

PLUM CHARGES FRAMED

Suspended Sergeant Will Be Given Them Formally Today.

TRIAL TO BEGIN JANUARY 20

Marie Colder, From Whom He Is Alleged To Have Received Money, Makes A Statement.

Marshal Farnan yesterday framed charges of official misconduct against Sergeant Frank J. Plum, of the Northeastern district, who was suspended by the Police Board Thursday. A copy of the charges will be presented to the Sergeant today at Police Headquarters.

The formal charges are as follows:

JANUARY 14, 1910.

To the Honorable the Board of Police Commissioners:

Gentlemen—I have to report Sergeant Frank J. Plum, of the Northeastern district, upon the charge of official misconduct.

In that he, during or about the month of March, 1907, accepted money from Marie Colder, keeper of a disorderly house at 818 McCulloh street.

In that he, during or about the month of October, 1907, made demands for money of the said Marie Colder, which demands were not then complied with.

In that he, during or about the month of October, 1907, actuated by motives other than the enforcement of law and to the detriment of police service within the bounds of their respective territories, took Patrolman John A. Stapf and Patrolman Joseph E. Mitchell from the posts to which they had been regularly assigned and stationed them for several nights consecutively in front of or in the vicinity of said house, 818 McCulloh street.

That he, during or about the month of October, 1907, accepted money from the said Marie Colder, and upon the receipt of said money withdrew Patrolmen Stapf and Mitchell from the vicinity of the house hereinbefore mentioned.

That he, on several occasions subsequent to the withdrawal of the patrolmen, as aforesaid, accepted money from the said Marie Colder.

All in violation of law and his oath of office. Respectfully THOMAS F. FARNAN,

Marshal.

May Be Tried January 20.

The trial will probably take place January 20. The Police Commissioners say they are determined to get to the bottom of the case. Mr. Alonzo L. Miles, counsel for the Police Board, it is believed, will not appear in the case, as he will be in Buffalo about that time defending Captain of Detectives Pumphrey in a suit against the detective for \$900 brought against him by a Buffalo detective.

Sergeant Plum will be defended by Attorney Luther E. Mackall, who also declares that the charges brought against the sergeant are, in his opinion, baseless, and he feels that his client will be exonerated.

"The stigma now resting on the good name of Sergeant Plum," he declared, "will be lifted after he is brought to trial."

Sergeant Plum repeated his denial of the charges, again characterizing them as blackmail, and asking a suspension of judgment until the trial. If it should be proved that the sergeant accepted money and gave police protection in return, it is said, those who gave him the money may be indicted for bribery.

It was testified at the trial of Captain Ward that Plum had stationed Patrolman Stapf and Mitchell in front of the Colder house because Miss Colder refused to give money to Sergeant Plum. She testified at that time, however, that not only did she give money to Plum, but to a former captain of the Northwestern district. Part of her testimony was as follows:

"I got tired of the men in front of my door and I had a talk with Captain Schleigh, to whom I gave \$5. After I made this present the two patrolmen who had been stationed in front of my house were removed and I was let alone."

Marie Colder Makes Statement.

Marie Colder said last night:

"I moved into the McCulloh street house in 1907. After I was there a short time I was indicted and paid a fine. Soon after that Sergeant Plum visited my house on several occasions and asked me for money. I thought he was 'kidding,' but he afterward came inside the house and demanded money from me. He said: 'I want a hand-out, and I want a liberal one, because you are doing a good business here!' I had paid my fine and I refused to give him any money. He got very mad and called me abusive names and said I had to give up. Then he shook his fist under my nose and threatened to put me out of business unless I did give up. I still refused.

"After that I found out that officers were stationed in front of my door until 4 o'clock in the morning. I asked one of them why he had been placed there, and he said that Sergeant Plum had told him to stay there.

"I then determined to send him the money, and I asked a man whom I knew then as Williams, or Newell, to do me a favor. I asked him to take some money for me to Sergeant Plum. This I did on several occasions, and this gentleman said that he had given to Sergeant Plum the money that I gave him.

Officers Were Removed, She Says.

"After I had sent the first payment the officers were taken away from in front of my house, and I continued to pay Sergeant Plum money until he left that post."

When asked concerning the allegations made by Sergeant Plum that Dr. J. H. Williams tried to put him in a false light, Marie Colder said:

"That is absolutely false. From what I know of this man Newell, or Williams, in the times that I have seen him at my house I do not think that he is the kind of man who would attempt to do anything of the sort. I am dreadfully sorry that it has all happened. If I had known that I was going to get this man in any trouble, I would never have asked him to do what I did."

She was then asked the circumstances surrounding the statement made by her to Mr. Harry B. Wolf. Sergeant Plum alleges that this was made under a threat by Captain Ward of putting her out of business. She said:

"When Sergeant Plum came into my house and got angry with me and poked his fist under my nose some one must have heard of the incident, because when I went to Mr. Wolf's office he told me everything that had taken place the night that Sergeant Plum had called there and got mad with me and demanded money. He seemed to know all about it before he asked me to say a word. And then there was nothing else for me to do but say what I did."

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