

than the other, he might want to convert. This would make it very impractical to administer in terms of fairness to everyone else having registered.

Mr. MULTER. Unless I misunderstood the witnesses thus far, there is no difference between the function of a uniform sergeant and a detective sergeant.

Deputy Chief WILSON. That is correct.

Mr. MULTER. Then why not have one register and let the man have the choice? Instead of saying you take this examination under the title of uniform sergeant or under the title of detective sergeant, and that is it, why not give one examination for all the men, and let them have the choice?

Deputy Chief WILSON. We proposed initially to have the one examination, but many of the detectives objected on the ground that they wanted to be able to compete for further promotion and be assured that they would remain in the detective field. This was the purpose of having a separation of the registers so that a detective—and many of them I suspect and in fact it is indicated, many of them apparently at least are willing to move into the uniform field. But the addition of a register for detective sergeant this time and the next time was to accommodate the detectives who indicated they wanted to be able to compete for promotion without having to move into the uniform field.

Mr. MULTER. One other question along the same line.

As I understand, you are now going to abolish the detective sergeant and uniform sergeant, and under your reorganization plan all you are going to have is sergeant of police. Is that right?

Deputy Chief WILSON. Eventually, after the incumbent detectives are gone.

Mr. MULTER. Then you will just have a sergeant of police?

Deputy Chief WILSON. After the detective sergeant incumbents have all left us through attrition.

Mr. MULTER. Do you not think that your recruitment program would move along more successfully and you would get more men if you give them a choice, if they would know when they join the force they can go into the detective division of the Department and stay in that until they have reached the top, rather than be submitted to the choice of their superior officers as to whether they will be in uniform or not?

Deputy Chief WILSON. We do not permit them, you understand, to come into the force making this choice. I suppose there are a number of individuals we could attract if we would guarantee them we would leave them in the detective field, but this is not a highly practical method of getting men because the men we need are really those in the uniform branch. We do not have any shortage of men now who are willing to move into plainclothes, but we do have a shortage, a great shortage, of men in the uniform branch.

Mr. MULTER. The figures you referred to as being in the detective sergeant rank are not reflected at all in Mr. Washington's letter of November 8.

I suggest you give us that directive and let us make it a part of the record.

Deputy Chief WILSON. The number of men taking the examination?