

# HOW TO KEEP MR. CONLIN

## Police Board Said to be Puzzled as to Making Him Chief.

### COMPETITION IS A GREAT BOTHER

#### A Way of Overcoming It—Roundsmen Reduced and Patrolmen Elevated—A Long List of Untried Policemen.

The Police Commissioners held their regular meeting yesterday and then began, in Commissioner Andrews's room, a secret session which lasted far into the evening. When they adjourned they refused to tell what they had done or of what they had talked.

It was generally understood about the building, however, that the conference had been held with regard to the means by which Acting Chief Conlin should be promoted to the office of Chief, and the general scheme of promotion which shall obtain hereafter in the board for elevating an officer to a higher rank than the one he now holds.

The impression is general in Mulberry Street that the board has fully made up its mind that Acting Chief Conlin is the best man obtainable to assume the responsibility pertaining to the highest office in the department. The difficulty about his immediate elevation to the post is that the board cannot very easily appoint him Chief without his undergoing an examination, and in all probability the examination must be of a competitive character. The Commissioners are believed, however, to have settled last night upon a scheme of action in Mr. Conlin's case and in the promotion of other officers in the department.

One way in which they could do this, even after the officers concerned have undergone a competitive examination, would be for the board which decides the percentages of marks to be given for each subject to give to the officers who have been on probation for seven months a large percentage for the successful period of probation which they have already undergone. Until the matter is fully settled, however, the Commissioners will not divulge their scheme, and before the close of the meeting last night they pledged themselves to secrecy with regard to the matter.

Commissioner Parker, speaking for the board, said: "Our talk has been wholly informal, and while important questions concerning the department came up for discussion, they are still in such shape that it will be forty-eight hours before they have been fully completed. Until that time we have agreed not to discuss the matter at all."

Commissioner Roosevelt, on being asked whether he would tell anything about the matter of the discussion at the conference, smiled and said emphatically: "No, Sir; not a word."

Commissioner Andrews said: "The Commissioners agreed before they separated to say nothing about their talk. The matter of Acting Chief Conlin's promotion was, however, discussed."

Col. Grant said: "A number of matters were discussed, but they are not yet ripe for publication."

It was rumored in the Police Department last night that Acting Chief Conlin, although not actually promoted to the position of Chief, will be so promoted at the meeting of the board next Tuesday.

At an open meeting of the board, Acting Chief Conlin, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Commissioners last week, submitted a list of the members of the force who are under indictment and suspension. This is the list:

Capt. William S. Devery; indicted March 18, 1895, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman Charles W. H. Finken; indicted July 21, 1893, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman George T. Sheridan; indicted April 27, 1894, for assault; case pending.

Capt. Jacob Siebert; indicted March 18, 1895, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman Francis S. Donegan; indicted June 22, 1894, for assault; case pending.

Roundsmen Michael A. Downs; indicted Jan. 19, 1894, for receiving money from street vendors; case pending.

Patrolman John H. Hurley; indicted Feb. 13, 1895, for attempted criminal assault; case pending.

Patrolman Kearny J. Larkin; indicted Feb. 10, 1894, for extortion; case pending.

Patrolman Edward Crinion; indicted April 13, 1894, for assault and battery; case pending.

Capt. J. K. Price; indicted March 19, 1895, for attempted extortion; case pending.

Patrolman Bernard Dunn; indicted Dec. 4, 1894, for assault; case pending.

Patrolman Conrad Schellenberger; indicted Dec. 26, 1894, for assault; case pending.

Patrolman Henry Resmeyer; indicted for assault April 18, 1895; case pending.

Patrolman Henry H. Schill; indicted for extortion, perjury, and bribery; case pending.

Patrolman Denis O'Leary; indicted for murder Feb. 28, 1895; case pending.

Patrolman John H. Thrall; indicted April 5, 1895, for attempted extortion; case pending.

Patrolman Hugh Cassidy; indicted April 5, 1895, for attempted extortion; case pending.

Patrolman Jeremiah S. Levy; indicted July 24, 1894, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman John Kenny; indicted Jan. 10, 1894, for extortion; case pending.

Patrolman Charles Lenz; indicted June 28, 1895, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman Edward F. Miley; indicted April 5, 1895, for attempted extortion; case pending.

Capt. Thomas Killilea; indicted April 4, 1895, for bribery; case pending.

Patrolman Edward Glennon; indicted March 18, 1895, for bribery; case pending.

When Chief Clerk Kipp had read the list, Commissioner Grant said: "The city is paying these men and they are doing no duty. It is time that the board took up their cases and disposed of them. If they are not guilty, they should be restored to duty. If they are guilty, we should dismiss them. They draw pay for doing no duty, and it is an injustice, because men are being dismissed right along on less serious charges."

Commissioner Andrews agreed that something should be done. He said, however, that the District Attorney had promised to dispose of the cases this Fall and get them all through the courts. "The courts are behind, however," he said.

"How long are the courts going to stay behind?" asked Col. Grant. "Let us ask the District Attorney to push the cases."

Commissioner Andrews said that if the courts proceeded with the trials of the indicted policemen and disposed of their cases it would simplify and lessen the work of the department in dealing with the cases.

Commissioner Grant said that immediate action should be taken to try the men or put them back on duty.

Commissioner Roosevelt, who was conducting the trials, was called into the boardroom and consulted.

The Commissioners have resolved to experiment with policemen on bicycles. The experiment is to be made at once. The matter came about through a communication sent to the board by the Cyclists' Federation, of which E. J. Tinsdell of 132 Nassau Street is Chairman. It stated that at a meeting of the federation held Nov. 9 a resolution was adopted asking the Police Commissioners to make special posts of Eighth Avenue from Fourteenth to Fifty-ninth Street and of the Boulevard from Fifty-ninth Street to One Hundred and Eighth Street, and to have them patrolled by policemen on bicycles.

The matter was referred to Commissioner Andrews, who is a bicycle enthusiast, and he reported yesterday in favor of making the experiment. The board authorized him to go ahead. He said he would put one policeman on a bicycle in Eighth Avenue and another in the Boulevard, and see how the thing would work. The federation also asked the Commissioners to have commanders of precincts notify it of the arrest of any of its members.

The Commissioners, after their regular meeting, held a long secret session, at which Mr. Parker, who was not at the first meeting, was present. After the session the Commissioners announced that they had recommended twenty-five Roundsmen to patrol duty "for the good of the service." These are the Roundsmen reduced:

William Hickey of West Twentieth Street, D. F. Ryan of West Thirty-seventh Street, Thomas J. Eagan of East Thirty-fifth Street, Michael Moran of East Thirty-fifth Street, Michael Downs and J. L. Myatt of West Forty-seventh Street, Samuel Aikens of Mercer Street, Patrick H. McGirr, Henry S. Van Cott, Henry Kunzman, and Michael J. Dempsey, all of West One Hundredth Street; John H. O'Neil of East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Street; Gustave Rehahn of West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street, Lawrence P. Duffy

of Tremont, James McDermott of Church Street, Thomas Brady of East One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Street, John M. Milmore of Oak Street, Charles H. Smith of Elizabeth Street, William J. Kennedy of Macdougall Street, Eugene D. Collins and Jeremiah Murphy of Charles Street, John P. Gilligan of Eldridge Street, William Colby of Delancey Street, Patrick White of Union Market, J. MacNevin of Fifth Street, and J. J. Shelvin of East Thirty-fifth Street.

Acting Roundsmen John L. Hyatt of West Forty-seventh Street was also reduced.

The following patrolmen were ordered to report to the Acting Chief and detailed as Acting Roundsmen:

Edward J. Rourke, Matthew McKeon, John T. Lake, Nathan Hertz, William McCullough, William Nesbitt, James H. Kane, George Fennel, William F. Kidney, Frank J. Morris, Patrick Meehan, Harry W. Graham, Henry T. Murray, Charles J. Lyons, George Robinson, Edward Kelly, Charles Hass, John B. R. Tyler, Lawrence Powers, John F. Tappan, A. C. Hulise, and Charles A. Place.

Edward J. Rourke, one of those made Acting Roundsmen, is the policeman who arrested ex-Assemblyman Callahan for violating the excise law.