

Warrants Out for Former U. S. Agents

I. Mason Stelle of 10 Foster street and Samuel E. Verniero of 221 Clifton avenue, formerly employed as deputy collectors of internal revenue at the Newark office, have been indicted on charges of attempted extortion. Warrants are out for their arrest.

Samuel Katz of New York, also a former collector here, was arrested on the same charge Monday and held in \$2,000 bail.

The indictments set forth that Stelle and Verniero attempted to extort \$1,000 from Watson J. Kluzcek, a garage owner in Main street, West Orange, June 15, 1928.

Hugh McQuillan, chief of the intelligence unit of the United States Treasury in New York, presented the facts upon which the men were indicted.

Verniero and Stelle, the indictments state, went to Kluzcek and told him he was delinquent in the payment of his taxes, and that he probably would go to jail unless he paid them \$1,000. They did not get the money and when the alleged attempt became known they were dismissed from the service.

Stelle is the son of Assemblywoman Ida M. Stelle of 110 Dayton street.

The indictments were returned July 9. Katz is charged with obtaining \$200 from Morris Binder of 44 Brookside avenue, Englewood, June 25, 1928, by a similar scheme. He was indicted June 18 last. *Newark News 7/17/29*

LIGHT SENTENCE FOR PASSER OF COUNTERFEIT

Gets Thirty Days in County Jail Instead of Three-Year Term at Atlanta.

Newark, July 18.—(AP).—Onie Mann, of Mahway, yesterday was found guilty of passing counterfeit bills by a jury before Federal Judge Guy L. Fake. A recommendation for mercy was returned with the verdict. He was sentenced to serve 30 days in the Bergen County Jail.

Mann was charged with having passed a counterfeit \$20 bill at one filling station and a short time later passing another bill at another filling station. Mann denied the charges.

In pronouncing sentence Judge Fake said:

"This is a charge which ordinarily carries a sentence of three to four years in Atlanta Penitentiary. However, because of the peculiar circumstances of your case, as well as the fact you already have spent 40 days in the Bergen County jail awaiting trial, I will sentence you to 30 days more in jail."

George Williams, of Newark, was sentenced to five years in Atlanta Penitentiary for violation of a probationary sentence passed last year for violation of the Harrison Narcotic Act. A present item was not pressed and he was sent to Atlanta on the old charges. *Jersey Journal 7/16/29*

Brennan Against Judges as Counsel

Newark News 7/19/29

Wouldn't Want Simandl in Liquor Cases Taken Since Appointment

Director Brennan does not look with favor upon the appearance of Police Judge Harold Simandl as defense counsel in liquor cases in Federal Court. The director, in making his views clear, added he had no right to inquire into the private practise of a police judge.

Judge Simandl, who presides in Newark's First Criminal Court, appeared yesterday before Federal Judge Fake as counsel for Samuel Sanatra and Anthony Antinora, arrested February 5 and charged with operating a still on a farm in Hopewell. He argued for suppression of evidence on the ground agents had no right to trespass on a farm to follow up an anonymous tip. Judge Fake decided for the agents and the defendants were convicted.

Mr. Brennan said today: "As a lawyer Mr. Simandl would have certain obligations to his client which he would be in duty bound to fulfil. However, if this were a new case, brought into his law office since he became judge, I would not hesitate to say Judge Simandl's appearance in Federal Court was very poor taste, to say the least.

"I have not the right to inquire into the private law practise of a police judge, but I have a right to express my opinion of it." Mr. Brennan sponsored Mr. Simandl's appointment as police judge.

Questioned yesterday, Judge Simandl said he intended to continue to appear in Federal Court in criminal cases originating outside Essex County. He added cases brought to him from Essex County would be handled by his brother and partner, Sidney Simandl.

Explains Position.

Mr. Simandl explained today that what he meant was that cases originating before he was named police judge would be cleaned up by him. He does not intend taking any more criminal cases which require his appearance in courts in Essex County and has in fact turned away numbers.

Mr. Simandl feels that, where he has taken a retainer in cases which came to him before he became judge, a moral duty rests with him to see them through. Yesterday's case, and in fact all in which he has appeared in Federal Court since he became a Newark magistrate, came to him before his appointment. The Hopewell case was taken by him last February.

Before his appointment May 21, Judge Simandl had a wide criminal practise. The day after he was appointed judge he resigned the position he had held several years as defense counsel for the Newark Beverage Dealers Association. He was quoted at the time as saying he would give up his private criminal practise.

Children Peddled Liquor, Raid Shows

Irvington police today raided the home of Joseph Petrick, fifty-two years old, of 422 Twenty-second street, Irvington, arrested him and seized a five-gallon still, three barrels of mash and four and one-half barrels of white and red wine. Petrick will be arraigned before Recorder Stoddard tonight and bail will be set.

Chief Andrew Coleman and Lieutenant Graef smelled liquor as they passed the address yesterday. Investigation made them think that liquor was being manufactured in the place. A warrant was sworn and the raid resulted.

Julius Petrick, sixteen years old, the oldest of seven children, told police that the children delivered much of the liquor, although some customers came in cars for it.

He said his father was a former bartender in a Newark speakeasy, which was raided about two months ago. Mr. and Mrs. Petrick then went into the business, the boy said, but because of a dispute Mrs. Petrick left. *Newark News 7/20/29*