

TO FREE "PINKY" BLITZ

GOVERNOR DOCKERY CONSIDERS COMMUTING THE FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE.

Would Be in Kansas City in Time for the Next Municipal Election and Democratic Primaries—The Governor to Decide Monday.

"Pinky" Blitz wants to quit living in a cell in the penitentiary at Jefferson City, and Governor Dockery is willing to compromise by commuting his five-year sentence to three years. This would permit Blitz to reach Kansas City in February, 1906.

If Governor Dockery gives Blitz the commutation it would have to be one of his last official acts, as he will be out of office Monday.

Just at the close of the Dockery state administration the Kansas City politicians who have men begging for a pardon for Blitz have made another onslaught on the governor. It is probable that an announcement will come from Jefferson City Monday that the sentence of "Pinky" Blitz has been commuted.

"PINKY'S" STRONG INFLUENCE.

The last application was accompanied by a long petition signed by Judge Sam Davis, who tried the case, and by a large number of Democratic politicians, some of whom are better known in business circles than as politicians. There is really a stronger petition than a good many men of good character could get if they were applicants for appointment. Governor Dockery himself regards the petition as a strong one and there is reason for thinking that it will have some influence with him, though not so much as the petitioners had hoped.

Blitz was sent to the penitentiary two years ago. He was convicted of robbing William Hall of Onecola, Mo., by picking his pocket. The sentence was five years in the state penitentiary. He was taken to the penitentiary February 6, 1903, and has therefore served nearly two years. The first petition was for a pardon, but when that failed petitions were made for commutation of sentence and the petition which is pushed now is for a commutation to three years.

The sentence can be commuted in two ways and still agree with the petition. An ordinary commutation would carry with it the benefit of the three-fourths rule and let Blitz out May 6, 1905, or two years and three months after his incarceration.

Last night Governor Dockery was very seriously considering the advisability of commuting the sentence without benefit of the three-fourths rule, which would mean that Blitz would be released in February, 1906. Though Governor Dockery said last night that he would not make known the decision on the subject he intimated pretty strongly that he would reduce the sentence to three years straight time.

DR. GODDARD HAS HOPES, TOO.

Another Kansas City case that has kept him busy all week is that of Dr. J. D. Goddard, who killed Fred Jackson, the laundryman, and after many delays was sent to the penitentiary April 24, 1901. A delegation from Kansas City spent the evening at the mansion last night urging that Goddard be pardoned.

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