

4th Term for John McD.
Chief Glen MacLean

8 MIN.
WTCH

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Chief MacLean, does Minneapolis have adequate police personnel at the present time?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Definitely not.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Do you have any figures or statistics which will clarify this statement to our listeners?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, an extensive survey of the manpower situation of the Department has recently been made. We have undertaken to compare present data with the only other accurate available survey of the Police Department. In 1929 the Minneapolis City Council brought the outstanding police authority in America, August Vollmer, to Minneapolis to conduct an extensive survey. We have compared the present police personnel situation with the results of Vollmer's survey.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Chief, *Does the survey indicate* as a result of your comparisons, do you find what the comparative population is today as compared with 1928?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, Mayor, we must use comparative figures from the best available sources. In 1943, after there were a considerable number of men and women in the armed services, 511,861 ration books were issued in the City of Minneapolis. Minneapolis City Directory Company has recently *finished* compiling population data. They estimate between 510,000 to 515,000 as the present population. The Civic and Commerce Association estimates ~~our~~ present population as 512,000. For the purpose of this comparison, we have attempted to be as conservative in our estimate of the present population as possible, so we are using 511,000 as our comparative figure.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: And what was the population at the time of the Vollmer survey?

CHIEF MacLEAN: The population in the year 1928 was approximately 440,000, or an increase in this period of almost 70,000, ~~population~~.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: What is the authorized strength of the Police Department, and how does it compare with the police strength at the time of the Vollmer survey?

CHIEF MacLEAN: The strength of the Department in 1928 was 540, as compared with 531 today. However, these figures are misleading. Working hours have changed materially as a result of City Council action. In 1928 policemen in Minneapolis worked a $6\frac{1}{2}$ day week, and had no holidays off other than a 14-day vacation. At the present time, men receive one day off per week, plus their vacation time, and certain holidays as designated by the City Council.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: As a result of this change in work time for the policemen, what manpower situation does that create?

CHIEF MacLEAN: I think it ought to be explained when dealing with the over-all manpower picture of the Police Department, we must keep in mind the fact that the Police Department works on a 365-day a year, 24-hours a day, schedule, and that when we consider the number of men available for police duty, we have to keep in mind that we break our manpower into three 8-hour shifts. At the present time, we have a total of 364 officers available for enforcement in any 24-hour period, as compared with 457 in 1928. This figure has to be divided by three, or in other words, three 8-hour shifts, which gives us 121 officers available for duty at any specific hour out of the 24-hour period. This figure does not take into account the possibilities of injury on the job, or normal absenteeism due to illness.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Then, Chief, do we have fewer men actually available for duty

today than in 1928?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, we have approximately 100 men less actually available for duty than we did 18 years ago. }=

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Have any recognized police authorities made statements concerning the need for more enforcement today than a few years ago?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has made repeated statements to the effect that crime is in a very definite up-swing, and that every metropolitan area needs substantially more enforcement today than they did even so much as five years ago. In addition to that, our motor vehicle registration in the county of Hennepin has increased by 162,000 vehicles in the past 18 years. }

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Well, it's certainly obvious that the traffic enforcement problem has become materially greater. Undoubtedly other phases of law enforcement, such as crime and juvenile delinquency, have become much greater problems too.

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, there has been a very radical increase in the past few years of youthful waywardness. We are presented with an ever increasing problem of prevention of possible crime. It is necessary that we assign more of our police personnel to this problem, which leaves substantially less men for regular police duty. I think everyone will agree it is much more important that juveniles be directed in the right path toward becoming useful citizens rather than be allowed to become criminals at heart. This, of course, calls for much closer juvenile supervision.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Well, now, Chief, you've given us a ^{clear} ~~less~~ picture of the police situation as it faces the public of Minneapolis at

the present time. Most of our listeners undoubtedly will be interested in how much money this is going to cost the individual tax payer. Is our police cost in 1946 higher or lower than it was 18 years ago?

CHIEF MacLEAN: The per capita cost in 1928 was \$2.88 as compared with \$2.65 today. However, most people fail to realize that a per capita cost for policing is not an accurate record of its cost to the public.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: What do you mean by that, Chief?

CHIEF MacLEAN: The Police Department is responsible for a considerable amount of revenue which goes into the current expense fund, and from there is allotted to various city departments.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Would you explain that, Chief?

CHIEF MacLEAN: In 1928 we had no parking meters in Minneapolis, while in 194⁵~~6~~ return from parking meters ^{was} ~~is~~ approximately \$150,000 .
~~a year.~~

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Is the Police Department charged with the supervision and collection from these meters?

CHIEF MacLEAN: Yes, it is.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Is any of your police personnel required to work on the collection of license fees?

CHIEF MacLEAN: The Police Department is largely responsible for seeing that all persons engaged in businesses in Minneapolis which require licenses, do actually obtain those licenses. Those license fees for the current year will be in excess of \$600,000.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: In other words, Chief, a substantial number of your police officers must devote their full time to this job.

CHIEF MacLEAN: That's right.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Chief, the average citizen in our City hears constantly of

the figure of 500 or more police officers. Is this actually a true and accurate statement of our police strength?

CHIEF MacLEAN:

No, Mayor, this is in actuality an erroneous figure because we have 23 stenographers, 2 principal clerks, 1 department printer, 11 court officers, 10 men assigned to the Bureau of Identification and as jailers, 7 radio men, 10 telephone operators, or a total of 64 personnel in the department that are assigned to necessary duty that is not actual enforcement on the street. Some of these officers are uniformed men *but not engaged in* ~~who are engaged in strictly~~ *actual patrol* ~~police~~ work, such as the service of civil legal papers, bailiffs maintaining order in court rooms, and related endeavor. ~~However, they cannot be considered in the light of enforcement personnel.~~

MAYOR HUMPHREY:

In other words, Chief, the number of men actually engaged as either patrolmen, traffic men, or detectives on the street and on duty is actually way less than the figure commonly accepted as police strength.

CHIEF MacLEAN:

That's correct.

MAYOR HUMPHREY:

What in your considered opinion, Chief MacLean, to be on a par with other cities of comparable size to Minneapolis, is the number of officers we should have in the Minneapolis Police Department?

CHIEF MacLEAN:

As an example, Kansas City with a population of less than 500,000 and an area almost identical to that of Minneapolis, has 740 men, and in the last annual report of that department, the superintendent of the Kansas City police stated that Kansas City was badly undermanned. Milwaukee, with a population of slightly over 100,000 more than Minneapolis, has approximately 1200 officers. St. Louis, with a population of 816,048, has approximately 2400 officers, ~~of whom more than 1800 are law~~

~~enforcement officers.~~ There are practically no cities in the United States of our population class that are as woefully understaffed in police manpower as is Minneapolis.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Chief MacLean, if we were to increase the personnel in the Minneapolis Police Department by, say 200 men, would the actual cost to the individual be very great?

CHIEF MacLEAN: It would not exceed \$1 per capita additional cost, and that certainly doesn't seem very much to be allotted to the protection of life and property of our citizens.

MAYOR HUMPHREY: Chief, I want to thank you for your very enlightening talk here today. It is my intention to continue to present this problem to the citizens of Minneapolis until we have achieved the very worthwhile goal of bring our Department up to at least reasonably adequate strength.



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