

Ross Is Through as Chief Of Dry Forces in Jersey

Administrator Will Be Transferred Because of Failure to
Measure Up to Difficult Problems of Enforcement in State

Washington Bureau, NEWARK NEWS.
WASHINGTON—Captain Edwin S. Ross probably has performed his last official act as regional prohibition administrator of New Jersey.

It is on the official cards that Ross is to go, and to go speedily. The regional administrator's vacation leave expires September 5, the day that Prohibition Commissioner James M. Doran is due back from a flying trip to the Pacific Coast. Then things will move.

There is no thought that Captain Ross will face charges on which he can be removed from the prohibition unit. His going is due solely to the fact that he has not measured up to the demands put upon the New Jersey office by Commissioner Doran and the latter's chief, Seymour Lowman, assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Captain Ross is under civil service as a qualified regional administrator, and he will continue so, but the field of his activities will be elsewhere than New Jersey.

Calhoun in Charge.

William J. Calhoun officially took charge today as acting regional administrator in New Jersey. This was on order of James Britt, Acting Prohibition Commissioner. Britt made the change on his own initiative, deciding after the case of fisticuffs between two employees of the Newark office on Tuesday. In this he was backed up, after the fact, in a telegram from Commissioner Doran.

Calhoun is the head of the special agency force in New York. Temporarily

he has been here as acting assistant commissioner, while Alf Oftedal, one of Doran's assistants, was on his vacation.

Affairs Unsatisfactory.

Affairs were moving so unsatisfactorily in Newark and its environs that it was decided to dispatch Calhoun from Washington to survey the whole regional administration in New Jersey. L. J. Kusters, in all probability, would have carried on as regional administrator until Ross got back next month, if it had not been for the fist fight.

"We do not tolerate fighting among our forces," said Acting Commissioner Britt today, and he intimated that, in consequence of it, somebody in the New Jersey force would get "burned."

One of the principals went over Britt's head in a telegram to Doran, which reached him as he was speeding toward the Pacific Coast, and that did not sit well either with Doran or with Britt, who is in charge here, and is the legal expert of the prohibition unit.

Removal of Guard.

The row grew out of the removal of a trusty guard, one McCulloch, at the Burlington distillery. McCulloch is now understood to be back on the job.

Nobody, so far as can be learned, has been definitely selected for regional administrator in Newark. It is likely that, for a short time after Ross is taken out of the New Jersey field, Calhoun may stay on.

For a long time Commissioner Doran has been dissatisfied with the way the beer situation has been handled in New Jersey by Captain Ross and his assistants.

Ross was ordered down here by Dr.

(Continued on 2d page, 6th column)

Says Shake-up Is 'Outrageous'

Poulson Blames Politics for
Changes in State Prohibition Administration

The continued shake-up of prohibition administrators in New Jersey every few months was characterized as "outrageous" today by Rev. Marna S. Poulson, who is retiring next month as state superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League. The superintendent has been a supporter of Captain Edwin S. Ross, vacationing administrator, who is also slated to leave Newark next month.

Mr. Poulson blamed local and state politics for the changes which have been made in administrations.

The minister said the trouble in the prohibition unit was between two groups, one on the inside and the other which wanted to be on the inside. He also attacked a Treasury Department regulation which allows beer made under permit to be transported before it is dealcoholized.

At present, he said, permits are issued for the manufacture of high-powered beer, but under the permit inspectors are allowed to enter the brewery at any time for inspection.

This beer is used to make near-beer, and some plants have not facilities for making the finished product, so Treasury Department permits are issued allowing it to be taken to other places.

This, the superintendent believes, is very bad because it gets into illegal channels.

He cited the method used to inspect the breweries whereby six men in pairs are detailed to the work. Each has a sealed envelop which gives directions for the day's work. Four go to breweries on inspection and the other two check up on the four.

Post-Office Land Priced

Federal Attorney Finds
Most Owners Friendly,
Ready to Bargain

Within six months the government, either by purchase or condemnation, will acquire title to all of the property included in the site for the proposed new Newark Post-office building bounded by Franklin, Mulberry and Walnut streets and Vroom alley. This announcement was made late yesterday after Assistant United States District Attorney Douglas V. Aitken had interviewed twenty-two property owners.

"A very friendly attitude was displayed by the several property owners," said Mr. Aitken, "and each of them declared that they were willing to sell their real estate to the government at a fair price."

Mr. Aitken said so much progress had been made in the last few days toward acquiring the property that within three months he would be able to appear before Federal Judge William N. Runyon and ask for appointment of three condemnation commissioners. Mr. Aitken explained that the three commissioners would sit as court and jury and pass on the individual cases.

Unless unexpected angles develop through title searching, or long-term tenants refuse to vacate, Mr. Aitken said, very few condemnation proceedings will have to be instituted. He said he believed favorable arrangements would be completed soon between the government and Newark for several parcels of the property owned by the city.

The assistant district attorney expects to ask the Treasury Department in Washington within a few weeks to appoint appraisers for the sites.