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10, 1931

H. Weinberger Calls Campbell

Latter Is Witness for Former Associate in Mail Fraud Charges

Frank C. Campbell of Maplewood, indicted with Harry H. Weinberger of Passaic on a charge of misusing the mails to sell stock of the New Jersey Bankers' Securities Company, testified today in the proceedings to remove Weinberger to New York to answer the indictment. The proceedings were before United States Commissioner Friedmann in the Federal Court in the Lefcourt building.

Campbell has voluntarily gone to New York and pleaded not guilty. He told Commissioner Friedmann he had nothing to do with the organization of the securities company; that every bank bought by the company was well worth the price; that he and Weinberger were offered $1,500,000 for the Hobart Trust stock which they bought for $1,000,000 and sold to the Service Trust for $1,200,000 and that $2,500,000 had been offered for the Hobart and Service banks. Campbell said both offers were made by Harry Stein of Passaic.

Every transaction of the securities company was approved by the directorate, Campbell said.

Asked to Tell Life.

Campbell was asked by Weinberger to tell of his life. Edmund L. Palmieri, assistant district attorney of New York, objected.

Weinberger said: "We are offering every fact in this case to negative the asinine and scurrilous charges." Palmieri resented what he termed an implication that he was associated with the making of scurrilous charges.

"Were you ever accused of crime?" asked Weinberger of Campbell. Palmieri objected to the question as irrelevant.

Weinberger said: "We have a right to show that there has been a conspiracy to frame innocent individuals; that when the state takes charge of a case and can do nothing there must be corrupt influence used to get the government to act; that there must be something wrong in Denmark."

Palmieri said: "That's interesting, but irrelevant and immaterial. I also could make a speech on the subject, especially in view of the personal references, but I will not."

"I withdraw the question," Weinberger said.

Deny Use of Influence.

Charles M. Myers and Milton M. Unger, Newark lawyers, testified as to the transactions by which the securities company acquired control of Newark banks, of which they were directors.

Each denied that he had been influenced in any way by Campbell or Weinberger. They gave details of the serving of an ultimotum on Weinberber that the securities company ad to sell back to the bank at $75 share stock that had been bought the company at $85 a share.

he ultimatum was delivered, it was , in the presence of Hugh H. Hilson, then deputy banking commissioner, and W. Paul Stillman, then mnaager of the Newark Clearing House.

Weinberger asked: "Wasn't the object to get one little fellow named Harry H. Weinberger out of the way?"

Palmieri's objection was sustained.

Mayor Congleton and other prominent citizens were on the directorate, Palmieri said: "I don't like to object because if I do Mr. Weinberger will make a speech that will be worse than an objection; but such a showing means nothing. This is not the first time that fine and virtuous citizens have been in companies. Experience has shown that this class of men make the best sucker lists and make some of the bad business deals."

Unger explained:

"Things were kind of tense at that time. The company was on the run because of the Davis commission investigation."

Palmieri did not cross-examine Unger, and stipulated that the other directors would testify as had Myers and Unger.

The fervid days of the flotation of the securities company were sketched vividly yesterday by Miss Ruth Lentz, who was Weinberger's secretary.

Miss Lentz testified the stock was twelve times oversubscribed; that an office force of two had to be assisted by from thirty-five to forty clerks, twenty-one of whom were brought from a New York bank, to make allotments and return checks. Weinberger said millions of dollars had been returned and that one check for $167,500 went back to a Newark brokerage concern, which he did not name in the record. Miss Lentz said not one penny went astray.

The loyal secretary was so impressed with the prospect that in addition to what she was allotted she bought more stock in the open market.

Holds Story Irrelevant.

"Very interesting," remarked Palmieri, "but very irrelevant, as it has nothing to do with the charges."

"It is very important," declared Weinberger, "because if Mr. Weinberger had been the schemer and crook he is depicted ..."

LAVINE AMONG THOSE FREED IN LIQUOR RING

Trenton Times 7/1 0/31

Trentonian, Accused As Sales Agent, Cleared. Evidence Is Lacking

Samuel Lavine, of 564 Bellevue Avenue, Trenton, accused by the Government as a sales agent of the mammoth liquor ring that operated at Atlantic Highlands, was cleared by a directed verdict in the Newark Federal Court yesterday afternoon. Fifteen others of the thirty-seven defendants on trial were freed by direction of Judge J. Lyles Glenn

For weeks before the trial, secret operatives of the Department of Justice conned bank accounts in Trenton in an effort to secure evidence linking Lavine with the ring. A Trenton bank clerk has been at Newark under subpoena since the trial opened several days ago. The Government failed to substantiate its charges against Lavine, and Judge Glenn directed the jury to adjudge him not guilty. The fifteen others similarly cleared have also been released. The remaining 21 defendants are still on trial.

Lavine said today that the Government never had any evidence to connect him with the Atlantic Highlands case.

NEWARK, N. J., July 10 (AP).—Federal Judge J. Lyles Glenn today reduced the number of defendants on trial in the Atlantic rum ring cases to 17, freeing six more men.

Originally 37 of 51 indicted men reported for trial which began three weeks ago. Sixteen were cleared yesterday on recommendation of United States District Attorney Phillip Forman on the grounds that they had no connection with the alleged conspiracy to violate the prohibition laws. Those freed today were released for the same reason.

Judge Glenn yesterday announced he would strike out 22 of the 36 overt acts charged in the indictment, but in court this morning would not reveal exactly how many he had stricken out.

The additional men freed were: Edward F. Bitter, an alleged leader; Thomas Ross, Jr., Adolph Koch, George Fay, Thomas Calandriello and Henry Bockhorn.

A renewed plea for the direction of a verdict of asquittal for the remaining defendants was made in vain by Frederic M. P. Pearse, defense counsel.

Sumations were expected to be made this afternoon, with the possibility that the case may go to the jury tonight.

Those still on trial include Alex Lillien, Jr., branded by the Government as the master mind of the syndicate which is charged with the operation of a huge rum fleet along the Atlantic, and Walter McMasters, operator of an alleged unlicensed radio station in the old Hammerstein mansion at Atlantic Highlands.

RUM TRIAL CONSIDERS DEFENDANTS HOMES

NEWARK, N. J., July 6 (AP).—The government placed before the Atlantic Highlands rum ring jury today evidence indicating leaders of the alleged syndicate gave as their home address the Atlantic Highlands residence where was found the illegal radio transmitting set it charges was used to direct the operations of the rum fleet.

Records from the New Jersey State Department of Vehicles was introduced through John A. Meagher, an inspector, showing that Alex Lillien, Jr., alleged "master mind," James F. Murphy, "marine superintendent," and Harold Lindauer, another of the 37 on trial for conspiracy, listed, in applications for auto licenses, 33 Shrewsbury Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, as their home.

Judge J. Lyle Glenn, of South Carolina, presiding, also admitted in evidence truck registrations in the name of Murphy and two other defendants, Michael Krock and Walter F. Gerleit. The court pointed out, however, there was no proof the vehicles were engaged in unlawful enterprises.

...ation.

Two More Surr... In Brewery

Two more of the twenty-... indicted in connection with ... facture of beer at the Rising's ... ery, where Federal Prohibit... John G. Finiello was slain ... raid, surrendered to Depu... States Marshal James Donn... Two others surrendered ... States Commissioner Pfaff o... yesterday. All are charged ... spiracy to violate the nation... tion act.

The two who surrendered ... Stanley Novak and Anthony ... ski, who were held in bail ... each when arraigned befo... States Commissioner oseph ... The others who were held in ... amount of bail are Vincent ... Liotta. Eight of those in... now under bail.

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...and Victor Liotta, Nick Delmore, Edgar Wallace, Samuel E. Grossman, Julius R. Rissel, James Casico, Samuel Brownstein, Michael and William Weisman, Albert I. Silberman, Jack Newman, John L. Liebert, Harry Goldberg, Mike Roe, Stanley Novak and Anthony Wasilewsky.

John G. Finiello, Philadelphia prohibition agent, was fatally shot in the raid on the brewery, September 16, last.

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...he indictments ...c M. P. Pearse, ...he ground the ...proved its case. ...hsented to the ...names of 16 of the defendants, after which the defense rested without offering any witnesses.

Federal Judge J. Lyles Glenn ordered a recess until tomorrow morning.

The motion for a direct verdict of acquittal was denied. Judge Glenn said he would announce his decision on numerous other motions by the defense tomorrow.

FINES OF $15,000... FOR ERIE RAIL...

Trenton Tr...

NEWARK, N. J., Jul... Pleading guilty to viola... Elkins' tariff act, the E... today was fined $15,000 ... Judge Bascom Dever. ... pleaded to 15 out of 25 c... indictment charging it ga... cessions on flour shipment... was $1,000 per count.

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