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1884-1894

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John Leddy
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The Messrs. Funk and Wagnall in their *New Standard Dictionary of the English Language* define the police as, "A body of civil officers, especially in a city, organized under authority to maintain order, prevent and detect crime, and enforce law." Ambrose Bierce has more succinctly characterized the police as "an armed force for protection and participation." For the average citizen neither of these definitions really fits the men in blue. To Joe and Jane Doe the police are a group of men organized to hand out parking tickets, bother landlords regarding building violations, flirt with waitresses and, occasionally, make the headlines by catching some young desperado.

If, however, Joe and Jane took a few seconds off for reflective thought they would realize that the police department is one of the most positive forces for preserving their rights and protecting their possessions in our culture. Effective police action is necessary so that personal liberty does not degenerate to license, so that civil order and a moral code are maintained, and so that constructive democracy is not allowed to slide into chaotic anarchy. In short, therefore, efficient and

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judicious activity on the part of a police department constitutes the backbone of local democracy.

This paper will be concerned with the Police Department of Kalamazoo, Michigan, with special emphasis on the decade from 1884 to 1894.

The Police Department of Kalamazoo is quite young in point of time, being organized in 1884, just sixteen years prior to the start of the twentieth century. For the forty-one years preceding the inception of the Department as a division of the newly chartered city government, law enforcement was in the hands of various village marshals, the first of whom, H. J. Boardman, was chosen at the first village election in 1843.\(^1\)

"Law enforcement in the early history of Kalamazoo - 1830 until the rapid growth of the village began in 1845 - consisted mostly of dealing with misdemeanors, principally disorderly conduct, as police know the term today."\(^2\)

Until the 1843 elections, there was a single sheriff for the county and the village who was given assistance in keeping order by "the law abiding men who were concerned with hewing out of the wilderness a respectable community."\(^3\)

\(^1\)Kalamazoo Gazette (Centennial Issue), January 24, 1931, p.11.

\(^2\)Ibid.

\(^3\)Ibid, p. 12.
Later the amount of crime increased with the size of the village, necessitating the change to the village marshal system, which provided a law enforcement officer in constant attendance to "maintain law and order and protect the lives and properties of those persons within the corporate limits."\(^1\)

The remaining Indians in the area comprised a formidable nuisance element in the early village life, principally due to their taste for liquor and their inability to handle it. It is said that "during the days of the land excitement the Indians - Ottowas and Potawatamis - drove a thriving trade in the early summer, when they would assemble by the thousands from the four quarters of the compass, bringing their furs and pelttries, their venison and moocks of maple sugar, and the handiwork of their squaws, to exchange for the goods and trinkets, the guns, powder and lead, and the deadly 'fire water' of the white man; and many were the midnight orgies that waked the echoes of the broad valley of Kalamazoo."\(^2\)

In addition to the troublesome inebriates, both white and red, the principal "police news" of the early era was concerned with violations of the moral laws, street brawls, assaults, robberies and an occasional armed

\(^1\)Ibid.
\(^2\)Ibid.
holdup. Traffic was not yet a problem to police and the officials of those days never imagined that, in less than a century, the community's principal problem would be traffic and its regulation.

The first recorded murder following the advent of the white man to the Kalamazoo area took place on November 15, 1837, when William Pitt Giddings was killed by James Ayres. Ayres, who was enraged because Giddings had not stopped a dog fight in the street at Richland, hurled a rock which struck the Gull Prairie merchant in the head. Giddings died eight hours later. Ayres, after a trial and a short period of incarceration, was allowed to return to his family.1

Two years prior to this act of homicidal violence, Kalamazoo's first jail was erected at a cost of less than $1,000. A one-story building of thirty-two by sixteen feet, the prison was divided into two apartments - one of which served as the jail room, the other as the dwelling place of the jailer and his family. The jail room had walls, floor and ceiling of one foot square white oak timbers and the door was of three inch thick planks. Furnishings consisted of three woolen blankets, one straw bed, a cook stove and a borrowed pump. This jail served until 1845, when a new two-story building was erected with

1Ibid.
a sixteen inch-thick brick wall surrounding the first floor.\(^1\)

In 1859, a committee reported this jail unfit and unsafe for prisoners, but nothing was done to replace it until 1867, when the "Martyr Sheriff," Colonel Benjamin J. Orcutt, was killed during a jail-break.

Orcutt had been a lieutenant-colonel in the "Rebellion of 1861" (the Civil War) and in 1866 was elected to his third term as sheriff of Kalamazoo County. On the morning of December 3, 1867, he was killed by a gunshot fired by two men whom he accosted behind the jail house, apparently attempting to aid some prisoners to escape. No prisoners actually escaped, but the heroic death of the sheriff resulted in public pressure for a new jail, and in 1868, $42,000 were authorized for the erection of such a building. This jail served until 1937, when the present jail and county building was erected.\(^2\)

As the scope and severity of crime increased along with the size of the village, it became necessary to replace the sheriff, who had to travel over the entire county area, with an officer permanently located in Kalamazoo. In 1843, therefore, when the first village elections were held, H. J. Boardman was duly elected village marshal and charged

\(^1\)Ibid.
\(^2\)Ibid.
with the duties of "maintaining law and order and protecting the lives and properties of all persons within the corporate limits."

The village marshal system remained in effect for forty-one years and the various marshals and their assistants did their job of maintaining law and order faithfully and well.

In May 23, 1883, Kalamazoo was granted a charter by the state government to incorporate as a city and it became necessary to change over from a village form of government to that of a city.

The Kalamazoo Gazette of Tuesday, April 15, 1884, in addition to speculation concerning the relative merits of Blaine and Cleveland, the question of whether President Grant would run again, news concerning the appearance of Miss Flora Moore in "A Bunch of Keys, or The Hotel" at the Academy of Music, the terrible plight of Sadie McClanaghan, and an advertisement for Ely's Cream Balm - a sure cure for catarrh, hay fever and head colds - contained news of the first city elections. Included in the election results was the notation that Stephen H. Wattles had been elected first City Marshal of Kalamazoo. Here, then, was the real

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1Ibid.
2Ibid, p.6.
3Official Minutes of the City Council of Kalamazoo, Book 7, p. 112.
beginning of the Kalamazoo police as an organized group in the community.

To govern this police force, a Committee of Police - consisting of Thomas A. Palmer, Fred Hotopand, Otto Ihling - was elected.\(^1\) To assist Marshal Wattles in the quick and efficient dispatch of his duties there were elected a force of two day policemen and four night police, and provision was made for the appointment of special police without pay.\(^2\)

The force did not continue at such a magnificent size for very long, however, as the city council, weighing the incidence of crime against the drain on the city purse, passed the following resolution on May 9, 1884, "Resolved: that the police force of the City be reduced to the number of four policemen (aside from specials) and that Henry Boekeloo, John Lamb, John Scrivener and John Gordon - be retained upon such force and that the four offices held by them be continued and that the offices of the other policemen heretofore appointed, are declared abolished."\(^3\)

On July 30th of the same year the Council passed Ordinance 16, which stated the duties and responsibilities of the Marshal and his patrolmen.\(^4\) Concerning the Marshal,

\(^1\)Ibid.

\(^2\)Ibid., p. 121.

\(^3\)Ibid., p. 142.

\(^4\)Ordinances of the Village of Kalamazoo, p. 161.
the Ordinance said: "It shall be the duty of the City Marshal to keep the police headquarters open at all hours of the day and night and to keep one policeman on guard at such headquarters." It went on to say that, "The City Marshal shall have control of the police force of said city. He shall keep in his office records of all arrests, stating the nature of the offense of which the arrest is made and the final disposition of the case. Such record shall be reported by the Marshal at each regular monthly meeting thereof." In addition, the Marshal was directed to make an annual report at the end of the fiscal year, stating the number and condition of the force, number and disposition of arrests, and any recommendations he considered necessary in order to secure the efficient working of his department. He was also required to submit to the City Council the names of persons keeping disorderly and gaming houses, attend all serious fires, and aid the health officer in the preservation of sanitary regulations.¹

By this Ordinance, policemen were vested with the authority to "arrest without warrant all persons who shall in their presence be guilty of any felony, misdemeanor or breach of peace or disorderly conduct and all persons whom they have reasonable cause to believe have committed a felony. Also all persons for whom a warrant has been

¹Ibid.
Policemen were cautioned to wear only such uniform and insignia as designated by the city council while on duty and were warned that absence from duty would carry a $10 fine.

In addition to their duties relative to crime, policemen were instructed to report any broken sidewalk planks or improperly guarded ditches and to, "Take up and impound any horses, cattle, sheep or swine running in the streets." ¹

The first indication that "A policeman's lot is not a happy one" ² occurred September 25 of 1884, when special Policeman Warren and Policeman Boekeloo were suspended by Marshal Wattles.³ Wattles charged Warren with assault and battery on Boekeloo on the night of September 23rd, and charged Boekeloo with being quarrelsome, drunk while on duty, and with being A.W.O.L. from his beat on various occasions. The City Council ordered hearings to be held on the charges against the two men. Warren was tried on October 20, and on his plea of guilty was removed from the force. Boekeloo's trial was not held until November 24th, and, in a dazzling display of political footwork, the charges against him were dismissed, he was reinstated to

¹Ibid., p. 162.
²Gilbert and Sullivan, "The Pirates of Penzance," Act II, the Sergeant's Song.
³Minutes of the City Council, cited above, p. 245.
The two institutions had existed separately and vied for public attention for two years. The teaching by this combination was done over a period of three terms of fourteen weeks each. Apparently, five courses were taught: United States history, arithmetic, grammar, geography, and declamation. The academic status of the institution was at this time higher than that of a modern high school and lower than that of a first-class college.

In 1846, examinations were given to men in arithmetic, algebra, chemistry, Greek, geometry, grammar, Latin, and natural philosophy. Examinations were given to women in three of the preceding, arithmetic, algebra, and grammar, and adding astronomy, history, and French. Both sexes gave speaking exhibitions. Note that with the exception of history, astronomy, and chemistry, there is an absence of instruction in the physical, natural and social sciences.

suspension case was short-lived for, although the police force was increased to six men, he was not re-elected to his job.\(^1\)

In this year, the town's oil lamps were replaced by gas and one of the duties of the policemen was to extinguish these lights on his early-morning rounds.

The year passed quite uneventfully and on April 12, 1886, John H. Blaney was elected to replace Lamb as Marshal. Lamb was, however, re-elected to the force as a policeman, and, when a man named Robert Large didn't qualify as a patrolman, William Hare, who was later to serve as Kalamazoo's first chief of police, was elected to replace him.\(^2\)

At this same time, a motion was made to move the police headquarters from its Burdick Street site (where J.C. Penney's is presently located) to the Miller Building. However, the rental of $300.00 per year and needed improvements of $150.00 scared the Council off and the motion was squashed.\(^3\)

On June 7th of this year, a set of Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Police Department were passed. Two hundred copies of the rules were printed and each policeman was required to possess a copy. These Rules

\(^1\)Minutes of the City Council, p. 521.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 608.
\(^3\)Ibid., Book 8, p. 68.
stated that in addition to patrolling their beat, keeping a weather-eye out for suspicious characters and arresting law breakers, patrolmen should "assist ladies, children and aged or infirm people in crossing public streets .... and shall not allow boisterous or disturbing talk on public streets."¹

They also carried the admonition that "Every patrolman and everyone connected with the police department is hereby strictly forbidden from accepting as a gift or present any money, merchandise, liquors, cigars or any other present, gift or gratuity from any person, persons or corporation."

Policemen could be dismissed for a variety of transgressions ranging from cowardice and unnecessary violence to prisoners, to the use of coarse or insolent language or "Talking or walking with a member of the force or a citizen when on patrol except when necessary in the discharge of duty."²

Some of the unusual offenses which could get the average citizen of 1886 in hot water with the gendarmes included: interfering maliciously with telegraph wires; aiding in a prize, cock, dog or dog and rat fight; maliciously destroying fences and trees; and killing a song

¹Ibid., p. 211.
²Ibid., p. 213.
Seminary catalogue of the years 1854 and 1855, the design of its founders was stated as four-fold: 1. to promote the cause of sound learning, 2. to assist in training up an efficient and godly ministry for the West, 3. "to furnish our quota of missionaries for a world lying in wickedness," 4. to meet the needs not only of college graduates but of others who have completed such a course of studies as will enable them to enter upon theological studies with profit.

Along with the Theological Seminary, in 1855, the Kalamazoo Literary Institute received a charter granting full college rights to the school and changing its name to Kalamazoo College. At this time, in the institution proper, i.e., the male section, thirty-one students and one hundred twelve preparatory students attended the school. The following courses were offered: in the freshman year, Greek, Latin, mathematics, rhetoric; in the sophomore year, Greek, Latin, mathematics, rhetoric, and physics; in the junior year, Greek, Latin, physics, and philosophy; and in the senior year, physics, Greek, philosophy, law of nations, and history. It should be noted that here mathematics, physics, and philosophy were added to fields of physical and social science.

In the preparatory course, two years of instruction were offered. In both years English, Latin, and Greek were among the subjects taught. In 1855 and 1856, chirography was added.

1 Kalamazoo College Catalogue, (Cat.) 1854-5, p. 11-12.
2 Cat. 1854-5, p. 13.
3 Cat. 1855-6, p. 15.
heartiest support in working in any type of toggery he found suitable. The local press was properly abashed.¹

A group of citizens, in September of the same year, charged Policemen Warren and Verberg with misconduct. A hearing was held before the council and that body declared the charges to be unsupported by fact and dismissed them by a vote of seven to two.²

In the same month, the Marshal was informed by the City Council that the building of sidewalks was one of his duties.

The election of April 9, 1888, saw Marshal Gates re-elected, as was Assistant Hare. On April 19, a motion was passed reducing the size of the force to six, including the assistant marshal.³

The remainder of the year was passed rather uneventfully in arresting drunks and building sidewalks.

On April 8, 1889, William Hare had the dubious honor of losing two elections in one day, and, to add the proverbial insult to the equally proverbial injury, gave a repeat performance the following week. On April 8, John Galligan defeated Hare seven to four for the Marshal's job and Thomas Owens took him eight to three for Assistant

¹Ibid., p. 480.
²Ibid., p. 585.
³Ibid., Book 9, p. 2.
Marshal.\footnote{Ibid., p. 158.} Galligan, however, declined the office. Owens, hearing this, promptly resigned the Assistantship and tossed his hat in the ring for Marshal.\footnote{Ibid., p. 160.} On April 15, therefore, Owens defeated Hare for Marshal and a dark horse named J.H. Harper romped off with the second place money. Following which, Mr. Hare probably went home and beat his everloving wife.\footnote{Ibid., p. 162.}

A motion was made on May 6th, for the appointment of two additional policemen to the force and Thomas Arnen and Alva Stearns were chosen.\footnote{\textit{Ibid.}, p. 177.}

With summer getting into full swing, it was thought by the council that Bronson Park was becoming a petter's paradise and/or a public nuisance. On June 3rd, it was directed that a policeman should be stationed in the park from 7:00 P.M. to 10:30 A.M. with specific instruction to chase everyone out at 10:30 P.M. every evening.\footnote{Ibid., p. 193.}

On July 1, 1889, a petition of fifty-five citizens was presented the Council calling for the purchase of a city patrol wagon. The petition was referred to the Committee on Police, which group authorized the purchase of patrol wagon, horse and harness at a total cost not to
exceed $500.00. As an example of the speed with which governments, even small governments work, it is significant to note that the purchase of the patrol wagon was not consummated until February 24, of the following year. But even if the citizens were forced to wait for their wagon, they could not help but be delighted with it when it arrived. At the cost of only $316.50 the citizens got "a shiny black wagon, powered by a single horse, with bright brass railings at the back." The back of the wagon was open and the Marshal usually had to accompany the driver so that prisoners did not take a tail-gate pardon.

One of the places most frequently visited by the paddy wagon was East Main Street, which was known at the time as "Saloon Row." Many of the city's forty-eight saloons were located here and calls for the services of the Marshal were frequent. It must have been quite an inspiring sight to see the great horse "George" proudly prancing down Main Street, the shiny black wagon loaded to the gunwales with gentlemen exhausted from wrestling with the nickel beer and free lunch, and the Marshal, sitting in silent majesty, presiding over the procession.

1Ibid., p. 193.
2Ibid., p. 315.
4Ibid.
On September 16 of 1889 the Council also approved the purchase of three overcoats and a number of rubber coats for the force at a cost not to exceed $100.00.¹

The elections of 1890 saw Thomas Owens and J.H. Harper unanimously restored to office. Frank L. Colton was named first Patrol Driver of the black maria and Frank Capell and Charles Rice were elected Day and Night Police Clerk respectively.²

Policeman James Carroll was tried on charges of inefficiency, neglect of duty and violations of the Rules and Regulations on September 23 of 1890. An investigation was held by the Council and on October 1, the charges were substantiated and Carroll was dismissed from the force.³

The "old regime" of Owens and Harper was swept out of office in the elections of April 20, 1891, by William H. Cobb and John H. Thompson.⁴ More important, however, was the motion by the Police Committee that appointment of police should be made on a non-partisan basis and that nine policemen were necessary to properly maintain law and order. The Committee named these nine and the Council approved the entire list.⁵ This was an important develop-

¹Minutes of the City Council, p. 244.
²Ibid., p. 362.
³Ibid., p. 461.
⁴Ibid., p. 561.
⁵Ibid., p. 562.
ment, because it removed the police department from the realm of politics and made all future votes on police appointments by the Council merely a rubber stamp of the Committee's choice. This provided for continuity of service and proper division of powers between legislative and judicial branches.

On August first of the same year, 1891, the Committee on Police made a recommendation to the City Council that the salaries of police department members be increased yearly on the basis of longevity of service.\(^1\) As an argument in favor of such a plan they held that ability increased as service increased and that such increased ability should be compensated for. This type of pay plan was in force, the Committee members said, in cities of similar size, the federal and state governments, and certain private industries.

The following pay scale was suggested to be paid, retroactive to May 1, 1891:

The Marshal was to receive $1,000.00 for his first year of service, $1,100.00 for his second year, and $1,200.00 for the third year and any subsequent years.

The Assistant Marshal was to start at $800.00 per year, progress to $1,000.00 at the end of three years, and at no time receive more than $1,000.00.

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 605.
Patrolmen were to receive $45.00 per month for the first six months, $50.00 per month for the next six months and $5.00 per month increase for each subsequent year of service up to five years. The motion was shelved at this time for further consideration and was finally passed September 9, 1891.

The first attempt toward a competitive, civil-service examination in police appointments was made on October 5, when Alderman Burke moved that following that date any person to be appointed as a regular policeman must pass a physical and mental examination by the city physician as to his qualifications for the job.

This system was first put to a test on November 2, 1891, when five men - George W. Gould, William Boyle, Harry Thompson, William Todd and William Smith - all applied for a single position on the force. They were directed to present themselves to the City Physician for examination; the man best passing the examinations to receive the appointment. William Todd was the man chosen by this method.

Here, then, was the first instance of a man being appointed to the force on the basis of an impartial,

1Ibid., p. 605.
2Ibid., p. 618.
3Ibid., p. 628.
4Ibid., p. 636.
objective examination, rather than on the basis of political activity and patronage. This would seem a long step toward an efficient, incorruptible police department.

The election of April 11, 1892, saw William Cobb re-elected Marshal. Cobb, however, handed in his resignation and the much-beaten William Hare was chosen to replace him in a special election. A.B. Huntley was elected Assistant Marshal.¹

This year saw great activity on the part of the city in the building of sewers and the paving of streets and the Marshall and his staff were kept busy enforcing ordinances pursuant to these activities.

As an indication of the quickening tempo of life both in Kalamazoo and the world in general was the motion by the City Council on January 9, 1893, that the Marshal be specifically instructed to enforce the ordinance relating to fast driving in the city streets. The only dissenting vote to the motion came from Alderman Burke, who presumably was the Barney Oldfield of the buggy-whip set.² It would be interesting to see how the City Councilmen of 1893, would react to today's Main Street traffic of busses, motorcycles, hot-rods and female flashes. They would probably rotate quite rapidly in their well-appointed graves.

¹Official Minutes of City Council of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Book 10, p. 40.
²Ibid., p. 151.
On April 10, 1893, William Hare was re-elected, but this time he was elected, not Marshal, but first Chief of Police of the Kalamazoo Police Department.\(^1\) The title of "Marshal" was thereby abolished.\(^2\)

June 7 of this depression year saw the question of salary cuts come before the Council. Alderman Hollander recommended that the salary of the Chief of Police be set at $1,100.00 and that of his Assistant at $900.00; a reduction of $100.00 from the previously established maximums. The salaries of patrolmen were to range from $45.00 for rookies to $60.00 for veterans. Alderman Gillcey moved for even more drastic cuts, advocating a $1,000.00 a year salary for the chief and only $750.00 for the Assistant. Both of these measures were defeated and a compromise proposal was passed setting the salary of the chief at $1,100.00 and the Assistant's at $800.00 per year.\(^3\)

On July 17, Assistant Chief of Police Huntley resigned his post, evidently in protest at his pay decrease.\(^4\) C.A. Merrill was chosen by the Council to replace Huntley and the economy-minded Alderman Gillcey tried to force through a resolution that Merrill be paid but $50.00 per month for the remainder of Huntley's unexpired term. The rest of the

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 177.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 177.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 237.
\(^4\)Ibid., p. 285.
Council blocked this action, however, and voted Merrill the full salary of $800.00 per year.¹

By August 14th, the depression sweeping the country had rendered the whole question of salaries rather academic. The city coffers were completely depleted by mid-year and it was necessary to resort to scrip or "time-order" payments to meet the city payroll. These "time-orders" were in $5.00 and $10.00 denominations and were interest-bearing.² With no cash scheduled to come in from the tax rolls until December, the City Fathers were forced to borrow money from private sources at 7% interest.

On October 2 of 1893 the City Truant Officer was vested with the duties of Dog Catcher and directed to round up all unattached canines and incarcerate them in city pound. The pursuit of all juvenile delinquents of the two and four-legged variety soon became too big a task for the Truant Officer, however, and, on October 16, the appointment of dual duties was rescinded. The Marshal was then empowered to appoint a full-time Dog Catcher and assistant to apprehend the city's canine convicts.³

Chief Hare found it necessary on November 27, to charge Patrolman Robert Walker with inefficiency, neglect of duty and misconduct. Walker was suspended and a trial

¹Ibid., p. 298.
²Ibid., p. 316.
³Ibid., p. 371.
was set for December 1.\(^1\) At that time, a Mr. F.E. Knapper appeared on Walker's behalf and took objection to the proceedings in the case as being irregular. Alderman Coleman moved that the charges against Walker be withdrawn without prejudice and the motion was carried.\(^2\)

Chief Hare, however, would not allow this apparent whitewash of Walker to pass. On December 4, he again preferred charges and an investigation was ordered by motion of Alderman Hollander. A trial was set for December 8.\(^3\) When the trial opened, Walker pleaded guilty to some of the charges against him but claimed he was innocent of others. Several witnesses testified against him, and, when a recess was called, Walker hurriedly handed in his resignation and left the meeting place. He was later replaced by C.M. Dye.

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The first decade of the Kalamazoo Police Department thus ended on a rather sour note. However, looking back at the ten year period from 1884 to 1894 we can see that the Department made some very significant advances toward its present efficient, mechanized form.

This period saw the change from an informal, Marshal-type of law enforcement to an organized force of competent police, chosen by objective standards by a Police Committee

\(^1\)Ibid., p. 405.
\(^2\)Ibid., p. 408.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 409.
made independent of politics. It saw the work of the police specialized to cut out such extraneous activities as sidewalk building, dog catching and tax collecting.

This decade also saw the growth of the force from four members to a day and night force of fifteen members.

A look at the only remaining printed copies of the Annual Reports of the era, one from 1883 the other from 1895, points out the increase in police activity and expenditures over the ten year period.

The Report for 1883 showed appropriations for the force of $2,400.00 for the year and expenditures of only $2,339.79. The Village Marshal's arrest sheets showed 277 arrests for the year, most of which were for drunkenness or disorderly conduct. Included among the arrests for other reasons were: nine for Assault and battery; five for indecent language; three for malicious injury; nine for prostitution.

The Report for 1883 also showed that the Police built three miles of sidewalk, collected $50,468.24 in taxes, and $102.60 in sidewalk taxes.¹

In 1895, the Council appropriated $12,000.00 for Police activity, a five-fold advance in appropriations over the ten-year period. There were almost double the number of arrest in 1895 that there were in 1883 - 551 to 277. In addition to the financial report and enumeration of arrests

¹Annual Report to the Village of Kalamazoo, 1883, p.82.
the report of 1895 contained recommendations for the addition to the force of more patrolmen and two plain clothes detectives and the installation of an Electric Signal System and a Police Patrol Telegraph hook-up.¹

Such advances in the size and activity of the Police Department over a ten year period reflected the rapid growth of the city and the increasing interest in an emphasis on police activity. The force has since steadily progressed and improved, so that today it is one of the best equipped and most efficient of its size in the nation.

¹Annual Report to the City of Kalamazoo, 1895, p. 72.
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