

RECORDED 62-32509-256

ACH:LL

August 16, 1939

Special Agent in Charge  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of an anonymous communication received by the Office of The Assistant to the Attorney General on July 31, 1939, and two photostatic copies of its inclosure, namely, a magazine clipping entitled "Significance," which were referred to the Bureau by the Department. It will be noted that the instant anonymous communication is written on the stationery of G. L. Merrick and concerns crime conditions in Louisiana.

It is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Inclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ AUG 17 1939 ★  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Handwritten signature/initials*

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Department of Justice  
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General  
Washington

August 5, 1939

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Linder	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sears	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The attached anonymous communication and clipping concerning the current investigation in Louisiana is referred to you for such consideration as is deemed appropriate.

*Matthew F. McGuire*  
Matthew F. McGuire  
Acting Assistant to the Attorney General

8/16/39 - St. N.C.  
AC 16

RECORDED  
62-32509-256  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 19 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Crime in Louisiana

②

125

G. L. MERRICK

*sent to  
Horn*



Relative to the enclosed clipping from the current issue of Newsweek.

JUL 31 1939 PM

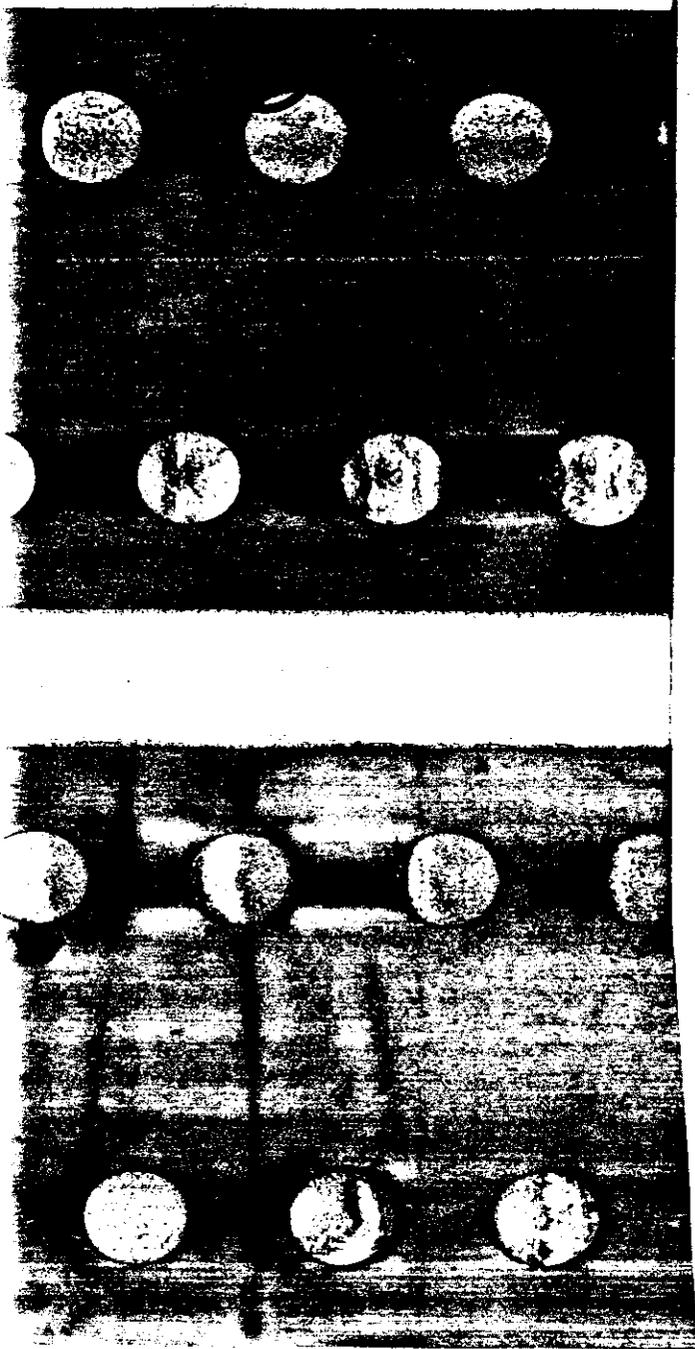
As before suggested if the proper place, that is, the gambling and "hook shop" set up is investigated it might be possible that plenty of evidence would turn up. For certainly income taxes should be paid on the profits from such activities, even if they are illegal.

If all reports are to be taken it would appear that Mr. Maestri start was as a "palo blanco"

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-37509-256
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1939
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

*Handwritten initials and signatures over the stamp.*



*Significance*-----

Indications are that the Department of Justice has permission from the White House to go through with a Louisiana showdown, let the chips fall where they may in 1940. New Dealers feel that destruction of the machine may result in enough favorable publicity to offset any loss of votes.

But before they raze the incredible edifice assembled by the Kingfish, Federal authorities realize they must bring down the swarthy Mayor of New Orleans. He is the power behind state politics, overseer of Earl Long and comrade of Weiss and Leche. So far no evidence against Maestri has been uncovered, but loyalty to his henchmen, a trait for which the Mayor is noted, may embroil him yet.

62-32509-256

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August 16, 1939

JEH:CD

Time 11:10 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

Re: LOUISIANA SITUATION

Special Agent in Charge H. E. Sackett telephoned from New Orleans to advise of the latest developments on this situation. He stated that last night Mr. Shirley C. ~~Wimberly~~ who is a law partner of Earl Long and who is undoubtedly speaking for the State Administration, made another one hour radio talk in which he devoted about twenty minutes to attacking Mr. Rogge. Mr. Sackett advises that Mr. Wimberly severely attacked Mr. Rogge for publishing the threatening letters, and also charged that Mr. Rogge had told the newspapers the substance of the indictments which were returned this last Monday while he, Wimberly, had told the newspapers the substance of these indictments last Saturday, and Mr. Wimberly even went so far as to challenge Mr. Rogge to refute these statements.

Mr. Sackett informs me that Mr. Wimberly is attracting more and more attention and if Mr. Rogge gives Mr. Wimberly any further opportunity to attack, it is likely to be seriously embarrassing to the Department.

Mr. Sackett advises that after he had talked with Mr. Rogge about the threatening letters, a newspaper reporter called Mr. Sackett and told him that Mr. Rogge had received another threatening letter this morning. The newspaper reporter told Mr. Sackett that he had seen the letter and when he asked Mr. Rogge for permission to publish the letter, Mr. Rogge told the reporter that he, the reporter, would have to get permission from Mr. Sackett. Mr. Sackett stated that when he called Mr. Rogge about this, Mr. Rogge denied that he had told the newspaper reporter this story, but he did admit that he had told the reporter a letter had been received.

I instructed Mr. Sackett that he should call Mr. Rogge and tell him that he expects the Bureau to make any investigation of these threatening letters, he must not tell anyone that he has received a letter for obviously when he tells the press that he has received such a letter but cannot show the contents without getting permission from Mr. Sackett, it is just as much as letting the papers see the letter.

5  
Crime Co  
25572  
Sackett

62-32509-255

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August 16, 1939

I told Mr. Sackett that the Bureau does not want to receive any letter for investigation which has been previously publicly exposed as this only hampers the investigation.

Mr. Sackett also mentioned that he had noted in the papers that Mr. Rogge has told the press his telephone wires were being tapped. I told Mr. Sackett we should not investigate this since Mr. Rogge had released it to the press and obviously we cannot get results in an investigation of it.

I instructed Mr. Sackett to keep me advised of all developments on this case.

Time 12:15 p.m.

Mr. Sackett telephoned to advise that he had just completed a conference with Mr. Rogge in the presence of another Agent. Mr. Sackett advises that Mr. Rogge appears to have felt the effects of Mr. Kinderley's attack last night for he is definitely downhearted.

Mr. Sackett stated that Mr. Rogge denied he had told the press they could publish the letter if Mr. Sackett approved. I suggested to Mr. Sackett that if any further inquiries come in from the press about this letter, Mr. Sackett should tell them that the decision rests with Mr. Rogge; that the facts in any case the Bureau investigates are not published until the investigation is completed.

Mr. Sackett then stated that Mr. Rogge requested him to find out what Richard Leche and Seymour Weiss were doing in Dallas. Mr. Sackett informs me that Mr. Leche and Mr. Weiss received permission from the United States Attorney's Office to leave New Orleans for five or six days and Mr. Rogge suspects they went over to Dallas to try to get in some work in connection with F. W. Burford's Case, who is fighting removal on an oil charge. Mr. Sackett told Mr. Rogge that the oil case is not under our investigative jurisdiction and therefore we could do nothing with it.

Mr. Sackett advises that Mr. Rogge has a group of assistants working with him who have no practical training and want to indict everybody. He also stated that they are sending over all kinds of requests for investigation. I instructed Mr. Sackett that these requests should be handled by the agency which has primary investigative jurisdiction. Mr. Sackett states he is staying out of this as much as possible and at present is completing all the investigation that has been requested.

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Memo for Mr. E. A. Tamm

- 3 -

August 16, 1939

I instructed Mr. Sackett to keep me informed of all new developments.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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1308 Maschis Temple Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

August 15, 1939

Honorable Hans A. Viosca,  
United States Attorney,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS  
Information Concerning

Enclosed herewith are the following photostatic  
copies of communications received by the Attorney General and the  
Federal Bureau of Investigation relative to the above-entitled  
matters:

letter dated at Crowley, Louisiana, July 24, 1939, from  
Mr. Lawrence G. Pugh;

letter dated at New Orleans, July 27, 1939, from Mrs. Marie  
Hebert Holbrook;

letter dated at Camden, New Jersey, July 27, 1939, from  
Mr. Frank H. Spuhler;

letter dated at Morse, Louisiana, July 24, 1939, from  
Mr. George A. Chiasson;

letter dated July 24, 1939, Shreveport, Louisiana, from  
Edward Rodgers;

letter dated July 27, 1939, Morgan City, Louisiana, from  
James K. Hanson;

letter dated July 24, 1939, Coushatta, Louisiana, from A. H.  
Perry, together with photostatic copy of enclosure mentioned there;

letter dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, July 20, 1939, addressed  
to The Times-Picayune Publishing Co., from "A Puzzled Citizen",  
together with photostatic copy of envelope in which mailed;

letter dated at Goose Creek, Texas, July 19, 1939, from W. L.  
Atwood;

anonymous letter dated at Shreveport, Louisiana, July 29, 1939,  
signed "American";

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62-2259-233  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 17 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Condition for release*

*Copy*

*181*

To Honorable Rena A. Viostra,  
New Orleans, 8/15/39

communication dated July 18, 1939, from Gerald L. K. Smith,  
Detroit Leland Hotel, Detroit, Michigan;

letter dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, July 28, 1939, signed  
"A well wisher in the interest of Justice", together with photo-  
static copies of newspaper clippings;

communication, undated, from "one of the sufferers", together  
with photostatic copy of envelope in which mailed;

letter dated May 30, 1939, from D. L. Rush of New Orleans,  
Louisiana;

letter dated June 5, 1939, to Mr. Rush;

letter dated June 27, 1939, from Mr. Rush.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

CWD:sh

cc Bureau

1308 Masenic Temple Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 15, 1939

Honorable O. John Rogge,  
Assistant Attorney General,  
Care United States Attorney,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that an individual brought information to this office, in confidence, to the effect that a man named P. W. BIEWER, who was formerly vice-president of INSULL Utilities, in charge of the South, and later was with the Federal Housing Administration, had mentioned to him a couple of years ago that he had been engaged to arrange a conference in New York City for SEYMOUR WEISS and former Governor RICHARD W. LECHE with officials of the CITIES SERVICE COMPANY or, possibly, with a subsidiary of the CITIES SERVICE COMPANY known as the LORING OIL COMPANY, which, according to the informant's recollection, was in connection with taking over some oil interests of WILLIAM HELIS, and he also recalled that there was some mention of allowing them a larger pro ration, whether illegally or not, he did not know. This informant believed that BIEWER was left out on the deal and he does not know if it ever went through, but he thinks it did, because he has some recollection that BIEWER had mentioned something like \$500,000.00 or a million dollars in cold cash changed hands at the conference. The informant recalls also that BIEWER had made some remarks to him about efforts by these same parties to secure oil rights on the right of way of the Mexican Railway, but that this never went through. This informant claimed this was all the information he had in his possession, and it is apparent he was quite sincere in this and would not be in a position to know anything other than what BIEWER may have mentioned to him in conversation.

The informant does not know the present whereabouts of BIEWER, but stated that at the time he was last in touch with him he resided at the corner of Freret Street and the street one block above Jefferson Avenue, which is Octavia Street. It is noted in the 1935 city directory there is listed a PETER J. BIEWER at 2300 Octavia Street. However, the current city directory does not list this individual's name.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

INDEXED  
RECORDED

CEW:sh  
cc Bureau

62-32507-255  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 17 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DECODED COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 15 1939

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-15-39

6PM

AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. O. JOHN ROGGE

ADVISED THAT ON AUGUST EIGHTEENTH HE ANTICIPATED RETURNING MAIL FRAUD  
INDICTMENT AGAINST R. W. WAUGESPACK, NEW ORLEANS REAL ESTATE MAN,  
HENRY J. MILLER, ABE SHUSHAN, AND POSSIBLY ROBERT J. NEWMAN AND  
NORMAN T. HARRIS IN CONNECTION WITH REFUNDING OF NEW ORLEANS LEVEE  
BOARD BONDS. ROGGE ADVISED THAT ON SAME DATE HE ANTICIPATED RETURNING  
INCOME TAX INDICTMENT AGAINST J. M. SMITH, DOCTOR JAMES A. SHAW AND  
MONTE HART. HE ADVISED HE ANTICIPATED RETURNING INDICTMENTS FOR  
VIOLATION OF CONNALLY ACT ON AUGUST EIGHTEENTH AGAINST WILLIAM HELIS,  
CANAL OIL COMPANY, STANDARD OIL COMPANY, AND TEXAS OIL COMPANY.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC JAR

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-32509-253

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 15 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON TAMM TWC

*copy in [unclear]*

*(Handwritten mark)*

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-167-115

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 12 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Lawler	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Searles	S
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

*Handwritten initials/signature*

*Louisiana Industrial Situation*

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-12-39

4-45 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. O JOHN ROGGE ADVISED THAT FEDERAL INDICTMENT EXPECTED MONDAY AT NEW ORLEANS AGAINST EUGENE BARKSDALE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY IN CONNECTION WITH WPA VIOLATION. ROGGE ALSO ADVISED INDICTMENT AGAINST WILLIAM HELIS IN CONNECTION WITH NATURALIZATION MATTERS EXPECTED ON MONDAY. FEDERAL GRAND JURY RECESSED UNTIL MONDAY AT WHICH TIME THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE HEARING TESTIMONY IN CONNECTION WITH PETTY JURY THAT TRIED ABE SHUSHAN IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC GMC

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-22509-254

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 2 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM ONE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 8 - 1939

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Gandy

*[Handwritten signature]*

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-8-39

7-15 PM ALS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. O. JOHN ROGGE ADVISED FEDERAL GRAND JURY, NEW ORLEANS, HEARING TESTIMONY TO EFFECT W. C. FEAZEL, GAS MAN OF LOUISIANA, MADE CONTRACT WITH UNITED GAS COMPANY TO SELL THEM FROM RODESSA, LA. OIL FIELDS TWENTY MILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS PER DAY, PROCEEDS FROM CONTRACT DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS, R. W. LECHE, THREE NINTHS, T. J. HILL, GAMBLER, TWO NINTHS, FLOYD HODGE, INSURANCE MAN, TWOONINTHS, W. C. FEAZEL TWO NINTHS. LECHE IN NINETEEN THIRTY SEVEN RECEIVED FIFTY SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND IN THIRTY EIGHT, SIXTY SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THIS ARRANGEMENT. ROGGE ADVISED A MAIL FRAUD VIOLATION MIGHT POSSIBLY DEVELOP. HARRY J. CARTER, US DISTRICT COURT CLERK, NEW ORLEANS, RESIGNED TWDAY BUT NO (ASONGMOM) JURY VENIRE TO BE DRAWN.

*Examine for... [vertical text]*

RECORDED & INDEXED  
SACKETT

62-32509-254

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 15 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM  
TWO

END

OK FBI WASH DC SRN

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August 9, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Mr. Alvin M. Douglas, 926 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C., telephone District 8240, was referred to me by Mr. Schildecker, inasmuch as Mr. Douglas advised he had information concerning violations of the Civil Liberties Act and general conditions in Louisiana.

Mr. Douglas advised he was formerly employed as Investigator by the Black Committee investigating utilities, by the Senate Investigating Committee on Campaign Expenditures, and is presently furloughed from the Sub-committee of the House investigating WPA activities. He further advised that until four years ago he practiced law in Birmingham, Alabama, 1702 Comer Building.

He advised that the main purpose of his visit was to secure a job investigating violations of the Civil Liberties Act, and was wondering if he could be some sort of Assistant in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Douglas is 63 years of age, and I advised him of the requirements to become a Special Agent.

I questioned him specifically as to any information he had on the New Orleans situation, and he advised if he could get a job he believed he could develop same. However, he did finally admit he believes the Ex-mayor, Mr. Wormsley, would be able to furnish information, as he was once in the position to know of the activities of this situation.

In brief, Mr. Douglas had nothing to offer.

J. F. Sears

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&  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILES TWO

ORIGINAL FILED IN 111-257-2

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*Handwritten notes:*  
111-257-2  
111-257-2  
111-257-2

1908 Masonic Temple Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

August 10, 1939

Honorable Rene A. Fiosca,  
United States Attorney,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: "HOT" OIL MATTERS

On August 9, 1939, Mr. HARRY B. WALLACE, who is listed in the current New Orleans city directory as a salesman for the New York Life Insurance Company, called at this office for an interview in connection with the current investigation being conducted by this office into the alleged tampering of the ABE HUSHAM jury. While being interviewed by Special Agent J. V. BLAKE, of this office, in regard to that matter, he also advised that he had some information which might be helpful in connection with the present investigation into "hot" oil being conducted by the Federal Government.

As a preface to his information, in that regard, he stated that besides being an insurance agent he also is in the business of selling oil leases and is acquainted with various oil people. He mentioned W. J. BOUTERIE, 1037 Canal Bank Building, was formerly with the Shell Petroleum Company and also with the Texas Oil Company, but that Mr. BOUTERIE is now an independent handler of leases, royalties, et cetera. Mr. WALLACE was of the opinion that Mr. BOUTERIE is in possession of knowledge of shipments of "hot" oil by barges from the Harang Field (Bayou Lafourche) to the Shell Oil Company at Destrehan, Louisiana.

Contact was had by Agent BLAKE with Mr. BOUTERIE through Mr. WALLACE, at which time the following information was obtained from Mr. BOUTERIE: Several years ago Mr. BOUTERIE had been advised by A. P. BREAU, who operates a towing business at Lockport, Louisiana; that he was doing some towing for the Lincoln Oil Company and for a Mr. HELIS; that BREAU learned that the Lincoln Oil Company had false bottoms in their barges and, as a result, owed him, BREAU, more money for the towing services performed. BOUTERIE had advised BREAU to sue them in admiralty in order to obtain the additional towing charges which BREAU believed were due him; that BREAU informed the Lincoln Oil Company of his impending action and that the Lincoln Oil Company then paid the additional amount of money which BREAU claimed was due him.

INDEXED

62-3257-7  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 14 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Some leads to New Orleans*

To the United States Attorney, New Orleans

8/10/38

In interviewing Mr. BREAU, Mr. BOUTERIE requested that his name not be mentioned in any way. Mr. BOUTERIE also suggested that Dr. THOMAS STARK, the Sheriff at Thibodaux, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, might be able to furnish additional information relative to "hot" oil shipments in that parish, as he, BOUTERIE, understood that Dr. STARK had had some experience in endeavoring to catch persons running "hot" oil out of Lafourche Parish from wells in which Dr. STARK was personally interested.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

TFW:sh

cc Bureau



Director

- 2 -

8/16/39

The meeting at Opelousas was apparently held without any interruption of any kind, and absolutely no investigation concerning such matter was at any time undertaken by this office. SHIRLEY WIMBERLY'S statements to the effect that FBI Agents went to Opelousas is wholly in error.

Very truly yours,



B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Encls.

BES:ahs

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

141

Following are excerpts from the speech of SHIRLEY G. WIMBERLY, New Orleans Attorney, given over Station WDSU, August 15, 1939, from 9:00 to 10:15 PM. This was taken by means of an ediphone and the following is the transcription therefrom:

...A lot of my friends told me I shouldn't go into it, because it might be believed that I am trying to discourage the Federal officials from properly investigating into the political corruption in this State where infractions of Federal law are involved; let me again state then, before I have anything further to say that far from being opposed to proper Federal investigation of wrongdoing in this State, I am 100% for it. I hope they put behind prison bars every man they find who has been violating Uncle Sam's laws. It seems unfortunate to me, however, ladies and gentlemen, and I say it with regret besides, that the United States Attorney General selected for his Louisiana investigation this man O. JOHN ROGGE.

I say this despite and after mature thought, I say it because I believe that the Constitution of the United States of America is sacred, and because that sacred document recognizes that the several states of the American union possess certain rights of sovereign states, of which they can never be divested if men are to retain freedom. . Now ROGGE is either a young and inexperienced man in the law or he doesn't know the law. For knowing the law he is deliberately playing the grandstand for public consumption by the people throughout the United States.

The other day some citizens of Opelousas, down here in Louisiana, were figuring on holding a political meeting, of some kind, and they claimed they had heard threats that their meeting was about to be broken up. According to the newspapers, these citizens who were forming a league called the Volunteer Guardians of Better Government, that they felt that they themselves might need a little guarding by the police, so they notified MR. ROGGE of their position. Now, MR. ROGGE, if he had known the law, and I'm not playing or joking now, I'm in dead earnest. MR. ROGGE, if he had known the law, or if hadn't wanted to make a gesture that would make page one in the newspapers, would undoubtedly have notified the State Police officials or the Sheriff of St. Landry Parish. He certainly knew, or should have known, that he had no earthly power to police the State of Louisiana. Federal policemen can never act in purely local affairs, but must give way to State or Parish Police...

COPIES DESTROYED

170 SEP 17 1964



There was a big black headline in the New Orleans paper the other day that shouted to the world: "G-MEN TO ACTIF RIOT THREAT IS CARRIED OUT". Now that headline went all over the United States, caused by ROGGE'S apparent love for the sensational, and it gave the world to understand that Louisiana is a place where free speech does not exist at all. That's what I objected to. Not at all to the investigation of the Federal Government into Federal affairs in Louisiana. No, I've said that over and over. I'm for that. But before you completely ruin Louisiana's reputation in the eyes of the world MR. ROGGE, again I beseech you to stop all these sensational plays for headlines in the newspapers.

I can't ever remember the time when any political meeting was broke up in the State of Louisiana by can any of you my friends? Can you remember when you saw a political meeting broken up in the State of Louisiana? I've talked from a political platform in every city, town or village in this State during the past fifteen years, and no matter whose candidacy I was supporting, whose candidacy I was opposing, the people of Louisiana have always given me a fair hearing and my right of free speech has never been interfered with or denied, so I speak from personal experience and not from hearsay, MR. ROGGE.

Now again , MR. ROGGE, please believe me when I say that the people of Louisiana as a whole are a good people. They want you to help clean up this State, and they'll thank you for helping them do it. But stop helping these newspapers and corporation lawyers stop helping them in their frenzied efforts to use this deplorable situation in Louisiana to get back into political power. Stop making statements for these sensation-hungry power-crazy newspapers to into screaming headlines that Louisiana is a gangster-land, where everybody is a crook and people are afraid to testify in court for fear they'll be taken for a ride. Stop doing things like you did the other day that'll afford these journalistic scavengers the opportunity of shrieking out to the whole world that Louisiana is a State where the right of free speech is not recognized and where the State and Parish officials will not or cannot preserve the speech. .

Don't you know MR. ROGGE that the man who phoned you the other day and told you he feared that his crowd would not be permitted to hold their meeting, don't you know he was seeking just what you gave him? Publicity for that meeting. Don't you know that the Volunteer Guardians of Better Government is a political outfit inside outside, topside and bottom? Just like the late lamented Citizens Voluntary Committee of corporation lawyers organized by the Times Picayune?

Again I repeat, I'm not trying to investigation  
in the political or any other kind of graft and corruption in the State  
of Louisiana where Federal law is involved. I told you last week that I  
hope you succeed beyond your fondest expectation in every thing you do  
that lies within your official power and capacity. . But every man who  
loves Louisiana where I was born and raised, and the man who loves the  
stars and stripes under which.....

I insist, that whatever our in Louisiana, our  
rights as a sovereign state must not be trampled in the dust. Now, I'm  
going to ask a few questions MR. ROGGE, and you answer them if you can.  
Is it not a fact MR. ROGGE, that the indictments which were handed down  
on last Monday were in the hands of the New Orleans newspapers on Satur-  
day, two days before they were presented in court? If your answer is  
no, would you be willing to make such an answer under oath in a court of  
law or before an investigative body duly qualified to look into such a  
matter with the power to exact oaths from witnesses. And don't you think  
that there are not some such, some committees like that. I want to tell  
you that I phoned Congressman DIES this evening at Washington, D. C.,  
chairman on that committee investigating UnAmericanism. I phoned him and  
had a talk with him, and I told him what the situation was down here in  
Louisiana. I told him that our State's rights were being invaded and I  
asked him if there was anything his Committee could do, and he told me  
that he regretted that it couldn't , he regretted that his Committee  
would have no jurisdiction of such a proposition, and he suggested to me  
that I get in touch with Senator Lafollette, whose Committee has to do  
with Civil Rights, and I might decide to do that yet.

Now MR. ROGGE, after your sensational disclosure to the news-  
papers that you received such a communication containing bullets, stat-  
ing that if you did not leave town violence would be visited upon you.  
That's about the cheapest and oldest stunt known to the civilized world,  
and I say . There never was a strike against the Public  
Utility Company in history where the power truck didn't dynamite a few  
of its own streetcars, and they dynamited those streetcars for the same  
reason that you published those notes that presumably you...

Don't you know that every man that steps upon the public  
stage receives threatening communications from cranks. Don't you know  
that every District Attorney, that every United States District Attorney,  
almost without exception, that almost every man that gets into a contro-  
versial proposition in public life receives such communications. I  
myself have received many of that kind, and I've attached to them the  
importance they deserve, by consigning them to my waste paper basket.  
You have convinced me MR. ROGGE, beyond any reasonable doubt, that you  
are a cheap charlatan who would not scruple to lay waste to the reputa-  
tion and credit of an entire sovereign state for your own selfish desire

to see your name in print.

I believe the good people of this State, if they have any respect at all for State's rights, if we have any respect at all for State's rights, I think we ought to petition the Attorney General of the United States to send some good man down here to conduct the Government's investigation - some man who is capable and conscientious and will be more concerned about a thorough searching and exhaustive investigation of Federal matters involved in this muddled situation in Louisiana than to make the headlines of a lot of lying and corrupt newspapers.

You have convinced me, and I dare say every decent citizen of this State MR. ROGGE, every man who has the best interests of Louisiana at heart, that you are in bad face, and not a proper representative of the high office which sent you down here and upon which by your cheap publicity craving conduct and disposition you must inevitably bring dishonor and disgrace.

Now, I want to tell you something about, I want to tell you MR. ROGGE what's happened, what's come from all this kind of business, invasion of State's rights. You ask any business man in this town, you ask any business man in this State, if business hasn't suffered tremendously since you came down here and started your three ring circus. You ask them about it and see what they'll tell you. Just ask them about it. Now, I don't believe I have anything further to say about this gentleman, except that I say again to him that if he will conduct himself properly and orderly, if he will act like an official of the United States Government and respect the dignity of his office, if he will respect our State's rights down here, I hope he weeds out every crook that he can lay his hands on, and God bless him for doing it, and the good people of this state'll say that. I hope this man, whom I understand is a young man, I hope this man will cut this kind of business out and stop trying to prove to the world that everybody in the State of Louisiana is a crook and a burglar and a rascal and a scoundrel. It isn't fair and I think he ought to cut it out.

V.C. 7/21/39

VCZ:MK  
60-198-215  
62-32509-252

August 28, 1939

RECORDED

XXXXXX

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
MR. EDWARD D. KEAR

By memorandum dated March 18, 1939, former The Acting Assistant to the Attorney General Matthew F. McGuire submitted a letter addressed to former Assistant Attorney General Brien McMahon under date of February 16, 1939, by A. Pickus, of Cleveland, Ohio, relative to alleged misconduct of Judge Ben C. Dawkins of Shreveport, Louisiana, and requested that Mr. Pickus be interviewed.

I am inclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from the Cleveland office of this Bureau dated August 16, 1939, which contains the results of an interview with Mr. Pickus.

In view of the information contained therein, no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless you so request it.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Inclosure

~~COPIES DESTROYED~~  
170 SEP 17 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Cleveland, Ohio

RJA:VLD  
60-48

August 16, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of March 27, 1939 (60-1926), with inclosures, which requested that A. PICKUS, 3314 Overlook Road, Cleveland, Ohio, be interviewed concerning his criticism of the handling of receiverships by United States District Judge BEN C. DANKINS of Shreveport, Louisiana. It was determined that PICKUS is president of the Majestic Oil Company, distributors of oil and gasoline, with offices at 2455 West Third Street, Cleveland.

After several attempts an interview was arranged by Special Agent R. J. Abbaticchio, Jr. with ABE PICKUS at the above address on July 5, 1939, at which time PICKUS stated that he has no complaint relative to the handling of receiverships by Judge DANKINS except in the matter of the reorganization of the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation under Section 77-B, which bears docket number 5449 in the United States District Court, Shreveport.

PICKUS stated that he is the holder of 3,300 shares of common stock of this, a Delaware corporation, with main offices at Shreveport, Louisiana; that since 1933 he has been buying the stock at prices ranging from 75¢ to \$3.00 a share and that in January, 1936, he was suddenly informed that application for reorganization had been made in the United States District Court at Shreveport. He stated that he then spent considerable money attempting to determine the condition of this company and the need for reorganization and learned that in 1930 HENRY L. COHERTY of the Cities Service Oil Company had obtained control of the Louisiana

*Crime conditions Louisiana*

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62-32509-252  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Director

August 16, 1939

Oil Refining Corporation and that from what he could learn it appeared to him that from that time DOHERTY and his associates had been milking the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation of its assets, and that at the time reorganization was requested the common stock of the company was allegedly worthless.

He continued that from what he could find out it appeared that DOHERTY's action in asking reorganization of this company was merely a racket; that a stockholders committee appointed by the court consisting of ANDREW QUERBES, MARTIN J. GROGAN and HOWARD B. WARREN, instead of protecting the interests of the minority stockholders, were friendly to the DOHERTY interests and had deliberately or blindly accepted the appraisal of the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation assets, which appraisal was made by auditors connected with the DOHERTY interests, and was far too low and hence valueless.

PICKUS continued that he spent considerable time and money fighting the approval of this reorganization plan whereby common stockholders were to receive only 10¢ a share; that to this end he employed the firm of Irion & Switzer, attorneys at Shreveport, who, although they requested certain information of the stockholders committee and the court regarding the condition of the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation, were unable to get this information, even though PICKUS stated he offered to pay independent auditors to go over the books of the company, said offer of course being refused.

PICKUS further stated that after the reorganization was ordered he filed an appeal which has not been decided. Also that the firm of Julius G. Bach and Company, 42 Broadway, New York, which was a large preferred stockholder, has also opposed the reorganization through their attorneys, Harold Cousins and Herold, Shreveport.

Considerable time was spent with PICKUS who produced copies of numerous letters written by him to Judge DAWKINS, as well as of correspondence with his attorneys in

Director

August 16, 1939

connection with this matter and it appears he feels that Judge DANKINS is in some way connected with the HENRY L. DOHERTY interests; also that the entire Federal judicial system, including all of the lawyers in and around Shreveport, are likewise connected with these interests and for this reason have permitted DOHERTY to secure the reorganization of this company. He takes the position that the judge erred in appointing the individuals named to the stockholders committee referred to by him as trustees, in that he alleges they are merely tools of the DOHERTY interests in its attempt through this means to gain control of the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation.

PICKUS stated that he has already furnished former assistant Attorney General BRIAN McMAHON with copies of his correspondence with Judge DANKINS in this connection and when pressed for specific evidence of any alleged irregularities on the part of members of the Federal judiciary PICKUS continually referred to the fact that they are all controlled by the moneyed interests, but appeared to be unable to be more specific.

He stated that he is presently preparing a written summary of his complaint in this matter to include specific allegations or irregularities and that he would furnish this to the interviewing agent in the near future. However, when contacted telephonically at a later date he advised that he was preparing to go to Washington, D. C., in connection with his plan to "quarantine" the aggressors or warmakers of the world. In this connection it was noted by the interviewing agent that the walls of PICKUS' office contained numerous newspaper clippings from local as well as Washington, D. C., newspapers generally referring to PICKUS as the American "Ambassador-at-large" and "telephone ambassador," it appearing from the clippings that PICKUS for the past several years has placed numerous long distance telephone calls to various world figures, including HITLER, MUSSOLINI and General FRANCO in an attempt to criticize them for their warlike activities.

Director

August 16, 1939

PICKUS stated that through his own efforts he has obtained enough money to provide comfortably for his wife and small son and that during the past three years he has spent considerable money distributing folders and other forms of publicity in favor of his plan to "quarantine the warmakers." He furnished agent with two of these folders which are being inclosed for the Bureau. It appears from them, as well as from his remarks, that he feels he has considerable political power and periodically he goes to Washington where he contacts various Senators and Representatives in behalf of his plans.

PICKUS is a great talker, although his command of English is not particularly good and it is rather difficult to pin him down to specific allegations. During the course of his discussion he mentioned that while in Shreveport attempting to oppose the reorganization of the Louisiana Oil Refining Corporation, he understood from various lawyers and persons contacted that Judge DAWKINS drinks liquor to excess and that the judge is guided in most of his actions by his wife, who "wears the pants in the family," while his sister-in-law, who is his secretary, gambles in the stock market.

In the event PICKUS furnishes any further information same will be promptly transmitted to the Bureau, and this letter is furnished at this time inasmuch as it appears somewhat likely that PICKUS may call at the Bureau to discuss his allegations.

Very truly yours,

E. P. Guinane  
Special Agent in Charge

Inclosures

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
August 15, 1939

AR:TEB

Time 12:10 p. m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN  
LOUISIANA

SAC Sackett called from New Orleans and stated Mr. O. John Rogge has requested him to assign an accountant to check into a possible mail fraud case which involves the Neuman-Harris Company and the New Orleans Levy Board. The Neuman-Harris Company is a brokerage concern which floated the re-financing of the bond issue for the New Orleans Levy Board. This company allegedly received \$449,000 in commission upon a \$700,000 bond issue and if this is true it will be a fraud, however, if the bond issue involved \$2,000,000, which they now claim it did, it might be an exorbitant commission but will not be a fraud.

Mr. Sackett stated this was a legitimate request on Mr. Rogge's part and he was of the opinion this request should be granted. He stated this investigation will take one or two days.

I told Mr. Sackett it would be satisfactory to assign an accountant to handle this matter.

Respectfully,

*A. Rosen*

A. Rosen

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&  
INDEXED

62-3201-251

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
AUG 15 1939  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

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New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 14, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is a Standard Form Voucher No. 1034 submitted by the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, Inc., New Orleans, Louisiana, for supplying history and credit information, along with whatever confidential information was in their files, in connection with the investigation of the case entitled "UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; ABE SHUSHAN JURY, October 5, 1935; TAMPERING WITH JURY" and in connection with the present petit jury panel investigation.

The amount charged, twenty-five cents a name for eighty names, was considered very reasonable and the Credit Bureau showed exceptional cooperation in this matter even though it was requesting a large volume of work for them.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD  
PMH

Enc.

62-32509-250

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 17 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CLK. TTT/10

ORIGINAL FILED IN

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

JFS:VTM  
12:30 P. M.

August 12, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

SAC Hottel telephonically advised the United States Marshal had not been able to serve the subpoena on Dr. Taylor Segue; that Special Agent Taylor upon being advised of this by the United States Marshal took the subpoena with him to Dr. Segue's house, located him and served the subpoena on him; that Dr. Segue departed for New Orleans via the Southern Railway at 1:00 P. M., and will arrive there tomorrow night at 9:30 P. M.

I advised SAC Hottel that New Orleans had been authorized to contact Dr. Segue upon his arrival, and to furnish New Orleans with sufficient information in order that Agents could pick him up on arrival at New Orleans.

Respectfully,

*J. F. Sears*  
J. F. Sears

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62-3271-247  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 17 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM  
FWD



To Honorable O. John Rogge, 8/18/39

other building materials from the WPA stocks in the warehouse and used it in constructing a fishing camp at Lake Bistineau near Shreveport.

Dr. D. D. SANDIDGE, head of the Board of Health, and P. D. JACKSON, Chief Inspector, also built a fishing camp at Lake Bistineau at about the same time (summer of 1936) and Mr. SIBLEY believes that they also used materials taken unauthorizedly from the WPA. For the construction of both these camps the materials were hauled to Lake Bistineau in Board of Health trucks, one usually driven by C. E. WILCOX and another by a Mr. POPE, head carpenter, who is still with the WPA. Other employees of the WPA and the City of Shreveport worked on the construction of these camps, but the only one which Mr. SIBLEY could name was a Mr. MOREAU, a WPA carpenter.

SIBLEY said that tables and stools for both camps were constructed at the warehouse with WPA and city labor. SANDY MILLER, colored, an employee of the Board of Health, worked at the camps quite a lot.

JOE WEBB was in charge of the Board of Health warehouse, and JOHNNY CRAWFORDS, now in the oil business in Shreveport, was in charge of the WPA property in the warehouse. In the latter part of 1936, the warehouse burned and SIBLEY believes it was intentionally set fire. WPA records on the toilet project were destroyed.

SIBLEY stated that he has never seen the camps on Lake Bistineau referred to. He said that the only person or company that had very many of the WPA project toilets installed was the Standard Oil Company, Shreveport, which purchased about fifty.

DUDLEY BRILEY, Deputy Marshal, Western District of Louisiana, called at the office on July 29, 1939, and desired to furnish information regarding an income tax violation. He advised that he is a resident of Opelousas, Louisiana, and individuals in that vicinity have been coming to him with information regarding the irregularities of the present Sheriff, D. J. DOUCET, and he had three persons with him who wanted to make an affidavit regarding DOUCET and his violations of the income tax laws. BRILEY advised that it was useless to take the information to any state authority, even though the violations would come under their jurisdictions since DOUCET is politically connected to these state authorities, and no prosecution would be initiated.

BRILEY stated that the information he wanted to report was that in 1937 DOUCET had a fund of \$40,000.00 for the operation of his office and if any remained at the end of the year it was to be returned

To Honorable G. John Rogge, 8/10/39

to the police jury to be used for other purposes. BRILEY advised that during the year DOUCET tried to use the entire fund by appointing as many deputies as possible and, even though he appointed thirty-seven, there was still some of the fund remaining. At the end of the fiscal period DOUCET drew checks payable to each deputy in amounts to disburse the entire funds left and had these deputies endorse the checks and return them to him. These checks, according to BRILEY, amounted to about \$300.00 each. BRILEY also advised that he had the information that DOUCET had a secret bank account with the Planters Bank at Opelousas, where this money was placed for his personal use. DOUCET was supposed to have told the deputies when he had them endorse the checks back to him that the money was for a political fund. BRILEY stated that he had two former deputies and a former office girl of DOUCET who wished to give affidavits to this effect. BRILEY also said that DOUCET was operating all slot machines in St. Landry Parish and was understood to be splitting with the state administration and the transfers of money from the slot machines would possibly be a mail fraud violation. BRILEY said he had the information that DOUCET made no income tax return for 1937.

BRILEY was advised that this Bureau had no investigative jurisdiction over income tax violations and the Intelligence Unit of the Internal Revenue Bureau was called and arrangements made for BRILEY to talk to Agent COONER of that unit.

-----  
Letter dated at Senatobia, Mississippi, August 4, 1939, signed by J. EVERETTE POAC, is enclosed.

-----  
On July 18, 1939, Mr. J. W. DUNKIN, who operates a general dry goods store at Colfax, Louisiana, called at the office of the Resident Agent of this Bureau in Shreveport to furnish information regarding one JAMES W. ETHERIDGE of Colfax, a representative in the Louisiana State legislature from Grant Parish, Louisiana. Mr. DUNKIN was accompanied by Mr. W. S. LACROIX, a contractor of Colfax, who stated he was formerly with the Louisiana State Highway Commission.

Mr. DUNKIN said that he believes that Mr. ETHERIDGE pays no income tax to the Federal Government, although he apparently receives a substantial income. He said he receives an income of \$250.00 from the Louisiana Moratorium Commission, about \$600.00 as a representative of the Louisiana legislature, and that he also holds two other State offices, and is reported to receive \$100.00 a month from the Sheriff at Colfax as remuneration for obtaining appointment of the Sheriff to that

To Honorable O. John Rogge, 8/10/38

office when the elected Sheriff died some time ago.

Mr. DUNKIN said that his information concerning the State offices held came from Senator JAMES A. NOE, Monroe, Louisiana, and that Senator NOE had advised him that he, NOE, has in his possession photostatic copies of various documents incriminating to Mr. BERRIDGE and that they will be made public at the proper time.

Mr. DUNKIN was informed that under the present Federal laws, income from the State of Louisiana is not taxable by the Federal Government. Mr. DUNKIN also advised that SAM WELLS, head of the Relief Office (welfare office) at Colfax, is said to misappropriate relief supplies for his own use.

Mr. E. A. FULLER, who lives on the place adjoining SAM WELLS, gets flour for the negroes who work on his place at half price. This flour is said to be brought to FULLER'S place by FULLER from the local relief office. The flour is taken out of the sacks stamped "Not to be Sold - Government Property", or some similar marking, and is placed in sacks supplied by the negroes who obtain the flour. E. A. FULLER is chairman of the parish relief organization. Mr. DUNKIN said that J. M. FLETCHER and J. O. LOGAN are neighbors of E. A. FULLER and that they obtained the information regarding the above from the negroes who work on their place and who swap gossip with E. A. FULLER'S negroes.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

CND:sh  
cc Bureau  
#62-978

106

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Mr. Ladd  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tracy  
 Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 AUG 10 1939  
 TELETYPE

*Crime conditions Louisiana*

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-10-39 5-44 PM AHS

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE HAS BEEN EXAMINING NUMEROUS PERSONS BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY ALL DAY WHO OUR INVESTIGATION SHOW MAY HAVE SOME INFORMATION RELATING TO TAMPERING WITH THE FEDERAL JURY WHICH ACQUITTED ~~ABE SHUSHAN~~ ABE SHUSHAN ON INCOME TAX EVASION CHARGES IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE. NO DEFINITE VIOLATION IN THIS REGARD HAS AS YET BEEN DEVELOPED.

SACKETT

END

OK FBI WASH DC JAR

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62-32509-24  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 AUG 11 1939  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 7 - 1939

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. T. ...
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Handwritten initials and signatures*

DECODED COPY

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-7-39 12-52 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. RICHARD W  
 LECHE, SEYMOUR WEISS AND FREEMAN BURFORD, PRESIDENT EAST TEXAS  
 REFINING COMPANY, INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY NEW ORLEANS TODAY  
 INDICTMENT CHARGING DEFENDANTS WITH VIOLATION OF THE CONNALLY ACT  
 AND FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, IN THAT THEY IMPAIRED THE  
 OPERATION OF THE STATUTE. THIS INDICTMENT CHARGES THAT IN NINETEEN  
 THIRTY SEVEN THE DEFENDANTS RECEIVED ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND  
 EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS, OF WHICH MARTIN WIXREY, BURFORDS ATTORNEY,  
 A CONSPIRATOR BUT NOT A DEFENDANT, GOT FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED  
 DOLLARS AND THAT WEISS GOT THE REMAINDER, WHICH HE EQUALLY DIVIDED  
 WITH LECHE. THE SECOND INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY CHARGES WEISS WITH  
 FAILING TO MAKE INCOME TAX RETURN ON SEVENTY SIX THOUSAND THREE  
 HUNDRED DOLLARS IN NINETEEN THIRTYSIX, AND THAT THE SIXTY SEVEN  
 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED HE PAID TO LECHE WAS NOT PROPERLY DEDUCTABLE  
 AS LECHE PERFORMED NO SERVICE. A THIRD INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY  
 CHARGES SEYMOUR WEISS AND LOUIS LESAGE WITH CONSPIRACY SINCE  
 NINETEEN THIRTYSIX, IN THAT LESAGE INCLUDED TWENTYFIVE THOUSAND  
 DOLLARS IN HIS INCOME TAX RETURN WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE RETURN  
 OF SEYMOUR WEISS, THIS MONEY HAVING BEEN RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH

RECORDED & INDEXED

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 94-4-1785-26 12-5-3117-3

170 SEP 17 1964

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PAGE TWO

THE SALE OF THE BIENVILLE HOTEL FIXTURES. USA RENE VIOSCA ADVISED THAT ON AUGUST FOURTEENTH NINETEEN THIRTYNINE TWENTYFIVE NAMES WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE JURY BOX TO SUPPLEMENT THE PRESENT PETTY JURY PANEL. VIOSCA REQUESTED THESE ADDITIONAL PERSONS, AFTER BEING DRAWN, BE INVESTIGATED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESENT PETTY JURY INVESTIGATION. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE BUREAU ADVISE IF AUTHORIZED.

SACKETT

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62-32509-247

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 10 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TAMM

TWO

150

1308 Masonic Temple Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 11, 1939

Honorable Rene A. Viosca  
United States Attorney  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: <sup>0</sup> LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS;  
Information Concerning

Re: W. P. A. IRREGULARITIES;  
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are photostatic copies of letters and documents received by the Attorney General, as follows:

Letter dated New Orleans, La., July 25, 1939, to the Attorney General from THELMA NELSON, with newspaper clippings enclosed;

Letter dated June 1, 1939 to the Attorney General from Vincent Moseley, together with two newspaper clippings enclosed therewith;

Letter dated June 7, 1939, to Vincent Moseley from Mr. McGuire;

Letter dated July 3, 1939, to Mr. McGuire from Vincent Moseley;

Copy of letter dated July 18, 1939 to Vincent Moseley from Mr. McGuire;

Anonymous letter received by the Attorney General on July 26, 1939, with envelope in which it was mailed, postmarked St. Francisville, La., July 23, 1939;

Anonymous letter dated at New Orleans, July 24, 1939, beginning, "Is there any truth to the terrible slanderous information...."

INDEXED

Letter dated at New Orleans, July 23, 1939, from Marguerite A. Richardson, et al;

1045-78X2

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

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Hon. Rene A. Viosea - Page two

Aug. 11, 1939

Letter dated at New Orleans, July 25, 1939, from  
Alexander Brownfield.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

CWD:ALS

cc-Bureau

164

New Orleans, Louisiana  
August 9, 1939

Honorable Rene Viosea,  
United States Attorney,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

RE: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS  
Information Concerning

In accordance with past procedure, further information received and letters received are being transmitted to your office.

The informant who calls himself TOM, about whom your office has previous communications, advised that there was trouble between KING/STRENSKI and DR. CLARENCE LORIO. He advised that a man named DURN was the brother-in-law of LORIO'S first wife, and that DURN had seen a cancelled check endorsed by LORIO which might have some bearing upon the present investigation. He believed that if DURN were located he would be willing to talk.

W. S. LEWIS, an attorney in New Orleans, telephonically advised this office that a clerk at the Maison-Blanche Department Store, had told him that the Hospital Board had received condemned x-ray equipment for the Charity Hospital but used it just the same, after the equipment had been repaired by a man in Algiers. Mr. LEWIS could not furnish the names of persons mentioned or give more definite information.

An individual, who refused to give his name, telephonically contacted this office and advised that something ought to be done by investigating recent homestead liquidations. This individual advised that about a half million dollars would be found to be involved; that in one homestead transaction the attorneys got \$45,000.00 to liquidate although they were paid members of some particular organization employed to do this. He advised the banking commissioner, who is a State employe, got \$27,000.00 to do something he was paid by the State to do. This individual advised that the politicians bought better property and threw the trash back into the homesteads. The homesteads which this person referred to were the Conservative and the Phoenix.

INDEXED 63-22509-2  
Another individual, who would not give his name, telephonically contacted this office and stated he wanted us to investigate a Mr. CRUTCHER who was the NIA Administrator, because CRUTCHER was from Tuscaloosa, 1939 Alabama, and because the Supreme Court Justice, HUGO BLACK, helped CRUTCHER out of some trouble. This individual refused to give any more definite information or furnish any names.

To the United States Attorney, New Orleans

8/9/39

The following information was received from DR. V. R. STASSI, Dentist, 8730 South Carrollton Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana:

DR. STASSI advised that he has this, that is, what he is reporting, with his own eyes; that Mayor MAESTRI has used WPA material and labor on a parochial school located in the 8300 or 8400 block of Apricot Street, New Orleans, Louisiana; that this material and WPA labor were used in paving the yard of the said school, and in the repairs to the nuns' or sisters' home; that Archbishop HANCOCK evidently knows about this and that, no doubt, Archbishop HANCOCK probably requested the work; that MAESTRI personally inspected the job while it was being done; that he estimates something like \$1,500.00 or \$2,000.00 were expended on that job; and that he has heard that other work like this has been done in New Orleans, but that he has no definite information at this time as to that. The Doctor informed that WPA trucks (Municipal Repair Plant trucks) were used, but that the material was WPA. The Doctor was emphatic in his statement that he knows all this of his own knowledge, and that the work in question was in the past month and a half. Further, the Doctor informed that he is able to secure the names of some of the workers of the WPA on that job.

Enclosed is communication received from ALLEN L. MILLER, Box 154, Vinton, Louisiana, dated August 2, 1939.

Enclosed is communication from "Mr. George G." dated August 6, 1939.

Enclosed is communication received from REVEREND JOSEPH M. COULOMBE, Thibodaux, Louisiana, dated August 5, 1939.

Very truly yours,

B. I. SACKETT,  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

EPC:ON

~~5-162-114~~

62-32509 - 246 August 17, 1939.

RECORDED

Honorable J. Fair Hardin  
Special Assistant Attorney General  
Nineteenth Judicial District of Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Hardin:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 10, 1939, setting forth additional information concerning the desired examination of bonds of the State of Louisiana to which the signature of Governor O. K. Allen is suspected of having been forged.

It is the Bureau's policy not to make examinations of technical evidence which has already been examined by other experts. I consider such an unnecessary duplication of effort inasmuch as competent technical experts should, of course, reach the same conclusions on identical facts. It is noted in your letter that these bonds have already been examined or are being examined by Mr. Bert C. Farrar and Mr. Alwyn Cole, the latter of the Treasury Department.

Should it be possible subsequently for the Bureau to be of any assistance to you concerning the investigation and prosecution of these cases, I shall be more than glad to have you submit any specific requests in order that I may personally give them every consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc New Orleans

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-162-114

62-32509-111

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
OF LOUISIANA

BATON ROUGE

August 10, 1939

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have your letter of August 8th inquiring as to the probable length of time which would be required for the services of your document examiner in our forgery case. I have handled a great many forgery cases and this one appears to me to be about as simple as we usually have. The story, from the State's standpoint, is briefly this: there were 118 bonds to which we contend Dr. Smith signed his own name and forged the signature of Governor Allen.. Dr. Smith will be indicted on 10 series A and 10 series C bonds, which are identical except as to the series and numbers. The only forgery involved in the forgery of Governor O. K. Allen's signature, and that is simple. Unfortunately, the original forgeries were destroyed, but we have photostats of them which were made without Dr. Smith's knowledge. It will likewise not be difficult to show that Dr. Smith's signature is genuine on these bonds. The only serious question is whether the same hand that wrote Dr. Smith's signature also wrote O.K. Allen's signature. In addition to these bonds, and some 10 bonds bearing Governor Allen's genuine signature, we can furnish you with the required amount of known handwriting of Dr. Smith for purposes of comparison.

As a matter of fact, I have already sent copies of the bonds to Mr. Alwyn Cole, Examiner of Documents for the Treasury Department in the Treasury Building there, and if convenient, you might let your document examiner drop by Mr. Cole's office and see these documents for himself. I have not yet sent Mr. Cole any other writing for comparison purposes, but plan to do that as soon as I hear from him.

RECORDED & INDEXED

When it comes to the trial of these forgeries we should be through with your examiner in half a day. These forgery cases are going to be very short to be tried, if they are tried. As a matter of fact, I don't believe Dr. Smith will go to trial, because I think he is going to plead guilty as soon as the State and Federal Government get through indicting him. However, I want to prepare these

162-32509-246  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 14 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*New Orleans La. - 10-11-39*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 5-162-114

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cases just as though they were going to trial, and I am especially interested in getting the opinion of your document examiner, of Mr. Kole, and of Mr. Bert C. Farrier. Mr. Farrier is already working on the matter. If all three of you agree on this, then I know I can win the case "hands down".

The only rush about the matter is the rush of getting the preliminary report so that we will know where we stand. The cases will not be tried until the first week in October, and, of course, if we try one case and it results in conviction, I am sure that the others will not be tried, because the penalty in one case is enough.

I hope from the above you can ascertain just how much time will be required. I, of course, do not know the amount of time that your document examiner has to take in preparing these cases, though I do know that it takes considerable time, and I know it is more difficult where the field in writing is confined simply to one signature than where it is a whole document is forged.

I certainly hope that you will let us have the services of one of your document examiners. Mr. Rogge and we are working in very close cooperation on this matter, and we certainly need and want the cooperation of your office.

With best regards, I am

Your friend

S/ J. Fair Hardin  
Special Assistant Attorney General

JFH:ga

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Huey P. Long

Section 12

of

file 62-32509

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, Louisiana**

N.O. FILE NO. **74-228**

REPORT MADE AT <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>Aug. 25, 1939</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>Aug. 14, 15, 16 &amp; 17, 1939</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>J. O. PEYRONNIN</b>	SH
TITLE <b>PETIT JURY - May 1939 Term, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, Division</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>JURY INVESTIGATION</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

United States Attorney, New Orleans, on August 14, 1939, submitted to New Orleans Field Office additional list of names and addresses of individuals drawn as members of the petit jury, United States district court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, for the term beginning May 1939, and requested discreet investigation as to each juror. Authorization to conduct this investigation secured from the Bureau. List in question consists of twenty-five names. Discreet investigation conducted as to each juror in New Orleans, and detailed information secured as to each made part of this report. New Orleans Office files checked as to each juror and whatever information derived therefrom made part of this report.

G.

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent J. O. PEYRONNIN, New Orleans, Louisiana, August 21, 1939.

**DETAILS:**

At New Orleans, Louisiana

On August 8, 1939, United States Attorney RENE A. VIOSCA, New Orleans, informed the New Orleans Office that on Monday, August 14, 1939, additional names of individuals would be drawn by the jury commissioners at New Orleans, which names would be added to the petit jury panel for the term

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>170 SEP 17 1964</b>		<b>62-32509-281</b>	<b>SEP 2 1939</b>
5 Bureau 1 U.S. Atty., New Orleans 4 New Orleans		<b>DE-INDEXED</b> <b>DATE: AUG 31 A.M.</b> <b>13</b>	ONE HALF

beginning May 1939. On August 14, 1939, United States Attorney VIOSCA submitted to the New Orleans Office list of names and addresses of the twenty-five individuals, which individuals have been drawn by the jury commissioners to serve as members of the petit jury in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, at New Orleans, for the term beginning May 1939. MR. VIOSCA requested that discreet investigation of these additional jurors be conducted the same as investigation of the fifty names of this petit jury previously furnished the New Orleans Office. Special Agent in Charge B. E. SACKETT on August 15, 1939, received telephonic authorization from the Bureau to conduct this investigation.

The investigation of these additional members of the petit jury was conducted by Special Agents ARTHUR F. CAREY and J. O. PEYRONNIN.

The investigation recorded hereinafter will be recorded or set up under the names of the additional jurors in alphabetical order.

ERNEST BURGUIERES

The city directory of New Orleans for the year 1938 shows ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, Treasurer of J. M. BURGUIERES COMPANY, LTD.; wife's name, ISABEL; residence, 5908 Garfield Boulevard, New Orleans. The said city directory also shows ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, JR., employed as solicitor for MARSHALL J. SMITH & COMPANY; residence, 5908 Garfield Boulevard, New Orleans. The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, Inc., New Orleans, show ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, SR., as Vice-President and Treasurer of J. M. BURGUIERES & COMPANY, LTD., Sugar Plantation Operators, 827 Union Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Confidential report in that bureau dated October 26, 1936, gives the address of ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, SR., as 5908 Garfield Street, New Orleans, having resided there ten to twelve years; was forty-nine years old; that the corporation of which he is vice-president and treasurer is owned by the family; that his character, habits, and morals are good; his income estimated at \$5,000.00 a year, and he has a fourth interest in the corporation of which he is vice-president and treasurer; that he owns his own home and his worth is generally estimated to be over \$10,000.00. The records show that a suit was filed against ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, SR. October 15, 1932, by the National Republican Club of Louisiana in the amount of \$55.00. Under "Remarks" it is stated that ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, SR. is a member of the BURGUIERES family that has been known as plantation operators in the State of Louisiana for many years; that the concern and individuals connected with the corporation have had reverses due, principally, to conditions in the past eight or nine years. The credit rating of this individual is regarded as very satisfactory.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau also show that ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, JR., according to a report dated March 21, 1939, resided at the Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans, and that his credit rating is very good. The said records reflected that ERNEST A. BURGUIERES, JR. was employed by MARSHALL J. SMITH & COMPANY, LTD., New Orleans. The city directory of New Orleans for 1938 shows the MARSHALL J. SMITH & COMPANY, Insurance and Underwriters Agents, located at 339 Carondelet Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, New Orleans, informed that ERNEST BURGUIERES, JR. is well known to him; that he is entirely reliable and dependable, and, in addition, is of a very fine and old established family in the State of Louisiana.

HENRY T. CHALARON

The city directory for the year 1938 shows HENRY T. CHALARON employed as special agent for the Union Central Life Insurance Company, 1648 Canal Bank Building, New Orleans; residence address, 6209 Perrier Street, New Orleans.

For information only, the city directory of 1938 shows that one CLAIRE N. CHALARON is employed as the director of vocational guidance, Orleans Parish School Board, and resides at 1012 North Rendon Street, New Orleans. There is no information available to show that this individual is in any way related to MR. HENRY T. CHALARON, the juror.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, previously referred to, informed that he knows MR. HENRY T. CHALARON personally; that he is reputable and has a good reputation in the community and, in his opinion, MR. CHALARON would make an excellent juror.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau show that HENRY T. CHALARON was formerly of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and since living in New Orleans has resided at 1421 Crete Street and 3611 Dumaine Street. According to confidential report contained in that bureau dated June 29, 1935, MR. CHALARON has been in New Orleans since 1933, and at the time of the report resided at 3611 Dumaine Street, Apartment 4, New Orleans; that he was thirty years old, married, with wife and one child, and was in the employ of the Union Central Life Insurance Company, Canal Bank Building, New Orleans; that his reputation is good and he has worked for that insurance company since November of 1933; that he was previously employed by the Art Tile Company of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and was well thought of in that community. Confidential report shows that MR. CHALARON'S worth was very little; that his credit

rating was good; that he is employed on a strictly commission basis and, according to the trade, seems to be meeting with fair success. The said credit bureau also has a report dated July 2, 1935, of MR. CHALARON'S status in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. In that report information is given that MR. CHALARON is a reputable person and is a high moral risk. Also there is information contained in the said bureau's files from a bank at Ellisville, Mississippi, which report states that MRS. CHALARON was formerly MISS IDA FRANCES WILLIAMS and was one of the prominent ladies of that community; that MR. HENRY T. CHALARON is the son of a prominent dentist of Ellisville, Mississippi, and that both MR. and MRS. CHALARON are regarded as fine honest and reputable persons.

E. T. COLTON

The 1938 city directory of New Orleans shows E. T. COLTON as secretary-treasurer, New Orleans Public Service, Incorporated, 318 Baronne Street; house address, 1628 Valence Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he knows MR. COLTON very well; that MR. COLTON is a high-class gentleman and enjoys a good reputation in this community. MR. MORTIMER expressed himself in confidence that he would not be surprised if MR. COLTON would try to be excused from this jury service in view of his connection with the New Orleans Public Service.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, New Orleans, show EDWIN T. COLTON residing at 1628 Valence Street, New Orleans; former places of residence: 1818 Robert Street, 1378 Second Street and 3529 Camp Street; that MR. COLTON is a native of New Orleans, born in the year 1894; has a wife and one child; that he is employed by the New Orleans Public Service, Incorporated, as secretary-treasurer since November 11, 1922, receives a salary of between \$300.00 and \$400.00 per month. The credit rating of MR. COLTON is considered very good; he meets his obligations as agreed or when due.

BENJAMIN CRUMP

The New Orleans city directory for 1938 shows BENJAMIN CRUMP; wife's name, MARGUERITE B.; real estate agent and auctioneer, 833 Union Street, New Orleans; residence, 6226 Marquette Place. The 1935 city directory of New Orleans shows BENJAMIN CRUMP, JR. and GEORGE A. VILLERE engaged as real estate agents and auctioneers, 833 Union Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he is well acquainted with MR. BENJAMIN CRUMP, who is a very high type man and, in his opinion, could not be swayed to do something contrary to the dictates of his own mind; that MR. CRUMP has the interests of the community at heart. MR. MORTIMER stated also that MR. GEORGE A. VILLERE, deceased, was a business associate of MR. CRUMP and that a finer man could not be found any where.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, New Orleans, show BENJAMIN CRUMP, JR., engaged as a real estate operator and auctioneer, business address, 833 Union Street, New Orleans. Report dated December 21, 1931, contained in the files of that bureau, shows that MR. CRUMP was forty-five years old at that time, married, and has a wife and two children; that he had been in the real estate business for fifteen years, and was well regarded as to reputation, habits and morals. Under "Remarks" in this confidential report in that bureau, it is stated that BENJAMIN CRUMP is the son of BENJAMIN CRUMP, SR., who died about ten years ago, which would be in the year 1921; that his mother is still living and that for a number of years BENJAMIN CRUMP, JR., has been engaged as a real estate agent and auctioneer, and is also engaged in the general insurance business in partnership with his brother, ROBERT CRUMP, under the firm name of CRUMP BROTHERS; that BENJAMIN CRUMP has built up a good real estate business and is president of the Greater New Orleans Homestead Association; that his father was a man of considerable means but that as his mother was still living the estate has never been divided; that he has made some accumulations himself and his credit rating is regarded as A-1. The files of the said credit bureau also contain an excellent report on MRS. BENJAMIN CRUMP, the mother of BENJAMIN CRUMP, JR.

#### LIONEL CURRIER

The city directory of 1938 for New Orleans shows LIONEL CURRIER, wife, EMMA; that he is employed as a salesman for J. H. BONCK COMPANY, and that he resides at 4026 Delgado Avenue, New Orleans.

For information, J. H. BONCK COMPANY is a shirt manufacturing concern with premises at 1100 South Jeff Davis Parkway. For general information only, the city directory of 1938 shows ASHBY H. CURRIER employed as an inspector for the State Department of Revenue, and residing at 134 South Dupre Street, New Orleans. However, no information is available to establish any relationship whatever between this individual and the juror, LIONEL CURRIER.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he is

not acquainted with LIONEL CURRIER.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau show that LIONEL CURRIER resides at 4026 Delgado Drive, New Orleans, and formerly resided at 2626 O'Reilly Street and at Winder, Georgia; that he is employed, according to confidential report in that bureau dated July 1, 1936, as salesman of the TULANE SHIRT COMPANY, 1001 South Jeff Davis Parkway; that LIONEL CURRIER is employed by the GEORGIA PANTS COMPANY, a branch of J. H. BONCK MANUFACTURING COMPANY in Winder, Georgia, for the past three years, earning about \$150.00 per month. Information is given that the plant closed at Winder and that MR. CURRIER returned to New Orleans. The report shows MR. CURRIER to be a sober and hard-working man, and of good character and reputation; that he was between thirty-six and thirty-eight years old, married, and paid his debts as contracted for.

CHARLES A. DORHAUER

The 1938 New Orleans city directory shows MR. CHARLES A. DORHAUER employed as salesman for L. GRUNEWALD COMPANY, New Orleans, Louisiana, and residing at 122 Fairway Drive, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. DORHAUER is, from information gathered, a reputable citizen of this community and, in his opinion, would be an excellent juror.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau show CHARLES A. DORHAUER as residing at 122 Fairway Drive, New Orleans, former residences: 8011 Panola Street and 314 South Prieur Street, New Orleans; that he is employed as salesman for the L. GRUNEWALD MUSIC COMPANY, 123 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, and his credit rating is considered good. According to confidential report dated November 15, 1935, of that bureau, CHARLES A. DORHAUER is married, a native of New Orleans, is about forty-four years old, has three children, and the concern for whom he is working; namely, the GRUNEWALD MUSIC COMPANY, is a large and old established firm of New Orleans; that he has been employed as salesman for that concern twenty-six years and is well regarded as to reputation, habits and morals; that his income is \$30.00 a week, and that he owns his own home. Under "Remarks" in that confidential report, information is to the effect that on September 24, 1934, ESTHER RUTH BIERHORST, wife of CHARLES A. DORHAUER, mortgaged to the Home Owners Loan Corporation property in the 7th District, for \$8,523.00, which is still of record; that this property was originally purchased for \$11,000.00. March 28, 1935, from the Union Homestead, property for \$4,950.00, \$1,050.00 having been paid in cash and a mortgage given for \$3,900.00. That it might be mentioned that in addition to his earnings

with the L. GRUNEWALD MUSIC COMPANY, MR. DORHAUER usually makes a sale on the outside for which he receives a commission, and that he also sings in one or two church choirs and in that connection receives a salary of around \$30.00 to \$40.00 a month. In the files of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau is a letter dated June 18, 1935, from Attorney HUGH M. WILKINSON to the Manager of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, Inc., New Orleans, which is in response to letter dated June 14, 1935, addressed to MR. CHARLES DORHAUER regarding the claim of HURWITZ-MINTZ FURNITURE COMPANY for \$55.00. The letter in question is quite lengthy but in substance is that MR. WILKINSON explains that the reason MR. DORHAUER did not meet that obligation promptly was because the furniture which he bought from the HURWITZ-MINTZ FURNITURE COMPANY was defective and until proper alteration to that furniture was made or adjustment thereof, the account would be questioned.

This last information is simply given to show that HUGH M. WILKINSON, a prominent attorney of New Orleans, was an intimate and close associate of the late HUEY P. LONG, and is presently representing ABE SHUSHAN. It is not known, however, how close MR. DORHAUER is to MR. WILKINSON.

W. J. DUNN

The 1938 New Orleans city directory shows WILLIAM J. DUNN, wife, URSULA; occupation, clerk; residing 332 South Clark Street, New Orleans.

MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed the New Orleans Office that the address of Juror W. J. DUNN as given to his office was 1225 7th Street, and that MR. DUNN on August 15, 1939, called at the United States Marshal's office and stated that he had moved from 1225 7th Street and was presently residing at 332 South Clark Street, New Orleans.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, according to report dated February 23, 1932, of that bureau, show that WILLIAM J. DUNN, who was then residing at 1023 Jourdan Avenue, New Orleans, was about fifty years old, married, and had grown children; that MR. DUNN is employed by the J. T. GIBBONS COMPANY as manager, located at 6702 St. Claude Street, New Orleans, and has been in the employ of that concern for twenty years or more, receiving a salary of about \$140.00 per month; that the reputation of MR. DUNN was very good; that he was raised in New Orleans, and has never apparently been able to make anything above a living from his efforts and has not accumulated any real estate. This confidential report of the credit bureau shows

that in 1936 WILLIAM J. DUNN resided at 1225 7th Street, New Orleans, and later moved to 332 South Clark Street, New Orleans, and that his credit rating has always been very satisfactory.

The Manager of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, Inc., informed that MR. WILLIAM J. DUNN is no longer in the employ of J. T. GIBBONS, INC., which was a concern selling grain and feed, and that MR. DUNN, according to recent reports, received, is in the employ of the WPA as a geodetic surveyor.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. DUNN was not known to him.

G. HARRISON ECHOLS

The 1938 city directory for New Orleans shows GESSNER H. ECHOLS residing at 1651 Dufossat Street; wife's name, ANNE.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. ECHOLS was in the employ of the FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY out of New Orleans, Louisiana, and that as he understands it, although he has no definite information in this connection, MR. ECHOLS was transferred to New York or some point in the East a couple of months ago. He stated, however, that MR. ECHOLS was a splendid type man and would, in his opinion, make a very good juror, knowing him personally.

According to confidential report dated October 17, 1935, in the files of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, New Orleans, MR. G. HARRISON ECHOLS resided at 1651 Dufossat Street, New Orleans, and formerly resided in University, Virginia; that as of the period of the confidential report MR. ECHOLS was employed as material clerk by the FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY, Grand Porte, Louisiana; that MR. ECHOLS has resided in New Orleans since October 1934; was about thirty years of age; married, one child; and was connected with a very substantial concern as material clerk since October 1933. That his reputation as to competency, generally, and otherwise, is very good; that he is estimated to be receiving a salary of \$135.00 per month and has no income from other sources; that his credit rating is good and he is reported to be very conservative. The said credit bureau has a copy of a credit report dated January 15, 1934, from the Retail Merchants Association, Charlottesville, Virginia, on MR. ECHOLS, and this report states that MR. ECHOLS' former addresses were Richmond, Virginia; Bombay, India; and University, Virginia; that MR. ECHOLS is the second son of WILLIAM H. ECHOLS, Dean of the Mathematical Department of the University of Virginia, who has been connected with the said university

at least forty years. That his great grandfather, DR. GESSHER HARRISON, was one of the first heads of the University of Virginia; that ECHOLS is about thirty to thirty-one years old; married about two years to the daughter of DR. GEORGE B. YOUNG, a retired Army surgeon and former health officer of Charlottesville, Virginia. It is stated that ECHOLS' parents are not people of large means but they have always been prompt in meeting their obligations; that ECHOLS was absent in Bombay, India, for several years as representative of the Chevrolet Company, and returned to America in May 1931, and represented the Chevrolet Company in Richmond, Virginia for a while, and later returned to Charlottesville, Virginia, where he was the representative for the Chevrolet Company for that territory, which covered a large area, but when their force was cut down he was laid off. He is regarded as a fine character of man, with a good credit rating.

WILLIAM H. ELDER

The city directory for 1938 does not list the name of this person. However, the said city directory shows HENRIETTA M. ELDER, widow of WILLIAM H. ELDER, residing at 7610 Nelson Street, New Orleans. The 1935 city directory for New Orleans shows WILLIAM HENRY ELDER, Associate Agency Manager of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, 804 Hibernia Bank Building; residence, 1934 Peniston Street.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau reflected no information on this individual.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, and MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed the New Orleans Office that WILLIAM H. ELDER is deceased.

B. H. FLASPOLLER

The city directory of 1938 for New Orleans shows BERNARD H. FLASPOLLER; wife, PAULINE; residing at 2321 Octavia Street, New Orleans. The 1935 city directory shows BERNARD H. FLASPOLLER as Deputy Collector, United States Internal Revenue; residence, 2321 Octavia Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. B. H. FLASPOLLER is a man of good standing in this community, and believes that he would make a good juror.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau contain a confidential report dated October 3, 1933, on BERNARD H. FLASPOLLER,

which report sets out that he is about thirty-six years old; married; and resides at 2321 Octavia Street; that MR. BERNARD H. FLASPOLLER is a native of New Orleans and is the son of A. H. FLASPOLLER, who was vice-president of A. H. FLASPOLLER & COMPANY, INC., engaged in the wholesale grocery business in New Orleans; that the juror was connected with that firm until two or three years ago, when the business was not continued and since that time he has been inactive. The report of the credit bureau referred to shows that on February 27, 1923, the subject purchased from the Security Building and Loan Association a piece of property in the 6th District for \$8,000.00, giving a mortgage for the full amount; that the FLASPOLLER estate owns some very valuable real estate buildings and the subject's interest therein is understood to yield him a fair revenue; that the subject's wife was formerly MRS. PAULINE STARE and is understood to have inherited a fair amount of means from her first husband; that the subject is very well regarded personally and is of a very fine family. His credit rating is regarded as satisfactory.

EDGAR J. FORTIER

The city directory of 1938 for New Orleans does not list the name of this individual. However, the city directory of 1938 shows that the premises of 406 South Murat Street, New Orleans, are occupied by FERDINAND C. NODIER. The 1935 New Orleans city directory shows EDGAR J. FORTIER; occupation, agent, Old Hickory Life Insurance Company; address, 1214 Race Street, New Orleans.

The telephone directory of New Orleans, issued May 1939, lists E. J. FORTIER as residing at 1453 Calhoun Street, New Orleans.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, New Orleans, show EDGAR J. FORTIER as having resided at 2748 Jasmine Street, 2439 Jasmine Street, 2455 Jasmine Street, and 1648 North Broad Street, New Orleans; that his occupation is salesman; business address, Prudential Life Insurance Company, located at 207 Masonic Temple Building, New Orleans. Credit rating is satisfactory. That, according to report dated July 2, 1931, EDGAR J. FORTIER, who resided at 1648 North Broad Street, New Orleans, was thirty-three years old, married, and was the father of one or two children; that he has been employed by the Prudential Life Insurance Company for about five years as salesman; earns about \$23.00 a week and nothing derogatory was found against him as to reputation, habits and morals. Under "Remarks" in that confidential report of the said bureau it is stated that EDGAR J. FORTIER has been a resident of New Orleans the greater part of his life; that he is not found to be assessed with real estate in his own name; that he is well spoken of and is said to be a steady worker.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, and MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed that they do not know the said EDGAR J. FORTIER.

From the information gathered and that secured from the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, it has not been definitely established that the information which they have on EDGAR J. FORTIER is on the individual referred to as the juror. However, there is no record of any other EDGAR J. FORTIER residing in New Orleans. There are many FORTIERS living in various parts of the city and a number are in the employ of the city.

MILTON S. GREEN

The city directory for 1938 shows MILTON GREEN residing at 1445 St. Mary Street, New Orleans. The city directory under the street addresses shows HELEN GREEN as an occupant of the premises 1445 St. Mary Street. The city directory for 1935 shows MILTON GREEN, bookkeeper, residing at 1445 St. Mary Street, New Orleans, and also the name of HELEN L. GREEN is given as an occupant of that address.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau contain no information whatever on MILTON S. GREEN.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, and MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed that this person is not known to them.

MR. GAUDET exhibited a letter to Agent dated August 18, 1939, received by his office from HOWARD L. GREEN, written on the stationery of the firm of BACKER & GREEN, 426 Gravier Street, New Orleans. MR. HOWARD L. GREEN in this letter informed that his father, MILTON S. GREEN, received by registered mail the subpoena for his appearance as a juror in Federal court September 5, 1939, and that he, HOWARD L. GREEN wished to advise that his father, MILTON S. GREEN, has been confined to his bed due to a broken hip and will be unable to be on his feet for a few months to come, and that if it is necessary for this statement to be verified, MR. MILTON S. GREEN can be interviewed at 1760 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans.

JOHN HENNESSEY

The city directory for New Orleans for 1938 shows JOHN HENNESSEY, wife, PAULINE, residing at 1829 Touro Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he knows MR. JOHN HENNESSEY personally; that MR. HENNESSEY was for years in the employ of D. H. HOLMES & COMPANY, Department Store, as a salesman in the men's furnishings department; that MR. HENNESSEY is presently about seventy years of age, apparently in good health; that he is a very good man and absolutely reliable.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau do not reflect any information whatever on MR. JOHN HENNESSEY. The said credit bureau, however, contains a confidential report dated June 8, 1933, on MISS IRMA HENNESSEY of 1831 Touro Street, New Orleans, which report states that this lady is about twenty-six years old, and is employed as a bookkeeper for the HARTWIG-MOSS INSURANCE AGENCY, New Orleans; is a native of New Orleans and has resided at the Touro Street address with other members of her family for some time. The report gives excellent information as to this girl's character and reputation in general.

HENRY A. JOHNSON

The city directory of New Orleans for 1938 shows HENRY A. JOHNSON employed as a salesman for C. E. STAUSS, Realtor, 829 Perdido Street, New Orleans, and gives his address as 2908 General Pershing Street. The 1935 city directory, New Orleans, shows HENRY A. JOHNSON, radio electrician, residing at 2908 General Pershing Street.

Both MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, and MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, stated that they do not know MR. JOHNSON.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau contain a confidential report dated May 2, 1930, on HENRY A. JOHNSON, address 2908 General Pershing Street, and said report gives the occupation of MR. JOHNSON as a radio repairman; credit rating, satisfactory. The report shows CLARENCE E. STAUSS, aged twenty-eight, and single, and HENRY A. JOHNSON, aged thirty years, married, as the proprietors of the METAIRIE THEATRE, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. This report contains information that these persons comprise a partnership operating the METAIRIE THEATRE and also the GRAMERCY THEATRE, Gramercy, Louisiana; that they commenced business in May of 1929, leasing the GRAMERCY THEATRE for a period of one year; that on January 5, 1930, they leased from the RIDGE REALTY COMPANY the METAIRIE THEATRE for a period of two years; that both STAUSS and JOHNSON are natives of New Orleans; that STAUSS

for several years was a real estate agent in the office of GEORGE BAUMANN, which occupation he still continues, and is also an insurance agent in the employ of the Employers Casualty Company; that HENRY A. JOHNSON was for some time in the employ of SCHWARTZ BROTHERS and later operated in the radio business, and that he continued to operate as a radio repair man; that their investment in the GRAMERCY THEATRE is about \$3,000.00 against which they owe very little; that the METAIRIE THEATRE represents an investment of about \$7,500.00; that HENRY A. JOHNSON owns property in the 6th District of New Orleans, which property is his home, assessed for \$5,000.00; that he is said to be worth \$10,000.00.

E. NEWTON KEARNY, JR.

The city directory for 1938 shows E. NEWTON KEARNY; wife, LAURA; employed J. WATTS KEARNY & SONS; residence address, 70 Fontainebleu Drive. Also the city directory shows E. NEWTON KEARNY, JR., wife, CECIL; employed J. WATTS KEARNY & SONS; residence, 1217 Octavia Street, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he knows E. NEWTON KEARNY, JR. very well; that he is a splendid type person, very reliable, and, in his opinion, would make a very good juror.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau, New Orleans, contain report dated July 13, 1935, on EDWIN NEWTON KEARNY, JR., 1935 Octavia Street, New Orleans, Louisiana; former addresses: 1217 Octavia Street, 70 Fontainebleu Drive, New Orleans. That he is employed as a salesman for J. WATTS KEARNY & SONS, 514 South P eters Street, New Orleans; his wife's name is CECIL MOONEY; that he, E. NEWTON KEARNY, JR., is a native of New Orleans, thirty-four years old, and has been a salesman for J. WATTS KEARNY & SONS for fifteen years; that he enjoys a good record, and earns about \$175.00 a month; that he is the son of E. NEWTON KEARNY, SR., who is a member of the firm of J. WATTS KEARNY & SONS; that the subject's wife is the daughter of the REVEREND N. D. MOONEY, who for many years was pastor of the Napoleon Avenue Presbyterian Church, and who is now devoting his time to colored missionary work. The credit rating of the subject is very good.

ROBERT LIENHARD

The city directory of 1938 for New Orleans shows ROBERT LIENHARD; wife, MARIE; as president and general manager of D. H. HOLMES COMPANY, LTD., New Orleans; residence, 3830 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. LIENHARD is a splendid type man, and that his record speaks for itself. He made mention that MR. LIENHARD worked himself up from a small clerkship job of D. H. HOLMES COMPANY to the presidency thereof.

At this time it is believed well to make mention that MR. LIENHARD is the father-in-law of Assistant United States Attorney HILARY GAUDIN.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau show in a confidential report dated February 14, 1938, that MR. ROBERT LIENHARD of 3820 Napoleon Avenue is President of D. H. HOLMES COMPANY, Department Store, Canal Street, New Orleans; wife's name, MARIE MIALLET; native of New Orleans; sixty years old; President of the D. H. HOLMES COMPANY since 1937 and in the employ of that company for thirty years, having risen from office boy position; that he is of excellent character and of good reputation; that he is an officer and stockholder of the company, and is reputed to enjoy a salary of \$10,000.00 per year; that subject owns his home, and is of course regarded as a first-class credit risk.

T. S. McCHESNEY

The 1938 city directory for New Orleans shows TILEY (wife, STELLA) McCHESNEY, employment, Secretary, American Association of Port Authorities; house address, 2223 Short Street, New Orleans. Also the city directory for the year 1935 shows TILEY S. McCHESNEY employed as Advisor, Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans; house address, 2223 Short Street.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that he knows MR. McCHESNEY; that his connection with the Dock Board of New Orleans would probably bar him from being selected as a juror in any of these political fraud cases. MR. MORTIMER stated, however, that MR. McCHESNEY was a very good man.

For information, the United States Attorney at New Orleans received an anonymous communication signed "Citizen", which states that MR. T. S. McCHESNEY, who is one of the jurors of the Federal court, was for many years prominently connected with the New Orleans dock boards, as was his father before him, and, possibly, may be the recipient of a pension from that source.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau show, according to confidential report dated May 27, 1936, that TILEY S. McCHESNEY

resided at 2223 Short Street, New Orleans, and was employed as an advisor of the Board of Port Commissioners, New Courthouse Building, New Orleans; that he is about fifty-eight years old; married; and has been so employed by the Board of Port Commissioners since 1932, drawing a salary of about \$150.00 per month; also has been Secretary of the World Port Authorities at a salary of \$125.00 per month. That, although no information is available as to the estimated worth of MR. McCHESNEY, he is considered in fairly good financial circumstances; that he has assessed property in the 6th District of New Orleans for \$6,500.00, and another piece of property in the 6th District, \$4,400.00; that these properties are unencumbered and are revenue-producing; that he owns his own home located in the 7th District of New Orleans assessed in his name for \$4,800.00, same being mortgaged to the Home Owners Loan Corporation under date of August 24, 1934, for \$8,000.00, and that under date of May 16, 1936, he purchased a piece of property in the 7th District of New Orleans for \$50.00 cash and the assumption of a mortgage held by the HOLC for \$4,076.00.

MORRIS MIGAUD

The city directory for 1938 of New Orleans shows MORRIS (wife, ADRIENNE) MIGAUD, residing at 528 First Street.

Under the classified city street addresses it is shown that BENJAMIN C. KEENUM resides at 2366 St. Thomas Street. However, the city directory of New Orleans for 1935 shows MORRIS MIGAUD, automobile mechanic, residing at 2366 St. Thomas Street, New Orleans; also MILINERD MIGAUD, stove mechanic, residing at 2366 St. Thomas Street.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MORRIS MIGAUD is not known to him. He called attention to the fact that the address of 2366 St. Thomas Street is in a neighborhood inhabited principally by poor people.

MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed that MR. MORRIS MIGAUD came into his office on the morning of August 18, 1939; that MR. MIGAUD exhibited to him his juror's notice and that MR. MIGAUD told him that he should be excused from jury service because he did not think he had enough education to be on a Federal jury.

The records of the New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau do not reflect any information whatever on MR. MORRIS MIGAUD.

HENRY S. NORMAN

The 1938 city directory of New Orleans shows HENRY S. NORMAN, JR., employed as packer, D. H. HOLMES COMPANY, LTD., Department Store, New Orleans; residence, 1113 Feliciana Street, New Orleans. The classified street addresses of the city directory shows that the premises of 1600 Desire Street, which is the address given of the juror, HENRY S. NORMAN, is occupied by LLOYD O'BRIEN, Clothes Cleaners. However, the 1935 city directory shows one HENRY S. NORMAN employed as stock keeper at D. H. HOLMES COMPANY, New Orleans, house address - 1600 Desire Street.

MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed Agent that MR. HENRY S. NORMAN came into his office on August 15, 1939, and informed that he had moved from 1600 Desire Street and was presently residing at 3151 Marais Street.

The New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau has a record on one HENRY S. NORMAN, address: 1113 Feliciana Street, New Orleans; former addresses: 906 Louisa Street, 3024 Marais Street, 1513 Clouet Street, and 1229 Feliciana Street. The said bureau does not possess an investigative report concerning that individual.

C. GORDON RAILEY

The 1938 and 1935 city directories of New Orleans do not list the name of this individual.

The New Orleans Retailers Credit Bureau has a very incomplete record on C. GORDON RAILEY, bearing the date of February 1933. Said report shows that C. GORDON RAILEY resided at Hammond, Louisiana, at the time, and formerly lived at 4507 General Taylor Street, 2526 Jeff Davis Avenue, 4909 Carondelet Street, and 6038 St. Charles Avenue, and at that time was the manager of the Motor League of Louisiana, located at the Bienville Hotel.

MR. FRANK MORTIMER, jury commissioner, informed that MR. RAILEY was deceased. Also, MR. PAUL GAUDET, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, informed that the post office department returned the registered juror notice to MR. RAILEY with the remark that MR. RAILEY was deceased.

LOUIS B. REUTER

The 1938 city directory of New Orleans shows LOUIS B. REUTER,