

POLICE HEADQUARTERS of the World

NEW BUILDING IN NEW YORK TO BE THE NUCLEUS OF AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF CRIME



THEODORE A. BINGHAM, POLICE COMMISSIONER OF NEW YORK.

SOME day we shall have an international police force for the capture of big criminals and that day is not far distant.

Already the police nets of the great nations, interlocking, reach around the world and the headquarters for most of this intricate and fascinating international activity is New York.

Within a few weeks the American metropolis will have in operation the most modern and important police headquarters in existence, the logical center for this remarkable world-wide movement toward co-operative suppression of crime.

If this building had been designed for the control of the police work of the world it could not have been better fitted for the purpose, and, in fact, it is plain that the growth of international work has not been lost sight of in its planning.

The local force has already taken first place for efficiency in the capture of criminals escaped from foreign shores, so that New York has come to be the best place in the world for the big crooks to keep away from, and metropolitan detectives are constantly traveling between this and foreign countries, transferring wondrous and studying methods. Very close co-operation already exists between the various forces.

The greatest headquarters abroad is England's famous Scotland Yard, a group of buildings which together are larger than New York's new building and which have record of having handled 100,000 prisoners and ticket-of-leave men. But all of London's police work centers in Scotland Yard, whereas in New York each borough has a sub-headquarters of its own. Combining the American headquarters with the central stations of Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens and Richmond you have an aggregate unequalled in size as the Manhattan headquarters is unequalled in efficiency.

The cosmopolitan character of New York's population has had much to do with making an international police center. With its criminals from practically every country in the world it has been forced to employ men speaking practically as many languages and many more dialects and some members of the force are kept constantly at some school of languages to equip them for special work among the foreigners.

This alone has linked the department very closely to those of most of the foreign lands. Within one hour after the suspects in the murder of Father Kissner (remembered as the trunk mystery) were known to the New York detective bureau, the world had been circled by cable with their full description. Within 24 hours they had been traced and they were arrested the following week, each in Marseilles, another in Constantinople and a third in Algiers.

International police co-operation has also gone far in the fight on the Black Hand Hunckist, Mafia and other foreign organizations of criminals. Several European governments have sent their detectives to America and put them at the service of the American officials in this work. This has already resulted in the practical extermination of the Armenian Hunckist, whose outrages recently attracted the machinery of justice to effective work.

Many a foreign criminal has rejoiced at his first glimpse of America only to find on his arrival that his record had preceded him, and Lieutenant Potrosini or one of his staff is on hand at Quarantine to apprehend and hold him, an operation that has been very effective in excluding a vicious criminal element from the country.

"The cosmopolitan growth of our city," said Police Commissioner Bingham, through his secretary, "has been so rapid within the last few years that I hope the day is not far distant when we shall have an international police congress, with representatives from every country. We get many of the European crooks here and soon every police chief in the world will be represented here."

"One of the best results of sending police officials abroad was the importation of the police dogs from Belgium. The animals have already done good work in the outlying districts."

New York's new police headquarters is 268 feet long, 50 feet wide at one end and 49 feet wide at the other. The architectural scheme is the Georgian style of the 18th century; a handsome building radically different from that usually associated with police work. On the central dome is a wireless telegraph apparatus, so that the police may be in communication with incoming and outgoing ocean steamers. It is also to be used in the very unlikely event of the structure being besieged by a mob and the telegraph wires cut.

The top two stories will be used as an armory and drillroom for the force, and in case of emergency a thousand men can be concentrated there, and if necessary kept over night and fed from the log kitchen ranges downstairs. In the armory proper will be all the weapons necessary in the defense of the city against a riot, even to gassing guns.

In the sub-basement, 25 feet below the street level, are two modern Army shooting ranges, each 15 feet long and fully equipped with markers. Here are also located the magazine rooms, lockers and a large assembly room for the men. The young recruits who are to be trained to police work here practice flying shots at an automatic dog or feeling light.



Plat shooting has heretofore been one of the New York policeman's weakest points, but it need be no longer.

In the basement are a number of cells for male and female prisoners and several large steel cages to be used as "assembly" cells. Here also is one of those novel features of which there are a number in this building.

A driveway has been constructed from the Broome-street end of the building between the curb and portico, large enough to permit two or three wagonloads of prisoners to be taken directly to the cellroom without coming in contact with anyone other than the officer in charge. After the prisoner has been turned over to the turnkey, he may be taken to the Commissioner's room or to the head of the detective bureau or to the pignotograph—*in fact, anywhere in the building*—through a labyrinth of secret corridors and never be seen nor see any except the guards. There is also a large storeroom and several safes for which the property clerk in this part of the building, where a carload of merchandise may be stored. At the southern end of the building is the dining room for detectives attached to which are shower baths, lockers, dressing-rooms and a dormitory for the men on night duty.

On the ground level in the main section will be the entrance for the public. Above the pillars that crown this main entrance will be figures representing the five boroughs, the colossal figure of Manhattan being in the center, which the dreadnaughts of the navy, the rogues' gallery will be on this floor, with the photographs and records of tens of thousands of crooks, and in the adjoining rooms, the museum of criminal curiosities, the bureau of records and identification, with the appliances for the Bertillon system and thumb identification. This is the room in which the dreaded third degree comes to those suspected of concealing the truth to save themselves or some "pal."

The police library, the only one in the world, will be located here. This room contains books of criminal law, histories of police and crooks from the four corners of the earth.

But the real heart of the police activities is on the second floor, where Commissioner Bingham and his staff will have their offices. General Bingham's room is an imposing chamber in the Georgian style, and is reached with the offices of the Deputy Commissioner, Chief Inspector, Chief Clerk, record and filing department and the bureau of maintenance and repairs.

Of special interest will be the office of the Fourth Deputy Commissioner, Arthur H. Woods, who has charge of the detectives of all the boroughs. His room adjoins a large assembly room, where a prisoner is put on exhibition before the "sleuths," who are masked. Just to the rear of the desk has been arranged a secret booth, large enough to accommodate two persons. The side of the booth facing the prisoner is built directly into the wall, and the screen through which he is observed is hidden by an ingenious arrangement of lights and reflectors. Back of the screen and inside the booth a telephone has been placed in direct communication with the officer at the desk, and through this the observer may request that the prisoner may be turned or assume any other position to insure identification. From this room, and leading directly to the cells in the basement is a private stairway, down which the prisoner can be taken without being exposed to visitors in the hallways and corridors.

An underground passage connects headquarters with a special spur of the Subway, built to carry prisoners to and from the Tombs, free from observation of the crowds.

"These details of construction," said

Mr. Hoppin, the architect, "we borrowed from foreign police systems. The officials complained that there is too much publicity given to a prisoner here. He has too many chances to be in the open. In Europe, from the time he is arrested until released, he does not see the outside world. He passes through byways and passages forbidden to the free man. The patrols which bring the prisoners in here now will deposit them inside the building, and they will be washed, photographed, examined and confined in their cells without being seen by the public.

"Every effort has been made to impress both the officer and prisoner with the majesty of the law. For instance, in the police trial room will be as imposing as those of the higher courts. There will be a frieze around the ceiling representing the old night watch of Colonial times, and the fittings will be in keeping."

An innovation in the new police headquarters, though not a foreign idea, will be the map room whereby a series of large maps and diagrams of every precinct of the city will be shown with their streets and important buildings drawn to scale. By a system of small movable flags the Commissioner will know the exact place where the patrolman on post should be at any time during the day or night.

Publicity of criminal cases has been known to be an end to defeat justice. To prevent this the reporters assigned to "cover" headquarters have been provided with a large room wherein the available police news of the hour will be bulletined.

Two complete telegraph and telephone systems have been installed so that should one of these become disabled the other can be used in the emergency.

One of the most interesting departments of the Detective Bureau is the Rogues' Gallery, which contains the records and pictures of from 30,000 to 40,000 criminals. It is only within recent years that the police have begun to realize the importance of this department of the service. Not only do they photograph and take measurements of all criminals, but since the days of Sergeant Thomas Adams, they preserve clippings from all newspapers which in any way throw light upon the career of criminals and preserve them for reference.

Two specialists—police lieutenants—are on hand at every hour of the day assisting the men of the department in giving clues, as well as collecting records of beginners in crime. Frequently these records are loaned to the judges of the Criminal Courts before sentence is passed on old offenders, so that they may be informed of their career in crime. This branch of the Bureau is about 20

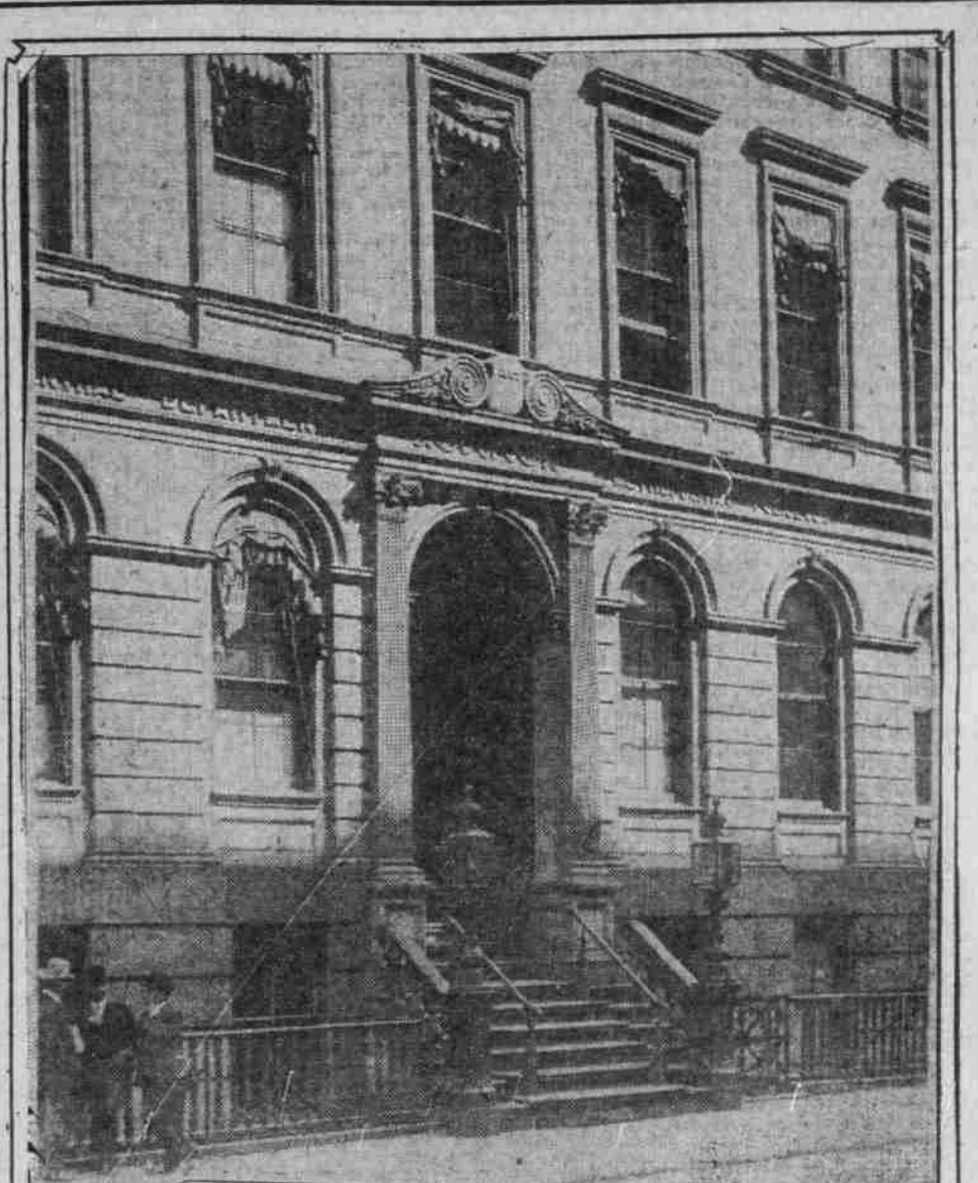
years old and is of immense importance to the Department.

The curiosities of crime, to be shown in the Museum of Criminal Curiosities, are most interesting. These consist of dark lanterns, jimmies galore, ancient

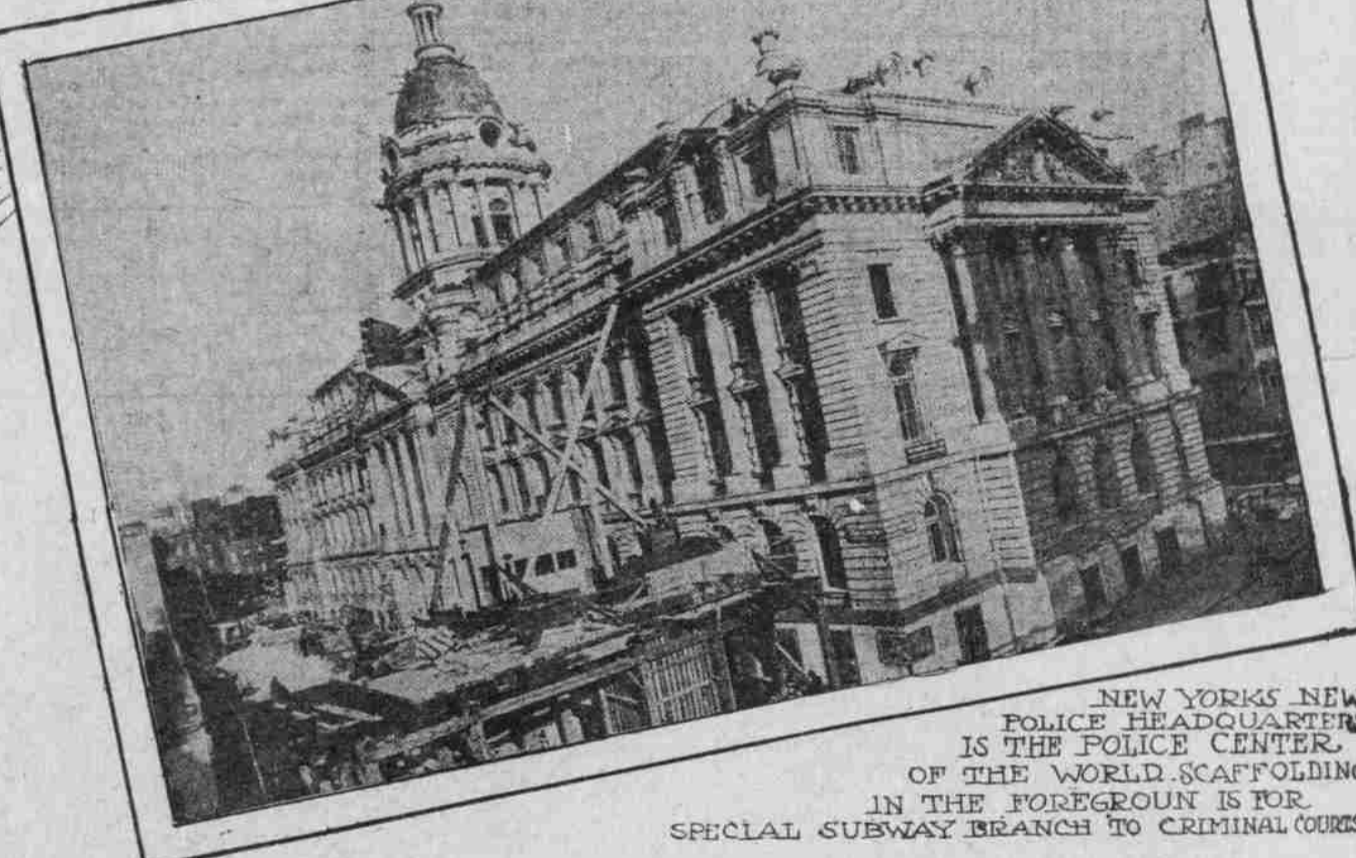
and modern jimmies, knives, dirks, razors, pistols, guns, gold bricks, burglary tools, skeleton keys and several hundred other devices used by criminals.

The Bertillon system of identification of criminals, so long in use in this country and Europe, is now being discarded. The new way of identifying criminals is by the thumb print and measurement. This system is being adopted in all civilized countries. Those who have made a study of the system say that only two

thumbs in every 64,000,000 are the same. Recently the Commissioner sent a detective sergeant to London and France to study it more fully so that it may supersede the Bertillon system altogether in New York.



FAMOUS OLD HEADQUARTERS AT 300 MULBERRY ST. WHICH THE CITY HAS OUTGROWN



NEW YORK'S NEW POLICE HEADQUARTERS IS THE POLICE CENTER OF THE WORLD. SCAFFOLDING IN THE FOREGROUND IS FOR SPECIAL SUBWAY BRANCH TO CRIMINAL COURTS

EARRINGS IN FASHION ONCE MORE

They Will Be Screwed On and Are Expected to Make Their Appearance in New York Next Month.

A GAIN the earring is received in the highest social circles of this country as well as of Europe. Ten years ago, after a decade or so of steadily waning popularity, it disappeared from the jewel box of the smart New York woman and girls congratulated themselves because having one's ears pierced was no longer a fashionable necessity.

Nowadays it is possible to wear earrings without being obliged first to mutilate the ear. Most of the new earrings are finished with a screw back, which clasps the lobe of the ear so closely that the earring couldn't get away if it tried.

"Screw the thing until it hurts," a jeweler said, "and there is little or no danger of the ornament slipping from its place. Women who object to enduring pains for hours at a stretch even in so worthy a becoming a cause have the choice of course of having their ears bored or going without earrings."

Curiously enough, leading jewelers disclaim all responsibility for the return of the earring. They could not prevent its decline in fashion and its return to popularity has been a matter of growth, first among the women of Europe, and then among their American sisters. Now the earring seems to be here to stay.

From the specialist in precious stones of a famous New York jewelry establishment the impression was gained that the opening of the opera season this Autumn will mean the opening of an exhibit of ear ornaments, including rare varieties of pearls, diamonds and other precious stones, made up in flexible drop designs from one to one and one-half inches long when diamonds

alone or diamonds in conjunction with other stones are used, and in round designs, worn close against the lobe of the ear, when large pearls with an inconspicuous diamond setting or no setting at all are used.

Thus far there has been no attempt to revive the once popular large solitaire diamond earring. At present the pear-shaped pearl and the pear-shaped diamond are really the most admired stones for the drop design, both black and gray pearls being tremendously popular with women who have long purses, for the reason perhaps that they are uncommonly rare.

To find a pair of perfectly matched pear-shaped black pearls is anything but easy, the expert said.

"Occasionally," he went on, "after getting one of the required shape and price we wait several months before we can catch it. Some days ago I read a fashion note, copied from a London paper, which stated that there was a craze for black pearls—an utterly impossible state of things, for the reason that there never can be a craze for anything that is so very scarce."

"I know of one very fashionable woman who wears a black pearl in one ear and a white pearl in the other ear because it was her luck to secure one very beautiful black pearl which at the moment had no mate. Sooner or later in all probability the owner will want a second black pearl. Another customer of ours wears one black and one white pearl simply in order to appear odd."

A pair of round gray pearls of high luster, framed with one row of tiny diamonds and fitting close to the lobe of the ear, are the earrings ordered by a New York woman just back from Europe. The cost of this pair was \$2000, a sum not extravagant, when compared with the \$10,000 asked for a pair of black pear-shaped pearls perhaps a trifle more than a third of an inch long, depending from a tiny bow-

ket of very small diamonds topped with a small solitaire. The length was about one and one-half inches.

A rare pair of smaller black pear-shaped pearls pendant from an open-work design of small diamonds cost \$5000. As an instance of the price some women are willing to pay for perfectly matched white pearl earrings the jeweler showed a pair measuring nearly half an inch in diameter and of exquisite luster which were valued at \$20,000.

The market value of a single half-inch American pearl found in a Western river is almost perfect in shape and shape is \$35,000. The jeweler added that it is not improbable that a certain very rich American may ask to have this pearl matched for earrings.

Two pea-sized pearls connected with a slightly smaller diamond set in a fine mesh of diamonds was indicated as a design favored by young women. The price was \$800, and none but a connoisseur would know that the comparatively moderate price meant that the pearls are not of the best quality or discover why two other similar designs, valued at \$1500 and \$1800, were not included in the flawless specimens.

Luckily for women not of unlimited means the smallest flaw in the shape or the color of a pearl drops its price several hundred dollars. An illustration of this was a beautiful pair of pear-shaped pearls, more egg-shaped than pear-shaped, though, and a trifle irregular at that, pendant from a flexible chain design of very small diamonds, the price of which was only \$375, whereas perfect pear-shaped pearls of equal size and luster would fetch at least \$5000.

Aside from the pendant designs in pearl earrings, the many varieties made of baroque pearls are perhaps one of the most interesting features of the earring collections, even in high-class stores.

Belonging to the genuine pearl fashion, the baroque, falling to develop symmetrically or to acquire a certain standard of polish, is disqualified from entering the upper class of pearls. Its surface is usually irregular, sometimes bumpy. It is not uniform in color and seldom has the sheen or the tint associated with the finer pearls. There are bronzes and pinks and other tints among the baroque in size, to suit the most extreme taste.

"We can't get them big enough to suit some young women," a jeweler said in speaking of the vogue of the style of earring, the most popular designs of which vary in size from three-eighths to three-quarters of an inch in diameter and are mounted on platinum, with or without one small diamond at the top, and cost from \$35 to \$253 a pair. Platinum is the preferred mounting for all the new earrings, and when, as happens in nearly every pendant design, small stones are used, mill-grain setting, in which the stones are sunk flush with the edge of the platinum, is the most stylish.

Anything more beautiful in the earring line than some of the pendant diamond examples can hardly be imagined. For one thing they are as flexible as a piece of lace, every stone, however small, being articulated. There are no claws or projections to catch on neckwear or the collar.

Pear-shaped brochet cut diamonds from a third to half an inch long are a noticeable feature in these. In one example the narrow end of the pear was fitted into a cap of small diamonds and the pear was suspended from a fancy design of small brilliant, perhaps 20 to the carat, above which, next to the ear, was a small solitaire. The earring was about one and a quarter inches long.

Campaigning.
Cleveland Plain Dealer.
The train comes whizzing down the track
And halts amid the cheers.
And on the platform at the back
The candidate appears.
He gestures as he hoarsely speaks.
His words are far from plain.
And then the engine hoarsely shrieks
And drags away the train.