

Police Beats.

There are 64 police beats in the city. The patrolmen are divided into four squads: The day watch squad reports at 7:30 in the morning and leaves the headquarters to go out on duty at 7:45 a. m. and continue until relieved by the dog watch squad at 4:00 in the afternoon. At present the day watch squad is composed of eleven men. The squad for the dog watch reports at headquarters at 3:15 p. m. and goes on duty at 3:45 p. m. and continue on duty until relieved by the night watch squad about 8:00 o'clock p. m. At present the dog watch squad is composed of 17 men. The night watch squad reports at headquarters at 7:15 p. m. and starts on duty at 7:45 p. m. and continues on duty until relieved by the dog watch at about 4:00 a. m. At present the night watch squad is composed of 26 men. There are some special outside beats for which the men report at 5:30 p. m. and go out at 6:00 p. m. and patrol until 2:00 a. m. There is a reserve squad of 10 men. The headquarters are always open with a telephone and telegraph operator on constant duty. The force has six detectives who do special work under direction of the Superintendent. As now organized the department has 119 members. June 19, 1885, the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners contracted with the Police Telephone and Signal Company for twenty signal stations and the necessary apparatus to operate a central office, in two circuits, for the sum of \$3,200. These were provided and put in use a few months later.

In connection with the beats is the patrol box system, which is one of the finest features of the department. There are fifty-two of these boxes, all of which have telephones connected with police headquarters. Each patrolman reports to headquarters at each end of his beat, and the exact time is there recorded by an operator. These reports are carefully saved and bound so that in after years, by referring to the records, it can be ascertained where any officer on duty was at a certain hour on a given date. In connection with the system is a two-horse wagon, with a man constantly in charge. The wagon attends all alarms from the patrol boxes and many calls by private telephone. It also attends all fires to give necessary police protection.