

Commissioner Explains Reason For Investigation

Sullivan's Story of Cronin Incident—Sergeant Caples and Other Witnesses Last Night

The police investigation conducted by Commissioner McLellan, was continued last evening in the court house. There was a large crowd present. Several witnesses were examined and the hearing adjourned at 10:30 o'clock until 7:30 o'clock on Monday evening.

Policeman Gaskin.

The first witness last night was Policeman James Gaskin, who was recalled. He was appointed to the force about twenty-three years ago. About a year after his appointment, he said, he was asked by the chief to arrest the two Weatherheads, discharged police officers. The chief said they were drunk in Charlotte street and were talking about him. Gaskin went to the two Weatherheads, and after seeing them, decided that they were not drunk. He returned and told the chief, who was standing at the head of King street, that he could not arrest the men for drunkenness. "Then I noticed that the chief was under the influence of liquor himself," Gaskin added.

Q.—How did you know that?
A.—He was staggering.
Q.—Why didn't you notice it before?
A.—Well, I did think that there was something strange about him.
 Here the commissioner, speaking to the audience, said that it was through no ill feeling that he was conducting the investigation, as is the common talk. "I was placed here by the public to get the information," he said, "and it's up to me to get it. If I can't get it then it's up to the public to get someone who will get it."
 The commissioner said that his finding in the last investigation was embodied in his report for 1912, and that the present investigation is being conducted to give to the public the reasons why his finding was as his report stated.

Addressing the witness, the commissioner said he was going to ask him some questions to find out if there were not others besides Campbell, who were cut after somebody. "I want to show if I can," he said, "that there was a lax system of promotion."
 In reply to some questions, Gaskin said that when he joined the force he lived in Carleton. He asked the chief before joining if he would be compelled to walk around the bridge to report at 7 o'clock on Sundays, because the first trip of the ferry is not until 8 o'clock. The chief said he would not have to come until the first trip of the ferry. After the Weatherhead racket the chief called him in one day and told him he would have to report at 7 o'clock, as he wanted to show the public that he was cut after somebody. On the death of the late Sergeant Ross of the West Side, Gaskin said he applied for the position as sergeant. The chief absolutely refused to consider it. Policeman Finlay, Gaskin's junior, was appointed to the vacancy, although Gaskin says he had never before done patrol duty in the west side.

The witness said at one time he was suspended for two days for telling the truth. He fell asleep while in the lock-up at the West Side a few minutes before he should have telephoned to central station. He overslept himself, and as a result did not report. He explained the matter in his report, but when the chief heard of it, he said, he was suspended for three days and was threatened with dismissal if it occurred again.
Q.—Have you ever been offered a position as sergeant, since?
A.—No.

William Gaskin.
 William Gaskin, a salesman with Vassie & Co., Ltd., testified. He told of Policeman Ira Perry purchasing thread from him by wholesale, saying it was for George Martin.
Ex-Policeman.
 H. Colby Gardiner, an ex-policeman, took the stand. He joined the force in 1910. He admitted that he used to go in several places to rest while supposed to be on his beat. He was also one of those who went to the Royal. He was a "silent member" of the club though. He didn't play cards. He said he was suspended once for sleeping. He heard it said that Mahel Smith was paying Campbell \$5 a week for police protection for her beer store in Sheffield street. Gardiner said that Campbell often grumbled about him not making enough arrests. He thought that Campbell was prejudiced against him, because he would not "chase after" Charlie Marshall.

The latter, he thought "pulled stronger" with Campbell.
Policeman Sullivan.
 Policeman Timothy Sullivan was called. He said he had not seen a manual of the rules and regulations previous to the last investigation. He said that he had been called upon by the chief and Campbell to make arrests he thought were not justified. He said he heard that Campbell was suspected of theft. He said he saw Campbell coming up Prince William street one night with some steps, similar to those used on a steamer, on his shoulder. He was going to hold him up but seeing that it was Campbell, he let him pass. Sullivan then referred to the Cronin case. He accounted for himself during the night it was alleged he and Perry opened the door of Cronin's. He said that when they came to Cronin's, Perry tried the door and it went in. He was sure that at that time Perry did not unlock it, but Perry was supposed to have tried the door before. After Perry found the door open, he walked in and Sullivan followed. He told of being accosted by William Pyne. He said that Pyne asked several questions, and among them he asked Sullivan if he had found the door open. He replied "No," intending to explain that it was Perry who found it open, but Pyne interrupted him. Previous to this Sullivan said he found Cronin's door open twice. Once while Perry was on the beat with him, he tried the door and found it locked. Later he found it open and he said to Perry that there was something strange about it. Again when he was with Ward, he found both doors of the whole-sale opened, and piled stuff behind it to keep it secure till morning. The witness denied having said "Have you been in yet?" on the occasion when Pyne accosted them.
 Sullivan told of seeing Totten carrying a parcel, the morning after Perry is alleged to have stolen stuff from the Brayley Drug Co., and to have handed it over to Totten. He admitted being one of those who met at the Royal.
 At the conclusion, Sullivan said that he was the person referred to in Mr. Schofield's evidence on the previous night, in which he said the window of his store had been smashed in, and that when he arrived he found two policemen there. He volunteered that he found the window broken on this occasion, and informed Killen, and later Schofield was informed. He found it broken about 9 o'clock in the morning.
G. E. Barbour.
 George E. Barbour said that on one occasion he remembered that the door of the Maritime warehouse was found open and three tubs of batter were missing. He informed the police of the affair but heard nothing more of it. The witness said the door of his place was found open, but not during the last five years to his knowledge.

W. J. McConnell.
 W. J. McConnell, an ex-policeman, told of arresting a man with Campbell, and of Campbell counting some money which had been found on him, at the station. The witness said he saw a bill half hidden beneath Campbell's knee. The witness didn't know if

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Calais, Oct. 24.—The Canadian tug Lord Kitchener with the dredge Beacon Bar in tow, arrived at St. Stephen on Wednesday from Prince Edward Island and dredging operations will be started

MONCTON REAL ESTATE

Transcript:—A. H. Jones reports having sold two double houses in Albert street, to a St. John gentleman. The property was a short time ago purchased by a Moncton man, and considerable improvement put on the house. Mr. Jones says that he has lately had a number of inquiries from outsiders regarding Moncton real estate.

at once by the Canadian government under the joint agreement with the American government, which began a year ago on the St. Croix river. Both American and Canadian dredges will operate above what is known as the lower wharf, and will continue the work as long as weather and ice conditions will permit.

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