

On the 12th of August (Grand National Day) I was ordered to proceed to Napier to relieve the Inspector there who was ill. I was kept there for over four months. I visited every part of the district, from Woodville to Port Awanui, twice, and made many acquaintances, both in Hawkes Bay and Poverty Bay.

The end of the following February I was ordered to proceed to Gisborne and hold an inquiry into what was then known as the "Gisborne Police Scandal." I was only a Sub-Inspector and I could never understand why the Department called upon me, when there were Inspectors in Christchurch, Wellington, Wanganui and Napier.

When I arrived in Gisborne I was met with all kinds of opposition by the Police and their immediate friends. I had to wire to Napier for a reliable Sergeant to assist me. The inquiry lasted four clear days, and I must say here that it was the toughest job I ever had to do with in the Police. I had to examine some 28 witnesses, and take down their evidence myself. Some of the evidence was scandalous. It took me a clear day to summarize the evidence and furnish my report.

Instead of the principal offenders being dismissed from the Service, only a Constable was dismissed, the Detective reduced to a Constable, and the Sergeant in charge transferred. The inept way in which these offenders were dealt with did not help the Head of the Police at the 1909 Police Commission.

When I handed my report with the evidence to the Commissioner and the Minister of Justice, both complimented me on the way I performed the work.

The Saving of two Children from Drowning.

On the 26th December, 1905 (Boxing Day) a Monster Picnic was held in the Canterbury Jockey Club's grounds at Riccarton, about four miles from Christchurch. Over 5,000 people attended. The picnic was organised by the Catholic Community of Christchurch. Some time previously, the Jockey Club had formed a lake in the grounds, and this had only been filled in a few days prior to the picnic. The

Picnic Committee was warned as to the danger of children falling into the lake and men were told off by the Committee to protect it. For some reason, these men were late in taking up their posts. A child 2 years' old (in charge of its sister, a girl of 12) wandered into the lake, and in a second was in trouble. The sister plunged in after the child but, being unable to swim, she too sank with the child in eight feet of water. My son Phil (then 14 years' old) saw the mishap from the grandstand (as well as others) and he rushed to the spot, pulled off his coat and vest and dived into the place where he saw the children disappear, and was lucky enough to get a grip of the girl's hair, and was able to drag her to the surface. She held the child locked in her embrace, and the lad swam with both to the bank. Mrs. Dwyer saw the lad struggling in the water and cried out to me that Phil was drowning in the lake. I ran to the nearest bridge, bounded over the fence and was at the spot in a minute. Both children were then unconscious, the small child in a very bad way, having turned quite black. A Nurse took charge of the girl, and I took over the child, and followed out the Silvester method of restoring respiration, and after working at the child for 20 minutes it commenced to breathe, and I knew then that it was out of danger. When this fact became known to the crowd a wild demonstration was set up in recognition of the boy's bravery - the father coming in for a share. The lad went to a friend's house nearby to change his wet clothing. He kept out of the way of the crowd, and did not want any fuss so he said.

He received the Royal Humane Society of New Zealand's Award for Bravery. The Picnic Committee presented him with a Gold Medal, and the Reverend Dr. Grimes, Roman Catholic Bishop of Christchurch, publicly presented him with a book "The Castles and Abbeys of England." The public presentation of the Royal Humane Society's Award was made in His Majesty's Theatre (now the Civic). The Mayor of Christchurch, (Mr. G. Payling) made the presentation and among other things he said, "He was asked by the Society to make the presentation to Master Dwyer, and he did so with great pleasure, and the more so the recipient being so young." The newspaper report is quoted below:-

"The presentation of the Royal Humane Society's Certificate to Master Dwyer, son of Sub-Inspector Dwyer, of this city, who rescued two children from drowning at Riccarton some time ago, was made by the Mayor of Christchurch (Mr. G. Payling) at the Spanish-Columbian Festival, in His Majesty's Theatre last night. Master Dwyer was also the recipient of a Gold Medal from the committee of the sports which the children were attending when they fell into the water.

In making the presentations, the Mayor said that though the feeling that one had been the means of saving the life of a fellow creature was ample reward, provision had wisely, he thought, been made for publicly honouring those who had risked their lives to save others. This was done here through a most excellent organisation, the Royal Humane Society of New Zealand. That body awarded medals and certificates for saving life or for attempts made to do so. These were always presented in as public a manner as possible, so that due honour should be rendered to bravery. Prior to the establishment of the New Zealand Society, the Humane Society of Australasia dealt with cases brought under its notice, and medals etc. were sent through the Government, who arranged for the presentation. Now, however, they had a society of their own which investigated and decided upon cases brought before it. The Investigation Committee to whom the work of recommending awards was committed were exceedingly careful and searching in their enquiries, and, therefore, it was that the medals and certificates awarded by the Royal Humane Society of New Zealand were so highly valued. It was at the request of the Society that he, as Mayor of the City, was there that night to present their certificate to Master Dwyer. He did so with the greatest pleasure, and the more so that the recipient was so young. It showed great intrepidity on the part of a lad that he should have risked his life to save others in such a courageous way. He congratulated Master Dwyer on having been the means of saving life, and his family on possessing a member who had thus early displayed such pluck and resourcefulness. That courage was the heritage of the Anglo-Saxon race, and the community should feel proud that Master Dwyer had so early exhibited this quality in such a noble manner. He trusted he might live long to possess this honourable distinction which was one of the noblest that anyone could possess.

Sub-Inspector Dwyer replied on behalf of his son.

Valedictory Conversazione.

"The Alexandra Hall was filled to overflowing last night, on the occasion of the valedictory conversazione to His Lordship Bishop Grimes, prior to his departure today for Rome. In addition to a large and representative gathering of the laity, there were a number of priests present. The chair was occupied by Mr. P. Pender.

At a stage in the programme, Bishop Grimes said they would remember the act of heroism performed by Master Philip Dwyer on the occasion of the picnic on Boxing Day at the Racecourse. At the imminent risk of his life, he had plunged into the water, and had been the means of saving two lives. He (the Bishop) understood the matter of granting a medal to Master Dwyer for his heroic conduct was before the Committee of the New Zealand Humane Society. He wished, however, on his own part, before leaving Christchurch, to mark his sense of the heroism displayed by Master Dwyer by presenting him with a book "The Castles and Abbeys of England."

"This was only a small token of how highly he appreciated the bravery of Master Dwyer on the occasion to which he referred.

His Lordship then presented Master Dwyer with the volume which bears an inscription, stating the reason of the presentation."

This incident shows that parents should have their children taught to swim early in life. I have always been a strong advocate of this.

The Royal Humane Society's Awards to father and son for bravery, hanging side by side, will not be seen in many homes in New Zealand.

The Cashel Street Riot.

On Saturday night, the 8th July, 1905, Constable McLellan arrested a drunken man near Strange's in High Street, and when he got to the White Hart Hotel a crowd of hoodlums, including many footballers, surrounded the Constable, mauled him about in the mud and kicked him. A man named Bearne came to the Constable's assistance, but he was also knocked down and kicked. The Constable hung on to his man with the greatest tenacity. Two more Constables arrived on the scene, and they arrested another man who assaulted the Constable, and tried to take the prisoner from him. The Constables were successful in getting their prisoners into the Christchurch Meat Company's shop, and closed the door. At this stage I arrived on the scene. The prisoners were rushed through the right-of-way into Hereford Street and taken to the Police Station in a cab which I ordered. In the meantime, over 3000 people had collected in front of the meat shop. They broke into the shop, thinking that the police and prisoners were still there. The mob destroyed all the meat, and some of the shop's fittings, doing damage to the extent of £20. The disturbance continued between the meat shop and the Police Station until close on 11 o'clock, and before it was completely subdued by the police, seven more arrests were made. Most of the prisoners were bailed out next day.

On Monday morning all the prisoners appeared before the Court. I asked for three days' remand, and this was granted. That evening,

a flaming article appeared in "Truth" (not Norton's Truth) a paper published then in conjunction with the "Press", when it had its headquarters in Cashel Street. The article cried down the action of the police and lied in several particulars in connection with the riot. Not satisfied with this, word for word was wired that day to the Wellington "Evening Post."

The Editor of this paper "Truth" was a Mr. Poulson, now Member of Parliament for Stratford, and Chairman of the Dairy Board. This Mr. Poulson had a terrible grudge against one or two of the detectives, and a more bitter grudge against the "Seddon" Government, and never missed an opportunity of showing his bitter feelings. When the cases were on, Charles Denham, the prisoner whose actions caused all the trouble, was the first case called. He was charged (1) with drunkenness (2) with making use of obscene language and (3) with assaulting the Police. Mr. Donnelly defended, and put in a plea of Not Guilty.

In describing the conduct of the prisoner, the bad language he used, and the resistance to his arrest that led to the subsequent disturbance and damage to property, I asked the Magistrate, if the cases were proved to his satisfaction, to impose a substantial penalty. I then referred to the unwarranted attack made on the police by "Truth" newspaper. The remarks I made are fairly fully given in the following copy of newspaper cutting:-

"Shortly after the first case arising out of last Saturday night's disturbance was opened in the Magistrate's Court this morning, Sub-Inspector Dwyer stated that he desired to call attention to an article which appeared in "Truth" on Monday evening last, the evening of the day on which accused first came before the Court. The article commented on the action of the police in regard to the riot, and also commented in a monstrous manner on the case which was still before the Court. That, he submitted, was a gross contempt of the privileges of the Court. Continuing, the Sub-Inspector said he believed there was no other Journal in the colony that would have resorted to such a contemptible method of crying down the police, who were attempting to restore law and order. Not content with publishing the slanderous statements themselves in "Truth" they also, that very evening, wired them word for word to the Wellington "Evening Post", a strong party paper. This had been done, he thought, from some motive, either personal or political, he could not say which, but it was one or the other. The police were not afraid of such comments, because they were quite sure they had the confidence of the law-abiding section of the community. But the

"comments that were constantly being made by this newspaper had had the effect of inciting the criminal portion of the community to the acts of violence that had been recently witnessed here. The Sub-Inspector stated that he had been assured by an old officer from the Sydney police that it was journalism of this kind that led to such a state of affairs in Sydney some years ago, when respectable people and the police had to go about armed with revolvers to protect them from the hoodlums.

The Magistrate said the Court could only express an opinion, and he must say that the article complained of was altogether uncalled for. There was a certain procedure which could be taken against the newspaper.

Continuing, the Sub-Inspector said the newspaper in question was owned by some of the most respectable and influential members of the community. He could not for a moment understand that they could encourage or be a party to such incitements, which tended to throw the law-abiding and once sober city into a bear garden. Instead of the police being cried down in this fashion, they should be supported for doing their duty.

We have decided to make no comment in reply to the above attack until the cases involved have been dealt with by the Magistrate, except to say that this journal is in no way responsible for any article which has appeared in any other newspaper, and to regret that anyone should have interpreted its remarks as showing any contempt of Court. - Ed. "Truth".

(The above was all that "Truth" ever said about the matter.)

To prove the charges against Denham as well as the others, I called outside evidence. I called a Mr. Jamieson, A J.P., who gave very strong evidence as he saw the whole thing. Mr. Donnelly called several witnesses for the defence. The prisoner was found guilty on the three charges, was fined 10/- on the first charge, and £5. on each of the other two charges. The other prisoners were found guilty, but only nominal fines were imposed.

G. G. Stead was Chairman of Directors of the "Press" which controlled the "Truth". Two days after the Court cases referred to he called a meeting of the Directors. I could never find out what took place at that meeting, but fourteen days thereafter, Poulson severed his connection with "Truth" newspaper. He went from here to Taranaki, and apparently got on well. If he remained a journalist he would hardly ever attain the position of Member of Parliament. I hope he sometimes remembers me.

Some time after these proceedings, another case of assaulting the Police took place, and a few days after, the "Press" came out with

the following article:-

The Public and the Police.

"The statement made yesterday by Sub-Inspector Dwyer as to the attitude of the public towards the police indicates a condition of affairs that, unless checked, might easily become a serious menace to the good order of the city. The feeling displayed towards the police of late was, he said, very bad, and he was afraid this hostility was growing. He believed some men would stand complacently by and see a policeman kicked to death. Such an indictment of a section of the public deserves the more attention because it comes from an officer of long and varied experience, whose intimate acquaintance with human nature is not likely to lead him to exaggerate any temporary ebullition of feeling on the part of a crowd. Christchurch has for long years borne a good reputation for the law-abiding character of its residents, but in every community, even the most peaceable, there is a proportion whose unruly instincts array them against constituted authority, especially when it takes the form of a policeman. It may be that, from some cause or another, this feeling has spread in Christchurch latterly. It is a symptom of misrule, which all reputable citizens, both for their own sakes, and for the credit of the city, should discountenance by all means in their power. For if it once became a general article of faith that a policeman was always in the wrong, and the man he was trying to arrest was the unfortunate victim of a brutal official, to be rescued if possible, and in any case to receive such sympathy as is expressed by hustling and "booing", we should be within measurable distance of mob law and all that it implies. There was not the faintest excuse for the conduct of the crowd on Thursday evening. The men with whom such unnecessary sympathy was expressed had been acting in a manner calculated to endanger the limbs, if not the lives, of other people, and the police very properly took them in charge. The fact that it needed five constables to deal with two offenders was due partly to the disgraceful conduct of the crowd and partly to the advantageous position occupied by the men who were being arrested. The police have often difficult duties to perform, and it will be admitted that in the great majority of instances they carry them out with tact and forbearance. But their task will become much more difficult if they cannot reckon on the moral, if not the active, support of the public. We trust, for the reputation of Christchurch, that the warning by the Bench yesterday will have its desired effect, and that we shall have no more public exhibitions of uncalled for hostility towards the police."

It can be said that, in many instances, indiscreet and hasty action on the part of some policemen bring on trouble that could be avoided with a little tact and forbearance.

Tussle with the Heavyweight Boxing Champion,
of New Zealand, Jack Lloyd.

At about 10 p.m. on Saturday night, the 25th January, 1908, as the hotels and shops were closing, I was standing talking to another person by G.G. Stead's Grain and Seed Store (now Hallenstein's) when

Lloyd and three or four companions came out of the Cafe de Paris Hotel. Lloyd had a bottle of beer, and this he was brandishing about. As he passed me, he gave me a poke with the bottle in the neck. I told him to mind what he was doing, and not to be acting the blackguard. He came back and pointed the bottle at my face and said "I'll poke you in b.....y eye with it." I thought he was going to do so, and I struck it out of his hand with a blackthorn stick that I was carrying, and made smithereens of it on the footpath. This enraged him and he said "Is this your B.....game? I said, "You know who I am, and if you dare lift a hand to me you'll suffer for it." Scarcely were the words out of my mouth when he struck me a swinging blow right on the mouth. The blow sent a thousand stars into my eyes, but I did not fall. I could have cut him with the stick, but I dare not use it as I might seriously injure him. I threw my stick away, and, as he was making another swinging blow at me I side-stepped it, and I caught him with a real catch-as-catch-can hold. I pulled him out into the middle of the street, and with three times my usual strength I lifted him bodily off the ground and threw him on his face, and put the grip on him, and with my whole weight on his back held him safe. By this time, a large crowd had collected and some of Lloyd's friends wanted to interfere, but others who saw the whole thing would not allow them to interfere. There was one man in the crowd (whose name I was never able to find out) who made a ring, and said to the crowd that I should have fair play. I spotted a cabman in the crowd named Drury, and I told him to go and fetch his cab, and he did so. At this stage, Lloyd started to cry out that I was hurting him, and said he would go with me quietly if I allowed him on his feet. The crowd too asked me to allow him on his feet, and I did so. No sooner was he released and on his feet when he made a wild swinging blow at me. I ducked from it, and I seized him in the same way as on the first occasion, lifted him off his feet and threw him on his face and put the same grip on him - and my action was approved of by the crowd. At this time, two of my men arrived, and we had great difficulty in putting him into the cab. To some, it may appear impossible that I could do what I have stated, as Lloyd's weight in his boxing engagements was 13 st. 2 lbs. and my weight then was 14 st. 8lbs.

There are two men living in Christchurch today who witnessed the whole affair. They are Jim Wallace, of the Grand Hotel, and D.P. Mahoney (Horse Trainer - a boxer himself, in his day.)

I sent the prisoner to the lock-up with the two Constables. After recovering my hat and stick (safely kept for me) I went and saw a doctor. The blow on my mouth that I received from Lloyd loosened all my front teeth and sent a tooth through my upper lip. When I arrived at the Station I was greatly surprised to find my gold watch chain and diamond locket, which were torn from my watch in the struggle, awaiting me. I must say here that the crowd treated me exceptionally well.

Next morning, Sunday, Lloyd sent for me to the cell, and he was then bathing his swollen leg in hot water. This was sprained in the struggle. When he saw me, he commenced to cry and said "I'll be gaoled for this." I said, "You ought to be". He said, "I would not mind for myself, but I am the only support of my poor old mother." I said, "You should have thought of that last night. You were not drunk by any means. You knew well what you were doing, you knew me. If you didn't, I told you."

The case came on next morning, Mr. J. Cassidy appearing for accused. I did a thing that morning that I'd never think of doing, if the case was not my own. I went and saw the Magistrate (Mr. Day) and he saw my mouth, and after he had congratulated me on my escape from more serious injury, I said to him "I am doing a thing now that I'd never think of doing if it was a matter between the prisoner and any of my men, but as it is a matter between myself and the prisoner I would ask you not to send him to gaol. He is in steady employment and is the only support of his old mother."

The case was called on, and the prisoner pleaded guilty to the charge (through his Solicitor). Instead of stating the facts from my place in Court, I stepped into the witness box, and asked to be sworn so that I'd give all the facts on oath.

When I got back to my place, I had a dissatisfied look from Mr. Day. I could see that he thought it was a clear case for gaol.

The Magistrate fined Lloyd £10. and damages.

It was not generally known that this Jack Lloyd was a nephew of the notorious Bushranger, Ned Kelly. Mrs. Lloyd (nee Mary Kelly) lived for years, as an old age pensioner on the South Belt, Christchurch, and died there about four years ago, at an advanced age.

Jack Lloyd went to the Great War, and returned here a broken man - and died here about 10 years ago.

After his conviction, he was disqualified for twelve months by the Boxing Association. When he tried to come back, his leg always came against him.

On the 14th of the following August (National Day again) I was ordered to proceed to Napier at once, and take over the district, the Inspector there being suspended from duty. I remained in Napier until the beginning of January when I was promoted Inspector, and appointed to the permanent charge of the district. I returned to Christchurch for the family, and our belongings.

On the eve of our departure, Mrs. Dwyer was presented by her friends with a "Silver Caddy" inscribed, containing One Hundred and Thirty Sovereigns. The presentation *took place* in the Chamber of Commerce, and was made by R. C. Bishop Esqr. who said that Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer's friends could not allow the opportunity to pass without showing in a small way the high esteem that they were held in by their Christchurch friends. He congratulated Mr. Dwyer on his well-earned promotion and wished them both every happiness and success in their new home. (Applause.)

Mr. Bishop then presented Mrs. Dwyer with a Silver Tea Caddy filled with what he termed "Golden Tips." The Caddy bore the following inscription:-

"Presented to Mrs. John Dwyer by a few Christchurch friends on the occasion of the departure of Inspector Dwyer and herself from Christchurch to Napier, February, 1909."

Mr. W. Hayward briefly responded on behalf of Mrs. Dwyer.

For disciplinary reasons, I took no part in the proceedings.

The following is a copy of newspaper extract:-

"A number of friends of Inspector Dwyer and Mrs. Dwyer assembled in the Chamber of Commerce Hall, Christchurch, on Monday morning, for the purpose of making a presentation to the latter (states

"the Evening News). Mr. R. C. Bishop, who presided, said that those present desired to extend their heartiest congratulations to Inspector Dwyer on his recent promotion. Inspector Dwyer himself could not attend that day, for the police regulations were of a very stringent character, and perhaps it was as well that that was so. That, however, did not make the fact any the less, that in honouring Mrs. Dwyer they were honouring the Inspector Dwyer as well. (Applause). They wished Inspector and Mrs. Dwyer happiness and success in the new city to which they were going, and they could not allow the opportunity to pass without giving some little souvenir of Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer's residence in Christchurch. They desired to express, through Mrs. Dwyer, the high esteem in which her husband was held by his Christchurch friends, and their heartiest congratulations upon his promotion. (Applause.) Mr. Bishop then presented Mrs. Dwyer with a small silver tea caddy, filled with what he termed "golden tips." (The caddy bore the inscription described above.)

I got on very well with the people of Hawkes Bay during the four years I was stationed there. I liked the climate of Hawkes Bay immensely.

There were many happenings during my time in Hawkes Bay, but one in particular I must give a place to here. It was known as the

The Woodville Baby Murder Case.

The facts of the case are as follows:-

A man and a woman worked for a farmer at Akatea, a country district between Dannevirke and the Coast. The proprietor of the farm and his wife knew the relationship that existed between the two. They left the district on the same day, with the ostensible object of getting married. They journeyed to Woodville and put up there at a boarding-house. They only stopped there two days, and the woman shifted to a small hotel in the township. She was only two days in the hotel, and about 6 o'clock on the second morning the landlady heard the cry of (apparently) a new-born baby, and about five minutes after she saw a man (whom she identified) leave the room, carrying a green parcel under his coat. Three days after this, a green game bag containing the body of a newly-born child was found, a cord tightly tied round the child's neck, giving

the indication that the child was strangled. An Inquest was opened, and the Doctor who held the post-mortem, testified that the child was born **alive**, and was strangled with a cord tightly tied around its neck. I put Detective Butler on the job of working up the evidence, and he put together one of the strongest cases I have had to do with. The green game bag that the body was found in was identified by a saddler in Woodville who made the bag himself and sold it to the accused man, whom he fully identified. It was also shown that the accused tried to purchase a hold-all in two other saddlers' shops in Woodville, but such articles were not stocked. In depositing the bag containing the infant child in a culvert in the Railway line, the person had to climb over a seven strand barbed wire fence, a feat only an active person could perform.

The preliminary hearing, which I conducted, of the charge of murder preferred against both accused was taken in the Woodville Magistrate's Court, and, as I have said before, the evidence was complete. Both were committed for trial to the Napier Supreme Court, and at the hearing of the charges at that Court, the prisoners were jointly indicted for murder. Judge Chapman was the Judge presiding. The foreman of the Jury was a Shipping Agent, a German by birth. When the prisoners were called on to plead to the charge, the female pleaded guilty, and through her, Counsel tried to show that she committed the deed and that the male prisoner had nothing to do with it. The Crown would not accept the woman's plea, and went on with the charge. The evidence was as clear as noon-day and the Judge summed up dead against the male prisoner. The Jury retired to consider their verdict, and, after two hours' deliberation, returned to Court to announce their verdict. His Honour took his seat on the Bench to receive it (and I know he brought his "Black Cap" with him in his pocket). After the usual question was put by the Sheriff to the Foreman, "Gentlemen, have you agreed on your verdict?" The Foreman answered "Yes". "How say you, have you found the prisoners guilty, or not guilty?" The Foreman answered, "Not Guilty."

The Judge was so taken aback that he could not speak for two

minutes, then he said, "I must accept the verdict in accordance with law, but I must express my surprise that twelve intelligent men could bring in such a verdict in the face of the evidence." He did not thank the Jury for their services.

I was told that the Foreman was indignant at being summoned as a Common Juror, instead of a Grand Juror.

I never spoke to the Judge afterwards that he did not refer to this case.

On the 20th May, 1912, I received word to transfer to Dunedin. The shift meant a substantial increase in my salary. When it became known that I was under orders to transfer to Dunedin, my friends in Hastings held a meeting to make arrangements to give me a public farewell, and Mr. A.L.D. Fraser, Ex M.P. for Hawkes Bay, was appointed to manage the affair, and right well he succeeded. The farewell function took the form of a Banquet, got up on a lavish scale. Everything of the best was provided; in fact, there were four male waiters in livery. There were over 80 representative citizens of Hastings and surrounding districts present.

They sent a motor car to my home in Napier for Mrs. Dwyer, Miss Dwyer and myself, and after the function was over brought us back to our home in Napier.

The following is a copy of the letter of invitation I received from Mr. Fraser:-

Hastings Club,
Hawkes Bay, N.Z.
May 26th, 1912.

Dear Dwyer,

With pleasure and regret your Hastings friends learn that you have been given well-earned promotion. It is pleasing to us to know that your services are appreciated, but at the same time it is with regret that we part with you.

To evidence this, we would like to say farewell in a unison of voices. Will you, therefore, meet us on Thursday evening next at the Grand Hotel, Hastings, at 8 o'clock and give us an opportunity of saying how little or how much the citizens here appreciate you.

Yours faithfully,
(signed) Alfred L.D. Fraser.

J. Dwyer, Esq.,
Napier.

The following is a copy of the newspaper extract:-

"Eloquent tribute to the success which has attended the administration of Police Inspector Dwyer in the Hawkes Bay district, and to the high position he occupies in the public estimation was testified at Hastings last evening, when the Inspector was entertained at the Grand Hotel by his Hastings friends. The attendance, numbering over seventy persons, was fully representative of all sections of the community. Mr. A. L. D. Fraser presided, and with him occupying the seats of honour were the guest of the evening, Inspector Dwyer, and Mr. Judge Gilfedder. Apologies for their unavoidable absence were received from Mr. H. M. Campbell, M.P., and Messrs. G. F. Donnelly, Stewart Waddell and Val. Hoadley, all of whom regretted the Inspector's departure, and wished him all success and happiness in his new sphere of labour.

In the course of a eulogistic speech, the Chairman said they had the honour to have associated with them that evening one who held one of the most important positions in public life, and he could say that on no previous occasion in the history of Hastings had he seen such a representative gathering as was assembled that night. It was a compliment to Inspector Dwyer that was well deserved, (Applause.) and would bear good fruit to others in the same department as himself, inasmuch as it would prove to them that, when a man faithfully and honourably carries out his duties, he was appreciated by the public, who were prepared to acknowledge his worth. They had met Inspector Dwyer in the position of an Officer of the Crown, which was second to none in its importance and in its delicacy of manipulation, and they had known him as a citizen. He could look back over 36 years when a little band of men were driven from their native land by its tyrannical laws, and had to do what so many had done since, and carve out their destinations elsewhere. They had come to New Zealand, he was proud to say, to better themselves, and had also bettered New Zealand, and in this regard he was pleased to see present Mr. Daniel O'Reilly, who was a shipmate of Inspector Dwyer's when they were thrown upon the welcome shores of New Zealand without a penny, but full of that energy and bull-dog pertinacity which had carried them through with honours. New Zealand had seen all classes of pioneers, and Inspector Dwyer was one of those who, by his integrity, was in a proud position today, honoured and respected in the community. (Applause.) In Gilbertian words, "a policeman's lot was not a happy one", but he was justified in saying that the men who were now placed in the position of preserving law and order were men of much higher ideals than those of many years ago. Today the Dominion was policed with a class of men who joined hand in hand with the Community and said, "If you will help us we will help you", and the consequence was that law and order were upheld. (Applause.) Inspector Dwyer had been an example to those under him by his honourable methods of discharging his duties, methods which had won admiration wherever he went.

In asking the Inspector to accept on behalf of his wife a silver tea service, bearing an inscription "From your Hastings friends, 1912" and a pair of opera glasses, Mr. Fraser said he felt he was voicing the sentiments of everyone in the community when he said that they parted with the Inspector with pleasurable regret, pleased that his services were being recognised by his promotion, regret at the departure of an able officer and sterling citizen. (Applause).

"Mr. Fraser also asked Mr. Dwyer to accept an autograph book bearing the fingerprints (laughter) or rather, the signatures of those present, and proposed the health of "Our Guest" which was toasted with musical honours.

Judge Gilfedder said a policeman had often to perform disagreeable and irksome duties, and when it was seen that he endeavoured to carry out those duties and give the satisfaction to the Department that Inspector Dwyer had given it was a source of gratification. Inspector Dwyer was born, not with a spoon in his mouth but a ladder, and he had climbed to the top rung. (Applause.) On this he desired to compliment him. They had been intimate friends for eleven years, and he was pleased to hear of his promotion. He believed that throughout the Dominion the police discharged their duties with a thoroughness that did them credit. He knew Inspector Dwyer's successor (Inspector O'Donovan) well and he felt sure that the latter was a man who would win the appreciation of the people of Hawkes Bay.

Mr. E. H. Williams heartily congratulated the Inspector on his promotion, and although they were sorry he was leaving Hawkes Bay it had to be borne in mind that it was the Inspector's own fault. He was such an able officer, and his ideals of his public duties were so high as to warrant the promotion. (Applause.) He hoped he would rise still higher in the service, and reach the top of the tree. He had been brought into close contact with Inspector Dwyer on one occasion when Mr. Cornford (The Crown Prosecutor of Napier) was laid aside with illness and had been good enough to ask the speaker to conduct the criminal prosecutions at the Supreme Court. On that occasion, he found that, as far as experience went, the Inspector was a man of marked ability, and helped the Crown Prosecutor in a considerable degree. He was always fair and that was one of the best qualities that a man, holding his particular position, could have (Applause.) A remark had been made that in years gone by the desire of the police was to persecute and not to prosecute, but it had to be remembered that, in conducting a prosecution, the police had not only the individual, but the whole community, to consider. Inspector Dwyer would be able to look back with pleasure to his career in Hawkes Bay and, although he (Mr. Williams) had no brief to speak for the legal profession, he was sure he was interpreting their feelings when he wished Inspector Dwyer and his wife all future happiness and prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr. W. P. Archibald (The Hon. J. D. Ormond's Manager) speaking on behalf of the racing community, apropos of a remark which had been made by a previous speaker, said that the generosity of the racing men in New Zealand was unexcelled. Referring to Inspector Dwyer, Mr. Archibald said that a man who was not a good sport was not a good man, and it was because Inspector Dwyer was a thorough sport that he was such an able man. (Applause.)

Mr. W. J. White also added a tribute to the encomiums paid to the Inspector for his sterling qualities. He had met Inspector Dwyer on many occasions in the practice of his profession, and had always known him to show the greatest consideration for opposing counsel, and to hold the scales of justice evenly balanced between the prisoner on the one hand and the Crown on the other. (Applause.)

Mr. Charles Hughes, senior Justice of the Peace, Mr. T. M. Lawlor (Hastings Courthouse Staff) Mr. C. L. Mackersey (representing the Boxing Assn.) Mr. J. T. Blake (on behalf of the Native Race) and Mr. A. A. George also added their meed of praise to the Inspector's work.

"In reply, Inspector Dwyer, who was received with loud applause, thanked the various speakers for their kind remarks, also the people of Hastings for their handsome presents which he assured them his wife would cherish. The promotion he had received was a substantial one. His removal was not of his own seeking, and he could have happily remained in Hawkes Bay. However, the Department thought otherwise, and he had to leave where he had been so well treated. Continuing, Mr. Dwyer said great power rested with a police Inspector, and if he used that power tactfully and judiciously he became a useful member of the community, whilst on the other hand if he acted with severity and indiscretion his usefulness was impaired. Hawkes Bay was a crimeless district, and possessed a sober community, and the result was that his sojourn here had been one long holiday and a path of roses. He again thanked the speakers for their very flattering remarks and said that if he had such a competent and loyal staff of constables, sergeants and detectives as he had had at Napier his work in Dunedin would be a great pleasure.

Inspector Dwyer then proposed the health of the Chairman in felicitous terms, and Mr. Fraser replied.

During the evening recitations were contributed by Messrs. J. A. Gallagher and T. West, and songs by Mr. Vickers, Mr. Brownhill presiding at the piano."

At this time, the borough of Hastings was advancing rapidly, and a certain amount of rivalry existed between itself and Napier. Hastings was in the better position, as it had all the wealthy stations of Hawkes Bay behind it. Everyone was then happy and prosperous.

The day before I left Napier was a busy day for me. In the morning of the 11th June I was farewelled by the "Justices" and later by the Law Society. In the afternoon I was farewelled by the public, and Mrs. Dwyer was presented with a purse of 75 sovereigns. In the evening I was farewelled by the Police of the district.

The following are copies of the newspaper extracts dealing with the various functions:-

"Farewell from Justices:

"A number of Justices of the Peace together with Mr. S. E. McCarthy, S.M., assembled at the Napier Courthouse yesterday morning to bid farewell to Inspector Dwyer who leaves tomorrow to take up his duties as Inspector of Police at Dunedin.

Mr. S. E. McCarthy, S.M., said they had met to say goodbye to Inspector Dwyer. The Justices of this town thought that, on his promotion to a more important centre, it was fitting that they should tender him their congratulations and express their regret at his leaving the district. Inspector Dwyer had always met all classes of people with tact and impartiality. In conclusion, Mr. McCarthy expressed his regret at Inspector Dwyer's departure, and congratulated him on the fact that the authorities had decided to give him a better position.

"Messrs. J. S. Large, J.P. Thomson, S. McLernon and J. H. Sheath also referred in flattering terms to the good qualities of Inspector Dwyer, stating that he had always been the friend of the people and had done his work zealously as an officer of the department.

Inspector Dwyer thanked the speakers for their very kind remarks. During the four years he had been stationed in Napier he had striven to do his best. He had always had the support of the Magistrate and the Justices of the Peace when conducting business in the Court. Inspector Dwyer concluded by again thanking the Justices for their kind words of farewell.

Mr. McCarthy said that he forgot to mention that during the last three years there had been a great decrease in crime due to the energies of the police.

Inspector Dwyer replied that the decisions of the Justices had always been satisfactory, and he had never known of a judgment to be questioned."

Presentation to Mrs. Dwyer:-

"A pleasant little function took place later in the morning at the Mayor's room when a number of Napier's leading citizens gathered to honour Inspector Dwyer and make a presentation to Mrs. Dwyer. Mrs. J. Higgins attended with Mrs. Dwyer.

Mr. John Higgins, who presided, said it gave him great pleasure to see so many present. The population of Napier had increased, but crime had decreased, a fact which was largely due to the tact and sincerity of Inspector Dwyer. He knew how to control the men under him. Inspector Dwyer was "out on his own." Mr. Higgins then called on His Worship the Mayor, Mr. J. Vigor Brown, M.P. to speak on behalf of the citizens of Napier.

The Mayor said that all present knew that Inspector Dwyer had been called away to one of the most important appointments in the police service in New Zealand. Mr. Brown regretted the departure, but he was pleased to know that Inspector Dwyer was the man chosen by the Government for the position. He had always been careful and judicious in carrying out his duties irrespective of the people he came in contact with. The speaker then stated that he had been asked to present to Mrs. Dwyer a purse of sovereigns as a token of the esteem of the residents of Napier. The Mayor wished Inspector and Mrs. Dwyer a pleasant and prosperous time in Dunedin, and expressed the hope that the Inspector would enjoy the best of health to enable him to carry out his onerous duties.

Messrs. W. Flouman and J. McVay endorsed the sentiments expressed by the Mayor, and wished Inspector Dwyer success in his new sphere.

The Chairman proposed the toast of the guests, which was duly honoured and received with cheers.

Inspector Dwyer, who was greeted with applause on rising, said he had to thank those present for the kind remarks made about him. It was very consoling to know that he

"had the good wishes of the people of Napier. He heartily thanked the citizens for their generous gifts to Mrs. Dwyer which she would greatly appreciate. His promotion was not of his own seeking, and he would have been quite content had the Department passed him over. In six years' time, Inspector Dwyer said, he would be entitled to his full pension, and he was certain that he would then return to Hawkes Bay to spend the remainder of his days. He would never forget the kindness of His Worship the Mayor, and he expressed the hope that Mr. Brown would long be spared to carry out his work for the advancement of the district.

Mrs. Dwyer also briefly thanked the citizens for their gift.

The healths of the Mayor and the Chairman were also drunk with musical honours."

Solicitors' Farewell:-

"Before the ordinary business of the Court commenced in the afternoon, Mr. H. A. Cornford, on behalf of the Napier Bar, of which he was proud to be the senior member, and in accordance with His Worship's permission, stated that he wished to say farewell to their esteemed friend, Inspector Dwyer. He complimented the Inspector on his promotion while he expressed the deepest regret at his removal from Napier. He considered Inspector Dwyer had always been and always would be a satisfactory and fit and proper person to fill the eminently high position of Inspector of Police. Inspector Dwyer had had his training under Inspector Scully, which should be a sufficient guarantee of his ability. It was a pity that the Inspector was leaving Napier, but the Service had higher rewards, and he was sure Inspector Dwyer would meet with his share. Mr. Cornford trusted that Inspector Dwyer would carry with him remembrances which would be cheering to him all through his life. On behalf of the Bar, Mr. Cornford wished Inspector Dwyer health, wealth and happiness.

His Worship stated that it was not 15 years since he first met Inspector Dwyer, then a Sergeant while he was a Magistrate in Central Otago. He had had opportunities to watch the Inspector's work, and when he left Central Otago it was predicted that he would become an Inspector. The prediction had come true. His Worship joined with the members of the Bar in congratulating Inspector Dwyer, and expressed the hope that he would be as happy in Dunedin as he had been in Napier, and that he would enjoy many years of useful office, and thereafter many years of comfortable retirement."

Inspector Dwyer, in returning thanks, said that since he came to Napier he had received nothing but kindness from His Worship and the members of the Bar. His stay had been one long holiday. He had never met kinder people in his career. He was grateful to His Worship for the assistance he had always rendered. He had also to thank the local Police Force. They had always supported him and made his stay in Napier a very pleasant one indeed."

Farewell from the Police Force:

"A large number of representatives of the police force in this district assembled at the Napier Police Station last

"evening to say farewell to their chief, Inspector Dwyer, and to make a presentation to Mrs. Dwyer as a mark of their esteem for her, and appreciation of her husband.

Sergeant Hogan of Hastings said it had been ^{the} spontaneous desire on the part of all members of the police force in this district to make a presentation to Mrs. Dwyer on the occasion of her husband's promotion to the Inspectorship of the Dunedin district. They were all very sorry to lose both her and the Inspector, but were glad to know that he had been called to a higher position in the service. The Inspector had ever been ready and willing to give advice when asked to those under him, and had always been very easy to approach. The men, one and all, regretted that they were losing Inspector Dwyer and Mrs. Dwyer, and trusted that they would meet with success and happiness in the south. Sergeant Hogan then asked Mrs. Dwyer to accept a gold necklet chain to which was attached an artistically designed brooch set with amethysts and pearls, also a beautiful travelling rug and a leather brief bag.

Mrs. Dwyer briefly thanked the donors for their valuable gifts and assured them that she and Inspector Dwyer would be very sorry to leave them.

Sergeant Cummings said he came to Napier 3½ years ago, and had always got on well with the Inspector. He was very sorry that Inspector Dwyer was leaving them, and was sure that their loss would be Dunedin's gain. If the Inspector met with the same loyal support in Dunedin that he had received in this district he would have nothing to regret in going there. He wished Inspector Dwyer and Mrs. Dwyer every happiness in the future.

Detective Kemp, Detective Butler, Constable O'Halloran and Constable Rosanoski also expressed their regret that Inspector Dwyer and Mrs. Dwyer were leaving the district.

Inspector Dwyer, in replying, said that if credit had been awarded to him it had been brought about by the loyalty of the men. He thanked the speakers for their kind remarks, and for their handsome gifts to Mrs. Dwyer. He urged the men to extend the same loyal support to his successor, Inspector O'Donovan, that they had always given to him."

On the 12th June, 1912, I transferred to Dunedin, and nothing to note happened until the 1st February, 1913, when the rank of Superintendent was created, and on the 1st March, 1913, I, with three other Inspectors, was promoted to that rank.