

WHACKED UP WITH WENDEL.

WITNESSES TELL OF SYSTEM OF ARMORY GRIFT.

Sworn Testimony of Employees That They Had to Give Part of Their Salaries, Chiefly by Mythical Renting of Homes Owned by Capt. Wendel.

Major-General Rowe, Commander in Chief of the National Guard of New York, announced yesterday that Gov. Higgins has ordered a court of inquiry to investigate the charges of blackmail and extortion made against Capt. Louis Wendel of the First Battery. The Governor acted upon a request by Capt. Wendel that such a court be appointed.

The District Attorney's office continued yesterday its investigation of the Wendel charges. Nine witnesses, most of them employed at the armory in West 32d street, testified before Magistrate Crane in the Tombs police court. The proceedings were held in the Magistrate's private room and were in the nature of an investigation to determine what action should be taken by the court.

William L. Fuchs testified that he started to work in the armory in September, 1896, as janitor, at a salary of \$12 a day. Capt. Wendel was running the place then, and now the Captain was a friend of Fuchs's father and one day he proposed to William that he drop the drug business and enter the National Guard as janitor.

"I've got a vacancy, my son, Charlie," was the encouraging way the Captain put it, Fuchs said.

Fuchs took the job, and a few days later Capt. Wendel, according to the janitor, called him aside and said: "The place pays \$1 a day; you get \$2 and I'll see you later."

From September 21, 1896, until January, 1896, Fuchs, according to his statements, paid Capt. Wendel the \$2 a day out of his pay. He made the payment once a month, putting the money for the first few payments into the top drawer of the Captain's desk. This, he declared, was done according to agreement with the Captain, but later he dropped the envelope containing the money into a slot in the top of the desk. He supposed the change was recommended because the payment by way of the drawer was too conspicuous.

Things went along in this way, Fuchs said, until about January 1, 1899. There was a big blizzard that morning and Fuchs got an early start for the armory. He had just pushed the working end of a snow shovel into a big drift when another man came out of the armory, with a shovel, mits, gaiters and all fixed up.

"Hello, what you doin' here?" said Fuchs. "I'm the new janitor," replied the man with the shovel.

That was the first intimation Fuchs had that he was to be "reduced in rank" from janitor to laborer. The "reduction" started with a cut in salary from \$12 a day. Fuchs testified that the cause of his losing the janitorship was that he had told a certain Lieutenant who had a grudge against Capt. Wendel about the money that was being dropped into the desk. Fuchs continued to labor in the armory until the summer of 1903, when he left to become a rubber in a Turkish bath.

In July of the present year, being out of a job, Fuchs said, he went himself to Capt. Wendel again. The Captain said that Fuchs hadn't treated him right but nevertheless told him to report for work up at Kingsbridge, where Charlie Striebel, the armory engineer—paid by the city—was building sheds for the Captain. Fuchs was supposed to give the engineer a hand with the work, and he did so for twenty days. In August Fuchs returned to the job, Fuchs said, as janitor at \$12 a day. Then the Captain asked him how he would like to rent a house up at 182d street and Amsterdam avenue. If Fuchs would rent the house the Captain would give him his old job as janitor back at \$4 a day.

Fuchs said he inspected the house. It was nothing but a big, long hall, with no partitions in it. The Captain said he would put in partitions, and Fuchs promised to report to the wife. The wife would have none of it. Things went along all right until the Captain went to see Fuchs's brother-in-law, Charles Steck, a Chicagoan, to get the money.

The Captain dropped a word or two about how nice it would be if Billy would move up town and Billy, according to his own testimony, decided to do better. He told the Captain. He didn't take the "hall" but moved into one of the Captain's houses at 2 Aqueduct avenue. He was to pay \$10 a month, but the price was \$5 a month. He paid that for one month, and then it was pushed up to \$40. He testified that the Captain told him he would be made janitor, but Fuchs is still living in the Bronx house at \$40 a month.

Fuchs also testified that private horses belonging to Capt. Wendel and his wife were kept in a Miss Hungerford's barn in the armory, and he thought the money for the keeping of these horses was paid to Sergt. John J. Jensen. He testified that he had seen liquor sold in the armory, a review on December 7 being the last occasion. It was possible to get almost anything one wanted to drink, even champagne. Fuchs didn't know when the liquors came from.

The witness testified that on September 21, 1898, Sergt. Jensen came to him a party and asked him to sign it. Fuchs was an affidavit to the effect that he, Fuchs, had never handed over any part of the salary which he had received. He declared that he refused to sign at first, but being in straitened circumstances and being obliged to provide for a newly born baby, he finally gave in.

Otto Winkler, a watchman at the armory, who has said that he paid \$30 a month for one of the Captain's houses which he never used, told how the arrangements were made. Capt. Wendel, when he applied for a job at the armory, sent him up to Fort Wendel, where he was invited upstairs into an office by the Captain's son, Charles. He testified that the watchman, told him that he was to get \$3 a day but that he would have to rent a house. He didn't know just exactly where the house was, but he paid \$30 rent on December 1 to E. Osborn Smith & Co., of 181st street and Amsterdam avenue. "His firm collected most of the Captain's rentals. While Winkler was paying \$30 rent for one of the Captain's houses he testified that he was living at the Captain's own home and paying for his keep. Winkler testified that Charles Wendel told him that he was to give the money to Smith & Co., and Fuchs, the armory janitor, had shown him the way to the place. Sometimes, after he got through with his work at the armory, Winkler took care of the Captain's cow.

"Why did you give the Captain rent for a house you didn't use?" asked Assistant District Attorney Hart. "Charlie said that was the custom," replied the witness. "Did you do it to get your job?" "I thought it was the way to get it," replied Henry Daggleman who has worked in the armory for twelve years as a laborer and he has never paid Capt. Wendel any money. "I am proud about what I saw Henry do," the Captain, he said, asked him once to lend him \$1,000, but he said, "no, because it was against the family rule. Henry had acted as bartender once at the request of Sergt. Jensen, but he was only helping out."

Franz Groth, who hired out as boiler at the armory for \$3 a day, testified that he also was sent to see son Charles. The son told him that he would have to rent one of Capt. Wendel's houses at \$30 a month.

CHARLES, HE TESTIFIED, GAVE HIM A CARD WITH THE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE ON IT. IF ANYBODY ASKED HIM WHERE HE REALLY WAS LIVING HE WAS TO SAY THAT WAS IN ONE OF CAPT. WENDEL'S HOUSES IN ASTORIA. A CARD WAS PUT IN EVIDENCE CONTAINING THE ADDRESS OF THE ASTORIA HOUSE, IN WHAT THE WITNESSES DECLARED WAS THE CAPTAIN'S OWN WRITING.

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At first all hands wanted to explain the situation at the same time to Magistrate May and the court only cut in here and there. He asked them to step down until the early rush was over. When the matter came up again the young woman declared that her mother, Mrs. Silverstein, picked up from a table the boxes in which she had put the jewelry and put them in her pocket. It appeared that the young man invited his intended to go to a theatre with a supper after the play. He insisted upon her wearing her diamond engagement ring and the other presents he had given her and she declined to go out with him.

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The Magistrate held Silverstein in \$1,000 bail for the Grand Jury.

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Then Lovelock Cuban Killed Out of the Window—Fall Lipped Him.

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Then Clares went to his room. Drawing a razor he slashed her across the throat, then drew the blade across his own throat. Opening a window he threw himself out, landing on his head in the yard.

The woman was not injured severely. Clares was taken to the Harlem Hospital, where he died several hours later.

WOLF FOR A DOMINIE.

The Rev. William G. Ivis Turns Over to the City a Baby For His Front Door Bell.

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BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Frederick Loewer & Co. In every detail the Leading Retail Establishment of Brooklyn.

Greatest Sale of Undermuslins. Starts To-morrow, the Day After Christmas. In Volume, Character, Value Giving Unrivaled.

THE SIMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SALE would be enough to throng the Store to-morrow, for every Brooklyn woman knows the Loewer White Sales and knows that in many ways they present the greatest economy event of the year. They are immense in magnitude. They are extraordinary in low pricing. They have for years had many imitators, but no rivals.

The Sale that starts to-morrow, however, is the greatest in our history. Two things make us especially enthusiastic about it. FIRST—It is the broadest and best Sale we ever planned. SECOND—It is the most difficult Sale we ever worked for.

The cost of production of everything in the Sale has increased amazingly in the past year. Night Gowns which were good value at 80c. a year ago mean a great loss if sold at that price to-day. Linens, Sheets, White Fabrics—all along the line it is the same way. So serious is the condition that makers with whom we had contracts for this Sale of Undermuslins have, in numerous instances, offered us a cash bonus equal to our ordinary profit if we would release them.

These are conditions which we foresaw and have overcome. Even though there has been a great advance in the cost of manufacture, you will find in this Sale greater stocks than ever before—and stocks that have never been excelled in workmanship.

We ARE enthusiastic over this Sale. Poorly made and skimmed garments have been turned out by thousands to meet old prices and the conditions of the advancing market. They will find sellers—and perhaps buyers—somewhere. BUT NOT ONE SUCH GARMENT is in the Loewer Sale.

Bring your tape measure and your powers of trained criticism when you come. Note the generous fullness of the garments. Note the attractiveness of the styles. Note the fact that they are the same sort of Undermuslins you have been accustomed to find here for full prices and yet.

We print the details to-day and they are worth careful reading.

Corset Covers, 5c. to \$1.98. Drawers, 12c. to \$1.98.

Infants' Wear in the Sale. As fine an assortment proportionately as in the garments for women—and also at remarkably low prices. Drawers. 8c. Drawers, of muslin, hem and cluster. 15c. and 19c. Drawers, of good muslin; one style with hemstitched ruffle and the other with hem and cluster of tucks; seven sizes. 25c. Drawers, of unbordered edge and cluster of tucks, the other with deep lawn ruffle with cluster of tucks and low edge; seven sizes. 49c. Drawers, of soft cambric. One style has a tucked ruffle edge with French embroidery edge, another has a lawn ruffle with Valenciennes lace insertion and edge; two sizes.

Chemises, from 98c. to \$1.98.

59c. Chemises, of the nainsook and some cambric. Short and knee length with plain and trimmed skirts. Round and square neck, some with insertions of embroidery and embroidery edge, joined with heading and ribbon. Others are very prettily trimmed with lace and ribbon on the bottom to match the top trimming.

Petticoats, from 49c. to \$5.98.

49c. Petticoats, of soft finish cambric with hemstitched ruffles. 98c. Petticoats, of muslin and cambric. Also some with lawn tops. Several are trimmed with ruffle of embroidery or embroidery and hemstitching combined. Others have top flounces with lace and finish of ruffle edged with lace. Some models in hemstitched petticoats with top flounces with clusters of hemstitching. In all about 18 styles.

Long Slips. 10c. Infants' long Slips of soft cambric, with ruffle on neck and sleeves. None sent under 10c. 15c. Infants' long Slips, with yoke, insertion and eight tucks.

Men's Cuffs, Collars & Shirts

In a Great Sale. 6 Pairs of Cuffs for 68c. 6 Fine Collars for 48c.

THE CUFFS ARE IN FOUR GOOD SHAPES—the most wanted styles. They are in the round corner single tab link, the square corner single tab link, the reversible link and the stud button cuff. They come in sizes 10, 10 1/2, 11 and 11 1/2, and all sizes in each style. They are in the finest packages of half a dozen pairs each, and will be sold that way. We cannot sell less than 6 pairs or split the packages. These cuffs are of a grade that many stores sell at 15c to 20c