U. S. Seizes Boats and Liquor Cargoes

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ONE FOUND OFF COAST OF JERSEY

Judge Bourquin Orders Two Crafts and $100,000 Shipment Forfeited

BOTH WERE NABBED BY COAST GUARDS

Two rum-running boats, with cargoes of liquor valued at more than $100,000, were ordered forfeited to the United States Government by Federal Judge Bourquin here in an opinion filed today.

One boat, the English schooner "Thorndyke," contained liquor valued at $99,150. It was captured five miles off Atlantic City while trying to make a landing under cover of darkness.

The other craft, a motorboat, bearing license number of L-10024 was chased into a pier at Weehawken by coast guards. By the time that the boat was boarded it was found that the crew and the master had abandoned the craft. Liquor valued at $6,765 was seized.

The motion to argue whether the crafts should be forfeited was heard October 12 before Judge Bourquin in the United States District Court at Trenton. It was the contention of assistant United States Attorney Worth that the boats should be forfeited inasmuch as the owners had sought to land the cargoes without paying duties.

Judge Bourquin took cognizance of these facts and in his opinion today he stated:

"That these vessels were bound for the United States with taxable articles therein deposited or concealed with intent to somehow land them and defraud the United States of duties thereon is clear."

In discussing seizure of the motorboat at Weehawken, the court declared that because the shipping papers for the merchandise were lacking the boat was subject to sale for the amount of the penalty equal to the value of the beverages to which the master was subject "and by reason of the intent to defraud of taxes the beverages and boat are subject to forfeiture."

And in conclusion the court stated: "The court finds the allegations of the libels, insofar as the statutes cited apply, are true and the libellant entitled to decrees as prayed, viz: in the first libel to the penalty of $6,765 and forfeiture of the boat, and the second libel to a penalty of $99,150 and sale of the boat to pay it."

The Thorndyke had a load of 2,675 packages containing Scotch rye, benedictine and champagne, all bearing foreign labels.