

Born Dec 21 1874

Died Nov 21 1947



CORNELIUS O'LEARY.

The New York Times, 1937

Cornelius O'Leary, 73, Retired Deputy Police Commissioner

Cornelius O'Leary, 73, former fourth deputy police commissioner and an expert on traffic problems, died yesterday in Boulevard Hospital, Astoria, where he was taken Tuesday after suffering a heart attack in his home, 46-04 31st Ave., Long Island City. He resigned last Feb. 4 after 46 years in the Police Department.

Mr. O'Leary, a native of County Kerry, Ireland, came to the United States as a youth and in 1901 was appointed a patrolman. He was promoted to sergeant in 1912 and to lieutenant in 1917.

As an instructor in the Police Academy, he encouraged the young men to broaden their education. Mayor O'Dwyer, one

of his students there, said it was Mr. O'Leary who gave him the idea of studying law.

In 1924 Mr. O'Leary was elevated to captain. He became a deputy inspector in 1935 and a deputy chief inspector in 1936. Soon after he retired and then was appointed fourth deputy commissioner.

He had been in charge of traffic in Queens and, as deputy commissioner, city-wide control of traffic was turned over to him. He also was in charge of the Hack Bureau and of licenses issued by the department, and directed the LaGuardia anti-noise campaign in 1941.

Surviving are his wife, Jane; an adopted daughter, Mrs. Betty

O'Brien of Corona, and a nephew, Inspector John M. O'Leary, commanding the Traffic Division in Queens.

C. O'LEARY, 73, DEAD; POLICE EX-OFFICIAL

**Expert on Traffic Conditions
Was Formerly Fourth Deputy
Commissioner in This City**

Cornelius O'Leary, former Fourth Deputy Police Commissioner of this city, died yesterday at the Boulevard Hospital, Astoria, Queens. He had suffered a heart attack in his home, 104-14 Thirty-seventh Drive, Corona, earlier in the week. His age was 73.

An expert on traffic conditions, Commissioner O'Leary was a member of the New York City Police Department for more than forty-five years. As fourth deputy commissioner he was in charge of the section of the Department of Licenses that handled the licensing of taxicab drivers.

While heading this department, Commissioner O'Leary presided at trials involving violation of hack rules by taxicab drivers and was empowered to penalize drivers. From 1943 to 1945 he tried cases at the rate of 150 a month.

He was frequently called upon to formulate plans for the relief of vehicular congestion. During his regime, he issued regulations which called for the restricted movements of heavy trucks on crowded thoroughfares. He urged the adoption of rules to limit trucks on the streets to provide a margin of safety for other drivers and pedestrians.

In 1941, the late Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia placed him in charge of the city's anti-noise campaign.

Tight-lipped and stern, he worked his way up to a top rank in the department from a beat. He was highly regarded by his colleagues and police reporters. He was appointed to the department in 1901, became a sergeant in 1912, lieutenant in 1917, captain in 1924, deputy inspector in 1930, inspector in 1935 and deputy chief inspector the next year.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Jane O'Leary; an adopted daughter, Mrs. Betty O'Brien of Corona, and a nephew, Inspector John M. O'Leary, commanding the Traffic Division in Queens of the Police Department.



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