

# WARD TRIAL TODAY

## Sixty Witnesses To Be Called On Behalf Of Captain.

### ONLY 15 TO SUPPORT CHARGES

#### Police Board To Sit As Court—Verdict Expected By Wednesday Afternoon Or Thursday Morning.

The trial of Capt. Bernard J. Ward, who was relieved of the command of the Northwestern Police district December 14 on charges of neglect of duty, receiving money from a saloonkeeper and other allegations of official misconduct, is assigned for this morning at 10 o'clock before the Police Board.

Public interest in the developments has been increasing and the utterances of the witnesses are being anticipated with much curiosity. Captain Ward's friends are hoping for his acquittal, but they realize the seriousness of the charges.

It became known yesterday that following the statement by Mr. Alonzo I. Miles, counsel to the Police Board, published in THE SUN Friday, ex-Mayor Thomas G. Hayes and Mr. Harry B. Wolf, the Captain's counsel, have abandoned the plan of introducing testimony by which it is said they had hoped to show bad conditions in the Northwestern district which were not of the Captain's making.

While it is understood that Captain Ward's counsel will still introduce this testimony, they have turned their most serious intention to evidence by which they hope to specifically disprove the charges. It is said that no criticism of Justice Tyson, of the Northwestern Police Court, will be attempted.

#### Sixty Witnesses For Defense.

Over 60 witnesses have been summoned by the defense and, it is said, will be used in combating the charges. Among them, it is understood, are Sedonia Young and several other women who are expected to testify that Captain Ward gave them no protection, but on the contrary, had them raided while others of the Northwestern's force did allow them immunity. It is on these witnesses that the fight against Sergeant Plum will chiefly be made, and the board will be called upon again to determine as to the reliability of individual witnesses.

Others who will testify for Captain Ward, besides a number of the patrolmen of the district, are saloonkeepers in the Captain's former ballwrick. Louis Katz, the saloonkeeper whom Sergeant Plum alleges told him that he was paying Captain Ward money for protection, will be one of the witnesses for the defense, as will be also Charles McDermott, his former bartender. Richard E. Slater, a saloonkeeper at 522 Baker street, and Joseph A. Delaney, in the same business at 1701 Presbury street, will also testify in the Captain's behalf. By these and others the counsel for the defense hope to prove that Captain Ward had no interest in their places.

Other saloonkeepers, it is alleged, have been summoned by the defense to testify against both Sergeants Hurley and Plum, the former of whom was responsible for the charges being brought against Captain Ward. Extremely insistent efforts will be made, it is understood, to lay charges against these two officers.

The additional witness for the defense was called, it is said, after a conference at which it was decided that while the board's evident intention is to restrict the testimony to the charges, the defense still will have an opportunity of introducing witnesses attacking the statements of the patrolmen who will be put on the stand by the Police Board.

Mr. Miles, it is understood, has made no change in his program of calling only about 15 witnesses, and it is believed by both sides that their testimony will be heard today. Some of the witnesses to be called are: Sergeants Plum and Hurley, Patrolmen Kiggins, Scriviner, Emrich, Stevens, Lynch, Webster, Casey, Cullison and Dunn, also Maggie Hunter, Edward Stoneman, Edward Hargrave and Daniel J. Mallison.

#### Charges And Specifications.

There are five charges against Captain Ward, combining three specifications—neglect of duty in not reporting the house of Maggie Hunter, at 1439 North Carey street, while he is alleged to have known its character; official misconduct in accepting presents of money from Louis Katz, the saloonkeeper, and actions prejudicial to the interests of the service by transferring patrolmen and sergeants from posts following their activity against saloons and also intimidating patrolmen who were attempting to secure evidence against saloonkeepers.

When the board meets this morning Col. Sherlock Swann, the president; Mr. John B. A. Wheltie and Mr. Peter Tome the Commissioners will take their places on the dais in the trial room and sit as judges. Captain Ward will be called and the charges will be read to him, after which he will be asked to plead either guilty or not guilty. After his plea is entered the trial will begin by the calling of witnesses for the board, without any opening statements.

Mr. Miles will conduct the department's case, assisted by Marshal Farnan, who is the official representative of the charges, the board having to assume the position of judges.

It has been stated that after the case of the board is presented the Captain's counsel will ask for a verdict of not guilty. This the board will probably refuse to do, and the defense will put on witnesses. It is believed that a verdict may be reached by Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning at the latest.