the recruitment of those with higher educational qualifications referred to in my report for 1967.

Recruitment

There was a decrease in the number of applications (3,434 compared with 4,672 in 1967), to which the reduction in advertising for recruits, as a result of the temporary restriction in manpower, probably contributed.

One thousand nine hundred and seventy-four men and 160 women were examined, compared with 3,122 men and 250 women in 1967. One thousand two hundred and fifty-four men and 90 women joined the Force—354 less men and 40 less women than in 1967. These figures include 2 officers transferred from other forces on appointment as chief inspectors. Also included are 35 re-engaged after previous resignation, 4 who rejoined on transfer, 60 who transferred from other forces and 23 who had previously served as cadets in other forces. Former Metropolitan Police Cadets accounted for 362 of those joining, of whom 357 were serving cadets attested on reaching the age of 19.

The average age of recruits at 21 8/12 was slightly lower than last year and 74 per cent of those who joined were single men (69 per cent in 1967).

The average weekly intake to the Training School was 24, a decrease of 7 on the 1967 figure.

Secondments

At the end of the year 3 officers were seconded as follows:—

Department of Education and Science	1
International Criminal Police Organisation	1
General Post Office	1

One detective chief superintendent was seconded to the General Post Office during the year.

Engagements under the Police Act, 1964

At the end of the year, 15 officers were engaged for a period of central service under Section 43 of the Police Act, 1964.

Ten were with the Home Office, 4 at the Police College and 1 as National Co-ordinator of Regional Crime Squads.

The following engagements took place during the year:—

One chief superintendent and 1 chief inspector to the Police College, 1 chief superintendent to the Home Office Police Research and Development Branch, 1 chief superintendent to H.M. Inspectorate of Constabulary and 1 detective superintendent as Assistant to H.M. Adviser on Prison Security.

The following officers returned from a period of central service:—

One deputy commander (H.M. Adviser on Prison Security), 1 chief superintendent and 3 superintendents from the Police College and 1 superintendent from the Home Office Police Research and Development Branch.

Police College

Forty-three inspectors, 8 detective inspectors and 3 women inspectors attended inspectors' courses.

Four chief inspectors, 2 inspectors, 3 detective chief inspectors and 3 detective inspectors attended the seventh and eighth intermediate command courses held from 7th January to 23rd March and from 31st March to 22nd June.

One chief superintendent, 1 superintendent and 2 detective superintendents attended the sixth senior command course from 7th July to 21st December.

Fifteen officers, including 6 from the C.I.D., are attending the seventh special (Higher Police Training) course which commenced on 6th October.

Retirements

Retirements, etc., are classified in Appendix 1, Table 2.

Awards to widows and children

Four hundred and seven widows' pensions were granted, compared with 396 in 1967. Allowances were granted in respect of 36 children.

Women Police

The overall establishment of 639 has remained unchanged but following reorganisation in April the distribution of ranks has been changed.

The rank of superintendent (grade II), retained only for women police, is to be relinquished. Of the 5 posts, 1 will be upgraded to detective superintendent (grade I) and the other 4 will be filled by chief inspectors. The elimination of Districts made it necessary to redeploy the women superintendents and chief inspectors at District headquarters. Divisional supervision is now undertaken by 4 chief inspectors on the staff of the woman chief superintendent. A woman chief inspector has been appointed as staff officer (training) in "D" Department and a chief inspector and an inspector have been appointed to the Community Relations Branch of "A" Department. They have been engaged in the setting up of Juvenile Bureau and their specialised knowledge of juvenile problems and procedures is proving of special value.

The increase of women officers of rank in various departments at New Scotland Yard reflects growing acceptance of women not merely as specialists

but as full members of the police team. This is further illustrated by the appointment of a woman sergeant to the instructional staff of the Training School.

During the year the training of women officers as R.T. operators has been stepped up and women have been employed increasingly on wireless control of the deployment of police at major demonstrations. Two hundred women officers were so employed during the demonstration on 27th October.

The number and quality of young women applying to join the service is encouraging. Limitation of recruitment made it possible to be more than usually selective and those joining are of good educational standard. Two graduates joined the Force during the year, 1 of them under the special terms of graduate entry. One of the problems of the employment of women in any profession is the wastage during the early years of service due to and following marriage. This year resignations showed a welcome drop to 73 and there is a growing tendency to stay in the Force after marriage. At the end of the year 96 married women were serving.

The very heavy recruiting in 1967 has meant that there has been a disproportionate number of probationers working on divisions. The C.I.D., Special Branch and Special Patrol Group, etc., require women with over two years' service and it has been the practice so to fill all these posts, with the result that for duty at many stations only probationers have been available. This has placed a heavy responsibility and much extra work on the shoulders of the women inspectors and sergeants. Results, however, show that a high standard has been maintained.

The total number of arrests made by women officers was 4,399 compared with 4,304 in 1967. The types of offences showed little variation from previous years. The number of women arrested for shoplifting offences continues to be large, 2,297 compared with 2,432 in 1967. The number of absconders from approved schools, remand homes, etc., who were arrested rose from 641 in 1967 to 667.

A good deal of the time of women officers is taken up by juvenile problems, particularly the protection of children and young persons, and the number brought before the juvenile courts as being in need of care, protection or control increased to 712 (654 last year). This continued to be a measure of last resort and the number of cases reported to children's departments of local authorities for action or case work by them increased from 3,678 in 1967 to 5,655 in 1968. The very large increase in the number of cases so reported within the last three years (there were 1,491 such cases in 1966) is indicative of the growth of co-operation between police and local government services. Last year I commented on the need for a two-way flow of information between police and children's departments. There is a welcome improvement in this direction, stemming possibly from the closer co-operation in training programmes. Women inspectors have lectured to trainee child care officers, and a children's officer lectures to women probationers.

Assaults on young children in the home, however, particularly "battered baby" cases, are a continuing cause for concern. Occasional delays in reporting cases of this kind make unnecessarily difficult the task of the police in carrying out the investigation which the law requires.

The number of women in the C.I.D. continues to grow and is now 87 compared with 72 at the end of 1967, against an establishment of 101. The number of

arrests fell to 459 from 584 in the previous year, but since April, 1968, 24 women C.I.D. officers have been continuously engaged on special duties in connection with one major investigation and were not available for normal divisional duties. The scope of work undertaken by women in the C.I.D. and in Special Branch continues to widen, and they are now used as investigating officers in every type of offence and enquiry. The number of allegations of sexual offences in which women officers were called upon to take statements showed a slight decrease from 8,577 in 1967 to 8,353 in 1968. This is a welcome trend compared with the large increase of 1,227 cases in 1967.

Mounted Branch

At the end of the year the strength of the Branch was 208 officers against an establishment of 210.

During the year, 19 horses were purchased, 2 were received as gifts and 22 were humanely put down. The strength of horses on 31st December was 200 against an establishment of 201.

Training continued throughout the year at the Mounted Branch Training Establishment at Imber Court and, in addition to equitation courses for recruits to the Branch, refresher courses were held for officers of this Force and the City of London Police. A senior officers' refresher course in equitation commenced at the Riding School, Royal Mews, in November.

The Branch was responsible for 87 arrests, 3,323 summonses, 4,541 verbal warnings and 804 stops.

Thames Division

The full complement of six small duty boats is now patrolling the upper reaches of the Thames. All wooden boats have been taken out of service and the whole fleet is now constructed of fibre glass and fitted with cabin doors.

Patrols rescued 39 persons from drowning and recovered 65 bodies.

Underwater Search Unit

The unit dealt with 80 calls, carried out 63 routine searches and recovered 2 bodies, 2 safes, 7 firearms, 1 light aircraft, 16 motor vehicles and a quantity of valuable jewellery.

Police dogs

At the end of the year 240 dogs, compared with 224 in 1967, were on the operational strength whilst a further 9 dogs were under training. Twenty-five operational dogs were disposed of due to age or illness. Of the 19 puppies reared, 13 are being walked in Divisions and 6 were disposed of as unsuitable.

Dog handlers were responsible for 5,872 arrests compared with 4,806 during the previous year. Arrests made with the direct assistance of dogs numbered 1,849. Police dogs were instrumental in finding 67 missing persons and the recovery of 198 items of property. Five large scale searches were organised to locate missing children and property.

The 4 dogs specially trained in the detection of dangerous drugs attended 264 calls resulting in the arrest of 418 persons. A fifth dog is under training.

These dogs and their handlers were also called upon to assist officers of H.M. Customs and Excise and other police forces during the year.

Fifty-one handlers were trained, of whom 11 were from provincial forces, and 10 officers were trained for multi-handling duties at the Royal Palaces. Assistance to the Prison Department continued, 43 officers and dogs having been trained, with a further 6 officers and dogs under training.

Police officers from Canada, Bolivia, Guyana and a number of provincial forces attended attachment courses for instruction in dog training methods.

An instructors' course of four weeks' duration, arranged on behalf of the Home Office Advisory Committee, was attended by 9 officers from provincial forces.

Special Constabulary

Against an establishment of 10,564 men and 138 women special constables, the strength on 31st December, 1968, was 1,931 men and 127 women.

There has been an encouraging trend during the year. Whilst the numbers are down on 1967 the total attested has risen by 85 and the decrease in total strength has been held at 57 as against 117 last year.

The tours of duty performed and the hours of training both show a considerable increase and indicate clearly the loyalty and enthusiasm of this small but effective voluntary organisation. The number of four-hour tours of duty performed, and the hours spent in training were as follows:—

		1968	1967
		Duty	
Men	.. ..	58,522 tours	57,136 tours
Women	.. ..	3,373 tours	3,241 tours
		Training	
Men	.. ..	52,707 hours	36,709 hours
Women	.. ..	2,803 hours	2,836 hours

Civil Staff

I have referred in Chapter 1 to the merger of the Commissioner's and Receiver's Offices following the recommendations made by P.A. Management Consultants Ltd. A Directorate of Administration and Finance was set up under the control of the Receiver, comprising:—

- "B" Department—establishments (civil staff) and secretariat
- "F" Department—finance and budgetary control
- "G" Department—general administration of supply and support services

Chief Architect and Surveyor's Department

Chief Engineer's Department

The Director of "B" Department also holds the office of Secretary of the Metropolitan Police and the Director of "G" Department holds the appointment of Deputy Receiver for the purpose of carrying out the Receiver's statutory functions.

The total number of civil staff employed at 31st December was 11,929, of whom 4,637 were employed in Headquarters Departments (including Police Departments). The remainder included the following major groups:—

Traffic wardens and senior traffic wardens	1,221
Clerks and typists in divisions	986
Telephonists full and part-time	660
School crossing patrols	1,339
Industrial workers in garages, maintenance depots and stores	1,202
Cleaners	1,386

As already indicated, increases in civil staff numbers were restricted by limits set for economic reasons. By careful management of branch complements it nevertheless proved possible to provide increases where they were most needed and to continue in some measure the policy of replacing police by civilians on duties which do not require police powers and training. But severe shortage of staff in many branches had to be made up by the performance of a considerable amount of overtime.

During the year arrangements were completed for the introduction of new internal management courses for senior and higher executive officers and equivalent grades. A number of other internal courses were held.

Civil staff officers attended a wide variety of external training courses on higher statistical work, organisation and methods, automatic data processing, management and scientific subjects. A total of 34 professional and technical officers in the Chief Architect and Surveyor's and the Chief Engineer's Departments attended courses which varied in duration from 1 to 10 weeks and covered aspects of building construction, maintenance, heating and ventilation, telecommunication and automobile engineering.

Two officers are attending full time courses and four others sandwich courses at universities.

Training

Hendon Training School

At the end of May the Training School moved from Peel House to Hendon. This facilitated a reorganisation of the School into two wings, one dealing with the initial residential training of recruits to the Force, and the other with their subsequent training as probationers, together with promotion courses and the various other courses for traffic wardens, park-keepers, etc., and for regular police officers who transfer from other forces or rejoin after having served previously in this Force.

Considerable progress has been made in keeping teaching methods and equipment in line with developments in the educational field generally, as well as in the spheres of industrial and service training. Two members of the staff are undergoing special courses, one leading to the London University Institute of Education teacher's certificate and the other to a City and Guilds certificate in programmed learning.

The thirteen weeks' initial recruit course was completed by 1,202 officers (1,118 men and 84 women), a decrease of 241 men and 22 women as compared with 1967. A total of 79 men (but no women) left the Force during initial training, compared with 111 men and 11 women in 1967.

During the year 1,391 probationers attended the intermediate course at 12 months' service and 1,162 attended the two-week final course at 20 months' service. Of the latter number, 399 obtained over 85 per cent of the final examination marks.

Courses were held as in previous years for constables, sergeants and inspectors selected for promotion. A new course was arranged for officers selected for accelerated promotion to the rank of inspector under Police Regulation 7A, and two courses in management were arranged for chief inspectors and superintendents.

Altogether, more than 5,000 students passed through the School during the course of the year.

Detective Training School

At the end of July the School moved from over-crowded premises at Walton Street, Chelsea, into Peel House, where the additional facilities have allowed much-improved working conditions for both students and staff.

The closed-circuit television which had been installed at Walton Street in January was transferred to Peel House. This allows six classes of students to view simultaneously various practical exercises and demonstrations which it had previously been difficult or even impossible to show to a large number of students. The equipment also usefully supplements many standard lectures and I am sure that it has great potential.

Major changes in the criminal law, and particularly those introduced by the Theft Act, 1968, necessitated extensive amendments in the school syllabuses and lesson notes. The school staff made urgent appraisals of the practical implications from a police point of view and, from October onwards, all students have been instructed in the terms of the new legislation.

During the year, 1,444 officers attended the various courses of detective training, an increase of 286 over the 1967 figure.

The advanced course of six weeks' duration was attended by 138 officers, of whom 64 were Metropolitan and 3 were from police forces overseas.

Fifty-three officers of rank attended the initial (senior) course; 18 of these were from police forces overseas.

The number of officers attending the initial (junior) course was 597, of whom 395 were Metropolitan.

Two-week introductory courses, which were started at the end of 1967 to prepare Metropolitan temporary detective constables for their initial (junior) course, continued throughout the year and 422 students attended.

Five refresher courses were held for Metropolitan 2nd class sergeants and 100 students attended.

Fingerprint courses were attended by 33 students and photographic courses by 18 students. A further 83 students, of whom 77 were Metropolitan officers, attended scenes of crime courses.

In addition to all these courses for detectives, instruction in minor crime investigation for probationer constables of the uniform branch continued throughout the year, and 1,351 officers received this training.

Motor Driving School

The table below shows the number of Metropolitan Police officers who attended each of the principal courses of instruction, together with the results of the tests:—

Course	Passed	Failed	Total
Car, standard	597	52	649
Car, intermediate	336	115	451
Car, advanced	167	10	177
Car, Group "C" conversion	160	1	161
Motor-cycle, standard	144	12	156
Motor-cycle, lightweight	272	15	287
Traffic patrol, standard	167	13	180
Traffic patrol, advanced	68	11	79
Instructors (Civilian)	3	—	3

Driving tests on cars and vans were given to 634 officers, of whom 515 passed, and riding tests on motor cycles were given to 274 officers of whom 150 passed.

A de-centralised divisional training scheme began during the year and the driving ability of almost 4,000 officers who already held civilian driving licences was tested so that, if found suitable, they could be authorised to drive certain police vehicles in connection with the new system of Unit Beat Policing. It is estimated that a further 1,300 such drivers will be required during 1969 as the unit beat system is extended to the inner divisions.

There were 2,590 visitors to the Driving School, the great majority of whom were from motoring and motor-cycling organisations.

Nineteen lectures were given to motoring clubs and similar organisations and 12 instructors were authorised to lecture at various evening institutes.

Police Cadets

Nearly 1,500 applications to join the Cadet Corps were received. Four hundred and seventeen youths entered the Corps of whom 88 in the 17 to 18½ year age group attended the short course of fourteen weeks' duration; the remainder stayed at Hendon Cadet Training School for two terms (approximately 8 months) before passing on to second and third phase training. The number of cadets attested as constables was 357 and 56 left the Corps. Since the inception of the Cadet Corps in October, 1960, 2,259 members have been attested, 562 have left the Corps and 640 were still serving as cadets at the end of the year.

In addition to the new cadet school at Hendon, the fourth cadet training centre, at Kingsbury, was opened in May. Because of limitations placed on recruiting by the general economic situation, the annual intake of cadets has not expanded to fill the new buildings and some of the accommodation has been taken up by recruits to the regular Force undergoing their initial training.

Academic work maintains a high standard and 135 cadets entered the summer examinations for the General Certificate of Education, gaining 125 passes at

ordinary level and 12 passes at advanced level. A further 177 cadets took part in the November examinations.

The Cadet Corps again entered 8 crews in the junior section of the Devices to London national canoe race. The Corps successfully retained the team trophy and six of its canoes finished in the first 12 places.

During the year two cadets again took part in a fortnight's soil training in the schooner "Sir Winston Churchill". Four selected volunteers were assigned to projects in Jamaica, where they will spend twelve months under the auspices of the Voluntary Service Overseas Scheme.

Training exercises continue to be held for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and 24 cadets gained the gold award and 30 the silver, as compared with 18 and 27 respectively in 1967.

The first Chaplain to the Metropolitan Police Cadet Corps took up his appointment in May, and I am grateful to the Bishop of London and his suffragan, the Bishop of Willesden, for his assistance in making this innovation possible. The Chaplain will concern himself mainly with the cadets at Hendon.

Defensive Weapons

Training in the use of pistols continued, and now consists of a four-day basic course, followed by a one-day refresher course every four months and a re-classification shoot at the end of the 12-month cycle. A total of 1,009 men have received this training. The general standard is very satisfactory and considerable numbers of men have re-classified to higher grades.

Two officers from other forces were trained as firearms instructors and three officers from other forces attended basic courses.

Rifle training courses were held in May and September at the Guards Depot, Pirbright Camp, and the Force complement of 80 men trained as rifle shots has been maintained. I am indebted to the Officer Commanding the Depot for the facilities and for the co-operation offered to readily by all ranks there.

Civil Defence Training

As a result of the Government's review of Home Defence, the disbandment of the Civil Defence Corps and the placing of civil defence on a "care and maintenance" basis, centralised civil defence training for the Force generally was suspended in January, although basic training for recruits continued at the Training School. In May, a modified supplementary course of seven hours' training was introduced.

At the end of October, a superintendent, a chief inspector and an inspector attended a three-day Home Office course at Easingwold on the Warning and Monitoring Organisation.

Telecommunications Training

The Telecommunications School at Wandsworth continued to train officers in all aspects of police communications. A total of 1,303 officers attended the various courses.

Swimming and life saving

Recruits joining the Force during the year included 286 non-swimmers, of whom 193 learned to swim during the initial course. Recruits and staff gained the following awards of the Royal Life Saving Society:—

1 Award of Merit, 8 Bronze Crosses, 9 Bronze Medallions and 2 Bars to Bronze Medallions.

In the Police National Life Saving Competitions the "F" Division men's team won the Police Baton and the women police team from this Force retained the Alington Cup. The competitions were organised by the Royal Life Saving Society.

Promotion examinations

Police subjects

The annual examinations for constables and sergeants were held in January and April. The results were as follows:—

	Candidates	Successful
<i>Sergeants</i>		
Competitive	458	88
Qualifying	429	60
<i>Constables</i>		
Competitive	1,529	267
Qualifying	611	49

The 458 sergeants who took the competitive examination had between five and twenty-one years' service. The length of service of the 88 successful candidates ranged from five to nineteen years, all having joined as constables since 26th April, 1948.

Complaints against police officers

During the year, 2,924 persons made complaints against police officers as compared with 2,639 in 1967, an increase of 10·8 per cent. In 202 cases (6·9 per cent) the complaint was held to be substantiated (1967: 220 or 8·3 per cent).

The largest single category of complaints was that involving allegations about the attitude of officers towards members of the public. There was an increase in this type of complaint, but the number of allegations found to be substantiated was little more than that for 1967. Despite an increase in the number of allegations of false evidence the total of substantiated cases remained the same as in the previous year. Complaints of assault and also of bribery rose considerably during the year, but in both categories the total of allegations found to be substantiated remained almost exactly the same as in 1967. In all four categories the numbers substantiated were very low.

A number of complaints against the police were made following each of the large-scale demonstrations which took place in central London during the year. For the most part, the allegations were of assault by officers engaged in controlling the crowds of demonstrators. Detailed enquiries were made, but very few of the complaints were substantiated. A rather unusual feature has been noticed about complaints related to demonstrations. Whereas in the ordinary way complaints are made by the individuals directly concerned or by someone

having a special interest in the aggrieved party (e.g. a relative or solicitor), a fair proportion of the complaints received after demonstrations came from persons who had no part whatsoever in the demonstrations, nor any connection with the participants, but based their complaints entirely on what they saw on the television screen.

By virtue of Section 49 of the Police Act, 1964, a copy of the report of the investigation into a complaint has to be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions unless the Chief Officer of Police is satisfied that no criminal offence has been committed by the police officer concerned.

During the year, consideration as to the possibility of a criminal offence having been committed was given to 842 complaint cases, of which 837 were sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions. In 769 cases the Director recommended no criminal proceedings, but in 16 of them disciplinary action was subsequently taken.

Proceedings against the officers concerned were taken in 68 cases (62 of which were for traffic offences). In 41 cases (40 of them being traffic cases), the officers were found guilty. In the 27 remaining cases 9 officers were found not guilty and in 18 cases the proceedings had not been completed.

In addition, 6 officers were charged forthwith with criminal offences without the papers being referred to the Director. In 5 of the cases the officers were found guilty and 1 had not been completed.

Five other officers were allowed to retire from the Force before proceedings were taken and 1 was later convicted.

In a number of cases where the complaint was found to be substantiated and no criminal or disciplinary proceedings were taken it was necessary to give suitable advice to the officers concerned.

Discipline

The number of officers punished for various defaults was 93 compared with 98 in the previous year. Thirty were dealt with by disciplinary boards, an increase of 9 compared with 1967. Six officers were dismissed and 2 required to resign.

Health

Men

The number of days' work lost to the Force through sickness and injury in 1968 was 245,448, compared with 223,534 in 1967. Allowing for the increase in strength of the Force, the loss was 7·4 per cent more than in 1967 and was equivalent to having 671 men off the strength throughout the year. The number of days lost per man on the strength increased from 11·9 in 1967 to 12·8.

Uncertificated absences for periods not exceeding three days accounted for the loss of 36,384 days, 23·1 per cent of the total and 9·3 per cent higher than in 1967. Certificated absences were 10 per cent higher.

Although the average length of sickness spell (5·7 days) was the same as in 1966 and 1967 the number of spells rose from 39,529 to 43,030. The following table shows the percentage rate and the average duration of spells of sickness and injury in the last five years.

		Percentage rate of sickness*	Average duration of spells (days)
1964	.. ..	3.18	6.0
1965	.. ..	3.40	6.0
1966	.. ..	3.27	5.7
1967	.. ..	3.25	5.7
1968	.. ..	3.49	5.7

*The percentage rate of sickness is the loss through sickness and injury per 100 man-days during the year. It is equivalent to the number of men on the sick list at a given time out of every 100 men in the Force.

Table 1 in Appendix 4 gives details of the various sickness groups.

There were 25 deaths during the year. Twenty-one were the result of natural causes and four officers were killed in road accidents, one while on duty and three off duty.

In the respiratory disease group, uncertificated sickness accounted for 35.2 per cent of the total days lost in the group but the average length of spell was only 2.1 days. In the digestive disease group, the uncertificated percentage was 47.1 and the length of spell only 1.7 days. In the other groups, the proportion of uncertificated sickness was relatively small. Of the 61,985 days lost through injury (12.7 per cent more than in 1967), 29,861 or 48.2 per cent were from injuries on duty and 32,124 or 51.8 per cent were from injuries off duty. All injuries incurred on duty must be covered by a medical certificate.

Of the days lost through injuries on duty, 6,696 (22.4 per cent) resulted from accidents to motor cyclists, a decrease of 0.7 per cent over 1967. 5,673 days were lost through assaults by prisoners (7.2 per cent more than in 1967), 4,065 days from accidents where the injured officer was driving a car or was a car or motor cycle passenger (37.1 per cent more than in 1967) and 1,228 days were lost from accidents while an officer was examining premises (13.0 per cent fewer than in 1967).

The largest single cause of absences arising from injuries off duty was from sport and games (11,427 days), 13.4 per cent more than in 1967.

The following table shows by age-groups, the average number and lengths of spells of sickness only.

Sickness by age-groups (excluding injuries and accidents)

Age-groups	Average number of spells per man on strength		Average length of spell in days		Percentage rate of sickness	
	Certifi- cated	Uncertifi- cated	Certifi- cated	Uncertifi- cated	Certifi- cated	Uncertifi- cated
Under 25 years ..	0.65	1.86	9.93	1.65	1.77	0.84
25-29 years ..	0.53	1.66	11.25	1.87	1.64	0.84
30-34 years ..	0.50	1.47	12.94	1.99	1.78	0.80
35-39 years ..	0.45	1.11	16.55	2.07	2.03	0.63
40 years and over ..	0.46	0.85	21.88	2.15	2.76	0.50
All ages	0.52	1.47	12.90	1.90	1.84	0.77

These figures are similar to those of previous years with the younger men more frequently absent than the older men but having shorter spells of sickness. While the average number of spells per man of certificated and uncertificated sickness remains the same as last year the average length of spell is lower in certificated absences.

Women

The sickness rate for women police was 5.4 per cent. The rate for certificated sickness was 4.4 per cent and for uncertificated sickness was 1.0 per cent. Half the days lost were due to respiratory and digestive ailments.

Medical and dental services

During the year, 1,266 officers (compared with 1,054 in 1967), were admitted to hospital, 232 of them to St. Thomas' Hospital and its associate hospitals. The Police Nursing Home admitted 322 patients, comprising 229 men, 38 women and 55 cadets (compared with 235 men, 41 women and 26 cadets in 1967) and the Convalescent Home at Hove received 340 patients from this Force (301 men, 32 women and 7 cadets) compared with 345 patients in 1967.

Dental inspections of cadets at six monthly intervals and of probationers during their initial and final training courses have continued as also have regular medical checks of cadets.

Welfare

There has been a steady increase in the work of the Welfare Branch as a result of increasing awareness of its facilities. Only the more difficult problems are referred to the Branch by senior officers who undoubtedly deal themselves with the majority of cases. An upward trend in the number of marital cases continued and this year they comprised 55 per cent of the total.

During the year 244 serving officers and 294 widows and pensioners were given assistance and a large number of pensioners and dependants were interviewed on behalf of the Committee of Management of the Police Dependents' Trust.

The fortnightly Employment Circular continued as a useful link between would-be employers and officers retiring or retired or found medically unfit. Of the 709 jobs advertised, 39 were taken by retired or retiring police officers.

Catering Branch

Catering facilities were provided in 172 establishments, including police stations, section houses, recruits' and cadets' training centres and branches of the Metropolitan Police Office. In addition, special catering arrangements were made for state visits, demonstrations, sporting events, etc. An improved system of catering was introduced for providing meals for men on duty at major demonstrations. There was an overall increase of 10 per cent in the number of meals served throughout the Metropolitan Police District. New canteens and restaurants were opened during the year at Kingsbury and Hendon Cadet Training Centres, Hayes and Notting Dale police stations, and the Traffic Wardens' Centre at Yeoman's Row, Chelsea.

The turnover of all grades of staff has been greatly reduced owing to the improved conditions of service as a result of the catering staff becoming an integral part of the civil staff. In the case of managerial staff in units the turnover was 15 per cent, the lowest ever recorded.

Police buildings and residential accommodation

The police branch responsible for the formulation of police building requirements was transferred to "G" Department during the reorganisation of the Force in April.

One divisional station at Kingston and 5 sectional stations at Belvedere, Cheesnut, Boreham Wood, Notting Dale and Woodford were completed, together with a new sectional traffic unit at Surbiton and a motorway post at Scratchwood on the M.1.

Work is in progress on new divisional stations at Leman Street, Paddington and Wembley, a sub-divisional station at West Ham, sectional stations at Ponders End, Chadwell Heath and Southgate, a traffic unit garage and workshops at Alperton and stables at West Hendon. It is expected that most of these buildings will be operational by the end of 1969.

Work began on two major projects, viz. the redevelopment of the site of the old stores, garage and Lost Property Office buildings at Lambeth to provide accommodation for the Forensic Science Laboratory, Printing Branch, stores, transport garage, transport and prison-van service offices, and catering training school; and the redevelopment of the Hendon Estate to form the new police training establishment.

The new cadet training centre at Hendon and the cadets' residential training centre at Kingsbury were taken into use, thus completing the building programme for the cadet force.

A new section house at Stoke Newington with accommodation for 100 men was opened and work was completed on a further section house at Northumberland Park, which was opened very early in 1969. Work was also started on a women police hostel at Southgate.

Among a number of schemes for the alteration and improvement of buildings, the former recruit training school at Peel House was adapted for use as the detective training school, to replace the existing premises in Walton Street.

Further traffic warden's centres have been established at Yeoman's Row, Chelsea (in part of the former detective training school), and also in new premises at Bromley. A permanent ticket office and fixed penalty office for the North-East London Commission area was opened at Horns Road, Horns.

Officers are serving on Home Office committees engaged on research into the design of police buildings.

Training courses have been held in the Architects and Surveyors Department to prepare officers for the forthcoming change to the use of the metric system in building work.

At the end of 1968 the number of married quarters was 5,015, a decrease of 29 compared with the previous year. Four sets of quarters were acquired and 33 quarters were taken over as office accommodation or disposed of as sub-standard.

During the year 655 officers vacated quarters to rent accommodation or purchase their own homes, compared with 595 in 1967.

At the end of the year the 42 section houses, women police hostels and cadet residential training centres provided accommodation for 3,695 in modern houses and 178 in the old type section house, the residents comprising 2,863 men, 225 women and 301 cadets.

Supplies

During the year, a small working party considered ways of improving existing supply arrangements. They recommended the abolition of quarterly and half-yearly requisitions and the introduction of regular and direct weekly deliveries from the stores to all stations. This scheme, which came into operation on 1st January 1969, aims to give delivery of goods a week after requisitioning and should make it virtually unnecessary for police time to be taken up with visits to the stores.

The Clothing and Appointments Board have set up three sub-committees to consider improvements to the existing system of divisional fittings and clothing exchanges, trials of new outerwear clothing and trials of all other clothing and appointments. Many interesting developments are now in sight. They include a new system of clothing exchanges, which is intended to provide a regular and frequent fitting and alterations service at selected stations on every division. The object will be to take uniforms to the men, rather than men to the outfitter, and this should save a considerable amount of police time, ensure a higher standard of fitting and ease the burden on divisional stores. Prototypes of some new garments have already been issued and many others will be introduced during 1969.

Communications

Information Room

During the year 422,672 calls were received in the Information Room from private persons. Emergency calls generally from police and public totalled 410,524.

Teleprinters

The number of external stations operating on the Metropolitan Police teleprinter network remained at 114.

On an experimental basis sectional police stations on "T" Division were provided with receiving only teleprinters which "leak" from the parent sub-divisional equipment.

The internal telegraph traffic of the Force continued at a high level, over one million messages concerning Metropolitan Police divisions being handled in the Telegraph Office.

During the year 95,315 messages were handled over the Telex system, an increase of 3,631 over 1967. A total of 74,053 messages were received at the Metropolitan Police Office from, and 21,262 were sent to other forces in this country and abroad. Additional Telex equipment had to be installed to meet the further rise in incoming traffic.

Wireless

The number of vehicles and boats equipped with wireless and operating in the Metropolitan Police District is now 1,649, an increase of 366 over 1967.

A second radio-telephony channel has been provided for use by Traffic Control.

There are 23 wireless stations operating in the Europe-Mediterranean Region of the International Criminal Police Organisation, exclusive of London—one more (Belgrade) than last year. During the year 8,465 messages were transmitted to and 6,480 received from other countries, compared with 6,094 and 6,254 respectively in 1967.

By August, 1968, initially on a modest scale, it had been hoped to equip the whole of the Force with personal radios, but a special channel and 427 sets had to be appropriated to meet an urgent operational requirement created by large-scale demonstrations. Nevertheless, deployment of personal radios continued satisfactorily during the year, despite considerable difficulties with the establishment of efficient (high) aerial systems on secure sites. The majority of police property is of fairly low construction in the midst of heavily built-up areas, thus calling for many negotiations with the owners of taller buildings in the vicinity for the erection of receiving and transmitting aerials. Additionally, the limited range of the necessarily low-powered radio sets had to be supplemented in many areas by the erection of a total of 53 satellite receiving stations each linked by landline to units of the 80 sub-divisions equipped with personal radio. It is a tribute to the public-spiritedness of private property owners that police needs were readily accommodated and at the end of the year 3,486 sets were available to meet operational requirements, compared with 663 at the beginning; it is further anticipated that another 2,000 sets will be brought into use during 1969, giving personal radio cover to the entire Force.

There remains the perennial problem of having only 14 personal radio channels for the whole of the 83 sub-divisions of the Force. A palliative has been contrived by using 5 discrete calling tones associated with each channel giving 70 possible combinations, but even so there is a distinct probability that interference will become a serious nuisance factor, particularly when more sets are taken into use and increasingly utilised.

An experimental attempt to establish communication between personal radio on the Hounslow sub-division and the Force vehicle fleet controlled from Information Room was begun during the year and is being studied with interest.

An inter-Force radio link now exists between this Force and the Surrey Constabulary.

Automatic Alarms

At the end of the year, 21,464 alarm installations of the kind which operate automatically and directly over the "999" public telephone service were recorded as being located in the Metropolitan Police District. The number of new installations notified to police in 1968 was 1,967, while the number of removals was 80. Altogether 52,809 calls from these alarms were received in the Information Room compared with 48,330 in 1967. This figure includes 2,017 maintenance and other calls of a like nature which have to be answered but are

not included when the false alarm rate is calculated. In 645 cases the calls were the result of either actual or attempted breakings. This compares with 610 actual or attempted breaking calls in 1967.

There is also a number of alarms connected by private wires to Central Stations operated by the alarm manufacturing companies. Calls from these are forwarded verbally by the Central Station staff to Information Room, using the public "999" system. The number of Central Station installations is not known to police but 17,702 calls were received from them during the year.

False calls from alarms, totalling 67,737, continue to give rise to serious concern.

Central Vehicle Index

During the year 451,279 searches were made in the index compared with 373,850 in the previous year. Many provincial forces continue to use the index extensively.

Transport

In addition to his existing responsibilities for that section of the fleet known as "Receiver's vehicles" (i.e. support services) the Chief Engineer assumed control—as part of the reorganisation on 1st April—of the police transport section which was previously one of the responsibilities of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Traffic Department. The superintendent in charge of the section is responsible under the direction of the Chief Engineer for everything to do with transport utilisation at headquarters and in divisions and in respect of divisional vehicles he works with the chief inspectors at eight traffic area offices.

At the end of the year the combined fleet stood at:—

Police Section				
Cars, Vans, etc.	..	..	..	1,585
Motor Cycles	..	..	..	708
				<hr/>
				2,293
Support Services				
Cars, Coaches, Vans, etc. including				
spare vehicles	..	..	..	909
				<hr/>
				3,202

The number of "panda" cars was increased from 33 to 278.

Police vehicles were involved in a total of 2,423 accidents of all kinds on the highway and the mileage per accident was 19,493 for cars, 19,975 for motor cycles and 19,575 for the fleet as a whole. After detailed examination police drivers were held to be wholly or partly to blame for 1,085 accidents giving a mileage per blame-worthy accident of 43,735 for cars, 43,630 for motor cycles and 43,716 for the whole fleet.

One police officer received fatal injuries in an accident involving a police vehicle.

In order to save labour in workshops a number of vehicles have been contract-hired. These vehicles remain the property of the contract hire company by whom they are repaired and maintained. In order to compare the economics of the scheme a small number of similar vehicles have been bought and will be maintained by outside contractors and a further similar number are being maintained and tested by Transport workshops.

Prisoners conveyed by the prison van service during the year numbered 122,862 (of whom 8,109 were women), a decrease of 1,715 compared with the total during 1967.

Juveniles conveyed by the juvenile bus service numbered 11,765 (of whom 2,631 were females), an increase of 1,238 over the figure for 1967.

Automatic Data Processing

In his report for 1964, my predecessor referred to the increasing contribution to operational and administrative efficiency likely to be made by computers. Considerable progress has been made since then.

By 1967 the I.C.T. 1501 computer at Tintagel House, which undertakes a wide variety of housekeeping tasks, had become overloaded and a second (identical) machine was installed. These two computers are now working two shifts a day.

In June 1968 a bigger and more powerful computer (the I.C.L. 1905B model) was installed at the Central Ticket Office in Portman Square. As the table on p. 97 shows, the number of fixed penalty tickets issued by police and traffic wardens has continued to increase, and by the end of the year was running at the formidable rate of 50,000 a month. To keep a record of all these tickets, ensure that payments received are properly accounted for, and that process is instituted in default of payment, now represents a task of such magnitude as to require the use of the latest and most sophisticated methods of electronic data processing. The computer arrived only just in time, since the work could no longer be coped with manually. An additional device which will read automatically both marks and printed characters is yet to be delivered. Substantial staff economies will be secured by the use of this equipment which is also maintaining a day by day record of persons in penal institutions and processing statistical data for the Home Office and carrying out a number of other tasks.

At the end of the year progress was being made with plans to meet the needs of the police for automatic means of processing data on a much greater scale. The operational requirement is for facilities for immediate interrogation of centrally held records of stolen vehicles, wanted persons, fingerprints and criminal records. There is also an urgent need, arising from recent legislation, for access to national records of disqualified drivers and persons subject to suspended sentences, and for providing speedy access to the records of vehicle registrations when they are centralised in 1972.

Management Services Department

On the recommendation of P.A. Management Consultants Ltd., a Management Services Department was established in April with a view to the greater application of modern management techniques to the administration of the Force. It comprises the existing Research and Development Branch and newly formed Forward Planning and Organisation and Methods Branches.

During the year many of the staff attended training courses organised by the Civil Service Department, the Army Work Study School, the University of Sussex and the Greater London Council Work Study School or were attached for training to a firm of management consultants.

It was decided that the Department should concentrate its work primarily on inter-departmental problems and departmental research which, because of its technical nature, would be beyond the resources of other departments and that it should set in a consultant capacity, where appropriate, with regard to other departmental research.

A revised programme, defining six major areas within which research work by the Department should first be concentrated, was therefore approved by the Research Committee, comprising heads of departments with the Deputy Commissioner in the chair. These areas and the broad objectives of the studies within them were:—

1. Vehicle fleet management—to carry out studies to improve the control, management and maintenance of the vehicle fleet.
2. Information, statistics and control—to match information, statistical and communication requirements to decision making at all levels.
3. Operational methods, patrol and deployments—to evaluate existing patrol systems and deployments and to make recommendations for modifications aimed at increasing efficiency.
4. Manpower resources—to carry out studies as required in any aspect of manpower availability and to determine future requirements.
5. Functions of police stations—to determine the optimum location, operational methods, staffing and communication requirements, and the design of police stations at various levels and in different areas of the Metropolitan Police District.
6. Equipment—to ensure that the Force obtains equipment selected and, if necessary, developed on a proper cost/effectiveness basis.

Progress was made in most of these major areas and in addition the Department acted in a consultant role to other departments and branches on such diverse subjects as the merging of the registries and pay branches of the former Receiver's and Commissioner's Offices, the Urgent Communications Room, a review of C.I.D. establishments and various matters connected with training and personnel.

The Force Suggestion Scheme continued to be operated by the Research and Development Branch and 129 suggestions were received during the year.

Solicitor's Department

The figures below show that the total number of cases handled in the Department (and this includes matters advised upon in writing as well as prosecutions, appeals, and High Court and Divisional Court cases) has increased in 1968 by a relatively small percentage. So far as prosecutions are concerned it will be seen that there has been a small drop in the number of traffic cases where legal aid was provided to the police and also a small drop in the number of cases handled by the Department at Assizes and Quarter Sessions. The Road Safety Act, 1967, has resulted in many more of the "drink and driving cases" being dealt

with summarily, and also being handled by the police without legal assistance. Appeals from magistrates' courts have increased a little.

	1968	1967	Comparison between 1967 and 1968
Total number of cases	25,486	25,079	+ 416
Traffic cases (including drink and driving offences) ..	12,956	13,134	- 198
Other prosecutions and miscellaneous cases	12,550	11,936	+ 616
Cases at Assizes and Quarter Sessions	7,456	7,770	- 314
Appeals to Quarter Sessions	2,018	1,984	+ 34
Appeals to Court of Appeal (Criminal Division and House of Lords)	64	49	+ 15
Divisional Court cases	22	17	+ 5
	14		
	discontinued		
High Court (Writs)	5	13	- 8
Attendances at Courts of Summary Jurisdiction ..	18,720	19,196	- 476

The number of attendances at courts of summary jurisdiction has dropped by 476. This is mainly due to the fact that many indictable cases are now "paper" commitments under the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, which means that there are no longer one or more remands at the magistrates' courts. The preparation of indictable cases under the Criminal Justice Act involves however a good deal more work for professional staff, and it has been necessary to supplement the number of solicitors handling this type of work.

The establishment for the professional staff of the Department has been increased by 11 to a total of 49 and this includes a new post of Deputy Solicitor.

The increase in professional staff will result in a considerable saving in counsel's fees as the vacancies are filled.

Public Relations Department

The year saw the first stages in the development of the Public Relations Department, which was established in August, 1967. The most immediate task was to improve the working arrangements between the press (by which is meant the television companies as well as the national press and provincial and suburban press) and New Scotland Yard, and to encourage the press to take a greater interest in Metropolitan Police affairs beyond those dealing purely with crime and sensational matters.

This has been accomplished through the appointment of the ex-editor of a national newspaper as Head of the News Branch, the recruitment of specially selected officers with a journalistic background to work at various levels in the News Branch and the support given to the new organisation by all police divisions, sub-divisions, stations and every department of New Scotland Yard. By the end of the year, the results could be measured by the substantially increased volume of responsible press and television coverage given to traffic, crime prevention, public order, recruitment and many other fields of police activity, planning and research.

It is increasingly recognised that the Metropolitan Police Force will continue to be the largest single source of news, feature articles and picture interest in this country or abroad, measured in terms of space given by the press or time on television, radio and newswires. The News Branch is now organised, first, to answer the hour-by-hour calls for information and to serve the needs of the Force by the issuing of information and, secondly, to meet the requirements of the various media at all their times of going to press or transmission. The range of media now served by the Scotland Yard Press Bureau includes the national, the London evening, the suburban, provincial and international press (including weeklies and magazines, textual and pictorial), the B.B.C. and Independent Television national and regional networks and international television, together with B.B.C. national, regional and local radio and international radio, and national and international picture agencies and newswires.

An important step towards increasing the efficiency of the Public Relations Department was the provision by the Scotland Yard Press Bureau of a 24 hour, seven-days-a-week service. This innovation has resulted in an increased traffic in news and information, particularly during the night hours. It is rarely now that the B.B.C. morning radio programmes do not carry items of news from the Bureau's night staff.

Throughout the year the staff of the News Branch continued to broadcast on the B.B.C.'s "Scotland Yard Calling" radio programme and this resulted in valuable information being received from listeners. Two hundred and fifty-seven programmes were transmitted from Scotland Yard during the year; the public gave useful information as a result of 62 per cent of these broadcasts.

Unfortunately, the very successful and popular "Police 5" television programme, which for several years had been produced by Associated Television with Metropolitan Police assistance, was discontinued when the reorganisation of independent television companies took place in July. It is hoped that arrangements may be made to re-introduce this valuable public service programme later in 1969.

The Public Relations Department met its first major test in the weeks before and during the Anti-Vietnam War demonstration on the 27th October. Advance press speculation had led the public to expect a major confrontation and every effort was made by the Department to put the matter into perspective and to ease public anxiety. For the first time, a press conference was held for 75 news, picture and television editors, and on the day of the demonstration all press and television services were offered a guidance service on the progress of events as gained from the centre of operations at New Scotland Yard. This policy was greeted with satisfaction by the press, who were able to carry out their reporting and filming work far more easily than on earlier occasions and with the minimum of demand on the police engaged in the operation.

The Publicity Branch of the Department has likewise been strengthened by the addition of professional staff from commercial fields, the newly appointed Head of the Branch also coming from Fleet Street.

A major task of the Publicity Branch is to gain and satisfy the interest of the public in the aims and achievements of the Metropolitan Police and towards this end an increasing number of well-attended local exhibitions and displays were staged in various parts of the Greater London area. These dealt with

matters of general and local interest such as unit-beat policing, crime prevention, traffic hazards and the need for more co-operation by the public. In addition a number of police stations were open to the public for a day or two and this proved successful in interesting a great many people in their local police organisation and administration.

Opportunities were found for police officers to talk on radio and to public gatherings on police matters of common interest and to appear on television. Numerous television programmes, radio programmes and films have been produced on police matters with police assistance, all of which have helped to inform the public about the activities and role of the Metropolitan Police.

The work of the Force was demonstrated at three national exhibitions in London. At the Schoolboys' and Schoolgirls' Exhibition at Olympia an exhibition stand was built around a strong recruiting theme and competitions were run to interest young people. Aspects of crime prevention were featured at the Commercial Motor Show to remind the road haulage industry of the importance of security. At the Motor Show at Earls Court upwards of half a million motorists were interested in the results of extensive research made into traffic problems by the Metropolitan Police.

Political meetings, demonstrations and processions

On Sunday, 17th March, a demonstration was organised by an *ad hoc* committee of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. As a result of information received beforehand a number of coaches were stopped and searched by police on the approaches to London and persons were arrested for being in possession of offensive weapons and materials. The demonstration took the form of a meeting in Trafalgar Square attended by about 7,000 persons, followed by a march to the United States Embassy in Grosvenor Square, W.1. The meeting was noisy but no serious disorder occurred; however the procession later became obstructive with demonstrators occupying the whole width of the streets. About 2,000 persons were already in Grosvenor Square when the marchers arrived and sections of the combined groups caused serious disorder and some damage in attempting to gain access to the Embassy. Splinter groups left the main demonstration and created disorders in various parts of the West End. During the afternoon and evening 243 arrests were made, principally for wilful obstruction, obstructing police in the execution of their duties, assaults on police and being in possession of offensive weapons. One hundred and forty-five police officers and 42 demonstrators received minor injuries and several thousand pounds worth of damage was caused to property.

The annual march by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament took place on 14th and 15th April from Aldermaston to Trafalgar Square and passed off without major disorder. On Monday, 15th April about 600 members of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and other militant groups accompanying the march broke away and demonstrated outside the German Embassy, Belgrave Square, S.W.1, where one person was arrested. At the conclusion of the C.N.D. rally in Trafalgar Square, where two further arrests were made, some 10,000 demonstrators joined a march to St. Paul's Cathedral in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King. At the same time about 1,000 members of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and allied groups marched from Trafalgar Square to the Daily Mirror

Building, E.C.1, where an unruly demonstration took place against a Publishing Group whose offices are situated in the building. A further 20 arrests were made.

On Sunday, 26th May, supporters of the Socialist Labour League and of the International Socialists, both in support of French workers' demonstrations, marched from Malet Street, W.C.1, to Knightsbridge, S.W.1, where meetings were held and petitions presented to the French Embassy. Attempts to gain access to the Embassy led to clashes between the demonstrators and the police and further trouble arising from disagreements between the two demonstration parties resulted in 27 arrests and 2 summonses.

On Sunday, 7th July, two rival factions, the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the Immigration Control Association, held marches from Clerkenwell Green and Smithfield Market respectively, delivering petitions at No. 10 Downing Street en route. Although independent routes and different times were arranged for the marches disorder arose when about 500 members of the Movement for Colonial Freedom remained in the vicinity of Downing Street and clashed with the 400 Immigration Control Association marchers. The clashes continued sporadically throughout the remainder of the return march of the Immigration Control Association into the City of London and 23 persons were arrested.

On Sunday, 21st July, a meeting was held in Trafalgar Square on the subject of the American action in Vietnam, organised by an *ad hoc* July 21 committee (V.S.C.). About 3,500 persons took part in what was an orderly meeting and then marched to Hyde Park by way of Grosvenor Square where a petition was presented to the United States Embassy. At Grosvenor Square and in the vicinity of the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, about 500 of the more militant supporters caused disturbances which resulted in the arrest of 49 persons and some damage to property. Thirty-nine police officers were injured.

On Wednesday, 7th August, a demonstration by about 200 members of the Ukrainian Youth Association in Great Britain took place outside the Russian Embassy in protest against the alleged treatment and detention of Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia. There was disorder when police prevented attempts to invade the Embassy and 17 persons were arrested.

On Sunday, 25th August, following the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Russia on 21st August, numerous political and national organisations took part in a mass protest. Some 15,000 persons gathered at Speaker's Corner, Hyde Park, for a meeting and subsequently about 3,000 marched to the Russian Embassy. About 100 of the demonstrators made repeated but unsuccessful attempts to enter the Embassy by force. Nineteen persons were arrested.

Demonstrations during the weekend of 26th/27th October were given considerable advance publicity to the effect that supporters of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and allied organisations would combine to demonstrate on a larger scale than ever before against the war in Vietnam. A figure of 100,000 demonstrators was confidently forecast by the organisers for the march on 27th October. In the event the activities on 26th October proved uneventful. On 27th October, 25,000 to 30,000 demonstrators assembled at the Victoria Embankment and marched via the City of London and the Strand to Charing Cross. The main procession continued into Whitehall, where a petition was taken to 10 Downing Street, and went on to Hyde Park via Whitehall, Victoria Street and Grosvenor Place. There were minor disorders at the entrance to Downing Street and near

the Cenotaph. The main demonstration ended with a meeting in Hyde Park. Meanwhile about 1,000 supporters of the October 27th Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam had broken away from the main march at Charing Cross and went to Grosvenor Square where a number of violent but abortive attempts were made to enter the United States Embassy. Forty-two persons were arrested for offences connected with the demonstration. Seventy-four police officers and 47 members of the public were injured. Elaborate arrangements had been made to deal with the anticipated disorders and approximately 9,000 police officers, uniform and C.I.D., were employed. On 19th November the House of Commons unanimously carried a Resolution congratulating all the police who were on duty on 27th October for their efficiency, good discipline and tolerance under great provocation. On 6th November at County Hall, S.E.1, the Chairman of the Greater London Council presented to me a document containing over 300,000 signatures of London residents congratulating the police on their tact, restraint and good humour during the demonstration of 27th October.

During the afternoon of Sunday, 3rd November, 140 supporters of the November Non-Violent Action Committee commenced a demonstration outside the premises of Elliott Automation, Great Portland Street, against the supply of equipment to America for use in Vietnam. The demonstration continued until the morning of Monday, 4th November, when serious obstruction of the footway was caused necessitating the arrest of 11 persons.

Throughout the year numerous demonstrations have taken place in connection with the civil war in Nigeria. With the exception of four occasions, the demonstrations, though noisy, passed off without disorder. On Wednesday, 17th January, 400 members of the Biafra Union marched through the West End and caused deliberate obstruction of the highway which resulted in the arrest of 5 persons. On Sunday, 23rd June, 850 supporters of the Save Biafra Committee presented petitions at the Russian Embassy, followed by a march to 10, Downing Street, protesting against the supply of arms to Nigeria. Disorder arose when the marchers were prevented from entering Downing Street and this resulted in 4 arrests and injuries to 3 police officers. On 11th August, 100 members of the Nigerian Students' Action Group, demonstrating against French recognition of Biafra, marched from Speaker's Corner, Hyde Park, to the offices of the Nigerian High Commission, Northumberland Avenue, via the French Embassy and 10, Downing Street. Disorder occurred when a group of Biafrans interfered with the march and 1 Biafran was arrested. On 27th August, about 250 members of the Biafra Union took part in a demonstration in Downing Street which resulted in the arrest of 16 persons and minor damage to the windows of the Prime Minister's residence.

Industrial disputes

Industrial disputes during the year were 134 as compared with 126 in 1967. These were of a minor nature but between 24th June and 22nd August, a strike took place of 72 employees of Injection Moulders Ltd., Honeyget Lane, N.W.9, during the course of which a number of incidents required special police attention.

Flooding

Extensive rainfall throughout south-east England during the weekend of 14th/15th September raised the level of the various tributary rivers flowing into

the river Thames and the drainage systems proved incapable of carrying the excess water away.

Flooding was particularly severe in the Thames Ditton, East and West Molesey areas where the Rivers Mole and Ember overflowed their banks and flooding reached a depth of 8 feet in places. The initial rescue operations followed by evacuation of families, establishment of rest centres, feeding the homeless and those confined to their homes, and the eventual restoration period made heavy demands on our resources in manpower, communications and transport. The combined services of police, the Armed Forces, Surrey Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and the Local Authority were called upon at an early stage in the emergency.

Although there was extensive damage to goods and property, there was no loss of life or serious injury and this can be attributed in no small measure to the sterling work performed by military personnel and to the specialised equipment placed at the disposal of the civil authorities. The operation in the Esher area continued until 23rd September when the military units were released.

Flooding also occurred to a lesser degree in the Lewisham, Cufford, Waltham Abbey, Beale Heath, Croyford, Sutton and Croydon areas but apart from causing disruption to communications and road traffic, the damage in these areas was on a lesser scale and of shorter duration than that in the Esher district.

Flood Warnings

In September, following discussions between representatives of the Greater London Council, the London boroughs and government departments, the general warning plan for the tidal stretches of the River Thames was revised. In future the air raid sirens will be used to warn the public who will thereafter be given advice over the B.B.C. (Channel 1) radio. The warning sirens will be activated by police on advice from the staff of the Flood Control Room of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The new warning system is based upon improved methods and techniques in monitoring and predicting tidal conditions in the River Thames, wind and other weather effects, down flow from the non tidal reaches of the river, etc., and these taken together will result in warnings being given only when there is a real and imminent risk of flooding.

Sport and police functions

Metropolitan Police Athletic Association

A generally high standard was maintained by most sections and notably in the major sports of association and rugby football and cricket.

There were many representative honours. The tug-o-war section won the National 104 stone championship and was chosen to represent England at the Welsh A.A. Championships. Constables Cover, Goldie, Howison and Rees played association football for the English Police; Constable Rees also represented a F.A. Amateur XI. Constable Banham boxed for the London A.B.A. in Cologne and Paris and for the third consecutive year won the light-heavyweight title at the Open Police Boxing Championships. Sergeants Adams and Kelly and Constables Bacon and Hunt represented the British Police in the European Police Shooting Championships at Helsinki. Constable Sutherland

represented Great Britain in the 20 kilometre triangular walking match against West Germany and Czechoslovakia in Switzerland. Constable McNamara represented Great Britain in the European Wrestling Championship in Yugoslavia and won the European Police Heavyweight Wrestling Championship at Freiburg.

Much goodwill and understanding has been fostered by tours at home and abroad.

Horse Shows

The fortieth Metropolitan Police Horse Show and Tournament was held at Imber Court on 28th and 29th June. Provincial Police forces and the City of London competed in the various classes. The Services were represented by contingents from the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the Household Cavalry Regiment, the Royal Corps of Transport and the Royal Army Veterinary Corps.

The Activity Ride of the Mounted Branch appeared at the Suffolk Military Tattoo and the Dover Tattoo.

The Branch competed at nine horse shows during the year and did extremely well to win the individual tent pegging competitions at the Royal Tournament and the Royal Windsor Horse Show and also the sword, lance and revolver competitions at the Royal Tournament and the South of England Agricultural Show.

Metropolitan Police Band

During the year the Metropolitan Police Band performed at many police and public functions the more important being the State Opening of Parliament, Remembrance Sunday, a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, and the funeral of the late Commissioner Sir Joseph Simpson, K.B.E.

Mr. Roger Barotti, M.B.E., A.R.C.M., retired at the end of October, having held the position of Director of Music for 22 years. He was succeeded by Major William Williams, M.B.E., A.R.C.M., formerly of the Royal Artillery.

Honours

The following honours and awards were received in 1968.

Royal Victorian Order

To be a Commander (C.V.O.):

Mr. J. Lawlor, Commander "A" Department.

Order of the British Empire

To be Commanders of the Civil Division (C.B.E.):

Mr. E. G. W. Milles, Commander "C" Department.

Mr. G. C. Richardson, Secretary.

To be Officers of the Civil Division (O.B.E.):

Mr. F. R. Pollard, M.B.E., Project Officer, formerly Deputy

Commander "C" Department.

Mr. J. R. Wray, M.B.E., Commander (Inspectorate), No. 1 Area.

To be Members of the Civil Division (M.B.E.):

Miss B. M. Samuels, S.R.N., Lady Superintendent, Convalescent

Police Seaside Home.

Chief Superintendent H. W. Stevenson.

Order of St. John

Promoted to the Grade of Commander (Brother):

Mr. F. W. C. Pennington, O.B.E., Commander (since appointed Special Assistant to the Commissioner).

Promoted to the Grade of Officer (Brother):

Police Sergeant A. J. Haynes.

Police Constable F. J. Read.

Police Constable S. F. Aylett.

Police Constable A. C. Gatecum.

Admitted in the Grade of Serving Brother:

Police Constable F. J. T. Rowling.

Police Constable R. W. Shirel.

Police Constable G. W. Edwards.

Police Constable J. P. Clifford.

Chief Superintendent W. F. Gilbert, M.V.O. (since retired).

Police Constable J. W. McKim.

Police Constable J. A. R. Powell.

Commandant H. F. Howse, Metropolitan Special Constabulary (as Inspector).

Admitted in the Grade of Serving Sister:

Woman Commandant Miss E. M. Clowes, Metropolitan Special Constable.

Woman Police Constable I. Williams.

British Empire Medal (Civil Division)

For Gallantry:

Police Constable T. M. Cox.

Police Constable J. A. G. Robb (now Temporary Constable C.I.D.).

Inspector T. A. J. Page (as Station Police Sergeant).

Police Constable A. F. Rich.

Temporary Police Constable (C.I.D.) J. D. Ross.

Police Constable F. Pulley.

For Meritorious Service:

Inspector A. A. Davidson.

Inspector G. E. Blackmore, D.C.M. (since retired).

Detective Chief Inspector O. J. Kay.

Mr. F. L. Crook, Chief Engineer's Department.

Mr. W. Ellis, "Z" Division School Crossing Patrol.

Queen's Police Medal

Detective Chief Superintendent J. Mannings.

Superintendent J. I. Rees.

Superintendent G. F. Reid.
 Mr. I. H. Jones (formerly Chief Superintendent "D" Department).
 Detective Chief Superintendent H. R. Squites (since retired).
 Mr. D. E. Thompson (formerly Superintendent "T" Division).
 Detective Superintendent J. P. Vibart (since retired).
 Superintendent S. J. Wilson.

Commendation by Her Majesty The Queen for Gallantry

Police Constable R. N. Price.
 Police Constable I. D. T. Mitchell.
 Police Constable R. J. Young.
 Police Constable D. J. Burns.
 Police Constable P. D. Jacobs.
 Police Constable T. Allan.
 Police Constable W. C. Cunliffe.
 Police Constable D. E. Hurley.

Changes among senior officers

Police

Mr. R. Mark, Assistant Commissioner, who had previously taken charge of "B" Department, was appointed Deputy Commissioner in succession to Mr. A. G. P. Way, C.M.G., Assistant Commissioner, took charge of "A" Department.
 Mr. J. M. Hill, D.F.C., Assistant Commissioner, took charge of "D" Department.
 Mr. J. Starritt, Commander, temporarily took charge of No. 4 District until district commands were eliminated. He was later appointed Head of Management Services and then Assistant Commissioner in charge of "B" Department.
 Mr. F. W. C. Pennington, O.B.E., Commander, retired from the Force.
 Mr. G. C. F. Duncan, O.B.E., Commander, retired from the Force.
 Mr. E. J. E. Tickle, Deputy Commander, was appointed Commander and remained in "D" Department.
 Mr. R. C. Lewis, M.B.E., Deputy Commander, returned from a period of central service and retired from the Force.

The following Deputy Commanders were appointed Commanders on 1st April:

Mr. R. Linge, Mr. J. V. R. Du Rose, Mr. T. H. Williams, Mr. J. O. Alderson, Mr. P. J. H. Candy, Mr. F. G. D. Smith, D.F.C. and Mr. H. W. Hudson.

Consequent upon the reorganisation of the Force on 1st April, Commanders were appointed to the following posts:

"A" Department—Operations Commander R. J. Mastel
 Administration Commander J. Lawlor, C.V.O.
 "B" Department—Traffic
 Planning Commander P. J. H. Candy
 Operations Commander C. P. J. Woods (later appointed head of Management Services)

"C" Department—Crime
 Administration and Divisions Commander E. G. W. McEon, C.B.E.
 H.Q. Operations Commander J. V. R. Du Rose
 H.Q. Technical Support Commander H. W. Hudson
 Special Branch Commander F. G. D. Smith, D.F.C.

"D" Department—Personnel
 Personnel Commander E. J. E. Tickle
 Training Commander J. C. Alderson

Inspectorate

Commander J. R. Wray, O.B.E., Commander R. Linge, Commander C. P. Attwood and Commander T. H. Williams.

Mr. N. J. H. Darke, Deputy Commander, was transferred to "D" Department for special duties.

Mr. B. M. Acott, D.F.C., Deputy Commander, was transferred to the Inspectorate for C.I.D. duties.

Mr. H. J. E. Hunt, Deputy Commander, remained in "A" Department. He was later appointed Commander and transferred to "B" Department (Operations).

Mr. E. P. Bellamy, Deputy Commander, remained in the Research and Development Branch of Management Services. He was later appointed Assistant Chief Constable, Birmingham City Police Force.

Mr. S. Hebbs, Deputy Commander, remained in "B" Department and took charge of the Traffic Support Group.

Civil Staff

Mr. F. W. Armstrong, M.V.O., Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Defence, was seconded to the Metropolitan Police Office as Director of Finance.

Dr. H. J. Walls, B.Sc. Ph.D., Director of the Metropolitan Police Laboratory, retired.

Dr. R. L. Williams, M.A., D.Phil., D.Sc., was appointed Director of the Metropolitan Police Laboratory.

Mr. R. E. T. Birch was promoted to Deputy Solicitor.

Mr. T. R. Jones, C.Eng., M.I.E.E., was appointed Deputy Chief Engineer.

Mr. R. A. Root, Chief Executive Officer, was promoted to Senior Chief Executive Officer, "B" Department (Administration).

Mr. P. H. Pearnley, Principal Information Officer, retired.

Mr. C. N. Hill, Senior Executive Officer, was promoted to Chief Executive Officer and took charge of F.3 Branch.

Mr. S. J. Hanchet, A.R.I.B.A., A.I.A.S., was promoted to Superintending Architect.

Mr. P. A. Barwood, Senior Executive Officer, was promoted to Chief Executive Officer and took charge of B.4 and B.6 Branches.

Mr. R. H. Beaver, Senior Executive Officer, was promoted to Chief Executive Officer and took charge of G.1 and G.2 Branches.

Mr. D. M. O'Shea, LL.B., was promoted to Assistant Solicitor.

Mr. F. W. C. Pennington, O.B.E., was appointed to a new post of Special Assistant to the Commissioner following his retirement from the Force.

Mr. D. Hale, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.H.V.E., was appointed Senior Engineer.

Mr. B. Wright was appointed Principal Information Officer and took charge of P.1 Branch.

Mr. J. Crossley was appointed to the new post of Chief Work Study Officer in the Management Services Department.

Mr. J. S. Courtney was appointed Principal Information Officer and took charge of P.2 Branch.

Special Constabulary

It is with deep regret that I have to refer to the death, on 22nd February, of Miss E. M. Clowes, who served with distinction as Commandant of the Women's Section since 1958, having joined the Metropolitan Special Constabulary in July, 1951. Her successor, Mrs. P. L. Bicknell, was appointed on 15th April.

CHAPTER 3

Crime

Crime in the metropolis remained at approximately the same level as in 1967 but the number of arrests went up by 7.3 per cent from 50,898 to 54,540. It is interesting to compare the latter figure with that of 35,184 for the year 1959 when the manpower of the Force was not much less than that today. The increase of 55 per cent in arrests during the decade would be more encouraging if it afforded any hope of a reduction in crime generally. Unfortunately, there are no signs of this. In view of the legislation now under consideration it is perhaps of particular interest that of the 54,540 persons arrested, 11,770 were in the age group 10-16 years inclusive, a not abnormal proportion.

The continual increase in arrests from year to year is reflected in the delay in the trial of cases at the Central Criminal Court where, for the first time, three courts continued to sit during the August recess in an attempt to relieve the pressure. There were at one time 41 prisoners remanded for trial on charges of murder. Delays of this kind inevitably cause administrative problems, sometimes involving the withholding of senior officers from fresh enquiries or the indefinite denial of leave.

The greater number of cases is, however, not always so troublesome as the complexity of an increasing number of them. A few examples may be sufficient to demonstrate this trend. In one case, two Metropolitan officers were engaged in the investigation of a suspected child murder. In the early stage of the enquiry, 300 police officers were drawn from 3 police forces to search for the missing child. The search party was later increased to 750 men, comprising 500 police officers and 250 soldiers and airmen. Following the discovery of the child's body, Incident Rooms were set up in two locations, fully equipped with closed circuit television of a type which enabled documents and photographs to be shown simultaneously. A coloured Identikit picture was built up of a suspect and 17,600 copies were circulated throughout the United Kingdom. Continuous enquiries lasted over a period of 78 weeks with a police staff varying from 130 to 210 police officers drawn from 8 police forces. During the course of the enquiry, 21,000 telephone messages were dealt with, 14,000 statements were taken, 25,000 car owners were investigated and eliminated from the enquiry, 1,375,000 vehicle taxation files were examined, 39,000 houses were visited in house-to-house enquiries and approximately 50,000 men between the ages of 21 and 50 years were interviewed. The enquiry stretched into 13 countries and was brought to a successful conclusion at the end of the year.

Another case involved the investigation of a complicated fraud which took two years to complete. There were never less than 3 officers on this enquiry and at its peak there were 6. Statements totalling 1,500 pages from over 150 witnesses and documentary exhibits running into 7,000 pages were a feature of the enquiry.

In yet another case where forged five-pound Bank of England notes were being circulated, an operation involving all the employees working at the counters of every bank throughout the London Postal District and the crews of every police patrol car equipped with wireless had to be mounted to catch the person responsible who was apparently presenting the notes at banks. The operation was planned to last over a two-week period but, in the event, an arrest was made within three hours of its starting.

In the continued search for two persons connected with the Buckinghamshire train robbery of 1963, officers of this Force extended their enquiries into the United States of America, Mexico, Canada, Belgium, Germany and France and, as is well known, one individual was arrested in Canada and another in Torquay. This vast operation, which had to be conducted under a cloak of complete secrecy, occupied much of the time of some of the most senior and experienced members of this Force despite the fact that the crime had not been committed within the metropolis.

One final and no less noteworthy example. In December 1966 two detective officers were directed to embark on a particular enquiry. The case developed as was anticipated and during the year under review the team reached a maximum of 240 officers, although it was subsequently run down to 165. Seventy-seven prisoners were charged and of this number 41 were involved in the main part of the enquiry. A special index was formed containing the names of all persons who were in any way involved in the enquiry and this eventually contained 8,000 names. The reports, statements and documents produced for the Court hearings ran to nearly 350,000 sheets of paper.

Whilst these major cases were being handled, other detective officers had to continue in their day-to-day task of investigating serious crime, although, perhaps, crime which was not so sensational. The scheme whereby the less important offences were investigated by uniform officers came into full swing and undoubtedly gave much relief to the detectives, thus enabling them to give more time to, and to dig deeper into, the many cases of housebreaking and shop-breaking. This brought forth good results and the statistics given elsewhere in this report bear witness of the progress that has been made.

Detective officers generally performed a minimum of 12 hours over-time weekly. Many distinguished themselves by outstanding courage in dealing with violent criminals, some of them armed. The morale of all ranks throughout the year was extremely high.

There was an unusually high changeover of personnel in "C" Department. Two hundred and twenty-five officers, of whom 17 were women, were appointed detective constables, 139 officers were promoted to the rank of second-class detective sergeant, 82 to first-class detective sergeant, 54 to detective inspector, 37 to detective chief inspector, 25 to detective superintendent and 6 to detective chief superintendent.

In an endeavour to improve communication at all levels, the Assistant Commissioner held quarterly conferences at which Commanders (Crime) and heads of "C" Department branches, area detective chief superintendents and divisional detective superintendents were present. Conferences between Commanders "C" and all detective chief superintendents were held in seven of the remaining months of the year. At a lower level, area and divisional conferences were held as and when necessary in order to ensure that C.I.D. officers on divisions do not work in isolation. It is difficult to quantify the results of these discussions but I am convinced that their value in co-ordinating the work of "C" Department cannot be overstated.

The total number of indictable offences known to the Metropolitan Police in 1968 was 275,222 and, as the estimated population of the Metropolitan Police District was 2,250,590, the number of indictable offences per thousand persons was 33.4 compared with 32.7 in 1967 and 20.4 in 1959.

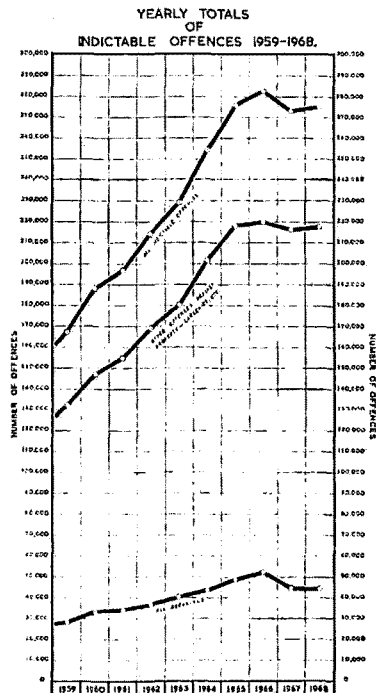


Fig. 1
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The introduction early in the year of a revised crime reporting procedure helped to reduce the paper work of divisional detectives. It also improved the statistical accuracy of periodical crime returns and thus provided a truer reflection of the actual crime rate. Crime in the first half of the year was generally down compared with 1967 but July and August radically altered the balance with increases of nearly 9 and 12 per cent respectively. A more normal October, however, compared with an abnormal month in 1967 (referred to in last year's report) brought the year's total close to that of 1967.

The following table shows the number of indictable offences known to Metropolitan police in 1968 in the principal groups of offences, with corresponding figures for 1967 and 1959. Details of the individual offences in these groups will be found in Table 1 in Appendix 2. A comparison with previous years is shown in the graph at fig. 1.

Principal groups of indictable offences

Offence group	Number of offences			Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with			
	1968	1967	1959	1967		1959	
				Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Offences against the person	8,024	7,889	4,103	+ 133	+ 1.7	+ 3,921	+ 93.6
Offences against property							
Breakings	44,093	44,755	28,363	- 662	- 1.5	+ 15,730	+ 55.5
Larcenies, etc. ..	217,690	216,133	132,327	+ 1,557	+ 0.7	+ 85,563	+ 64.8
Other indictable offences	5,415	6,361	2,750	+ 1,054	+ 19.2	+ 2,661	+ 96.9
Total indictable offences	275,222	273,138	167,343	+ 2,084	+ 0.8	+ 107,879	+ 64.5

The more serious crimes against the person, particularly those of attempted and threatened murder, increased by substantial percentages. There was, however, an appreciable fall in the number of deaths by dangerous driving (see also Chapter 4).

Offences against property increased by 0.3 per cent compared with 1967. This was the result of an increase in larcenies, etc. Breakings actually decreased by 662 or 1.5 per cent. There were 15 per cent fewer burglaries but slightly more housebreakings and shopbreakings.

There was an increase of 0.7 per cent in larcenies compared with 1967. There were, however, decreases in robberies or assaults with intent to rob (down by 102 or 5.1 per cent) and in larcenies, etc. from the person (down by 539 or 13.5 per cent). Figures for larceny from dwelling houses and flats were the highest ever recorded.

The estimated value of property stolen was £22 million compared with £20 million in 1967, 10.5 per cent was recovered.

Individual offences within the above main groups are analysed in greater detail below.

The use of firearms

Over one-seventh of all robberies and assaults with intent to rob were carried out with the aid of firearms (or, in a small number of cases, what were thought to be firearms but might have been imitations). There was a rise of 17 per cent in the number of indictable crimes in which firearms were used but in the case of robberies or assaults with intent to rob, the increase was 31 per cent. The increase is disturbing and shows that, despite efforts to curb the sale of weapons, there are still plenty available for criminal use. There were 419 offences involving the use of firearms, including 7 cases of murder or manslaughter, 11 of attempted murder, 117 of wounding and assault and 279 of robbery or assault with intent to rob.

Offences against the person

The crimes included in this group are listed at the top of Table 1 in Appendix 2. They totalled 8,024 in 1968 compared with 7,889 in 1967, an increase of 135, or 1.7 per cent.

Deaths by violence

Two hundred and eleven deaths by violence were reported in 1968, including 2 alleged to have occurred in previous years; the total was 27 fewer than in 1967. These were recorded as 57 murders, 47 manslaughters, 5 infanticides, 2 deaths by abortion, 99 deaths by dangerous or reckless driving and 1 death by grievous bodily harm.

Of the 57 known or alleged murders, 46 were cleared up by arrest and 5 by the suicide of the murderer; 6 murders remained unsolved at the end of the year and, in 26 of the cases cleared up, court proceedings had not been concluded. A further 37 cases were originally classified as murder of which 31 were subsequently dealt with by the courts as manslaughter, 5 as infanticide and 1 as causing grievous bodily harm with intent.

The 47 cases of manslaughter included the 31 cases originally classified as murder and 16 others, of which 7 resulted from abortions. The 99 cases of causing death by dangerous or reckless driving were 38 fewer than in 1967.

One hundred and twenty-one persons were arrested and originally charged with murder; 5 of them were arrested for murders recorded in previous years. Thirty-eight persons were dealt with by the courts for murder, 32 for manslaughter and 5 for infanticide; at the end of the year 46 persons were awaiting preliminary hearing or trial. Of the 38 persons dealt with for murder, 17 were sentenced to life imprisonment, 2 were discharged under Section 7 of the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1952, and 19 were acquitted of murder. Three of the 19 acquitted persons were dealt with under Sections 4 and 6(2) of the Criminal Law Act, 1967, and 6 others for less serious offences with which they had also been charged. There were 10 acquittals.

Wounding

The increase in the number of cases of wounding reported to the police continues; the 5,300 offences were the highest recorded and 171 (3.3 per cent) more than in 1967.

Sexual offences

The number of cases of rape increased by 8 to 115, and other offences against females by 3 (0.2 per cent) to 1,642.

The number of unnatural offences (including attempts to commit these offences and indictable offences of indecency between males) decreased by 44 (6.1 per cent) to 604. Cases of bigamy decreased by 6 (11.1 per cent) to 48.

Offences against property—breakings

Breakings decreased by 662 or 1.5 per cent compared with 1967, to a total of 44,093.

Burglary and housebreaking together totalled 21,113 and were 174 (0.8 per cent) fewer than in 1967. Attempted breakings decreased by 397 (16.2 per cent) and there were 100 (18.3 per cent) fewer cases of possessing housebreaking implements by night.

Money, jewellery, gold and silver formed the bulk of the property stolen and other property stolen was mostly radio and television sets, record players, tape recorders and other electrical equipment.

In about 9 per cent of cases, the estimated value of the property stolen was under £5 and in 30 per cent the value was £100 or more. The total estimated value of property stolen was £3,700,000 and of that recovered £115,000 (about 3 per cent) compared with £2,600,000 stolen and £83,000 (3.2 per cent) recovered in 1967.

Breakings into shops, warehouses, offices, etc., totalled 20,484, just 9 more than in 1967. The thieves were arrested or disturbed before they had time to steal anything from 2,363 premises but a variety of property was stolen from the others, money, however, accounting for the highest proportion—27 per cent. Retail shops made up nearly half the breakings and over a quarter were factories, warehouses, etc.

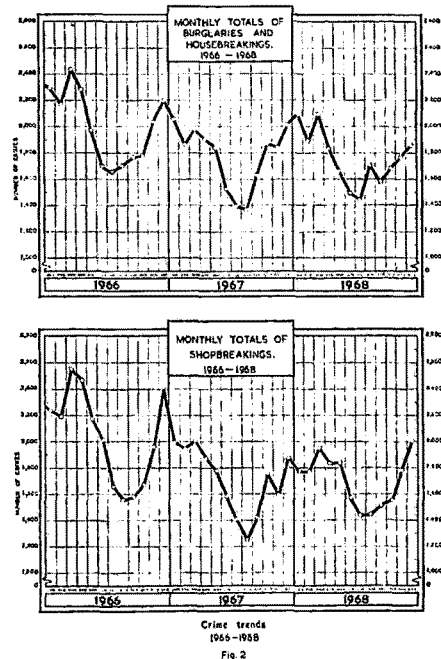
In about 15 per cent of cases, the estimated value of the property stolen was under £5 and in 30 per cent the value was £100 or more. The total estimated value of the property stolen was £3,800,000 and of that recovered £370,000 (9.6 per cent). In the previous year, the value of stolen property was about £4,000,000 and of that recovered £350,000 (8.7 per cent).

Other offences against property—larcenies, etc.

Of all indictable offences known to the police during the year, 79.1 per cent came under this heading: there were 217,690 altogether. Eighty-seven thousand were miscellaneous simple larcenies and 38,000 were thefts from unattended vehicles in the street. The following give some details of the various offences.

Robbery and assault with intent to rob

There were 1,910 cases of robbery and assault with intent to rob, 102 (5.1 per cent) fewer than in 1967. This total includes 32 cases of conspiracy to rob and 1 case of accessory to robbery. One thousand eight hundred and ninety-three of the 1,910 cases (99.1 per cent) came within the scope of Section 23(1) of the Larceny Act, 1916, and the remainder under Sections 23(2) and 23(3) of the Act. One thousand and ninety-two offences were committed in the streets, parks and open spaces and the rest inside premises.



The 279 robberies in which firearms were known or thought to have been carried were the highest so far recorded. A bludge instrument was used in 258 cases (266 in 1967) and a knuckleduster or sharp instrument in 229 cases (175 in 1967). Pepper, ammonia or some other irritant was involved in 72 cases but no weapon was used in 1,055 (55.2 per cent) of the 1,910 cases reported.

Business cash (wages, takings, etc.) and goods were stolen in almost exactly one half of all robberies and more than half of these cases occurred inside premises.

There were 90 cases reported in which children or young persons (i.e. over the age of criminal responsibility but under 17 years of age) robbed others under 17 years of age. Just over half of all reported robberies and assaults with intent to rob were committed during the hours of darkness.

In 263 cases nothing was stolen: the value of property stolen (mostly cash) in the other 1,647 cases was £2,400,000 of which some £470,000 (19.8 per cent) was recovered. This was a better percentage than in previous years.

Larceny from the person

This includes pocket-picking and bag-snatching and there were 3,444 cases reported during the year, a decrease of 539 (13.5 per cent) compared with 1967. Property valued at £148,000 was stolen and £8,000 worth (5.4 per cent) was recovered.

Larceny in houses (to the value of £5 or more or with menaces)

The number of offences reported was 28,314, an increase of 1,025 or 3.8 per cent. The estimated value of the property stolen was £2,370,000 of which £96,000 (4.1 per cent) worth was recovered. Money was taken in nearly half of the cases in which property was stolen and jewellery, gold and silver in 21 per cent. Of the offences under this heading 16,877 (59.6 per cent) were thefts from houses, 8,404 (29.7 per cent) from flats, and 3,033 (10.7 per cent) from hotels, clubs and hostels. In about a third of these larcenies, entry was gained through doors and windows left open or unsecured, mostly at the front of the premises.

Larceny by servant

The number of cases reported was 3,927, a decrease of 83 or 2.1 per cent compared with 1967. The articles most commonly stolen from employers by persons in their employ were cash, provisions, building materials and clothing. The estimated value of the property stolen was £490,000 of which £140,000 (28.6 per cent) was recovered.

Other aggravated larcenies

In general, this heading includes all other larcenies for which the maximum penalty was imprisonment for 14 years or, in some cases, for life. Cases of embezzlement, of which there were 815 in 1968 compared with 787 in 1967, accounted for 72.8 per cent of the total. Larcenies from ships, docks and wharves numbered 134, a decrease of 48 and there were 79 thefts of postal packets, a decrease of 49.

Larceny of motor vehicles

If a motor vehicle alleged to have been stolen is recovered within one calendar month, the offence is not recorded as a larceny unless someone is charged with stealing the vehicle. Before 1961, when the system of classification was altered, the time limit for the recovery of a vehicle was 48 hours. When a vehicle is driven away merely to facilitate the theft of its contents or fittings the offence is recorded as larceny from a vehicle.

In 1968 there were 7,018 motor vehicles recorded as having been stolen (including 25 attempts) compared with 6,611 in 1967—an increase of 407 or 6.2 per cent. The estimated value of the stolen vehicles was £2 million and the value of the 1,779 vehicles subsequently recovered was £630,000. In addition, 37,866 vehicles (33,638 in 1967) were taken and driven away without their owners' consent and were recovered within one calendar month; contents and fittings were stolen from 14,221 of these vehicles, most of them standing in the street. The total number of vehicles either stolen or unlawfully taken and driven away was, therefore, 44,884, an increase of 4,635 (11.5 per cent) over 1967.

Larceny of pedal cycles

The number of offences reported was 10,804, a decrease of 1,572 or 12.7 per cent compared with 1967. The estimated value of the cycles stolen was £120,000 and 711 cycles valued at £8,700 were recovered.

Larceny from unattended vehicles in the street

The number of these larcenies decreased; there were 38,201 offences, 1,041 (2.7 per cent) fewer than in the previous year. In 11,640 of these cases the vehicle was driven away to facilitate the theft of contents or fittings and was found abandoned within one calendar month. In over a half of the cases where property was stolen, vehicle accessories were taken; in 12 per cent or so, clothing was stolen, in 11 per cent, radios and television sets and in 4 per cent, suitcases and bags.

The estimated value of the property stolen from unattended vehicles in the streets was almost £2 million of which £109,000 (5.5 per cent) worth was recovered. In addition to larcenies from vehicles in the streets there were 11,715 larcenies (11,288 in 1967) from vehicles in car parks or in private premises. These offences are included in the classification "miscellaneous simple larcenies".

Shoplifting

The 8,522 shoplifting offences reported to the police were 36 (0.4 per cent) more than in 1967. This is, however, probably just the tip of the iceberg as it is thought that many more go unreported. Food and clothing were the two most popular commodities with shoplifters. The value of the property reported stolen was £60,000 and £35,000 worth (56.8 per cent) was recovered.

Larceny from telephone boxes, meters and automatic machines

There were 8,360 of these offences reported, 1,949 (18.9 per cent) fewer than in 1967. The value of the property stolen was £37,000, of which £900 worth was recovered.

Larceny-trick and-bait

There were 488 of these offences, 303 or 38.3 per cent fewer than in the previous year. The value of the cash and property stolen was about £89,000 of which £10,000 worth (11.6 per cent) was recovered.

Miscellaneous simple larcenies

The 87,213 offences recorded include all larcenies not separately classified and they account for 31.7 per cent of all indictable offences known to the police in 1968. 26,840 (30.8 per cent) were from shops, warehouses, etc., and they increased by 6,001 or 28.8 per cent; 8,352 (9.6 per cent) were from offices and these were 1,069 or 11.3 per cent fewer than in the previous year but larcenies from halls, cloakrooms, etc., which numbered 9,473 (10.9 per cent of the total) increased by 389 or 4.3 per cent.

Simple larcenies from houses, flats and hotels or their precincts decreased by 335 to 17,575 (20.2 per cent of the total).

Property to the value of about £3,600,000 was stolen; £278,000 worth (7.6 per cent) was recovered. 27 per cent was money and 10 per cent clothing and furs.

Fraud

The number of cases of fraud increased by 946 (7.8 per cent) to 13,135. A total of £1,120,000 was involved and £48,000 (4.3 per cent) was recovered. In addition, as mentioned later in the chapter, the Fraud Squad investigated a number of concerns whose members were suspected of fraudulent activities.

Receiving

By its very nature, of course, this offence differs from most others in that it becomes known to the police only when a receiver is found. There were 5,215 detected cases in 1968, an increase of 149 or 2.9 per cent over 1967.

Crimes cleared up

Irrespective of the year in which a crime occurred, it is recorded as cleared up either at the time a person is arrested or summoned for committing it or when the offender asks for the crime to be taken into consideration by a court which has found him guilty of some other offence. Details of individual crimes cleared up in 1968 and in the previous two years will be found in Appendix 2, Table 2. Comparisons for the principal groups of offences are given in the following table:—

Crimes cleared up—principal groups

Offence groups	Number of offences in 1968	Number of offences cleared up in 1968	Percentage of offences cleared up in		
			1968	1967	1966
Offences against the person	8,024	5,554	69.2	73.0	72.0
Offences against property—					
Breakings	44,091	10,021	22.7	20.9	18.1
Larcenies, etc.	217,690	49,889	22.9	22.5	21.0
Other indictable offences	5,415	2,927	54.1	59.7	62.1
All indictable offences	275,222	68,391	24.8	24.3	22.3

As mentioned in Chapter 1, the clear-up rate for robbery rose to 31.7 per cent, the highest figure since 1963.

The lowest clear-up figures, as might be expected, related to larceny of pedal cycles (7.2 per cent) and from vehicles in the street (8.2 per cent). Reasonable care could prevent many of these offences.

Arrests

The following table shows the number of arrests for each of the principal groups of offences; for this purpose, summonses, of which there were few, have been included as arrests:—

Arrests for principal groups of offences

Offence group	Number of arrests in			Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with			
	1968	1967	1959	1967		1959	
				Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Offences against the person	5,226	5,104	2,832	+ 122	+ 2.4	+ 2,394	+ 84.5
Offences against property—							
Breakings	7,916	7,132	5,608	+ 804	+ 11.3	+ 2,328	+ 41.5
Larcenies, etc.	39,757	37,193	23,796	+ 2,564	+ 6.8	+ 15,381	+ 34.1
Other indictable offences	1,621	1,379	248	+ 242	+ 17.5	+ 632	+ 71.0
All indictable offences	34,540	30,808	35,184	+ 3,732	+ 7.3	+ 19,356	+ 54.8

Arrests for offences in detail are shown in Appendix 2, Table 3.

Age of persons arrested

The table below shows by age-groups the number of persons arrested for indictable offences in 1968 and in previous years. Since less than one case in

four was cleared up, the number of arrests in any given age-group is not necessarily an accurate measure of the amount of criminal activity in that age-group as a whole.

Age-groups of persons arrested for indictable offences

Age-group	Number arrested			Increase or decrease in 1958 compared with			
				1957		1959	
	1958	1957	1959	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
10-13	4,327	3,798	4,486	+ 732	+ 19.3	+ 41	+ 0.9
14-16	7,213	6,256	5,211	+ 947	+ 13.0	+ 2,032	+ 39.0
17-20	10,809	10,322	5,853	+ 487	+ 4.7	+ 4,946	+ 84.4
Sub-totals (10-20) ..	22,379	20,413	15,560	+ 2,166	+ 10.6	+ 7,019	+ 45.1
21-30	16,664	15,497	8,999	+ 1,167	+ 7.5	+ 7,665	+ 85.2
31-40	7,360	7,030	4,891	+ 260	+ 4.0	+ 2,469	+ 50.5
41-50	4,477	4,315	2,856	+ 162	+ 3.8	+ 1,581	+ 34.6
51-60	2,731	2,455	1,612	+ 88	+ 3.4	+ 759	+ 27.1
Over 60	1,089	1,043	737	+ 41	+ 3.9	+ 352	+ 47.8
Sub-totals (21 and over) ..	31,961	30,395	19,135	+ 1,566	+ 5.2	+ 12,826	+ 67.0
*Totals (10 and over) ..	54,340	50,808	34,695	+ 3,732	+ 7.3	+ 19,845	+ 57.2

*On 1st February, 1964, the age of criminal responsibility was raised from 8 to 10 years.

The distribution among different age groups arrested for specific offences is shown in Appendix 2, Tables 4 and 5.

There were 1.7 per cent more young people between the ages of 10 and 20 and 8.4 per cent more adults arrested for robbery in 1958 than in the previous year. The numbers of arrests of persons between the ages of 10 and 20 for burglary and housebreaking, larceny (£5) dwelling, shopbreaking, miscellaneous simple larcenies, receiving, shoplifting and larceny from unattended vehicles also increased but there were fewer arrests for larceny of bicycles and motor vehicles and larceny by servant.

There was an increase in arrests of adults for miscellaneous simple larcenies, burglary and housebreaking, receiving, larceny dwelling and shopbreaking but there was a decrease in the number of arrests for larceny of bicycles and motor vehicles, larceny from unattended vehicles in the street, larceny by servant and shoplifting.

As regards individual ages of persons under 21 arrested, there was a small decrease in arrests of those aged 19. At all other ages, however, there were increases, ranging from 2.2 per cent at age 20 to 23.1 per cent at age 15. Details are shown in Appendix 2, Table 6.

Table 7 of Appendix 2 shows, by age-groups, the number of persons under 21 arrested for specific indictable offences.

Arrests of persons under 21 acting in groups

Of the 22,379 persons under 21 years of age who were arrested in 1958 for indictable offences, 14,278 (63.2 per cent) were operating with other persons.

This tendency to collect together in "gangs" at early ages persists in some cases into later life, as witnessed by two important trials in the last two years. 3,270 (22.9 per cent) of the 14,278 were associating with adults, 3,622 (25.4 per cent) were in groups whose members were all less than 15 years old, 2,606 (18.2 per cent) were in groups of 15 and 16 year-olds, and 4,780 (33.5 per cent) were in groups whose members were all aged 17 to 20.

The composition of groups of persons under 21 years of age who were arrested is shown in the following table. 88.9 per cent of the groups were of two or three persons.

Arrests of groups whose members were all under 21 years of age

Number of persons in group	Number of groups
2	3,121
3	337
4	337
5	92
6	44
7	10
8	5
9	3
10	2
11 and over	2
Total	4,454

Arrests of persons with previous criminal records

Of the 54,340 persons arrested for indictable offences, 16,329 (29.9 per cent) had previous criminal records, compared with 27.0 per cent in 1957 and 30.3 per cent in 1956. Of the children under 14 arrested for indictable offences 11.7 per cent had criminal records, compared with 8.2 per cent in 1957 and 9.8 per cent in 1956. Of the persons under 21 arrested, 23.1 per cent had criminal records compared with 20.6 per cent in 1957 and 23.1 per cent in 1956. Details are given in Appendix 2, Table 8.

C.2 Branch

As mentioned in previous reports, a section of this Branch undertakes searches at various Record Offices, particularly that of the Registrar of Companies, on behalf of Metropolitan and provincial police forces. Work in 1958 increased by over one-third compared with 1957 but, unfortunately, it has not yet been found possible to house the section in Companies House as was anticipated in last year's Report. I hope that this move can be achieved soon, as it would save considerable time now wasted in travelling between headquarters and the offices concerned.

A spite of new legislation in the last year or two made necessary considerable revision of the directions issued to members of the Force to enable them to deal with various types of crime. To cope with this situation a legislation unit was set up within the Branch during the year and proved invaluable, not only to this Force but to others as well.

Fingerprint Branch

The work of this Branch has grown all round during the year, a fact which reflects the growing awareness throughout the Force of the value of the technical support which is available to them from both the Fingerprint and Photographs sections.

During the year, a start was made with the recoding of the main fingerprint collection to enable it to be dealt with by computer. Special equipment is also being used to transfer the records direct on to magnetic tape for this purpose.

For the first time, an experienced fingerprint officer has been posted to each division to examine scenes of crime. As a result, visits by fingerprint officers to scenes of crime nearly doubled and the year brought a record in identifications of masks and exits cleared up. In particular, 49 cases of burglary and house-breaking between May and July were shown by fingerprints left at the premises to be the work of a single criminal and in pleading guilty to three charges at his trial, he asked for 153 similar cases to be taken into consideration.

Criminal Record Office

Searches in this Branch reached a record total of nearly one and a half million and there are now two and a quarter million files in the library. The introduction of suspended sentences and, to some extent, the greater use of the Branch by officers dealing with minor crimes have largely been responsible for the increase.

Convictions of first offenders recorded totalled 165,649 and re-convictions 248,751, both well above the figures for 1967.

Over 400,000 files of persons who have not been re-convicted for 25 years have been micro-filmed and the papers destroyed. The programme of this work is up to date in that files for 1944 are currently being dealt with. During the year the Branch acquired its own processing equipment and this assisted in speeding up the work.

Property to the value of £119,739 was identified by searches in the Property Index, compared with only £92,588 in 1967.

Rather fewer notices were circulated in the Police Gazette but more were published in the Confidential Informations.

Criminal Intelligence Branch

This Branch, which collects information about active criminals not only from the metropolitan area but from other forces throughout the country, considerably increased its activities during the year. The uniformed officers employed as collators throughout the Metropolitan Police District proved to be a useful new source of information. As a result of information gathered and disseminated by the Branch, a number of active and important criminals were arrested.

Metropolitan and City Police Company Fraud Branch

The Companies Act 1967 empowers the Board of Trade to examine the books and papers of companies which, in their opinion, are suspect and the results of these investigations can be made available to the police. There is no doubt that much speedier action can now be taken to prevent and detect fraudulent trading.

Two hundred and sixty-one reports about suspected frauds were submitted to various prosecuting authorities in the course of the year and there were 262 investigations in progress at the end of the year. Cases enquired into involved alleged losses of £38 million, £30 million of which was in respect of the Metropolitan Police District.

A case which roused considerable interest throughout the country was one in which the two directors of a fraudulent insurance company were found guilty of offences involving the conversion of £1 million worth of the company's assets. The investigation was long and complicated and its successful conclusion reflected great credit on the officers concerned.

"Long firm" frauds (i.e. fraudulent firms which obtain goods on credit and fail to pay for them) accounted for 45 cases during the year, involving property to the value of £1,820,000.

Officers of the Branch investigated nine provincial cases of fraud during the year.

Flying Squad

The Squad made 1,513 arrests and recovered property to the value of £680,814. 45 of those arrested were charged with robbery and a further 32 with conspiracy to rob. The latter action was particularly useful since had these criminals not been caught before carrying out their intentions, many more victims might have been attacked.

Some of the officers serving in the Squad now possess specialised knowledge of the activities of expert pickpockets and there has been a noticeable increase in the number of international thieves arrested for this type of offence.

As mentioned previously, in the early part of the year Chief Superintendent Butler, the head of the Squad, travelled to Canada where it was suspected that one of the men concerned in the great train robbery of 1963, who had subsequently escaped from prison, was living. After a search necessarily carried out in conditions of great secrecy, the man was arrested and brought back to this country. Chief Superintendent Butler retired from the Force at the end of the year.

Metropolitan and Provincial Police Crime Branch

The greater mobility enjoyed by criminals in these days of rapid communications means that liaison between police forces is even more important than it used to be. The work dealt with by this Branch has been constantly on the increase since it was first set up in 1954 and 1968 was no exception, with an increase of 51 per cent over 1967 in cases dealt with. Provincial forces are making more use of information supplied by the Branch about criminals travelling to the provinces to commit crime there. A number of arrests were made as the result of this activity.

Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Branch

The number of vehicles stolen and not recovered during the year was 5,239. A total of 5,657 re-licensed vehicles which had been wrecked were examined, 349 fewer than in 1967, but of the 636 suspect vehicles examined, 429, of a total value of over £264,000, were identified as stolen. 168 arrests were made. All these figures were higher than in 1967.

Liaison with continental police forces continues to be excellent.

Metropolitan Police Laboratory

The Laboratory dealt with some 14,000 cases during the year (including about 3,300 from other forces), nearly double the 1967 figure: about 8,000 of these were analyses of blood or urine arising out of the operation of the Road Safety Act 1967. Bearing in mind the fact that crime has increased by less than 1 per cent, it is clear that there has been a greatly increased use by police officers of the facilities afforded by the Laboratory. Examinations of drugs and firearms have both gone up by more than the general rate of increase, while a new section formed to provide scientific examination of documents got under way during the year and dealt with about 300 cases.

Although the increased case load has naturally proved a burden for the staff, the provisions for certification of expert evidence contained in the Criminal Justice Act 1967 have more than halved the number of attendances at court by Laboratory staff.

The Laboratory is now involved, with the Detective Training School, in the training of scenes of crime officers from police forces in the South-East Region and the noticeable improvement in the standard of samples received from these forces is a tribute to the value of this training.

Central C.I.D.

Thirteen cases of provincial murders were investigated by Murder Squad officers during the year. There were two cases each in Berkshire, Staffordshire and Surrey and one each in Essex, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Huntingdonshire, Somerset, Warwickshire and Yorkshire. In seven of these, charges were made and the accused were convicted. In two other cases, trials were pending at the end of the year and four were still under investigation.

Enquiries into serious crime were also carried out in British Honduras, Cyprus and the Virgin Islands.

A reference library to assist officers engaged on the investigation of murder and other serious crimes has been set up and has proved useful. Further information is also being kept on a punched card system and this will, no doubt, prove amenable to computerisation at a later date.

Dangerous Drugs

2,050 persons were prosecuted for offences under the Dangerous Drugs Acts and 1,327 for offences under the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act 1964. The figures for 1967 were 1,550 and 932 respectively.

It is difficult to decide whether the increased number of prosecutions was because more people are taking drugs or because greater attention is being paid to the problem. Throughout the year, there were constant discussions about hard and soft drugs on television, on radio and in the press and there is probably more readiness now to bring suspected cases to notice.

Philatelic Section

Over the previous five years, thefts of stamp collections to the value of more than £400,000 had been reported and few, if any, prosecutions had been brought. The special section referred to in Chapter I set up to deal with this problem had been instrumental in recovering stamps to the value of £104,000 by the end of the year and several prosecutions had been undertaken.

Arts Section

A further section of "C" Department was set up to deal with thefts of works of art and, with the ready support and co-operation of the trade, some tens of thousands of pounds worth of this kind of property was recovered during the year as the result of their efforts.

International Criminal Police Organisation

This Organisation continues to play a useful part in keeping track of the movements of criminals. There is frequently an international illegal market for property such as that described in the preceding two paragraphs and criminals are only too ready to take every advantage of modern air travel to get quickly away from one country to another with stolen property in their luggage. The work of the Bureau located in New Scotland Yard went up by between 20 and 30 per cent.

The 37th Session of the General Assembly was held in Tehran, Iran, from 1st to 8th October, 1968. Mr. P. E. Brodie, O.B.E., attended as British representative, with nine other British delegates.

No. 9 District Regional Crime Squad

During the year the Squad was augmented by 2 detective chief inspectors. 879 search warrants were executed, 684 arrests made and over half a million pounds worth of property recovered.

Excellent liaison exists between this Branch and the provincial Regional Crime Squads and there is a great deal of interchange of information with these as well as with the divisions of this Force.

CHAPTER 4

Traffic

Reorganisation of "B" Department

On the 1st April "B" Department assumed for the first time responsibility for control of all police officers and auxiliaries permanently engaged on traffic duties. This involved major changes in organisation. A Traffic Division, comprising all traffic patrols in the Metropolitan Police District, was established under the command of a chief superintendent, responsible for supervision of eight Traffic Areas, each under a superintendent, responsible for supervision of day to day administration. The operational activities of the patrols are directed by radio from Traffic Control at headquarters. The traffic superintendents are also responsible, in liaison with sub-divisional superintendents, for the deployment of traffic wardens. The road safety teams, also come under their control but are administered by the headquarters staff of the Traffic Division (B.8 Branch).

The headquarters staff (B.7 Branch) controlling the development of the traffic wardens' service constitute, with the traffic wardens, the Traffic Support Group. Unity of purpose in traffic operations has been achieved by placing the Traffic Division and the Traffic Support Group in charge of a Commander (Operations). The planning functions of the Traffic Department are now carried out by B.2 and B.3 Branches under a Commander (Planning).

The remaining branches of the Traffic Department, viz. B.1 (Secretariat), B.3 (Public Carriage Office), B.4 (Process), B.6 (Traffic Legislation) and B.9 (Central Ticket Office) have been grouped together under a Senior Chief Executive Officer (Administration).

Accidents

There were 56,056 accidents during the year in which people were killed or injured. This was an increase of 326 (0.6 per cent) over the previous year's total. The numbers of accidents involving death, serious injury and slight injury in each of the ten years up to and including 1968 are shown in Table 1 of Appendix 3.

Table 2 shows the distribution of fatal and injury accidents in 1968 by months and the corresponding figures for 1967. In November and December, following the introduction of British Standard Time, the number of fatal and injury accidents between 7 and 9 a.m. was 251 (22.4 per cent) higher than in 1967 though there was a small but significant reduction of 27 (1.7 per cent) between 4 and 6 p.m. Over the whole year, 4 to 6 p.m. was the worst period of the day for accidents. Friday was the worst day, followed by Saturday.

Compared with the previous year, there were reductions in fatal and injury accidents during the Easter and Spring and late Summer Bank Holiday periods of 112 (16.2 per cent), 65 (10.9 per cent) and 9 (1.7 per cent) respectively. There were, however, nearly twice as many accidents over the three days at Christmas which could be fairly compared with the previous Christmas.

More than one-third of all the fatal and injury accidents recorded during the year occurred in the inner police divisions which in aggregate constitute only about one-tenth of the total area of the Metropolitan Police District.

On the 11-mile length of the M.4 motorway within the District, there were 140 injury accidents including 4 involving deaths. Of this total, 59 (42 per cent) occurred on the 2-mile elevated section. The injury accident rate per month was 11.7 compared with 10.3 in 1967. Damage only accidents on M.4 numbered 218, or 13 fewer than in the previous year. On the 14.5-mile length of the M.1 motorway patrolled by this Force there were 60 injury accidents, including 2 involving deaths, and 139 damage only accidents.

In the first twelve months of breath testing under the provisions of the Road Safety Act, 1967, the number of injury accidents between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. (2,369) was 25.8 per cent lower than in the corresponding period before breath testing began. During the last quarter of 1968, however, there was a substantial increase in such accidents compared with the last quarter of 1967.

Accident characteristics

Table 3 of Appendix 3 shows where the injury accidents occurred and how many vehicles were involved. Predictably, the great majority (70 per cent) occurred at or within twenty yards of a junction of some kind: of these, over one-quarter involved a pedestrian and one vehicle. Compared with the previous year there was a slight reduction in the number of accidents on or within fifty yards of an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing.

An experiment aimed at reducing accidents at or near road junctions by eliminating hazards associated with parking and skidding was being planned by the Road Safety Group of the Joint Traffic Executive (see Chapter 1) at the end of the year.

The numerical and proportionate involvement in accidents of various classes of vehicles is shown in Table 4. When the percentages are related to the percentage composition of traffic by class, as measured in the traffic census referred to later in this chapter, it emerges that the relative risks by class of vehicle, taking cars and cabs as unity, are as follows:—

Class of vehicle	Relative risk ratio
pedal cycles	5.72
Motor cycles, etc.	4.96
Public service vehicles	1.86
Cars and cabs	1.00
Light goods vehicles	0.85
Heavy goods vehicles	0.50

Research into the causes of accidents

The Accident Research Unit continued its specialised investigations in depth into the causes of traffic accidents, and began work on an interim report.

The experiment mentioned last year, in which a number of police vehicles were fitted with marker panels, was concluded. It established that panels consisting of a pattern of fluorescent and retro-reflectorised materials are of value in making the presence and dimensions of vehicles more easily discernible

in daylight, at dusk and at night, and confirmed the advantages to be gained by the fitting of such panels to large commercial vehicles, as was recommended by the unit in 1967.

The research paper "A preliminary investigation into a physiological assessment of driving stress" (referred to in my last Report) was completed in conjunction with the Medical Research Council. This paper discusses the results of experiments in which the heart-beat rates of groups of highly experienced (Class I) and less experienced (Class IV) Metropolitan Police drivers were observed while they were driving in comparable traffic environments. There was a clearly identifiable difference between the two groups in the range through which the rates varied.

Casualties

The numbers of people who were killed or injured in road accidents in 1968 are shown by classes of road user and degrees of injury in Table 5 of Appendix 3. Monthly totals are shown in the graph at fig. 3.

Total casualties amounted to 71,245. This was 213 (0.3 per cent) fewer than in the previous year. Deaths and serious injuries were the lowest for ten years but slight injuries showed a small increase over the previous year's figure.

Among pedestrians, the downward trend in casualties noted in the last two years was reversed. The total was 4.4 per cent higher than in 1967 but deaths fell by 21 (4.9 per cent). Among pedal cyclists and motor cyclists, however, the downward trend of recent years was maintained. Total casualties in these two classes were respectively 0.9 per cent and 9.3 per cent lower than in 1967.

Child casualties

For the third year in succession there was an increase in the total number of casualties among children. Although there were 11 (11.6 per cent) fewer deaths, the number injured went up by 516 to 11,780, an increase of 4.5 per cent. Full particulars are shown in Table 6.

The proportions of casualties by age groups were as follows:-

Age-group	Casualties	Percentage of total
Under 5	2,416	30.4
5 - 10	5,889	49.6
11 - 14	3,559	30.0
	11,864	100.0

Casualties among child pedestrians and child pedal cyclists were respectively 233 (3.3 per cent) and 29 (1.5 per cent) more numerous than in the previous year.

During the first two months following the introduction of British Standard Time on 27th October, there were 10 fewer casualties (all slight) among child pedestrians on Mondays to Fridays between 7.30 and 9.30 a.m. and 31 more casualties (4 serious and 27 slight) between 3.30 and 5.30 p.m., compared with the previous year. Casualties among child pedal cyclists went up by 7 during

the same morning period and by 2 in the afternoon. Among children generally on all days and at all hours during the months of November and December there were 181 more casualties than in the same months of 1967, 102 in November (which had five Saturdays) and 79 in December. A reduction of 10 in child pedestrian casualties possibly reflected the increased willingness of parents to accompany their children at least some of the way to school following the publicity which attended the introduction of British Standard Time.

The Road Safety Group of the Joint Traffic Executive for Greater London has initiated a special investigation into possible means of protecting children from road accidents.

MONTHLY TOTALS OF CASUALTIES 1966, 1967 & 1968.

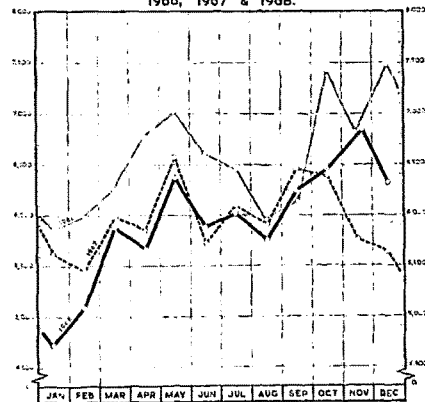


Fig. 3

Supervision of school children

On 31st December, the numbers of school crossings approved for supervision by police officers and school crossing patrols stood at 108 and 1,809 respectively, making a total of 1,917. This was 19 fewer than at the end of 1967, approval having been given in respect of 22 new crossings and withdrawn from 41 existing ones in the course of the year.

The number of adult school crossing patrols in post on 31st December was 1,399, or 59 more than a year earlier. The deficiency was therefore 410 compared with 477 at the end of 1967. The award of pay increases to school crossing patrols in 1967 and 1968 was no doubt instrumental in reducing the deficiency, but the shortage of patrols is still serious and seems likely to persist, especially in the more prosperous districts, despite constant advertising of vacancies in local newspapers, at employment exchanges, on police station notice boards and through contact with local organisations.

Providing cover at school crossings where there is a vacancy for a patrol or where a patrol is temporarily absent from duty can be a heavy drain on police manpower, especially at the morning assembly period when the demands of peak-hour traffic regulation have also to be met. Traffic wardens give valuable relief to the police in this respect in the areas in which they operate, but those areas at present constitute in aggregate only a small proportion of the total area of the Metropolitan Police District.

It was with these considerations in mind that it was decided in November 1967 to give active support to a pilot "schoolboy patrol" scheme at West Hendon in the London Borough of Barnet suggested by the local road safety committee. Under this proposal, which was mentioned briefly in last year's Report, a group of sixth-form boys, with the encouragement of their headmaster and the approval of their parents and local education authority, have undertaken to provide supervision on a rota basis at approved crossings near their school. The boys receive the same training as adult patrols and wear the same uniform. They are also subject to the same conditions of service—a particularly important feature of the scheme as it means that the boys are indemnified against personal liability in the event of accidents occurring at crossings while they are on duty.

The very real sense of public service displayed by those who took part and the responsible and efficient manner in which they carried out their duties have been noteworthy. The pilot scheme was made permanent from the beginning of the autumn term and local education authorities were invited to consider similar schemes for their areas. The initial response was slow. Only two other schools had decided to co-operate by the end of the year—one in Brent and one in Redbridge. At the latter, senior girls are taking part as well as boys.

The scheme obviously has great potential as a means of overcoming the problem of manning crossings in areas where there is a chronic shortage of suitable adult applicants. It also provides an opportunity for responsible young people to render a much-needed service to the community. I hope therefore that it will gather increasing support.

Traffic census

The Force can no longer spare the manpower to undertake biennial traffic censuses on the same scale as in the past. At the request of the Greater London Council, the census due in 1968 was taken on a sampling basis at a reduced number of sites, with the Council and the Traffic Department sharing the responsibility for providing the majority of the enumerators. Because of these and other differences in procedure, the results are not strictly comparable with those of the 1966 and earlier censuses.

The counts were made at 68 points on the Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays of four weeks in July and the first week in August. Three of the points—Dartford Tunnel, Walton Bridge and Chertsey Bridge—were included for the first time.

At the 65 points which were common to the 1966 and 1968 censuses, nearly 24 million vehicles were counted, or 11 per cent more than in 1966. Among classes of vehicles, increases were recorded in private cars (+15.0 per cent), taxis (+14.0 per cent), light vans (+20.5 per cent) and articulated lorries (+14.9 per cent), and decreases in motor cycles (−17.0 per cent), pedal cycles (−10.3 per cent) and heavy commercial vehicles with two or three axles (−5.6 per cent and −7.7 per cent respectively).

Hyde Park Corner held its lead as London's busiest focal point for traffic, followed by Hammermith Broadway (including the flyover). Traffic crossing the river was 5.9 per cent up on the 1966 figure, the biggest increases being at Lambeth Bridge (+30.1 per cent), Slaines Bridge (+20.6 per cent) and Wandsworth Bridge (+19.4 per cent). At Rotherhithe Tunnel, however, a decrease of 13.4 per cent was recorded.

Automatic traffic signals

Automatic traffic signals were installed at 47 new sites and 7 existing installations were removed, bringing the total number of installations in the Metropolitan Police District up to 1,412 at the end of the year. Modifications were made to 159 existing installations.

Traffic Division

At the end of the year, the police strength of the Traffic Division, including the personnel of the nine road safety teams, stood at 1,210 against an establishment of 1,437.

Traffic patrols reported 109,602 offences during the year, an increase of 14,754 on the previous year's figure. Of these offences, 102,797 were dealt with by summons and 6,805 by written caution, compared with 89,701 and 5,147 respectively in 1967. Verbal warnings given by traffic patrols numbered 83,264 compared with 115,041 in the previous year. Arrests numbered 2,056 including 715 in connection with crimes. (Total traffic offences are given in Appendix 3, Table 7.)

Escorting abnormal loads, convoys, special vehicles, etc., occupied 27,273 man-hours, an increase of 1,249 on the 1967 total. The mileage involved was 285,270 compared with 293,511 in the previous year.

Trials began during the year to test the effectiveness for traffic patrol purposes in London of Austin Mini-Cooper cars manned by one officer.

Removal of vehicles

During the year 52,060 vehicles were removed from streets under the provisions of the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1967.

Four more Land Rovers were taken into use for removal purposes, bringing the total number of removal vehicles in use to twelve.

Authority was received to employ civilians on removal duties in place of police officers, and 10 men were in post and undergoing training at the end of the year.

Road Safety

In the course of 2,894 visits to schools, the road safety teams gave 8,355 lectures and 2,818 practical demonstrations to school children. These figures represent a slight increase in activity compared with the previous year but the objective of visiting every school within the Metropolitan Police District at least once a year was again not achieved. All infants and junior schools were covered but it was again found that many senior schools were unable to fit in a visit without undue interference with school work.

The Local Authorities taking part in the National Cycling Proficiency Scheme continued to make progress in recruiting voluntary instructors but it was necessary for members of the road safety teams to spend over 5,000 man-hours in training and testing child cyclists. The teams also continued to take part in the RAC/ACU scheme for training motor cyclists, locally organised road safety events and junior driving instruction schemes.

The annual "Rushbow" competition for road safety displays was won for the third year in succession by the Junior Accident Prevention Council, from the London Borough of Sutton.

The Roadcraft Exhibition was shown in department stores, public halls, motor showrooms, etc., in fourteen different areas for periods ranging from six to nineteen days.

Traffic Support Group

For reasons of national economy referred to elsewhere in this Report, recruitment of traffic wardens was restricted until the end of the financial year 1968/69 to the number required to maintain the strength at 1,260 (including 110 senior traffic wardens).

The restrictions meant that plans had to be shelved for posting traffic wardens to suburban areas for enforcement duties in clearways and other "no waiting" streets and to assist the police with point and school crossing duties. By adopting a more economical system of manning existing controlled parking zones, however, it was found possible to make sufficient wardens available to complement six new controlled parking zones—three in the City of Westminster, two in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and one in the town centre of Bromley. Special parking facilities for residents were provided in all but the last-named zone. In Bromley, only the waiting and loading restrictions are enforced by traffic wardens: the parking meters are supervised by attendants employed by the local authority.

Residents' parking places

One of the two systems adopted so far for restricting the use of residents' parking places to the people for whom they are intended—referred to in last year's Report—has proved to be less straightforward than the enforcement point of view than had been hoped, and instances of fraudulent use of parking tokens occasionally come to notice. Simplicity and uniformity in the regulations is important if parking is to be properly controlled by traffic wardens using fixed penalty notices, and this matter is frequently under review by officers of the Traffic Department and the Greater London Council.

Traffic offences

The number of traffic offences dealt with by arrest was 38,592, an increase of 4,250 (12.4 per cent) on the previous year's figure. The number dealt with by summons was 222,903, an increase of 3,102 (1.4 per cent), and by written caution 32,996, a decrease of 1,473 (4.3 per cent).

The summons figure includes 19,298 (11,452 in 1967) for offences for which fixed penalty notices had been issued and 11,303 (9,422 in 1967) for failing to pay excess meter charges incurred in controlled parking zones where traffic wardens issue excess charge notices.

The principal offences in respect of which summonses or written cautions were issued, and percentage increases and decreases compared with 1967, are shown in Table 7 of Appendix 3.

The number of verbal warnings given to all classes of road user was 386,785 (12.3 per cent fewer than in 1967). These included 15,372 for bad or inconsiderate driving or riding, 33,504 for excessive speed, 207,046 for obstruction and 38,374 for breaches of the lighting regulations. Warnings to pedestrians for breaches of the Highway Code, failure to observe pedestrian controlled signals, etc., numbered 6,230.

There were 63 prosecutions for causing death by dangerous driving (103 in 1967) and 38 cases were sent for trial. During the year 70 persons (82 in 1967) were convicted of this offence as a result of 106 cases (some outstanding from 1967) being heard at the higher courts.

Drink and driving

Proceedings were taken for driving or attempting to drive or being in charge of a motor vehicle when unfit to drive through drink or drugs, or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit in 5,200 cases, 2,160 more than in 1967. There were 4,394 convictions at Magistrates' courts and 317 cases sent for trial. 339 cases, including some outstanding from 1967, were heard at higher courts resulting in 196 convictions. 145 persons were sentenced to imprisonment but in 68 cases the sentences were suspended for different periods up to the maximum of three years, and there were 4,186 disqualifications for varying periods for holding or obtaining a driving licence. There were 46 prosecutions, compared with 48 in 1967, for being under the influence of drink or drugs when riding or being in charge of a bicycle and all resulted in convictions.

The number of drivers who were required to take a breath test during the year was 10,303—an average of 28 a day. The number rose steadily throughout the year, reaching 1,274 in December (compared with 846 in December 1967). 78.8 per cent of the drivers were required to take a test following police action in stopping a vehicle, etc., and 21.2 per cent following an accident. 6,553 tests (68.4 per cent) were positive and 3,029 (31.6 per cent) negative. Of the tests taken during the last nine months of the year, 71.3 per cent were positive compared with 55.8 per cent during the first three months. The reason for the higher proportion of positive results at the month's end by may have been that more drivers slipped back into old and less restrained drinking habits, thus putting themselves above the prescribed limit.

Figures show also that the number of drivers who gave a blood or urine specimen and who were found to be above the limit rose steadily.

The results of breath tests, analyses of specimens, etc., are shown in Table 8 of Appendix 3.

Driving while disqualified

Disqualification was imposed on 15,885 drivers compared with 16,487 in 1967, 20,851 in 1966 and 20,368 in 1965.

The index of disqualified drivers, set up in 1967, continued to be of great help to the police, and about 150 enquiries (compared with 100 in 1967) were received from Metropolitan Police officers each week: about a quarter of the drivers were found to be disqualified and were arrested—the same proportion as last year.

Vehicle excise offences

Although enforcement of vehicle excise law is a matter primarily for local authorities, it is estimated that the Metropolitan Police sent to the Greater London Council some 175,000 reports of suspected excise offences during the year. The Transport Act, 1968, created an absolute offence of using or keeping on a public road a mechanically propelled vehicle for which duty is chargeable, without a licence for the vehicle being displayed (whether a licence is in fact in force or not). When the appropriate section of the Act is brought into force, it will be possible to enforce this new law by issuing fixed penalty notices.

Central Ticket Office

A computer programmed to deal with payments of fixed penalties and excess charges and with enquiries relating to the identification and prosecution of drivers who receive fixed penalty and excess charge notices but do not pay was installed at the Central Ticket Office in May and the transition from manual to automatic processing of notices began in June. By the end of the year, all notices issued by traffic wardens in the inner London commission area (amounting to some 4,000 a day) were being processed by the computer, and preparations were in hand for automatic processing to be extended progressively to notices issued by traffic wardens in the four outer commission areas and to all notices issued by police officers.

In the interests of economy, the strength of the Central Ticket Office staff was limited until the end of the financial year 1968/69 to the number in post on 1st January, 1968. It was consequently necessary to impose restrictions on the use of fixed penalty notices by police officers in order to keep processing capacity available for dealing with the notices to be issued by traffic wardens in six new controlled parking zones.

These restrictions account for the decrease in the number of fixed penalty notices issued by police officers from 114,930 in 1967 to 92,643 in 1968. The number of fixed penalty notices issued by traffic wardens during the year was 511,073, an increase of 166,174 over the previous year's figure. Full particulars are shown in Table 9 of Appendix 3.

The total number of fixed penalty notices issued by police officers and traffic wardens was 603,716, an increase of 143,867 (or 31.3 per cent) over the 1967

figure. Of the recipients of these notices, 23.0 per cent paid within 21 days and 22.4 per cent paid later, the corresponding proportions in 1967 being 30.8 per cent and 22.4 per cent respectively. Payment was excused or could not be enforced in respect of 29.1 per cent of the notices issued (30.6 per cent in 1967) and proceedings were instituted in respect of 1.4 per cent (2.5 per cent in 1967). The proportion of notices outstanding on 31st December was 24.1 per cent compared with 23.7 per cent a year earlier. Diplomatic immunity accounted for one-ninth of the excused payments. Full particulars are shown in Table 10.

In the controlled parking zones in which traffic wardens supervised parking meters on behalf of the local authority, 445,710 excess charge notices were issued, or 53,403 (13.6 per cent) more than in the previous year. By the end of the year, 59.9 per cent of the charges had been paid compared with 66.0 per cent in 1967. Payment was excused or could not be enforced in respect of 19.3 per cent of the notices (18.2 per cent in 1967) and proceedings were instituted by the Central Ticket Office in respect of 1.7 per cent (1.6 per cent in 1967), leaving 19.1 per cent outstanding at the end of the year (14.2 per cent in 1967).

The combined total of fixed penalty and excess charge notices (1,049,426) exceeded the one million mark for the first time.

As I have pointed out in Chapter 1, the continued decrease in voluntary payment of fixed penalties, the ineffectiveness of the lengthy and expensive procedure for tracing offenders and the noteworthy deterioration of efficiency in the system as a whole is causing increasing concern.

New Legislation

Vehicle noise

In July, new noise regulations, which specify certain noise levels for vehicles and require a noise meter for measurement, came into operation. They are additional to the regulations prohibiting excessive noise, which remain in force. Before the new regulations took effect, Metropolitan Police officers attended at several sites where Ministry of Transport vehicle examiners, using noise meters, carried out roadside checks of vehicles. Police assisted by stopping vehicles if the noise level was above the permitted limit and drawing the drivers' attention to the fact. Several hundreds of vehicles were checked but very few exceeded the maximum level.

From observation at the preliminary checks a number of difficulties came to notice. For instance, the equipment can be set up only where there is unobstructed space around the microphone and it is wasteful of manpower, necessitating three men being on duty at the roadside. If the road is wet and tyre noise increases, or another noisy vehicle is near the one being checked, the reading on the meter is put out. From April 1970, however, new vehicles will have to be so constructed that they do not exceed the maximum permitted noise levels.

Private hire cars

From 15th July, under the London Cab Act, it became an offence to display on private hire cars signs showing the words "taxi", "cab" or "for hire". Advertisements issued on or after that date, indicating that cars may be hired on applying to an address or telephone number of premises in the Metropolitan Police District or the City of London, may not include the word "taxi" or

"cab", unless the advertisement relates to licensed cabs or makes it clear that the vehicles to which it relates are private hire cars, not licensed cabs. A number of cautions and warnings were given in respect of these offences and convictions were obtained in several cases where proceedings were taken.

Plating and testing of heavy goods vehicles

In December, Part II of the Road Safety Act became effective for heavy goods vehicles over 3 tons u.w., registered before January 1958. Such vehicles have to display a plate showing certain particulars and to be tested at Ministry of Transport testing stations. Enforcement is undertaken primarily by Ministry of Transport examiners but in the Metropolitan Police District police take action if a vehicle that should have a plate displayed comes to police notice because it has been involved in an accident or because its brakes, tyres, etc., are defective.

Public carriages

Cabs

The number of cabs licensed during the year was 8,118. Of this total, all but 410 were Austins and 1,167 were new vehicles. The proportion with diesel engines (89.7 per cent) was slightly lower than in 1967. Under the aged cab scheme, 460 cabs first licensed in 1958 were due for special inspection but only 31 were presented. All of these were licensed. Of the cabs licensed in 1968, 64.5 per cent were first licensed on or after 1st January, 1964.

On 31st December there were 7,810 cabs in service, or 239 more than a year earlier. This total included 901 cabs fitted with two-way radio, of which 819 were operating in central London on two separate circuits. The number of owners was 3,913 of whom 3,532 were owner-drivers. These figures were respectively 91 and 104 lower than at the end of 1967. Effects of one hundred or more cabs remained at six.

Cabs reported unfit during the year numbered 3,827 compared with 3,681 in 1967, an increase which was in line with the increase in the number of cabs. The emission of black smoke accounted for nearly one-quarter of all defects. The proportion of cabs allowed to remain in service provided that defects were remedied within 48 hours was 23.9 per cent. This was much the same proportion as in 1967.

No cab licences were suspended or revoked during the year but 74 owners were warned for various offences.

Taximeter tests numbered 11,323, a slight increase on the previous year's figure, but rejections fell from 170 to 118 which represents a rate of little more than 1 per cent. Only two companies now supply meters to the London taxi trade.

A new fare tariff came into force on 16th December. Besides giving effect to a general increase in fares, the first since February, 1964, it also prescribed for the first time the fares payable for journeys of over six miles in length wholly within the Metropolitan Police District or the City of London which had hitherto been subject to negotiation between the driver and the hirer. Until the fitting of modified meters is completed, probably in February, 1970, the new fares are being shown by means of official conversion tables.

The concession in favour of cabs of the private car type that were operating in the former Borough of Romford and the Urban District of Hornchurch before these areas were incorporated in the Metropolitan Police District expired on 31st March. Of the 153 vehicles taken over in 1965, only 35 were eventually replaced by London type cabs.

Cab ranks

Eight new ranks were appointed, 13 existing ranks were cancelled and 19 were altered. The net reduction of five ranks brought the total at the end of the year to 477. These could accommodate 2,889 cabs, or 104 fewer than rank space was available for at the end of 1967.

Offences by cab drivers

The number of proceedings taken against cab drivers under the special enactments relating to cabs amounted to 573. The principal offences are shown in the following table:—

Offence	1968		1967	
	No. of summonses	No. of convictions	No. of summonses	No. of convictions
Taximeter offences	106	99	115	114
Disregarding cab rank regulations	53	50	47	47
Refusing to be hired	29	23	16	29
Failing to wear badge	29	25	33	30
Plying elsewhere than at rank	46	37	36	31
Demanding or taking more than the legal fare	17	9	14	12
Using insulting language	24	15	20	16
Carrying excess passengers	5	5	5	5

Buses and coaches

The Traffic Commissioner for the Metropolitan Area referred 2,760 applications from the London Transport Board for new or altered routes. Many of these related to the introduction of "Red Arrow" and other services involving the use of one-man operated single deck buses. Extra care was called for in surveying routes for these vehicles as they are both wider and longer than the double deckers they replace. Some complaints were received from the public during the year that one-man operated buses obstruct the free flow of general traffic by remaining stationary for long periods while the driver is collecting fares.

The Traffic Commissioner also referred 3,597 applications in respect of routes from coach operators other than the London Transport Board and consulted the Stopping Places Advisory Committee about the siting of bus stops, bays, shelters, etc., at 262 places.

Applications for advice and assistance from contract coach operators seeking to set down and pick up parties of sightseers, theatregoers, etc., in central London numbered 8,994, an increase on 793 on the previous year's figure.

Testing and licensing of drivers and conductors

During the year, 23,844 licences were granted to cab drivers and to drivers and conductors of public service vehicles, and 132 applications were refused. Revocations and suspensions of licences numbered 108 and 50 respectively.

The number of licences granted to cab drivers was 4,430, compared with 4,489 in 1967 and 3,755 in 1966. On 31st December, there were 12,348 licensed cab drivers, or 158 for every 100 cabs in service. Of the 742 applicants for cab drivers' licences (857 in 1967) who were given driving tests during the year, 590 passed and 152 failed, compared with 684 and 173 respectively in 1967. New candidates applying to take the "Knowledge of London" examination numbered 1,627. There were 613 successful candidates, including 109 who were granted suburban licences and 18 suburban drivers who qualified for full London licences.

The number of licences granted to drivers of public service vehicles was 11,620 compared with 11,646 in 1967 and 12,131 in 1966. Of the 480 applicants for such licences (464 in 1967) who were given driving tests during the year, 350 passed and 130 failed compared with 382 and 82 respectively in 1967.

The number of licences granted to conductors of public service vehicles was 7,794, compared with 8,690 in 1967 and 9,267 in 1966.

CHAPTER 5

Other police duties

Abandoned vehicles

Police enquiries were made about 3,385 apparently abandoned vehicles, 866 fewer than last year. Local authorities removed and disposed of 2,299 of them.

Abstracts of particulars of street accidents

There were 42,000 applications for particulars of street accidents from parties interested in civil claims, 919 more than in 1967.

Aliens

The number of aliens registered in the Metropolitan Police District on 31st December, 1968, was 92,915 compared with 94,244 on 1st January, 1968. The following table shows their countries of origin:-

Nationally	Number	Percentage of total
Spanish	11,780	12.7
U.S.A.	11,561	12.6
Italian	9,214	9.9
French	7,504	8.1
German	6,784	7.3
Swiss	5,037	5.4
South African	3,037	3.3
Portuguese	3,010	3.2
Greek	2,664	2.9
Irish	2,545	2.8
Netherlands	2,389	2.6
Danish	1,705	1.8
Japanese	1,687	1.8
Swedish	1,618	1.8
Yugoslav	1,541	1.7
Austrian	1,500	1.6
Scandinavian	1,442	1.6
Chinese	1,390	1.5
Norwegian	1,344	1.4
Czech	1,318	1.4
Turkish	1,118	1.2
Irish	860	1.0
Polish	843	1.0
U.S.A.	880	0.9
U.S.A.	641	0.7
Thai	572	0.6
U.S.A.	540	0.6
U.S.A.	540	0.6
U.S.A.	498	0.5
Other nationalities	87,120	93.8
Total	92,915	100.0

One hundred and one persons were dealt with by the courts for offences against the Aliens Acts and Orders as follows:—

Sentenced to imprisonment and recommended for deportation	9
Suspended sentence and recommended for deportation	19
Sentenced to imprisonment only	3
Recommended for deportation only	2
Fined and recommended for deportation	15
Fined only	18
Discharged conditionally under the Criminal Justice Act 1948 and recommended for deportation	5
Discharged conditionally	22
Discharged absolutely	8

Sixty-seven male and three female aliens were required to leave the United Kingdom under deportation orders enforced by the Metropolitan Police.

Arrests and summonses

The number of persons arrested in the Metropolitan Police District and dealt with by the courts was 133,528 an increase of 7,615 or 6.0 per cent compared with 1967. Of these, 39.8 per cent were dealt with for indictable offences, 28.3 per cent for drunkenness offences and 31.9 per cent for other non-indictable offences. Further details regarding arrests are given in Appendix 4, Table 2.

The total number of summonses issued at the instance of the Metropolitan Police during 1968 was 224,956 compared with 222,291 in 1967. Further details are given in Appendix 4, Table 3.

Betting, gaming and lotteries

Thirteen warrants in respect of unlawful betting were executed as compared with 7 in 1967. Twelve cases were decided during the year and fines and costs imposed by the courts totalled £1,715 17s. 5d. For the third consecutive year no case of street betting was reported.

One hundred and four gaming warrants were executed compared with 96 in 1967. Thirty-six of the warrants related to gaming with cards, 7 to pai-kau, 2 to cards and dice together, 3 to roulette, 1 to roulette and card bingo together, 2 to card bingo, and 1 to bingo; 53 related to gaming on machines. During the year, 96 cases were decided. In addition, 70 cases concerning roulette, craps, etc., in casino-type clubs were prosecuted by way of summons, 51 of which were heard in 1968. At the end of the year a number of cases were subject to appeal.

Fines and costs imposed by the courts in respect of gaming amounted to £12,917 17s. 4d., and orders for the destruction of 42 machines and the sale of 9 were made.

No warrants were executed in connection with lotteries.

Clubs

At 31st December, 1968, there were 2,815 clubs operating under registration certificates and 841 clubs operating under Justices' licences. The combined total of 3,356 clubs showed an increase of 30 on the previous year.

Twelve raids were made on registered clubs, 37 on licensed clubs and 11 on clubs that were neither registered nor licensed. Proceedings were completed in respect of 43 cases (some of which arose from raids carried out in 1967), and fines and costs totalling £5,571 5s. 0d. were imposed.

Commonwealth citizens

Deportation orders in respect of 172 men and 7 women (162 men and 3 women in 1967) were enforced by the Metropolitan Police. In addition, 131 male and 52 female Commonwealth citizens (117 male and 2 female in 1967) were repatriated.

Drunkenness

During the year there were 37,751 arrests (34,566 men and 3,185 women) and 33,556 convictions for drunkenness and drunkenness with aggravation, or 3,295 more arrests and 2,472 more convictions than in 1967. In addition, 679 persons charged with other offences were also charged with drunkenness, resulting in 603 convictions. Further comparative figures of arrests are given in Appendix 4, Table 4.

The foregoing figures do not include persons prosecuted for being under the influence of drink or drugs when driving or in charge of vehicles.

There were also 12 cases of drunkenness attributable to drinking surgical spirit and 10 cases attributable to drinking methylated spirits. All those involved were men.

Of persons convicted of drunkenness 1,838 were aged between 18 and 21 (1,773 males and 65 females), and 288 were under 18 years of age (272 males and 16 females).

Firearms

The number of new firearm certificates granted was 1,907 and 3,288 expired certificates were renewed. Two hundred and thirty-four new applications, 82 applications for renewal and 33 for variation of certificates were refused, compared with 183, 93 and 33 respectively in 1967. Five certificates were revoked and 1,744 were cancelled. There were 3 appeals to Quarter Sessions, one of which was allowed on a technical point. At the end of 1968 there were 15,097 current firearm certificates, an increase of 163 compared with 1967.

The number of dealers registered with the Force on 31st December was 382, an increase of 12 over the previous year's figure. Twenty-seven dealers had their certificates cancelled because they ceased to trade in firearms, and four applications for registration were refused.

Four hundred and eighty-eight persons were charged or dealt with by summons under the Firearms Acts, 1937, 1965 and 1968, and 129 cautions were administered. In addition, 26 persons were dealt with by summons under the Metropolitan Police Act, 1839 or the Highways Act, 1959, mainly in connection with misuse of air weapons, and 30 others were cautioned. Under the Air Guns and Shot Guns, etc., Act 1962 and Firearms Act, 1968, which superseded it from 1st August, proceedings were taken against 79 persons, and 181 others were cautioned.

In response to the national appeal to the public to surrender illegally held or unwanted firearms and ammunition during an amnesty period of three months starting on 1st February, 2,145 firearms (including 1,167 pistols and revolvers) and 73,845 rounds of ammunition were surrendered to this Force. In addition, during the rest of the year 2,061 other firearms (including 1,091 pistols and revolvers and 345 shot guns) were surrendered or confiscated, and small shells, grenades and assorted ammunition amounting to a further 101,903 rounds were received.

Under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, which came into force on the 1st May, 1968, a certificate was required for the possession of a shot gun. This requirement was later incorporated in the Firearms Act, 1968. The total number of such certificates issued up to 31st December, 1968, was 25,877, including 189 short-term visitors' certificates. One hundred and sixty-four applications were refused and four certificates were revoked. Three notices of appeal to Quarter Sessions against refusal to grant a shot gun certificate were received; two of the appeals were unsuccessful and the other was later abandoned.

House-to-house collections

Ninety-three licences (ten less than in 1967) were issued. The number of certificates of exemption issued for local and transitory collections was 494 as compared with 482 in 1967.

Licensed premises

Apart from the clubs previously mentioned which operate under a Justices' licence, there were, at the end of the year, 8,240 premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises and, of these, 1,666 had restaurant, residential or combined restaurant and residential licences. The number of "off" licensed premises was 3,636.

During the year 59,823 (59,905 in 1967) special orders of exemption were granted to licensed premises and clubs of which 20,843 (20,450 in 1967) were for the Christmas and New Year period.

Lost dogs

In addition to the large number of stray dogs which were restored to their owners within a few hours of being found, 13,950 were sent to the Dogs' Home, Battersea, 942 more than in 1967.

Lost property

There was a slight increase in the number of articles, 14,307, found in cabs and deposited with the police. Five thousand six hundred and six (or 39.2 per cent) were restored to their owners and 4,234 (or 29.6 per cent) were given back to the cab drivers who deposited them. The remainder, unclaimed, were disposed of generally by sale. Articles found in the street and deposited with the police totalled 124,388, a drop of 2,591 compared with 1967, while losses reported to police amounted to 118,807 items, an increase of 3,023. Forty-six thousand six hundred and ninety-one items of this property were restored to the losers.

Missing Persons

During the year 2,780 persons reported as missing were regarded as being genuinely missing and were recorded in the Metropolitan Police Index of Missing Persons. A number of other persons who had left their homes were not considered to be genuinely missing because they returned home of their own accord after a very short interval or were adults who had left their homes after domestic trouble and there was no reason to think that harm had befallen them. In addition 817 cases of missing persons were placed in the Index at the request of provincial police forces.

Pedlars

At the end of 1968 there were 966 pedlars' certificates current, 151 fewer than in the previous year.

Street collections

On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, permits were granted for 78 collections of which 19 covered the whole of the Metropolitan Police District. The remainder were local.

Vagrancy

Two hundred and twenty-eight persons (213 men and 15 women) were charged with begging, compared with 305 in 1967. One hundred and sixty persons (145 men and 15 women) were charged under the Vagrancy Act, 1824, as amended in 1935, with sleeping out, as compared with 265 in 1967.

APPENDIX I

TABLE I
Establishment and Strength of the Regular Force

Uniform Branch

	Commanders	Discoms.	Ch. uplt.	Sgts.	Ch. uplt.	Inspectors	P.S.s and P.C.s	P.S.s	P.C.s	Totals
Effective strength on 31st December, 1968	11	—	37	149	4	12	661	401	2,120	16,859
Vacancies ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overstrength ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Central Service Establishment	8	—	36	153	171	652	504	2,706	18,164	22,400

Criminal Investigation Department

	Commanders	Discoms.	Ch. uplt.	Sgts.	Ch. uplt.	Inspectors	1st Class P.S.	2nd Class P.S.	P.C.s	Temp. P.C. (C.I.D.)	Totals
Effective strength on 31st December, 1968	4	—	16	63	109	214	255	757	855	826	3,100
Vacancies ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overstrength ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Central Service Establishment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Women Police

	Ch. Supt. (U)	Sgts. (U)	Ch. Insps.	Insps.	P.S.s	P.C.s	Totals
Effective strength on 31st December, 1968	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vacancies ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overstrength ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Central Service Establishment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX I

TABLE 2
Removals from the Force

Year	Females					Gratuities		Not entitled to pension or gratuity		Total re-movals	Died	
	Service					Un-healthy (10 years' service or over)	Un-healthy (under 10 years' service)	Discharged during statutory period	Re-employment to range			Re-employment to other ranges
	Injured on duty											
	25 years	26 years	27 years	28 years	30 years or over							
Men	115	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1969	113	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1970	111	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1971	109	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1972	107	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1973	105	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1974	103	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1975	101	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1976	99	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1977	97	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1978	95	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1979	93	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1980	91	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1981	89	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1982	87	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1983	85	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1984	83	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1985	81	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1986	79	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1987	77	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1988	75	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
1989	73	31	12	27	8	21	43	7	28	103	26	
Women	88	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	88	2	
1969	86	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	86	2	
1970	84	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	84	2	
1971	82	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	82	2	
1972	80	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	80	2	
1973	78	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	78	2	
1974	76	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	76	2	
1975	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	74	2	
1976	72	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	72	2	
1977	70	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	70	2	
1978	68	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	68	2	
1979	66	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	66	2	
1980	64	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	64	2	
1981	62	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	62	2	
1982	60	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	60	2	
1983	58	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	58	2	
1984	56	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	56	2	
1985	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	54	2	
1986	52	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	52	2	
1987	50	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50	2	
1988	48	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	48	2	
1989	46	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	46	2	

Figures for service pension adjusted by the steps on retirement after September, 1989, to December, 1990.
 Includes 10 men completely retired on reaching the age limit and 401 under years' service.

TABLE 1

Indictable offences known to the police*

Offence	1968				Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with 1967	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent		
Offences against the person:						
Murder	57	50	49	36	+3	+5.6
Attempted murder, etc., to murder	99	60	85	27	+	27.3
Manslaughter and infanticide	52	47	50	28	+	4.0
Causing death by dangerous driving	99	137	94	45	-38	-22.0
Wounding and assault	5,300	5,129	4,487	2,062	+171	+3.3
Rape	1,017	1,017	982	80	+8	+0.8
Other offences against females	1,642	1,619	1,625	111	+8	+0.5
Unnatural offences	604	648	637	60	-44	-6.8
Burglary	48	54	58	58	+	18.8
Other offences against the person	18	14	16	14	+4	+28.6
Breakings:						
Housebreaking	13,716	13,548	12,626	921	-233	-10.0
Housebreaking into shops, warehouses, etc.	19,796	19,739	22,368	10,471	+58	+0.3
Breaking into shops, warehouses, etc.	20,484	20,475	24,474	14,027	+9	+0.0
Attempts to break into houses, etc.	2,050	2,242	2,162	1,169	+37	+16.0
Possessing housebreaking tools	446	546	588	375	-100	-18.3
Other offences against property:						
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	1,910	2,012	1,992	671	-102	-5.1
Larceny from the person	3,444	3,933	3,913	1,394	-339	-15.3
Larceny to house (<2 or more of with means)	23,314	27,289	26,338	12,378	+1,005	+4.8
Larceny by stealth	3,927	4,010	3,551	2,511	-80	-2.0
Other aggravated larcenies	1,119	1,199	1,133	790	-80	-6.7
Larceny of motor vehicles	7,018	5,611	5,881	9,171	+1,077	+18.7
Larceny of postal cycles	10,084	12,376	12,593	12,526	+1,472	+14.0
Larceny from unattended vehicles	18,201	19,243	44,773	20,678	-104	-0.5
Shoplifting	8,522	8,486	8,696	4,044	+36	+0.4
Larceny from telephone boxes, telegraphs and automatic machines	8,380	10,129	10,767	6,212	-189	-3.0
Larceny-trick and baiting	488	791	1,015	1,483	-303	-38.3
Miscellaneous simple larcenies	45,551	40,296	42,611	24,104	+525	+1.3
Other miscellaneous simple larcenies	41,662	42,189	39,971	27,305	+52	+1.2
Fraud	13,133	12,354	11,481	6,074	-946	-7.8
Receiving	5,213	5,065	4,399	2,197	+479	+22.9
Other mobile offences:						
Forgery, causing and uttering	4,468	4,949	2,550	1,061	+75	+2.7
Miscellaneous	547	868	1,686	79	+9	+9.1
Total indictable offences	275,222	273,118	282,588	167,343	+2,084	+0.8

⁴⁷The offences enumerated are classified according to the original police assessment with the exception of murder, which excludes those cases (37 in 1964) in which the defendants were dealt with by the courts for lesser offences.

APPENDIX 2

TABLE 2

Indictable offenses cleared 100%

Offense	Offenses recorded up in 1958	Number cleared up in 1958	Percentage cleared up		
			1958	1957	1956
<i>Offenses against the person:</i>					
Murder	57	155	96.3	87.0	77.6
Attempt, threats, etc., to murder	89	83	93.3	100.0	99.9
Manslaughter and infanticide	32	48	99.3	100.0	99.9
Violence caused by dangerous drink	22	22	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wounding and assault	5,306	3,635	68.5	73.2	72.4
Rape	115	78	76.5	67.5	67.4
Offenses against females	1,045	1,019	81.1	83.2	82.3
Unnatural offenses	69	519	81.9	84.0	86.5
Blows	43	10	23.3	56.7	79.1
Other offenses against the person	104	13	83.3	92.9	67.3
<i>Breaking:</i>					
Burglary	1,317	697	52.9	46.7	29.0
Larceny of mail	19,794	3,661	18.5	12.1	10.1
Breaking into shops, warehouses, offices, etc.	20,484	4,362	21.3	19.4	16.6
Attempt to break into houses, shops, etc.	2,050	685	33.0	20.0	22.9
Forcible breaking into houses, etc.	446	446	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Other offenses against property:</i>					
Robbery with assault with intent to rob	1,910	605	31.7	30.0	24.8
Larceny from the person	3,444	473	13.7	13.1	14.4
Larceny of motor vehicles (or more, or with weapons) ..	2,816	2,816	100.0	100.0	100.0
Larceny by servant	3,927	3,661	93.3	99.0	99.1
Other aggravated larcenies	1,119	1,016	90.8	88.7	88.6
Larceny of motor vehicles	7,018	4,313	61.5	58.1	56.6
Larceny of postal cycles	10,824	783	7.2	8.2	8.1
Larceny from unattended vehicles in stores	3,147	3,147	100.0	100.0	100.0
Shoplifting	8,522	3,058	35.9	31.2	34.1
Larceny from telephone-booths, meters and automatic machines	8,180	1,151	14.0	11.1	11.1
Larceny-ticks and baubles	488	242	49.4	43.2	40.9
Miscellaneous simple larcenies in non-residential	45,551	5,713	12.6	12.1	12.2
Other miscellaneous simple larcenies	41,662	6,247	15.0	13.3	14.2
Receiving	9,870	9,870	100.0	100.0	100.0
Receiving	5,215	5,215	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Other indictable offenses:</i>					
Forgery, obtaining and uttering	4,468	2,426	53.8	59.2	63.9
Miscellaneous	947	521	55.0	61.9	56.4
Total indictable offenses	273,222	68,191	24.8	24.4	22.3

*Includes all offenses cleared up during 1958, irrespective of the year in which they were committed
 †Includes cases (17 in 1958) in which defendants were dealt with for lesser offenses.
 ‡Includes 4 cases from previous years.
 §Victims by threats, embezzlement, larceny of postal letters and larceny from ships and docks
 ††††† 1961† includes motor vehicles taken and recovered within one calendar month unless stated; for the larceny
 of the vehicles were made.

(See also Chapter 3, pages 56–57)

TABLE 3

APPENDIX 2

Arrests for indictable offences

Offence	1948	1947	1946	1959	Increase or decrease in 1948 compared with 1947	
					Number	Per cent
Offences against the person.						
Murder	84	46	11	74	38	- 82.6
Attempts, threats, etc., to murder	89	36	66	24	33	- 58.9
Manslaughter and infanticide	52	30	54	32	2	- 4.0
Causing death by dangerous driving	94	125	92	44	31	- 24.8
Wounding and assault	3,755	3,849	3,457	1,741	64	- 2.4
Rape	76	55	51	25	20	- 35.7
Other offences against females	628	560	555	358	68	- 12.1
Unusual offences	427	335	518	504	62	- 27.5
Bribery	8	14	11	12	6	- 42.9
Other offences against the person	13	13	9	8	-	-
Breakings:						
Burglary	558	471	440	298	87	- 18.5
Housebreaking	2,222	1,836	2,232	1,389	366	- 21.0
Breaking into shops, warehouses, offices, etc.	4,101	3,691	3,973	3,076	410	- 11.1
Attempts to break into houses, shops, etc.	640	667	680	411	27	- 4.0
Forcible housebreaking tools	415	467	509	434	32	- 11.1
Other offences against property:						
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	966	921	832	431	45	- 4.9
Larceny from the person	521	440	413	278	81	- 18.4
Larceny in house (£5 or over, or with firearms)	1,693	1,508	1,610	1,292	188	- 12.5
Larceny by servant	3,583	3,790	3,389	2,507	297	- 5.5
Other aggravated larcenies	853	872	922	650	19	- 2.2
Larceny of motor vehicles	821	530	1,063	2,090	109	- 11.7
Larceny of pedal cycles	712	857	742	1,213	145	- 16.9
Larceny from unattended vehicles in street	2,666	2,725	2,800	1,769	59	- 2.2
Shoplifting	7,282	7,211	7,602	3,918	71	- 1.0
Larceny from telephone boxes, meters and automatic machines	1,156	1,103	1,107	749	53	- 4.8
Larceny from trucks and trailers	146	284	326	546	138	- 48.6
Miscellaneous simple larcenies in non-residential buildings	5,410	4,287	4,775	3,219	1,123	- 26.2
Miscellaneous simple larcenies in residential buildings	5,646	5,525	4,534	3,034	121	- 2.2
Other miscellaneous simple larcenies	3,258	2,092	2,158	1,600	1,166	- 55.7
Fraud	5,044	4,651	4,017	2,140	393	- 8.4
Receiving						
Other indictable offences:						
Forgery, obtaining and obtaining	1,119	642	837	748	277	- 32.9
Miscellaneous	502	537	373	33	35	- 6.5
Total arrests ..	54,540	50,808	50,220	35,184	3,732	- 7.3

*In 1948 there were 121 persons arrested and originally charged with murder; 46 were awaiting preliminary hearing or trial at the end of the year and the disposal of the remainder by the courts is detailed under "Deaths by Violence" in page 23.

†If carried by house, embassies, larceny of postal letters and larceny from ships and docks.

‡Since 1948 includes motor vehicles taken and returned within the calendar month unless specially for the larceny of the vehicles were made.

(See also Chapter 3, pages 94-11)

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TABLE 4

APPENDIX 2

Arrests for specified indictable offences, by age groups

Offence	Number of persons arrested aged						Percentage increase or decrease compared with 1947	
	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 and over	Grand Total	10-19 and over
Burglary and housebreaking	1,299	619	170	66	24	8	832	1,740 - 27.5
Shop, etc., breaking	2,485	1,269	373	133	27	12	1,818	4,101 - 17.4
Robbery	490	343	104	19	9	1	476	966 - 1.7
Larceny (£5) in house	1,118	518	164	76	35	15	873	1,693 - 23.4
Larceny of motor vehicles	181	225	81	27	4	1	440	821 - 9.3
Larceny of pedal cycles	623	53	24	4	4	6	70	712 - 13.1
Larceny from unattended vehicles in street	1,564	791	197	67	32	17	1,632	2,666 - 0.4
Shoplifting	1,287	1,218	987	590	272	89	3,197	7,282 - 17.3
Miscellaneous simple larcenies	5,515	3,164	1,178	448	123	179	5,541	10,558 - 13.3
Shoplifting	2,414	1,415	907	443	104	568	4,748	7,242 - 1.1
Larceny by servant	806	1,294	503	475	237	50	2,772	3,583 - 7.0
All other indictable offences	4,512	4,073	2,506	1,343	573	208	9,626	15,216 - 10.2
All indictable offences ..	22,379	16,644	7,360	4,477	2,733	1,209	31,961	54,540 - 10.8

TABLE 5

Percentages of arrests, by age groups

Offence	Percentages of persons arrested aged					Total
	10-13	14-16	17-20	21 and over		
Burglary and housebreaking	16.3	29.6	22.4	31.7	100.0	
Shop, etc., breaking	18.0	30.0	22.6	39.4	100.0	
Robbery	5.9	14.9	29.9	49.3	100.0	
Larceny (£5) in house	7.1	15.7	25.3	51.9	100.0	
Larceny of motor vehicles	1.9	13.9	30.6	53.6	100.0	
Larceny of pedal cycles	44.0	32.4	11.0	12.6	100.0	
Larceny from unattended vehicles in street	7.2	17.9	39.6	41.3	100.0	
Miscellaneous simple larcenies	11.9	16.5	21.5	50.1	100.0	
Shoplifting	8.1	11.3	14.7	65.9	100.0	
All other indictable offences	3.3	7.1	17.2	71.8	100.0	
All indictable offences ..	8.3	13.3	19.8	58.6	100.0	

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APPENDIX 2

TABLE 6
Arrests for indictable offences
By ages under 21

Age given at date of arrest	Number of arrests in			Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with			
	1968	1967	1959	1967		1959	
				Number	Percent	Number	Percent
"Children"—							
10	420	378	530	+ 42	11.1	- 110	- 20.8
11	806	662	893	+ 144	21.8	- 87	- 9.7
12	1,351	1,112	1,281	+ 239	21.5	- 30	- 2.3
13	1,959	1,643	1,742	+ 307	18.7	+ 208	11.9
Sub-totals 10-13 ..	4,527	3,793	4,446	+ 732	19.3	+ 41	- 0.9
"Young Persons"—							
14	2,556	2,224	2,125	+ 342	15.4	+ 441	20.8
15	2,361	1,919	1,979	+ 443	23.1	+ 783	49.6
16	2,315	2,150	1,597	+ 165	7.3	+ 808	53.6
Sub-totals 14-16 ..	7,241	6,296	5,211	+ 947	15.0	+ 2,032	39.9
17	2,627	2,411	1,542	+ 216	9.0	+ 1,085	70.4
18	2,858	2,631	1,485	+ 227	8.4	+ 1,372	92.3
19	2,733	2,746	1,635	- 13	- 0.5	+ 965	67.2
20	2,591	2,534	1,200	+ 57	2.2	+ 1,391	115.9
Sub-totals 17-20 ..	10,809	10,322	5,863	+ 487	4.7	+ 4,946	56.4
Totals 10-20	22,579	20,413	15,560	+ 2,166	10.6	+ 7,019	45.1
Totals 21 and over ..	31,961	30,399	19,135	+ 1,566	5.2	+ 12,826	67.0
*Totals 10 and over ..	54,540	50,808	34,695	+ 3,732	7.3	+ 19,845	57.2

*On 1st February, 1964, the age of criminal responsibility was raised from 8 to 10 years.

TABLE 7
Arrests for specified offences, by age groups, of persons under 21

Offence	Number of persons arrested aged			
	10-13	14-16	17-20	Total under 21
Burglary and housebreaking	433	822	623	1,898
Shop, etc., breaking	739	820	926	2,485
Robbery	57	164	289	490
Larceny (15 in house)	121	266	428	815
Larceny of motor vehicles	16	114	755	885
Larceny of pedal cycles	313	231	78	622
Larceny from unattended vehicles in street ..	192	476	896	1,564
Shoplifting	593	823	1,068	2,484
Miscellaneous simple larcenies	1,309	1,825	2,381	5,515
All other indictable offences	734	1,722	3,869	6,325
Total arrests for indictable offences ..	4,527	7,240	10,809	22,579

APPENDIX 3

TABLE 8

Arrests for indictable offences by age groups showing persons with previous criminal records

Age given at date of arrest	Number of arrests					Percentages				
	Prisoners with previous criminal record arrested for				Total	Proportion of prisoners with criminal record to total arrests for				Total
	Break-tops	Other indictable offences	All indictable offences	Prisoners without previous criminal record		Break-tops	Other indictable offences	All indictable offences	Prisoners without previous criminal record	
10 ..	7	16	23	297	420	1.7	3.8	5.5	94.5	100.0
11 ..	18	31	49	515	604	4.3	6.8	11.2	88.7	100.0
12 ..	62	108	170	1,611	1,950	3.0	6.0	12.6	87.4	100.0
13 ..	99	144	243	1,503	1,950	5.0	7.6	13.6	86.4	100.0
Totals (Children)	204	321	529	3,906	4,323	4.5	7.2	11.7	88.3	100.0
14 ..	140	227	367	3,179	3,566	6.3	8.9	15.1	84.9	100.0
15 ..	182	284	466	2,811	3,264	7.6	11.4	19.1	80.9	100.0
16 ..	302	335	637	2,318	2,955	8.7	11.4	20.1	79.9	100.0
Totals (Young persons)	545	930	1,395	13,843	15,238	7.1	11.8	19.3	80.7	100.0
17 ..	230	464	694	1,933	2,627	8.7	17.7	26.4	73.6	100.0
18 ..	330	604	934	2,024	2,958	11.1	21.4	32.5	67.5	100.0
19 ..	324	624	948	1,520	2,468	13.1	25.3	38.4	61.6	100.0
20 ..	180	441	621	1,720	2,341	6.9	16.7	23.6	76.4	100.0
Totals (17 to 20)	879	2,413	3,295	7,517	10,809	8.2	22.1	30.5	69.5	100.0
Totals (under 21)	1,628	3,516	5,216	17,362	23,579	7.3	15.9	23.1	76.9	100.0
21-30 ..	1,136	4,964	6,100	10,540	16,644	6.8	29.9	36.7	63.3	100.0
31-40 ..	271	2,276	2,547	2,519	5,263	5.0	30.9	35.7	64.3	100.0
41-50 ..	155	1,307	1,462	1,619	3,171	4.9	30.9	35.7	64.3	100.0
51-60 ..	41	810	851	1,218	2,231	1.8	33.7	37.3	62.7	100.0
61 and over ..	15	211	226	658	1,099	1.4	20.7	22.3	77.7	100.0
Totals (all ages)	3,543	17,964	16,329	53,211	77,548	6.4	23.8	27.6	72.4	100.0

APPENDIX 3

TABLE 1

Accidents involving death or personal injury since 1959

Year	Number of accidents involving death or personal injury				Increase or decrease on previous year	
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	Number	Per cent
1959	785	10,254	47,101	58,150	—	—
1960	872	10,795	47,950	59,618	+ 1,468	+ 2.5
1961	826	10,819	46,714	58,059	- 1,559	- 2.6
1962	771	9,532	45,810	56,113	- 1,946	- 3.4
1963	748	10,060	47,566	58,474	+ 1,941	+ 3.4
1964	865	10,598	50,200	61,663	+ 3,189	+ 5.5
1965	849	10,950	52,214	64,013	+ 2,350	+ 3.8
1966	859	10,231	49,216	60,306	- 3,707	- 5.8
1967	730	9,521	45,459	55,710	- 4,596	- 7.6
1968	687	9,404	45,563	55,654	- 1,056	- 1.9

*Takes into account accidents in 1964, in that part of Essex now within the Metropolitan Police District.

TABLE 2

Monthly accident totals

Month	1968	1967	Increase or Decrease	
			Number	Per cent
January	3,780	4,318	- 538	- 12.9
February	4,085	4,261	- 176	- 4.1
March	4,669	4,642	+ 27	+ 0.6
April	4,541	4,571	- 30	- 0.7
May	5,040	5,074	- 34	- 0.7
June	4,545	4,514	+ 31	+ 0.7
July	4,718	4,745	- 27	- 0.6
August	4,504	4,485	+ 19	+ 0.4
September	4,864	5,020	- 156	- 3.1
October	5,128	5,110	+ 18	+ 0.4
November	5,354	4,258	+ 1,096	+ 25.7
December	4,841	4,401	+ 440	+ 10.0

APPENDIX 3

TABLE 3

Accident characteristics

	Vehicles per accident							
	One	One or more	Total	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six
All accidents	2,876	7,123	10,000	10,547	1,180	220	—	2
On junction	201	319	520	520	61	12	—	2
On road	2,675	6,804	9,479	10,027	1,119	208	—	—
On roundabout	206	160	366	366	44	5	—	—
On junction with service road or	43	518	561	561	113	18	—	—
Other junction	278	478	756	756	85	16	—	—
One of or more 30 yards off a junction	2,692	5,908	8,600	5,787	932	303	1	1
	8,756	16,934	25,690	26,916	3,177	621	1	3
Proportion crossing	12	42	54	19	5	1	—	—
On police controlled crossing	101	536	637	406	30	1	—	—
On light controlled crossing	121	1,641	1,762	239	31	1	—	—
On uncontrolled crossing	842	1,441	2,283	2,791	229	31	—	—
Within 30 yards of uncontrolled crossing	1,578	10,336	11,914	12,381	2,742	401	1	3
Elsewhere	8,156	16,916	25,072	26,916	3,177	621	1	3

TABLE 4

Vehicles involved in accidents

Types of Vehicle	Numbers involved in		Percentages of total in		Percentage increase or decrease in 1968
	1968	1967	1968	1967	
Motor cycles	5,826	5,808	6.4	6.5	- 1.2
Mopeds	1,120	1,241	1.2	1.4	- 9.8
Motor scooters	4,220	5,207	4.6	5.7	- 19.3
Motor cycles	6,013	6,063	6.6	6.7	- 0.8
Motor cycle, scooter or moped combinations	382	512	0.4	0.6	- 25.4
Cars and cabs	53,936*	52,289*	59.1	57.7	+ 3.2
Buses and coaches	5,816	5,714	6.4	5.9	+ 9.4
Goods vehicles—					
Not over 1½ tons†	8,038	7,683	8.8	8.5	+ 4.9
Over 1½ tons but not over 3 tons†	1,930	2,442	2.1	2.7	- 21.0
Over 3 tons†	2,472	2,538	2.7	2.8	- 2.6
Other motor vehicles	1,473	1,200	1.6	1.4	+ 14.3
Other non-motor vehicles	108	88	0.1	0.1	+ 22.7
All types	91,356	90,564	100.0	100.0	+ 0.9

*One or more cabs were involved in 1,142 accidents in 1968 and in 1,067 accidents (revised) in 1967.

†Unladen weight.

TABLE 5

Deaths and injuries by classes of road users

Class of persons killed or injured	Deaths	Serious injuries	Slight injuries	Total casualties
Pedestrians				
1968 totals	407	4,093	14,068	18,568
Comparison with 1967:				
Number	21	+ 130	+ 682	+ 791
Per cent	- 4.9	+ 3.3	+ 5.1	+ 4.4
Pedal cyclists				
1968 totals	39	721	4,754	5,514
Comparison with 1967:				
Number	14	+ 30	- 64	- 48
Per cent	- 26.4	+ 4.3	- 1.3	- 0.9
Motor cyclists				
1968 totals	85	1,748	8,032	9,865
Comparison with 1967:				
Number	+ 3	- 211	- 806	- 1,014
Per cent	+ 3.7	- 10.8	- 9.1	- 9.3
*Other road users				
1968 totals	179	3,966	33,153	37,298
Comparison with 1967:				
Number	- 50	+ 260	+ 368	+ 58
Per cent	- 21.8	+ 6.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.2
All road users				
1968 totals	710	10,528	60,007	71,245
Comparison with 1967:				
Number	- 82	- 311	+ 180	- 213
Per cent	- 10.4	- 2.9	+ 0.3	- 0.3

*Mainly drivers of, and passengers in, vehicles.

TABLE 6

Child casualties

Age	Number killed				Number injured				Total casualties			
	Pedestrians	Pedal cyclists	Others	Total	Pedestrians	Pedal cyclists	Others	Total	Pedestrians	Pedal cyclists	Others	Total
Under 2	1	1	1	3	21	2	202	215	27	—	206	233
2 years	1	1	1	3	242	2	217	461	248	2	250	497
3 years	1	1	1	3	482	1	241	694	486	1	692	1,179
4 years	1	1	1	3	623	1	214	838	626	1	836	1,463
5 years	1	1	1	3	687	1	193	881	690	1	880	1,571
6 years	1	1	1	3	818	3	197	1,018	824	3	1,014	1,841
7 years	1	1	1	3	760	3	179	942	766	3	969	1,738
8 years	1	1	1	3	752	3	111	866	759	3	865	1,627
9 years	1	1	1	3	619	3	116	738	625	3	731	1,359
10 years	1	1	1	3	552	3	100	655	559	3	562	1,124
11 years	1	1	1	3	440	3	101	544	446	3	549	1,000
12 years	1	1	1	3	311	3	111	425	316	3	421	740
13 years	1	1	1	3	275	3	115	393	279	3	386	668
Totals (under 15 years)	15	15	15	45	7,165	1,950	5,870	11,785	7,222	1,960	5,877	11,859
1967 totals	69	14	12	95	6,923	1,917	2,412	11,252	6,994	1,931	2,440	11,365

TABLE 7

Traffic offences

Offence	Deaths with by common				Deaths with by written caution			
	1968	1967	Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with 1967		1968	1967	Increase or decrease in 1968 compared with 1967	
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent		
Motor vehicle drivers								
Dangerous and careless driving	13,274	13,651	- 377	- 3.3	81	29	+ 54	+ 188.2
Exceeding speed limits	69,815	69,819	- 4	- 0.0	661	537	+ 124	+ 23.3
Endangering pedestrians	10,961	9,217	+ 1,744	+ 18.5	2,101	1,719	+ 382	+ 22.2
Failing to comply with automatic traffic signals	14,764	12,518	+ 2,246	+ 17.4	2,083	1,914	+ 171	+ 8.9
Failure to give priority (order line A.T.S.)	5,491	5,850	- 359	- 6.1	4,180	4,045	+ 135	+ 3.3
Vehicle in dangerous condition (line A.T.S.)	4,529	5,864	- 1,335	- 22.8	238	227	+ 11	+ 4.8
Interference with traffic	11,469	15,022	- 3,553	- 23.7	809	836	- 27	- 3.2
Interference with traffic	5,341	6,091	- 750	- 12.3	2,354	2,454	- 100	- 4.1
Failing to stop after report received	4,614	5,285	- 671	- 12.7	280	341	- 61	- 17.7
Failure of signals	128	78	+ 50	+ 64.3	78	41	+ 37	+ 90.5
Excessive noise	3,577	3,612	- 35	- 1.0	416	311	+ 105	+ 33.8
Obstruction	10,467	12,546	- 2,079	- 16.5	18,582	17,021	+ 1,561	+ 9.2
Other offences	33,821	32,000	+ 1,821	+ 5.7	7,781	7,244	+ 537	+ 7.4
All motor vehicle offences	222,331	218,964	+ 3,367	+ 1.5	32,813	34,204	- 1,391	- 4.1
Pedal cyclists								
Dangerous or careless riding	21	14	+ 7	+ 50.0	1	1	—	—
Endangering pedestrians	7	2	+ 5	+ 250.0	—	—	—	—
Failing to comply with automatic traffic signals	13	2	+ 11	+ 550.0	11	10	+ 1	+ 10.0
Failure to give priority (order line A.T.S.)	12	12	—	—	7	1	+ 6	+ 600.0
Vehicle in dangerous condition (line A.T.S.)	23	23	—	—	21	1	+ 20	+ 900.0
Interference with traffic	32	32	—	—	62	11	+ 51	+ 463.6
Other offences	32	32	—	—	62	11	+ 51	+ 463.6
All pedal cyclist offences	143	195	- 52	- 26.9	168	240	- 72	- 29.6
Other traffic offences	524	610	- 86	- 13.2	14	37	- 23	- 62.2
All traffic offences	223,003	219,819	+ 3,184	+ 1.4	32,996	34,481	- 1,485	- 4.3

Grand Total 1968 213,899
Grand Total 1967 216,370

= 0.6 per cent

*Including for 1968, 1,364 summonses for lighting offences where a fixed penalty notice was issued but the penalty not paid.

*Excluding excessive noise by warning instrument.

*Including for 1968, 1,534 (10,870, 1967) summonses for waiting offences where a fixed penalty notice was issued but the penalty not paid.

*Including 11,301, 1968 (5,422, 1967) for failing to pay excess charge incurred by leaving a vehicle at a meter by after the initial period had expired.

APPENDIX 3

TABLE 8

Quarterly statistics of breath tests, analyses of specimens, etc.

	1968				1967
	Jan.- March	April- June	July- Sept.	Oct.- Dec.	Oct.- Dec.
<i>At Scene. Breath tests and arrests.</i>					
Total of persons required to give breath tests or arrested under S.A. R.T. Act, 1960	2,152	2,495	2,666	3,320	2,568
Breath test negative	830	703	619	857	1,273
Breath test positive	1,041	1,566	1,788	2,133	1,031
Breath test refused	155	131	169	256	134
Arrests without breath test (S.A. R.T. Act, 1960)	128	82	68	62	130
Total persons arrested/required	1,324	1,779	2,025	2,451	1,295
<i>At Station. Negative breath tests at Stations and specimens for analysis.</i>					
Breath test negative	193	195	263	285	201
Blood specimen given	1,002	1,433	1,603	1,931	959
Urine specimen given	39	12	90	122	58
Specimen refused	94	70	71	110	77
Totals	1,328	1,780	2,027	2,448	1,295
<i>Analysis of specimens.</i>					
Under 80 milligrams	158	238	317	370	182
Over 80 milligrams	777	1,142	1,258	1,507	681
Still to be analysed at end of month }	119	123	118	116	154
Insufficient or spoiled, etc. }					
Total analyses, etc.	1,041	1,513	1,693	2,053	1,017

APPENDIX 3

TABLE 9

Fixed penalty notices

Offence	By Police		By Traffic Wardens		Totals	
	1968	1967	Increase or decrease in 1968	1968	1967	Increase or decrease in 1968
Restricted street offences—						
controlled parking zones	17,419	18,047	- 628	138,907	138,216	+ 30,389
white chevron road markings	19,081	9,208	+ 9,873	22,697	11,206	+ 11,491
road closures	18	—	+ 18	72	—	+ 72
streets	32,111	47,596	- 15,485	76,134	55,831	+ 14,843
Motor vehicles stopped at parking places or controlled parking zones	—	—	—	226,332	117,640	+ 108,643
Vehicle licence offences	18,823	28,283	- 18,450	673	828	- 153
Waiting on grass	—	—	—	—	20,506	39,109
Trucks	1,462	896	+ 2,473	1,019	217	+ 802
Unroadworthy	853	820	+ 33	771	623	+ 148
All offences	92,648	114,950	- 22,302	311,073	341,899	- 156,178

TABLE 10

Payment of fixed penalties

	1968		1967	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<i>Paid—</i>				
within 21 days	138,590	23.0	141,602	30.8
later	135,157	22.4	103,151	22.4
<i>Not paid—</i>				
payment excused	171,507	29.1	94,384	20.6
proceedings multiplied	8,715	1.4	11,601	2.5
outstanding on 31st December	145,747	24.1	106,911	23.7
All fixed penalties	603,716	100.0	455,849	100.0

APPENDIX 4

TABLE 1
Sickness losses

Disease group	Total days of sickness and injury		Increase or decrease in 1966 compared with 1965		Average duration in days per 1000 active persons		Days of sickness in each group as percentage of total	
	1965	1967	Number*	Percent	1965	1967	1965	1967
Respiratory (including colds, bronchitis, pharyngitis, tonsillitis, influenza, etc.)	18,241	31,083	+ 12,842	+ 70.4	4.3	36.0	31.2	31.2
Diarrhea and colitis	9,283	34,963	+ 25,680	+ 276.6	12.5	13.5	24.9	24.9
Scabies and eczema	37,643	39,947	+ 2,304	+ 6.1	3.4	19.3	17.9	17.9
Boils and cysts of skin (including carbuncles, furuncles, etc.)	16,433	16,416	- 17	- 0.1	10.9	8.7	7.3	7.3
Scald and scold burns	7,529	7,530	+ 1	+ 0.0	7.4	3.2	5.4	5.4
Nerve, eye and ear diseases (including nervous debility and related and mental disorders)	14,833	16,783	+ 1,950	+ 13.2	8.1	6.0	5.4	5.4
Circulatory	7,839	7,164	- 675	- 8.6	19.1	1.8	1.7	1.7
Infective and parasitic diseases (including tuberculosis and pneumonia)	5,879	6,141	+ 262	+ 4.4	16.3	1.8	1.4	1.4
Chlamydia	5,813	5,834	+ 21	+ 0.4	20.8	2.6	1.7	1.7
Alcoholism, drug and psychotropic diseases (including alcoholism)	1,472	1,975	+ 503	+ 34.2	2.3	0.6	0.9	0.9
Growth	1,441	1,139	- 302	- 21.0	43.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
All groups	243,418	232,334	- 11,084	- 4.5	5.7	100.0	100.0	100.0

*Actual differences.

(Percentages adjusted to allow for changes in strength.)

APPENDIX 4

TABLE 2
Persons arrested for all offenses

Year	Total number of persons arrested	Dealt with at Magistrate's Courts		Dealt with at Assizes or Quarter Sessions ¹		Otherwise disposed of ¹
		Convicted	Charge withdrawn or dismissed	Convicted	Acquitted	
1959	104,254	91,832	4,931	5,544	768	2,052
1960	96,625	81,599	4,317	6,073	783	1,661
1961	103,864	89,396	4,441	5,540	1,010	1,707
1962	119,249	100,982	5,111	4,723	1,055	1,358
<hr/>						
Year	Total number of persons arrested	Dealt with at Magistrate's Courts		Dealt with at Assizes or Quarter Sessions ¹		Otherwise disposed of ¹
		Convicted	Charge withdrawn or dismissed	Convicted	Acquitted	
1964	114,761	97,077	6,417	6,619	3,154	1,440
1965	117,094	95,445	6,523	4,088	3,150	1,400
1966	117,094	95,445	6,523	4,193	3,123	1,400
1967	117,094	95,445	6,523	4,193	3,123	1,400
1968	117,094	95,445	6,523	4,193	3,123	1,400

¹From 1 January 1964, the number of persons arrested and dealt with at Assizes or Quarter Sessions during the same year were counted. From January 1964, onwards, a new method of recording was introduced whereby a count is made of the number of persons dealt with at Assizes or Quarter Sessions during the year, instead of the number of persons arrested and dealt with at Assizes or Quarter Sessions.

Excluding persons (a) who were handed over to courts, (b) whose cases were adjourned *indefinitely*, (c) who abandoned, died, etc., while awaiting trial or under remand from Magistrate's Courts, (d) who failed to appear at court after being released on bail by police and (e) whose cases were awaiting disposal at Assizes or Quarter Sessions at the end of the year.

APPENDIX 4

TABLE 3
Summonses for all offences, issued on application of police, with results

Year	Summonses issued in respect of offences connected with				Dealt with at Magistrates' and Higher Courts†			
	Mechanically propelled vehicles	Hand-driven propelled vehicles	Pedal cycles	Miscellaneous offences	Total summonses	Conviction	Withdrawn or dismissed	Others disposed of‡
1925	157,477	443	2,745	3,971	164,236	160,230	4,025	1,981
1926	157,901	443	2,745	3,699	164,788	160,773	4,013	2,013
1927	164,665	553	1,038	4,746	171,002	166,469	4,533	2,038
1928	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1929	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1930	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1931	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1932	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1933	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1934	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1935	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1936	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1937	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1938	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1939	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1940	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1941	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1942	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1943	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1944	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1945	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1946	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1947	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1948	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1949	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1950	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1951	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1952	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1953	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1954	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1955	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1956	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1957	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1958	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1959	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1960	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1961	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1962	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1963	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1964	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1965	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1966	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1967	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1968	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1969	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1970	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1971	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1972	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1973	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1974	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1975	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1976	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1977	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1978	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1979	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1980	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1981	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1982	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1983	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1984	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1985	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1986	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1987	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1988	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1989	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1990	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1991	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1992	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1993	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1994	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1995	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1996	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1997	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1998	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
1999	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2000	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2001	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2002	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2003	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2004	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2005	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2006	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2007	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2008	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2009	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2010	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2011	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2012	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2013	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2014	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2015	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2016	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2017	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2018	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2019	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2020	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2021	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2022	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2023	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2024	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004
2025	180,237	450	572	6,731	188,090	183,780	4,306	2,004

For details see Table 2, Appendix 3.
 † The number of persons arrested or summoned and dealt with at Magistrates' Courts during the same year were counted.
 ‡ For January 1964, onwards, a new method of recording was introduced whereby a count is made of the number of persons dealt with at Magistrates' Courts. This method of recording was introduced in January 1964. It includes cases disposed of at the end of the year.
 § Includes cases disposed of at the end of the year.
 ¶ Includes cases disposed of at the end of the year.

See also Chapter 4, pages 71-75 and Chapter 5, page 80.

APPENDIX 4

TABLE 4

Persons arrested for simple drunkenness and drunkenness with aggravations and the proportion per 1,000 of the estimated population

Year	Number of arrests	Estimated population	Number of arrests per 1,000 of population
1959	27,699	5,204,800	3.376
1960	27,437	5,209,070	3.342
1961	30,319	5,131,750	3.719
1962	36,393	5,176,810	4.451
1963	36,994	5,172,690	4.527
1964	35,199	5,186,650	4.288
1965	32,704	5,172,690	3.884
1966	30,591	5,389,550	3.636
1967	34,456	5,364,150	4.119
1968	37,731	5,250,590	4.576

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