

Small Dry Cases Up To State

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Newark News

Only Agents' Complaints and Big Violations for U. S. Courts

Minor prohibition violators apprehended by police or others not representing the Federal government will no longer be prosecuted in New Jersey Federal District Court. Responsibility for prosecution in such cases will go back to the county courts and prosecutors, under the Hobart Act, the state dry law.

Announcement of this policy was made today by United States District Attorney Philip Forman, who declared the time has come when the Federal courts must refuse to continue to accept from police and county officers the burden of their great number of minor liquor violations.

Relieves Pressure.

Mr. Forman's statement follows:

"The pressure of Federal business of the United States government in the State of New Jersey in all its ramifications is so great that trivial prohibition violators apprehended by local policemen cannot be considered in the Federal courts. These violators should be prosecuted by the local machinery for which there is ample means of apprehension and punishment.

"Concertedly with Captain Ross, prohibition administrator for New Jersey, I have formulated a policy whereby I will not burden the already overworked United States court with the prosecution of trivial offenders apprehended by local policemen.

"This does not mean that the arm of the United States government is not at all times ready for the protection of its citizens. Where violators are apprehended by the local police and the local authorities will not properly prosecute, my office, as well as that of Captain Ross, is ready and willing to prosecute wherever such condition exists and the health and safety of citizens in the vicinity of the violation is imperiled."