

# POOLROOMS, SAYS WARD

Former Captain Declares He Knows  
Where Betting Is Active.

## OPERATORS WARNED OF RAIDS

For This Reason, He Asserts, Oliphant Has Been Unable To Get Evidence—McGovern Denies It.

"For the past six weeks a full-fledged poolroom has been in operation on Richmond street," said former Police Captain Bernard J. Ward last night.

"In this poolroom bets on horses running on out-of-town tracks are received just as they were at Westport. The proprietors of this place have been doing a landoffice business and have not been interrupted by the police, who certainly must know about its operation, because it is known all about town.

"I read that Detective Oliphant had been ordered to apologize to Captain of Detectives McGovern, this order coming from the Police Board after Oliphant had told McGovern that he was tired of being sent to raid poolrooms. I know why Oliphant failed to get any evidence when he attempted to make these raids. He was 'double-crossed,' to use the expression—they knew he was coming.

"At this poolroom is a special wire over which come the results and full details of races. Of course it is not an easy matter for anyone who is a stranger to go into this poolroom and bet, but nevertheless many do it.

"This is not the only place where bets on races are received. In the vicinity of Fayette and Eutaw streets is a place where at least 50 bets are placed a day on races. A negro waits outside the place, is given a sign by the person who wishes to bet; the bet is placed and if the horse win the next day he gets his money. I can name a number of places where there is betting on horses. Handbooks are in full operation and the police must know it.

"I know Oliphant and I was instrumental through Col. Sherlock Swann in having him promoted from a patrolman to a sergeant. He was sent to get evidence against the poolroom on Richmond street, but when he got there no evidence was to be had, because they were 'wise' to his coming."

When former Captain Ward's statement was read last night to Captain of Detectives McGovern he declared there was no foundation for the assertions made by the former captain.

"I received information that there was poolselling at the Richmond street place and I summoned three detectives—Oliphant, Lancaster and Burns—to raid the place.

"The detectives went to the place and searched, but found no paraphernalia for poolselling on horse racing. In fact, there was nothing about the place which caused them to suspect that bets on horse racing would be accepted.

"When he intimates that the proprietor of the place was 'tipped off,' Captain Ward does something for which there is absolutely no foundation. The detectives did not know where they were going until I detailed them on the case, and they went immediately. Any intimation that I or any of the other officials advised the proprietor of the place that the detectives were coming to raid it is untrue and not worthy of consideration.