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# Policing The City Of Birmingham (1899-1935.)



## Synopsis

Irishman Charles Haughton Rafter was credited with transforming the crime-ridden streets of Birmingham during the early 20th century. He improved the quality of life for its citizens' at a critical time when gang violence - especially by the Peaky Blinders - was shocking. The expanding city was one of the rowdiest places in the Midlands. However, through the dependable constables, the expertise and skill of the detectives and the sergeants who nurtured and oversaw their junior members in the rank and file, they provided the solutions, secured the arrests' and the convictions of criminals while, at time, using strong arm tactics. A former district inspector, in the Royal Irish Constabulary, Rafter was the best of 50 applicants for the role of chief constable in July 1899. He had a powerful personality and when he died, in 1935, he was still in post as chief constable. He left a unique and lasting positive effect on Birmingham with his style of command that was of benefit to all the people of the city.

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