

# Wilson Fires 4th Top Aide

Capt. Conlisk  
Gets the Ax

Police Supt. Wilson Friday fired James B. Conlisk Sr., 72, as a top Police Department administrative aide.

Conlisk is the fourth of the department's Seven Old Men to get the ax.

Conlisk said Wilson told him Friday morning that he was out of a job effective at midnight.

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AT A PRESS conference, Wilson sweetened the pill, saying:

"I did this with regret because I have been impressed with his loyalty, sincerity and earnestness and his long years of service."

Conlisk has been an aide to commissioners since Aug. 1, 1930, when he was brought in from the Brighton Park district as a sergeant by the late John H. Alcock.

He was considered to wield behind-the-scenes power, especially in police transfers.

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WILSON told reporters: "Capt. Conlisk does not fit into my plans."

These plans include, he said, consolidation of police administrative functions in the superintendent's office at police headquarters, 1121 S. State.

John Lane, another administrative aide, will take on added duties with Conlisk's ouster, Wilson said.

THE SEVEN Old Men are retired police captains who were kept on in the Police Department in civilian advisory posts at an average pay of \$10,524 a year. Conlisk, of 1315 W. Marquette rd., gets \$11,040.

Others of the seven already ousted are William Balswick, an administrative aide; Capt. George Barnes, consultant to the labor detail which he headed as a captain, and Charles J. O'Regan, another aide.

Remaining are John Walsh, department custodian; John Coyne, head of the missing persons bureau, and William Tuohy, chief of the motor vehicle section.

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CONLISK has seven children, three of them policemen, and 16 grandchildren.

One son, Captain James B. Jr., is a deputy chief of traffic. Another, William, is assigned to the Detective Bureau, and a third, John, is in the stolen auto section.

Conlisk became a policeman on Aug. 18, 1914.

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WILSON said that Lane will handle departmental budgeting and finance matters. Conlisk had been a chief adviser on these matters.

Conlisk said he was vague about his future plans other than "finishing out today as usual."

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WILSON Friday also announced that he would not appoint 75 temporary sergeants until about April 23, so as not to give the appointees any advantage in training for a civil service test for sergeant scheduled for that day.

# Wilson Fires 4th 'Old Man'

James B. Conlisk, 72, administrative aid to Police Supt. Orlando W. Wilson at \$11,014 a year, was discharged today.

The order, relieving Conlisk of his duties tonight, made him the fourth "old man" fired recently from a high paying position in the police department—with three to go.

Wilson said: "Conlisk doesn't fit into my plans. I did this with regret because I was impressed with his loyalty, sincerity and his long years of service."

Veterans Shocked  
Tho it was expected, Conlisk's firing shocked veteran policemen who knew him as a man on the friendliest of terms with Mayor Daley and the one who "knows more

about the police department than anyone else."

Informed of his discharge, Conlisk appeared on the verge of tears, but then composed himself and said he would "finish out the day just like any other day."

Supt. Wilson said Conlisk will be replaced by John Lane, a patrolman who took a leave to accept the civilian position, when Wilson moves his office to police headquarters in a week or so.

3 Sons Policemen  
Conlisk had been on the force for 46 years, 30 of which he spent as aid to different police heads.

He lives with his wife, Margaret, at 1315 W. Marquette rd. They have seven

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## Conlisk Fired by Supt. Wilson

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children and 16 grandchildren.

Three sons are policemen. They are James B. Jr., deputy chief of traffic, and William and John, both assigned to the detective bureau.

All of the "seven old men" had retired and accepted civilian posts under former Police Commissioner Timothy J. O'Connor.

O'Regan First to Go

The first to go on Wilson's order was former Capt. Charles O'Regan, 67, deputy commissioner.

Next was former Capt. William Balswick, 66, who served as an administrative aid until his release last month.

The third discharged was retired Capt. George T. Barnes, whose job was labor consultant to O'Connor.

Those remaining are former Capt. John Walsh, police custodian; former Capt. William Tuohy, in charge of motor service, and former Lt. Richard Coyne who is assigned to the missing persons bureau.