

## **POLICE SEEK STOWMAN**

### **Case Of "Bob" Davis May Be Tried Without Him, It Is Said.**

While the entire **police** force was looking yesterday for Edward Stowman, whose absence caused the postponement Monday of the trial of Robert E. Davis, generally known as "Bob" Davis, on the charge of obtaining \$75 from Maggie Hunter by false representations, State's Attorney Owens was endeavoring to arrange to have the trial of Davis set for tomorrow or Friday, whether Stowman is on hand or not.

Stowman was the alleged go-between in passing the money from the woman to Davis, and was relied on as the principal witness for the prosecution. It was upon the instruction of Deputy State's Attorney Eugene O'Dunne that the **police** began searching the city yesterday for Stowman. When the Davis case was called for trial Monday, it was announced that Stowman had gone to St. Paul, Minn. Deputy State's Attorney O'Dunne called upon acting Marshal Manning yesterday morning and told him that information had been received that Stowman was still in Baltimore. It happened that all the **police** captains were in the Marshal's office at the time and they were instructed to order their men to look for Stowman. The orders were that if Stowman was found in the daytime to take him to the State's Attorney's office, and if at night to lock him up in a station-house until morning.

State's Attorney Owens said he had received no information as to the whereabouts of Stowman. "I have been trying to make arrangements today," Mr. Owens went on, "to have the Davis case tried Thursday or Friday. If Stowman is in the city and is summoned to testify, there will be no trouble. If he is not in the city, the case may be tried without him. The case could be tried without Stowman testifying if his testimony before the **Police** Board at the trial of **Captain Ward** is used. I have been trying to arrange with Mr. Thomas C. Ruddell, attorney for Davis, for the trial of the case this week."

"I am perfectly willing to try the case any day," Mr. Ruddell said, "but I am not willing to have Mr. Davis plead guilty. It would amount to a plea of guilty to consent to the use of Stowman's testimony before the **Police** Board. Not one-third of that testimony would have been admitted in a trial in court. It is largely hearsay. To consent to the admission of that testimony would be to admit that Stowman gave Davis \$75 to keep Maggie Hunter from being indicted. Mr. Davis is willing to have the case tried with Stowman here. If anything, Stowman will be a benefit to Mr. Davis as a witness."

It is said that Stowman went away Wednesday of last week. As the summons for his appearance at the Davis trial was not issued until Friday, he went away before he could have received it. If he has gone out of the State, it is said, he may not be compelled to come back, even if his whereabouts are known. Even if he is found in the city, it is said, he may not be charged with any offense as he was not summoned.