

# Metropolitan police force established

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## Police force, from page A1

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pocket of the city budget the money would come from. "Special counsel have been employed, and as many as 500 witnesses may be called to testify as to their citizenships."

Fortunately, most of the witnesses were eliminated by the presentation of affidavits. The *Star* on July 21 reported, "The claim is that enough affidavits have been secured from persons whose names are on the census list declaring that they are not citizens of Bloomington, which will reduce the population to less than 10,000."

Although the newspaper indicated that the decision in the case would be made by Judge

Rufus East in a matter of a few weeks, the actual establishment of the metropolitan police force did not happen until January 1914. Announced the *Star*, "The new council has recognized the fact that Bloomington has at least 10,000 inhabitants. The new census shows about 11,000. This is the third time that Mayor Harris has made an effort to establish a metropolitan police system, and the third time was a go."

While the mayor and new police commissioner were in Indianapolis picking out new uniforms for the force, the officers found some new regulations awaiting them. According to the *Star*, the police were required to "register in at headquarters every hour at night, keep their shoes polished, and not smoke on duty."