

Patrolman Frederick N. Fanning.

In the matter of Patrolman Frederick N. Fanning, Northeastern District, who was tried December 18, 1911, upon the charge of having been under the influence of liquor, while on duty December 16, 1911, the Board had before it Dr. J. G. Onnen, Patrolman Fanning's family physician, and questioned him as to the physical condition of the officer.

And in this connection, a report, as follows, was received from Police Physician Thomas J. O'Donnell:

"Baltimore, Md., December 20, 1911.

To the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners.

Sirs:-

Under instructions from the Board I interviewed Officer Fanning of the Northeastern District, to-day. He stated that up until a few months ago he had not been drinking for about one year. That he began recently and had most probably been taking too much or enough to cause a high nervous tension; that he had consulted Dr. Onnen who advised him not to cut it off suddenly but to gradually taper down the amount until his nervous tension relaxed when he could dispense with it entirely; that on the night in question he had undoubtedly taken too much.

I consulted Dr. Onnen who verified the foregoing, and stated that he had deemed it advisable for him to graduate the quantities he took, fearing that the sudden withdrawal of all stimulation to one accustomed to it might cause havoc both to heart and nerves. Officer Fanning's present physical condition is, with the exception of his nervousness which is purely functional and not organic, normal and the latter condition will disappear just as soon as all alcoholics are withdrawn.

The said officer has never lost any time during my incumbency in office on account of alcoholism. I am,

Very respectfully,

T. J. O'DONNELL, M.D.

In view of the statements made to the Board by Dr. Onnen and those contained in the report of Police Physician Thomas J. O'Donnell, the Board concluded to give Patrolman Frederick N. Fanning, who was found guilty of the charge, as hereinbefore referred to, another trial.