

SCANDAL PROMISED

Investigation of Deposed Detectives Before Police Committee Likely to Produce Sensational Testimony Before It Is Ended.

Captain of Detectives Patrick Bruin has hurled his challenge glove at the feet of deposed sleuths Joseph Day, Frank Snow, Frank Carpenter and John Reising and they will pick it up. Out of the challenge it is expected that some testimony of vivid hue and verbiage will come tending to drag into the light the inner secrets of the police department and the bureau of criminal investigation.

At a session of the police committee of the executive board yesterday afternoon Captain Bruin said many uncomplimentary things about the four ex-detectives and they sat back against the wall and looked at him with narrowing eyes and unfriendly regard. During the recital Ralph E. Moody, attorney for the four men, served notice that he would show by testimony before the hearing was over that the captain had entered into a campaign against the detectives with the sole object of ousting them from their positions. He charged the police committee with being biased against his clients and intimated that he could not get a fair and impartial hearing before the tribunal as it sat before him.

Charges Incompetency.

Captain Bruin, in answer to all this, said that the four men were incapable and during the time they were supposed to serve under him they produced no results, that crimes of all kinds were rampant along the paths they trod while on duty and that they in the few scant reports they made to him declared they knew of nothing out of the way or not to be desired in the best regulated city.

The police committee met yesterday afternoon to take up the hearing of the four ex-detectives as directed by Judge Seara some time ago when their case went to him on appeal. The four men are protesting against their dismissal more than a year ago and are desirous of being reinstated to their old positions, at the same time they ask salary for the time they have been barred from the municipal pay table by the order of the executive board.

The men were dismissed from the service a year ago last August upon recommendation of Mayor Lane, who charged them with incompetency, insubordination and failure to produce results. They contested the case and the upper court directed that the complaint against them be made more definite. Accordingly a new complaint was filed against them in which specific instances of non-observance of rules and failure to make good on assignments given them were outlined.

Motions to Quash Overruled.

It was upon this second complaint that the hearing was opened yesterday. At the meeting Thomas G. Greene presided, while R. L. Sabin and Mayor Lane were the other members in attendance. The city was represented by Frank S. Grant and the detectives by Mr. Moody.

In the beginning Mr. Moody presented a motion to quash the proceedings because of lack of jurisdiction on the part of the police committee. This was overruled and Mr. Moody followed with a second motion to quash because the complaint was not signed by an officer having authority to sign such a document. This was also overruled, after which Mr. Moody filed a demurrer to the charges on the ground that they were not definite and certain and did not outline facts sufficient to constitute an offense. This effort met the same fate as these preceding it.

The attorney for the defendants then took another tack and demanded a hearing before the entire executive board. In support of his demand he introduced an affidavit by the detectives charging that the members of the police committee were prejudiced and biased against them, particularly Greene, Sabin and the mayor. This demand was also refused by Mr. Greene, after which Captain Bruin was placed upon the stand and the real work of the hearing began.

Refused to Make Reports.

Captain Bruin testified that in practically every case assigned to them the four men in question had refused to make reports to him, as was provided in the rules and regulations governing the bureau of criminal investigation. He explained that written reports were required in all cases assigned to detectives for the purpose of keeping a record of all cases and criminals.

He showed by the assignment blanks which he kept on file in his office that a short time prior to the dismissal of the four men he had assigned 47 cases to Detective Snow, Frank Carpenter, Joe Day and Reising and 68 to Joe Day and had not received any report what-so-ever in any of the cases so that they had to either be dropped or reassigned to other officers.

Mr. Moody attempted to make the witness state that he was depending upon his memory and therefore did not know in reality whether reports had been made or not, and demanded that the records of the central station be placed at his disposal in order to prove that his contention was so. After some argument it was decided that the city attorney's office could go over the records in all cases cited in the complaint to determine whether or not reports had been filed.

Wanted to Bound Up Things.

Chairman Greene stated in allowing an examination of the reports that the hearing was not a criminal proceeding, but was simply an investigation being made by servants of the people to determine the fitness and qualifications of public employes.

Taking up the investigation again Mr. Moody questioned Captain Bruin about the disposition he made of the men while the four detectives were on the force.

"Is it not a fact," he asked, "that you sent these old and experienced men out into the suburbs away from the center of town and kept them on duty there?"

"Yes," replied Captain Bruin, "I sent them out there as I did all the other available men I could find, and I went myself. At that time the town was overrun with holdup men, thugs and housebreakers and I was trying to clean up the conditions. I sent them out there because that was where these depredations were being committed."

Never Caught a Criminal.

"I would like to ask," interposed Mr. Greene, "if either of these four men ever caught one of these holdup men or thugs or burglars?"

"If they did I never heard of it," was Captain Bruin's response, while Joe Day bristled up and muttered unintelligible things in his collar.

"Is it not a fact," questioned Mr. Moody, taking up the cudgels again, "that you told some fine fellow that your intention and desire to make rules until you got some of those old and experienced detectives to you could dismiss them from the force?"

"No, sir," said the captain. "Any one who would be caught by those rules in force would not be watching very closely."

"Well, then," persisted Mr. Moody, "did you not tell Carpenter that you had no complaint to make with his work, but that you were simply a tool and were obeying orders?"

"No, sir," answered Mr. Bruin. "There is a report on file in the mayor's office showing that I recommended the

discharge of these men six months before the action was finally taken."

Detectives Were Sworn.

Continuing Bruin stated that the four men had never made voluntary reports to him as was required by the regulations but on the other hand were surly and insubordinate. They had always told him when questioned concerning the situation in the north end, or gambling, or pool selling, concert halls, or any violation of the law that they knew of nothing out of the way. They sometimes had reported that hold-up men or surething gamblers were in town, but had never been known to bring one in for violating the law.

In one particular instance, Captain Bruin continued, Detective Snow had

made a false report on a murder case as a result of which his partner, Kerrigan, had resigned from the force. The report was false and misleading in every particular. This was the Kuhn murder case on Williams avenue and up to this time there has never been a clue found leading to the perpetrators of the deed.

At the conclusion of Captain Bruin's testimony the hearing was adjourned until Monday night at 7:30 o'clock, when Captain Grittmacher will be placed upon the stand, after which the defendants will take the stand to show that Captain Bruin had his knife out for them without cause and kept it out until he succeeded in prying them loose from their salaries.

Young Men in the Tolls.

Robert Garretson, Ralph Stone, and Foster Hineks, all under 18 years of age, were arrested last night by Acting Detective Tom Coleman and Private Detective Lon Hartman on charges of unbecoming conduct in a houseboat on Hardtack island. One of the girls involved in the affair is now in a critical condition, so it is alleged, from drugs administered last night by one of the boys under arrest. Judge Fraser was apprised of the arrests, and after hearing the details of the case ordered the three young men to appear before him Monday.

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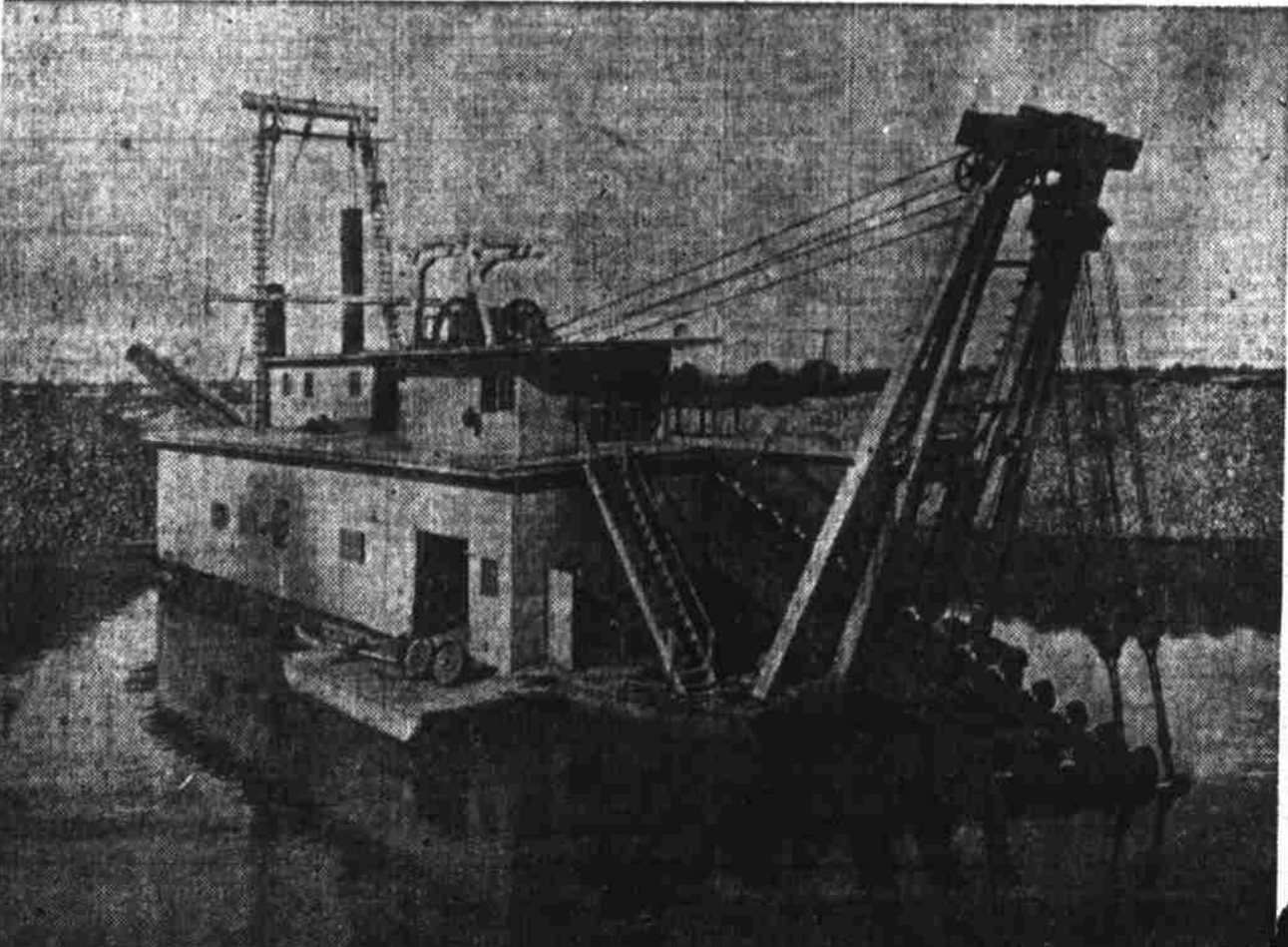
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