

AFTER WHELTLE ALONE

Ex-Captains Ward And Pumphrey Have Their Knives Out.

BEHIND NEW CHARGES IS BELIEF

Petition For An Injunction To Re- strain The Governor From Try- ing Police Board A Possibility.

Because of the threats of "vengeance" which have been made against President John B. A. Wheltle, of the Police Board, by former Captain of Detectives Pumphrey and former Captain B. J. Ward, of the Northwestern district, friends of Mr. Wheltle are curious to know what steps these two ex-members of the department may have taken to influence the new charges which are to be preferred against the board by Governor Crothers.

When it was rumored that both Pumphrey and Ward had gone over to the Governor and were to furnish him with information to be used as a basis for some of the new charges, it was at first stated that the two ex-members might be able to give evidence against some of the men in the ranks.

This idea has been dissipated by Pumphrey and Ward, both of whom have stated to friends that the only person in the department at whom they wanted to "get back" was Mr. Wheltle, and that they intended to do all they could to accomplish this purpose if they had to go through Tophet.

Ex-Captain Ward has been bitter in his denunciations of Mr. Wheltle ever since he was dismissed by the board two years ago. Ward was charged with neglect of duty, and the trial and investigation consumed several weeks. At that time Col. Sherlock Swann was president of the board, but Ward has always considered Mr. Wheltle the most active person in prosecuting the case and bringing out the evidence.

On that account he has told a number of people that he intended to "get even" with Mr. Wheltle if it took the "last drop of his blood." His personal opinion of Mr. Wheltle has been expressed in terms quite in keeping with "the last drop of blood" speech, and it was always assumed by those who talked with him that he meant to "get even" at the Governor's hearing. As far as is known, Ward has not given any definite details of any information which he purports to have concerning Mr. Wheltle, and the friends of Mr. Wheltle are not alarmed over what he might say.

When Pumphrey was forced to resign by the board Mr. Wheltle was its president. The ex-captain of detectives did not at first seem to be particularly incensed with Mr. Wheltle, but recently he has told several people that Mr. Wheltle was the one he blamed most for forcing him to resign and that he intended to "get even."

In his case also the details of how he expects to obtain revenge have not leaked out, but because of his attitude and that of Ward the friends of Mr. Wheltle are curious to know how far the new charges to be brought out by the Governor will be affected by anything these two men have said.

It is asserted that Mr. Wheltle does not fear anything they might have said, and on this account friends of Governor Crothers who are interested in the new charges say that it would be a mistake to base any of them on statements by Ward or Pumphrey. The friends of the Governor say that the testimony of discharged employes is ticklish testimony to handle. Ward and Pumphrey have made it plain that none of their friends in the department need fear that they are "putting a hand" up on them, Mr. Wheltle being the only person singled out for retaliation.

It is understood that the charges of the Governor will be ready tomorrow. What the Police Board will do after the charges are sent to it has not developed. It is believed that as yet the Commissioners have not settled on any course of action.

If the board decided to apply for a writ of injunction to restrain the Governor from trying it, a course which has been suggested as a probability, the proceeding would have to be instituted in Annapolis, where the Governor has his legal residence.