# TERM AND FINE FOR WILKINSON IN FRAUD CASE

Trenton Times 2/17/32

## Jury Convicts in Short Time—Three Years Imposed by Judge

## FALSE INSURANCE RACKET INVOLVED

John P. Wilkinson, of Oaklyn, N. J., was convicted by a Federal Grand Jury here this afternoon on a charge of promoting a fraudulent nation-wide insurance business through the mails.

He was sentenced immediately by John John Boyd Avis to serve three years in a Federal penitentiary and to pay a fine of $300.

The verdict was given 55 minutes after the panel had retired to deliberate over the great mass of testimony. The trial had opened more than a week ago with Assistant United States Attorney John Grimshaw, Jr., producing nearly 75 witnesses.

Some of the witnesses came from England and others came from various parts of the United States. The Government formed a stout ring of evidence against Wilkinson and revealed how he had acted as agent for agencies in Great Britain and Europe which had never existed.

The verdict was delayed for a half-hour pending the return of Judge Avis from lunch. In imposing sentence, the court said: "I cannot say that I disagree with the jury's verdict."

Wilkinson was indicted on 17 counts, but Judge Avis charged the jury on only five. He was convicted on all of them and the court imposed a three-year sentence on each, the terms to run concurrently.

The verdict was the climax to a long and strenuous fight of the government to put Wilkinson behind the bars. Prior to his arrest Federal operatives conducted an investigation that took them to Canada and England. For nearly four years the operatives slowly but surely collected their evidence and then they arrested Wilkinson.

Witnesses testified how Wilkinson had organized a company purporting to be authorized agents for non-existent insurance companies. Other witnesses, many of them insurance agents in various parts of the country, said that premiums had been collected from them for policies which were not covered when losses occurred.

Wilkinson had been in Mercer County Jail since April 10, 1931, awaiting trial. His defense was that he did not know the foreign companies did not exist and had carried on his business in good faith.

# WILKINSON'S "FIRM" ACTIVITIES BARED

Trenton Times 2/11/32

Insurance men from various parts of the United States testified today as government witnesses in the trial of John P. Wilkinson, Oaklyn, who is charged with using the mails to defraud.

The case is being heard in the United States District Court here before Judge John Boyd Avis. Trial started on Monday, and will continue for at least two weeks.

Assistant United States Attorney John Grimshaw, Jr., summoned the insurance men to give testimony in the ramifications of the alleged insurance scheme operated by Wilkinson's company.

They related how they had become agents for Wilkinson's purported firms, and testified that losses by fire, supposed to have been cared for by the policies, were never covered.

The witnesses included A. G. Albright, of Hoxie, Ark; Elbert F. Blakely, Ohio; Arnold Pendell, Illinois; Oswald H. Hampisch, Chicago, and Lee Justice, West Virginia.

# CARTER AND ST. CLAIR UNDER JAIL SENTENCE

Trenton Times 2/17/32

Found guilty of possessing liquor and maintaining a nuisance, Lawrence S. Carter and William St. Clair received jail terms in the United States Court here yesterday. Carter, alleged to be proprietor of an inn at the Allaire Road and the Old Mill Road, Spring Lake Heights, was sentenced to serve six months, while St. Clair drew a one-month term. It is reported that the finding will be appealer.

During the trial St. Clair maintained that he was only an entertainer in the place palce and offered to sing to the jury to prove this contention. His proffer was not accepted.

# BONDING F[illegible] VIEWED [illegible] TO CRI[illegible]

## Judge Clark [illegible] Drastic Tightening [illegible] Court Procedure

Federal Judge William Clark today declared that bonding companies were a factor in contributing to crime.

His startling statement was made as he suggested radical changes in the district attorney's policy in bond arrangements.

"I hold the view that bonding companies are contributary to crime," Judge Clark said.

Then he suggested to United States Attorney Phillip Forman that more stringent measures be taken to eliminate the bond forfeiture nuisance.

As a result of his announcement, a

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[illegible] Judge Clark has a more radical policy in mind.

"Why not forfeit the entire bail?" he asked.

"That suits me," replied Mr. Forman quickly.

Hence, in the future, bonding companies are faced with the prospect of losing thousands of dollars in bail bonds if their defendants are not produced at the time that the court demands their appearance.

Mr. Forman pointed out that there have been a large number of bail forfeitures where bondsmen have later produced defendants and asked for a vacating of the penalty.

These cases, he said, have grown to such a large number that it has added to the difficulties of his office and has created extra work for court attaches.

The new policy, if enforce by Judge Clark—and it seems that it will be enforced—will work something like this:

When John Doe is called to answer to a charge and he does not answer, then his bail is forfeited and a bench warrant is issued for his appearance. Later, however, the bonding company or the bondsman appears with John Doe in tow and asks that the forfeiture be vacated with the usual payment of costs.

But such will not be the case. Th[illegible] entire bail bond is to be forfeit[illegible] no matter how high it is, under [illegible] new policy.

# [illegible] SHORE RAIDED

Atlantic City Journal 2/17/32

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Feb. 17.—Ye Olde Extra Dry, one of the most famous eating places of this resort, was one of three establishments raided by prohibition agents early today. While hundreds watched, the agents ripped out pictures and furnishings which were carted away with some alleged choice liquors.

The restaurant for generations has been a meeting place for politicians and figures of the sporting and theatrical world.

# DRY AGENTS IN RAID ON EXTRA DRY C[illegible]

Trenton Times 2/[illegible]

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 17 (AP).—[illegible] Extra Dry Cafe, one of this re[illegible] best known restaurants, was ra[illegible] by prohibition agents, who arre[illegible] three men, seized two barrels of [illegible] and an assortment of whiskeys, [illegible] stripped the place of all its furni[illegible]ings.

# DRY ENFORC[illegible] SELF-S[illegible]

Trenton Ti[illegible]

WASHINGTON, [illegible] hibition enforceme[illegible] area of Pennsylvan[illegible] Delaware is self-s[illegible] of the Bureau of [illegible] day.

During 1931 t[illegible] known as Distri[illegible] budget of $1,100[illegible] tions turned ov[illegible] from fines, seize[illegible] assessments as [illegible] sales under rev[illegible] this amount, [illegible] show.

Fines collect[illegible] Pennsylvania, [illegible] ware amounte[illegible]

During the [illegible] 276 automob[illegible] seized in Ne[illegible] Pennsylvania [illegible] out the same [illegible] cess of 500 [illegible] captures, no[illegible] sold, are es[illegible] $320,000.

# [illegible]OR WAREHOUSE [illegible]UND AT SEASHORE

Trenton Times 2/17/32

[illegible]NTIC CITY, N. J., Feb. 17 (AP). [illegible]al prohibition agents made a [illegible] a warehouse in the rear of [illegible] South Carolina Avenue today [illegible]nfiscated 489 cases of assorted [illegible] and rye Canadian whiskey.


Relieve to[illegible]

Soothing, healing, invisible [illegible] is used in thousands of homes to [illegible]ring relief from the torture of itch[illegible]ing, burning Eczema. ZEMO has [illegible] been used with remarkable success for twenty years [illegible] to stop itching and [illegible]draw the heat and help [illegible] away the [illegible] skin, and clear skin [illegible] Pimples or [illegible]ringworm, Strength [illegible]toying [illegible] adapted for chronic cases. [illegible] Extra Strength [illegible] 35c, 60c, $1.00, [illegible] $1.25.—Advertisement.

Anniversary Sale Price

WILKINSON'S TRIAL

These shirt[illegible] for sale purpo[illegible] English Broad[illegible]

[illegible] men and women. Street Floor

[illegible] his counsel, [illegible] He wants [illegible] chance. In fact he has his [illegible] in with the Pennsylvania [illegible] to become a detective." [illegible] any help that [illegible] Judge Clark [illegible] that the [illegible] man [illegible] a mar[illegible] or [illegible] orchid. [illegible] Floor—Centre