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...Evening News

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...N. J., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 19...

Tunnels Near City's Center Used in Smuggling Aliens

Futile Raids by Federal Officers in Portuguese Settlement Reveal Thousands Brought Into Country by Ring for $500 to $1,500 Apiece

A group of four houses connected by underground passages in the Portuguese settlement east of the Pennsylvania Railroad and not far from the downtown business section has been revealed as the headquarters of a smuggling ring that brought thousands of aliens into the country.

The United States Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Department of Justice, raided this smuggling center recently in the hope of finding aliens kept there until they paid from $500 to $1,500 apiece to the ring. The raid was a failure because the houses had just been vacated and the underground tunnels were blocked at intervals by heavy doors designed to prevent pursuit while the imprisoned aliens were moved.

Murray W. Garsson, Assistant Secretary of Labor in charge of an investigation of the smuggling activities, said today that he believed the agencies of Newark men were part of a nation-wide plot to gain illegal entry for Portuguese. Three Newarkers are under scrutiny. One is Manuel Martins of 220 Roseville avenue, proprietor of a haberdashery store and steamship agency at 104 Ferry street, in the heart of the Portuguese settlement.

To Face Hearing.

Martins is to appear Wednesday before United States Commissioner Cotter in New York for a hearing on a charge that he received an illegal entry permit from a clerk in the Immigration Bureau. This permit was said to have been used to enable Francisco Henriques to come here from Portugal illegally.

Martins was taken into custody August 11 after the arrest of the immigration clerk, Simon Rothberg. Martins had appeared before Assistant United States Attorney Herlands in New York and offered himself for questioning when his name had been found in records kept by Rothberg. He was released in $2,000 bail.

At his store in Ferry street last night, Martins denied the existence of a smuggling ring in Newark. He explained that since he had been in the colony for several years, was a member of the Portuguese Club and president of the Portugese-American Citizens' Club, he had a greater knowledge of the settlement "than any detective."

Discrepancy in Figures.

Although he had estimated previously that there were 6,000 Portuguese in the city, Martins said that he believed there were 300 who were American citizens, 2,000 who had taken out first citizenship papers, and 700 who were here legally. He did not explain the discrepancy between his original estimate and the total of his other figures.

He said the revelation of the four connected houses in the settlement was "strange to me" and that he did not believe any Portuguese had been smuggled here, although "they might go up into the country." He professed ignorance of any method of securing entry of Portuguese illegally.

Says Ring Exists.

On the other hand, a publisher of a Portuguese paper in the city who asked that his name be withheld confirmed the existence of the ring and its headquarters, and gave a specific instance of smuggling.

He said that a Portuguese recently living at Lafayette and Congress streets, but now a resident of Long Island, had been forced to pay $1,500 to the ring to secure the release of a smuggled alien from its headquarters. He said he believed the headquarters structures were located in Goble street, although he had no definite information.

Another Portuguese who declined to have his name divulged last night gave a detailed explanation of the methods of the ring. He said that two principal methods were used, reentry blanks supposed to be furnished so that a person leaving the country could later return were "cooked up" so that an alien from Portugal entered with them. This plan, he explained, necessitated the connivance of an immigration bureau clerk.

The second method, he said, was used for Portuguese who had been smuggled off steamships. Under this plan, he explained, fake witnesses are used to testify that an alien had been in the country prior to 1921 when, in fact, he has just arrived. Under a 1929 law, the informer pointed out, an alien who has been in the country prior to 1921 may secure citizenship papers even if he came here illegally.

This informer declared that the smuggling ring had sources of information enabling it to foretell all the moves of investigators. That such information is circulated was confirmed by the explanation of Martens that he had gone August 11 to New York to offer himself to Herlands because he "had learned" that his name was ... the papers of the clerk, Rothberg, w... had been arrested two weeks before

BRANDLE'S RE... OFF UNT...

Trenton Times

The trial of Theod... North Jersey labor ... tenant of Mayor Frank... sey City, and Joseph... charges of income tax... been postponed from... October 27.

The adjournment ... day by Judge John... United States Distri... Robert H. McCarter, ... asked for an extensi... Carter said that he h... gagements to appea... courts in the State.

The adjournment w... the vigorous protest ... Attorney Phillip Forr... that no extension of... but that the trial go... scheduled.

Brandle and Hurl... earlier this year in... reached sensational pr... a lengthy trial the ju...

...New Jersey's Jurisprudence. His opinions have been marked by a breadth and depth of logic and justice that have won him the respect and affection of all, said Mr. Carter.

Governor Wolber declared that the Chief Justice came to the bench during what has been cited as "the Golden Age of New Jersey Jurisprudence." Such illustrious legal minds as Beasley, Depue, Runyon, McGill, Magie and Pitney were mentioned by Governor Wolber as early ...

EXTORTION DENIAL RECEIVES SUPPORT

Accountant Substantiates Hassan's Testimony—Directed Verdict Refused

Defense counsel for George Hassan, formerly secretary of the J. G. Schmidt Iron Works, Passaic, called William R. Greenway, accountant, to the witness stand in Federal Court this afternoon to support their contention that the defendant did not attempt to extort $50,000 from firm officials.

Hassan and Herman C. Rust, Passaic attorney, are now on trial before Judge Avis on charges of making the demands under threat to inform the Government of income tax defalcations.

Greenway is also under indictment in the alleged crime, but is to be tried separately.

Greenway, who was accountant for the firm, denied that he heard threats during any conference that was held between Hassan, Rust and firm officials.

He withstood a gruelling cross-examination by Assistant United States Attorney John Grimshaw, Jr., during which he admitted that he had made up the income tax returns, but that he was not aware of the existence of a "secret book" used to record unreported sales.

Earlier in the trial Hassan denied that he had demanded $50,000 from firm officials.

At no time, he stated, had he threatened officers of the Iron works, including his father, William Hassan.

The figure of $50,000, he said, came up for discussion regarding the sale

(Continued on Page Sixteen)

Trenton Times

..., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1931

EXTORTION DENIAL RECEIVES SUPPORT

(Continued from Page One)

of his 12 shares of stock which he thought was worth that sum.

The $5,000 that he had when arrested by Government agents on June 4, 1930, was the first payment for the sale of his stock, he maintained.

All this was brought out under examination by his counsel, Harry H. Weinberger, of Passaic.

Earlier Judge Avis had denied a motion made by Weinberger and calling for directed verdicts of acquittal for Hassan and Herman C. Rust, Passaic attorney, who is also on trial for alleged extortion.

Hassan testified that he had made a photostatic copy of the secret book in which unreported sales had been entered.

"Why did you make such a copy?" his counsel asked him.

"On account of finding out that Vandermade had done some crooked things," replied Hassan. He was referring to Joseph Vandermade, treasurer of the firm, who had testified against him earlier in the trial.

The court ruled that this statement should be stricken from the record.

The discussions that he had had with his father, brother and counsel for the firm, Hassan said, were in regard to the disposal of his 12 shares of stock. At no time, he firmly maintained, had he ever made a threat or demanded $50,000 "hush money."

Hassan declared that at one of the conferences he had suggested that his stock was worth $50,000, and that John F. Evans, firm counsel, had replied: "Don't you think that this is a lot of money for 12 shares of stock?" Hassan replied that he did not think so.

At a meeting on June 4, Hassan testified, he brought the photostatic copy of the secret book, cancelled checks from the unreported account, and his 12 shares of stock.

Then the $5,000, representing what he claimed was an initial payment, was given him and the meeting was adjourned. As he walked from ... office with Rust they were ... der arrest by special interne...