

POLICEMEN IN CLASH

Politician Denies He Received Money, As Alleged.

SERGEANT REPORTED ON IT

Says Captain Ward Replied There Was "Nothing To It"—Statement Made To Colonel Swann.

Declaring that Capt. Bernard J. Ward, of the Northwestern district, had ignored a report concerning an alleged disorderly house on North Carey street and had detailed another man to investigate what he had reported, Sergeant Albert E. Hurley, of the same district made a statement yesterday to Col. Sherlock Swann, president of the Police Board. Marshal Farnan, when asked about the case, said that the board intended to investigate it.

When asked about his complaint to Col. Swann, Sergeant Hurley said:

"I found in the course of my work on November 26 that a woman was conducting a disorderly house on North Carey street, and upon investigation she made a statement that a 'friend' had paid in April to Robert Davis, a politician, \$75 to be used for the payment of her fine at the time of the indictment of such places by the grand jury last May. I wrote out a statement of what she told me, and in the presence of Patrolman Higgins the woman placed a crossmark to her name which was written by the 'friend,' giving her approval of the statement as I wrote it.

Says Paper Was Handed Back.

"When I returned to the police station at night I turned the report over to Captain Ward, informing him of the character of the house. 'I've known of this place before—there's nothing to it,' was the reply. He handed me back the paper and I walked away.

"That same night he assigned Patrolman Dunn to investigate the house. Upon Dunn's report he had the case sent to the grand jury.

"What became of the \$75 that the woman said she sent to Davis I do not know, but I felt that the report should go to headquarters and be further investigated. She was not indicted in May, and it was not until after I reported on the house that the woman was brought before the grand jury. She said she was afraid of 'Bob' Davis and the 'captain,' not mentioning what captain.

"I believe in policing right and have done the best I could for the department. I have been in the district a little over a year, and during that time I have been changed three times. My last change took place after I raided a saloon on Madison avenue. The proprietor remarked that he would have me transferred to the Northern district, and several days later I was changed to my present bailiwick, which extends out to Walbrook and is what is known as the 'farm.'"

What Captain Ward Says.

Captain Ward was seen at his home and asked regarding the statement of Sergeant Hurley.

"Did you ignore the report and alleged confession of the woman reported to be running a disorderly house on North Carey street?" Captain Ward was asked.

"Yes, I declined to consider the 'confession.' I would not believe the woman," Captain Ward replied.

"In reference to the statement that she gave up \$75 to pay her fine under an indictment which was never found—do you know anything about that money?"

"Nothing whatever," he replied. "That money question has been brought to my attention before. All I know is what Hurley stated in his report that the woman said she gave it to 'Bob' Davis. I was with Mr. Davis last night and he will tell you what became of the money."

"Did you know that the Carey street house was a disorderly one?"

"I did."

"Why did you not take the name to Marshal Farnan, in order that it could be brought before the grand jury for indictment, as other such houses?"

"I could get no evidence against the woman that her house was being run improperly."

"How was it that Hurley and Higgins learned of it, and after they made their report you sent Dunn to investigate with the result that he got witnesses?"

"Just luck. They were able to get the witnesses at the right time."

Conditions In District.

"How are things in your district, Captain?" was next asked.

"They have never been better in the last 20 years," he answered.

"Do you recall a raid about 12 months ago on a house in Tyson alley?"

"Yes."

"A prominent man was in that raid. Wasn't he?"

"Yes—of course you know about that. They got \$700 out of him."

"Who got this money?"

The Captain did not answer this question directly. He continued:

"My district is in good condition and some people are only hot after me. There is a clique that is trying to 'hand me a lemon,' but they will have a hard time getting anything on me."

"What is the trouble between you and Hurley?"

"Well, I'll tell you," he said. "Hurley's all right. I brought him up to this district because I knew him to be a good man. He was working one bailiwick on which was a hotel managed by his brother-in-law. Things were not going on there to my satisfaction and I had him changed to another bailiwick. He and another sergeant got too intimate and another change became necessary. The last time I removed him was because we have a sergeant named Reynolds working the woods (meaning Walbrook and Forest Park). Well, Reynolds was not working to my satisfaction, and I thought that Hurley would be a better man in that bailiwick than he, so I brought Reynolds down to the post around the police station.

"I learned some time ago that the men on the 'farm' were drinking to some extent. Upon investigation I discovered that one man got so drunk one night that after he 'pulled in' his time he fell down and had to be carted away in a wheelbarrow. The men were running wild out there, so that's the reason I sent Hurley there.

"On another occasion my attention was called to an officer who had the nerve to stock up saloons with rugs to be raffled off. A man came to me and told of the raffling and he said the saloonkeeper told him that he raffled the rugs in order to get protection from the patrolman. I quickly put a stop to that."

Mr. Davis' Statement.

Robert Davis, who conducts a loan office and a saloon, was asked whether he knew anything about the \$75 that the woman said she had paid.

"I did not get a cent of the \$75; in fact, I know nothing about it except what I have heard," he said.

He was told what the woman had said to Sergeant Hurley.

"All I know about this case is that another man came to me and asked what could be done about the woman's indictment," Mr. Davis continued. "I referred him to Deputy Sheriff Bichey, who has since died, and what Bichey did about the matter I don't know. I know nothing about the money."

"The woman is represented to have said that the money was to go to you and the captain," he was told.

"Well, the captain doesn't need any collector," replied Mr. Davis. "I did not get the money and know nothing about it."

Sergeant Hurley's friends say he has made a good record in the Northwestern district. He recently became closely associated with church work. This elicited the criticism in quarters unfavorable to him that he was too religious to be a police officer.

From August 2, 1908, to June 8, 1909, Hurley, with assistance, raided nine saloons and alleged gambling places. Six saloonkeepers and one keeper of a gambling place were convicted. He was transferred after this work to another post. In a short time he raided an unlicensed liquor place, the proprietor of which was convicted and fined, and a gambling place, the keeper of which was convicted.