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#### Chief Constable: J. ANGUS, Q.P.M.

#### **FOREWORD**

For many of us the past year has been one of considerable activity in the planning of the new force and I must mention in particular the effort of all Police Federation representatives who have been involved in the re-organisation at Working Party and Steering Committee level.

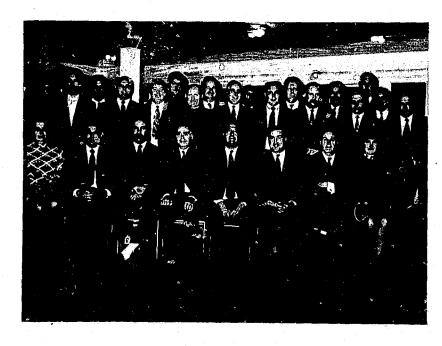
Inevitably, in every amalgamation certain doubts and uncertainties arise; happily many of them have already been resolved by joint forward planning and provided that future negotiations are conducted as amicably as they have been in the past there is every reason to look ahead with optimism.

It is with great pleasure that I pay special tribute in this last Report to Police Constable Vause the Chairman, Sergeant Deighton the Secretary, and all who serve or have served on the Board and devoted themselves so willingly to the interests of the federated ranks.

I ask you to share my confidence in the future of the force as part of a larger unit, to look forward to progress and accept in good spirit whatever changes need to be made in the interests of welfare and efficiency on formation of the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police Force.

J. ANGUS
Chief Constable

#### **LEEDS CITY POLICE 1973**



J.B.B. Members with Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable

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'C' Division Inspector A. Dillingham
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Traffic Department Inspector H. Merchant
C.I.D. Det/Ch. Inspector J. Conboy
Policewomen W/Inspector A. Beers

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Policewomen W.P.S. 26 B. Higgitt

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Headquarters P.C. 51 N. Kitching
Traffic Department P.C. 428 A. Wood
C.I.D. D.C. 321 K. Charnock
Policewomen W.D.C 86 B. Peck

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#### CHANGES ON THE BOARD DURING THE YEAR

Det/Inspector E. Bullock for Det/Ch. Inspector J. Conroy, promoted Superintendent

Inspector I. Gregory for Inspector K. Peterkin, transferred Inspector K. Peterkin for Inspector H. Merchant, promoted

Inspector N. Thornton for Inspector J. A. McKenna, seconded to Training Centre, Pannal Ash

Chief Inspector H. Merchant for Inspector J. P. Ryan, transferred P.C. 156 E. Thomas for P.C. 428 A. Wood, retired

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## LEEDS CITY POLICE JOINT BRANCH BOARD 1973 ANNUAL REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, the representatives of the Leeds City Police Joint Branch Board, have pleasure in presenting for your information, a summary of Federation activities, both National and local during the past twelve months.

#### NATIONAL MATTERS

Police Pay — One subject that always gives pleasure to the population, including police officers, is money, and on the 1st September 1973, the Service received for the first time, a forecasted increase in pay. Although the amount was only 4 per cent. plus £1, in keeping with the Government pay norm, it was sufficient to satisfy a large majority of the membership, to cover the erosion in their salary by inflation since the last biennial pay increase.

Amalgamation — We are now rapidly approaching the vesting date for the new force area, when we in Leeds will be joined with Bradford City and parts of the West Yorkshire Constabulary. Much has been said, both for and against this merger, and it would only be repetition to trot out the same statements again. A great deal of work has been done by various committees to iron out possible problems for the new force area, and we fervently hope that this compulsory marriage of the three forces will result in a happy and efficient new force.

Crime and Punishment - Did I hear someone say, "What again?" Well, for our last report we must reiterate our past statements about the subject, especially after another twelve months of rising violent crime. During the past year, like every year in the last decade, there has been plenty of evidence of the work of the do-gooders and their pseudo psychologist friends, plying their soft treatment propaganda for the criminal, with the present day result. We have said for many years that without some form of deterrent (fear of punishment) the criminal will NOT reform, especially the violent ones. It is easy for the reformist to accuse persons not of their leanings of being 'the hang 'em and flog 'em brigade,' but this could be, as a result of their systems losing ground. For the last time, we ask those in political authority to take their heads put of the sand, and properly analyse the present day crime situation, including the 'deterrent'?? weapon, with a view to giving the physical punishment for crimes of violence a trial, after which they can compare which deterrent works. It is a strange thing, that the attitude of the general public is similar to that of most operational police officers, on the **SALES** 

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#### **LOCAL MATTERS**

Rent Allowance — It is a well known fact, that money is the lubrication of satisfaction, and in this direction it was very satisfying indeed when our local negotiations for a rent allowance increase were finalised, earlier this year, with a retrospective payment date of March, 1972. Reports on the progress of the claim were published periodically in the weekly 'miscellaneous matters,' to keep the very interested membership informed of the circumstances. There were many difficulties in these negotiations, including two visits to the Rent Tribunal to air our case, and even after the agreement on the terms of the claim, there have been certain difficulties regarding the system of valuation of owner occupier dwellings. Most of the problems have been resolved, but there are some officers who were not satisfied at the outcome of their own revaluation circumstances. One thing that every officer should bear in mind, and that is, the Rent Aide Regulation (Reg. 42), allows each force area to keep abreast of the rising tide of inflation of that area, so far as accommodation is concerned. At the time of going to press, we in Leeds have the highest rent allowance in the proposed West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police area, which will benefit some officers in the other two forces.

J.C.2. Meeting — In January, we had the pleasure of the company of the members of the Joint Central Committee, for a three day Statutory Meeting. They came to Leeds at the invitation of the Joint Branch Board, the visit being the first since 1948. During their stay, the Force held an 'open meeting' for the rest of the Country, which was well attended, and from the correspondence received afterwards we can boastfully say that Leeds did it proud. Another highlight during the J.C.C.s visit was a luncheon at the Civic Hall, an occasion that will live long in the memory of those who attended.

Annual General Meeting — The Annual General Meeting of the Federated ranks was held in the cinema at the Traffic Department on Thursday 16th November, 1972. The invited guests include dthe Chief Constable Mr. J. Angus, Q.P.M., the Chairman of the Police Authority, Councillor B. P. Atha, LL.B., and senior police officers. There was a frank exchange of views between the floor and platform, mainly concerning local matters with the occasional question concerning amalgamation. After the business of the evening had been concluded, further interchange of views took place at a social function in the canteen.

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Legal Assistance — C.I.C.B. — Group Insurance — During the year, this blanket cover of welfare has proved an excellent benefit to the membership. A number of officers were given free legal assistance when summoned for motoring offences and assault cases, both arising out of duty circumstances. Other officers received financial benefit after being injured in road accidents, the civil action being dealt with by the Federation solicitors. Many officers have been assaulted during the year by violent prisoners, and each has received fair compensation from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, their cases being dealt with by the Joint Central Committee via the Joint Branch Board, Finally, and by no means the least important is our Group Insurance Scheme. Many officers have received benefit during the past twelve months for injury both on and off duty, and also a number of widows and dependents have experienced the value of such a scheme. Our comprehensive scheme, with its many benefits for 10p per week, is second to none, and we hope that in the new force scheme our members are able to continue with this kind of insurance cover.

Voluntary Subscription Fund — It is with regret that we have to record the death of three of our serving colleagues during the year, namely, Woman Police Sergeant 31 Shelagh Mary (MOLLY) Carson — Police Constable 17 Bryan Watkins — Sergeant 672 Jack Sharp. In each case the Scheme was activated for the benefit of the dependants.

#### NORTHERN POLICE CONVALESCENT HOME

During the past saar nine of our colleagues availed themselves of the first class convalescent facilities at St. Andrew's, Harrogate, and the reports from each of them gives praise to the staff of the Home for their untiring efforts in assisting their recovery to health. It is now obvious that more and more of our colleagues, who require a period of convalescence, are taking advantage of the first class facilities at the Home, which in itself gives added compliment to the stewardship of the Home Superintendent, Reg Webb, Q.P.M. It is with pleasure that we record our local sincere appreciation to the doctors, nurses, superintendent and staff for their work on behalf of our colleagues whilst they were convalescing at the Home.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 1973 Police Federation Annual Conference was held in Blackpool from the 22nd to 24th May, and the Delegates from Leeds were: — Inspectors J. P. Ryan — H. Merchant —A. Dillingham — H. Bottomley. Sergeants D. Emmott — P. Dean — C. Longhawn — E. Deighton. Constables E. Fothergill — J. Forster — D. Middleton — K. S. Vause, in addition the Number 2 Region Policewomen's Delegates were B. Higgitt and B. Peck.

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Compared with other conferences in recent years, 1973 was a damp squib, with very little to stimulate those present. Leeds did not have any resolutions on the agenda this year, because our problems had been dealt with in correspondence between our Force and the Joint Central Committee, and it was felt that a number of the items discussed in the hall could have been dealt with in the same way. One resolution that did attract the full attention of the delegates was the one concerning Regulation 23 (security of tenure), which was carried in an amended form. The Home Secretary, Mr. Robert Carr, impressed the majority of delegates with his loud and clear succinct message to the membership about what he thought of the future of the Service. It was obvious that he was 'a policeman's man,' and that he was sincere in what he would do to improve the lot of the Bobby, provided a case was fully made out for the items requested, in a political fashion, he made it obvious that he was not asking for an immediate assessment of his value to the Service, by stating that he wished to be judged on his record as the Minister of State at the Home Office. This was the last Conference to which many forces would attend as independent representatives, but at the close of the proceedings there was nothing said or done to mark the nostalgia of the occasion. All the business of Conference has been fully reported in many documents circulated from the Federation Headquarters, and it was pleasing to read their compliments to those who attended the venue as 'day observers,' which, once again, included a number from Leeds.

#### CONCLUSION

Like many other forces, we are shortly to lose our independent identity as a force, an independence that many officers would have liked to see continued. There has been a police force in Leeds since 1836 when it was a Borough Force, and then, in 1893, it took on the mantle of its present title, the Leeds City Police, a name it has proudly held since that date. There has been many important changes since the inception of the Force, primarily since the Police Act of 1919, when certain members of the Force became involved in the then new Police Federation. Our past local history is punctuated with progressive events which were motivated by our late colleagues, and although it is not fashionable these days to look too far into the past, it has always been a good way of making comparisons. The modern day conditions have been achieved by a few for the benefit of the majority, with much hard bargaining between those in authority and the Federation being necessary. There is much evidence that conditions are improving at a faster rate than in the immediate post-war years, one of the best improvements being the new Police Pension Scheme. This improvement, plus improvement in police pay scales, should convince the majority of members that our Federation system of negotiation, although sometimes frustrating, is the best. The speed of improvement is all the more amazing when one considers the apathy that still

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exists amongst the lower ranks, an apathy that could do real harm in the future when the old stalwarts have retired. In another direction, much has been said about the Leeds City Police since the war, both by the media and some politicians, but after all the muck slinging has settled down, the general public in the City express their confidence in the way we policed this part of the broad acres, and gave them value for their money.

To conclude, your representatives ask that more attention is given to the Police Federation, especially in the formative days of the new force. In addition to your weekly subscription, your personal support is required at local meetings, because without your support the system will only function in an academic way, which will be dangerous for the rank and file. To those retired or retiring from the Force, we wish you a well-earned retirement, and to those who will join us in the new force area, we hope that it proves to be a progressive and satisfactory future, underlined by good working conditions.

Finally, we wish to place on record our thanks to the members of the Leeds Police Authority, the Chief Constable and senior officers, for their cooperation and assistance during the past twelve months.

Yours faithfully, E. DEIGHTON

Secretary J.B.B.

On behalf of the members of the Leeds City Police J.B.B.

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