



Life Magazine 5-2-69

and trying to bring competing
blers and speakeasy operators
ine. And blood began to flow.
ly young Licavoli rode too

*Accompanied by a smiling sheriff,
Licavoli (right) leaves the federal
courthouse in Toledo in 1933. The
next year he was convicted of mur-
der and has been in jail ever since.*

Col. Lee Murlin, Soldier, U. S. District Attorney Has Habit of Finishing the Things He Starts

Joined British Army at
17, Rose to Rank
of Captain



Lee N. Murlin.

Has Long List of
Convictions: Licavoli
Gang Aim Now

however, and he accepted the captaincy of Company B, 148th infantry, at Ohio City. Plugging along persistently at his two hobbies—law and military science—he has attained his present posts.

As an assistant United States attorney, Mr. Murlin has established an enviable record of investigations and convictions, and now has completed one of the most difficult investigations in the city's history—that which resulted in the indictment of Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo gang chief, and 13 of his subordinates.

Shortly after he was placed in charge of the district attorney's office here, Murlin began an inquiry into wholesale bribing of coast guardsmen by a mysterious liquor syndicate. His probe revealed Toledo as a clearing house for shipments of Canadian liquor the total value of which was estimated at more than \$500,000.

Subsequently James B. Courtney, Dan Coghlin and Lawrence (Handsome Larry) Davidson—the Big Three of Lake Erie smuggling—were captured, tried, convicted and sent to Atlanta penitentiary.

Mr. Murlin's list of convictions includes counterfeiters, absconding bank cashiers, narcotic peddlers, swindlers who used the mails to defraud and many other offenders as well as a host of liquor law violators.

The indictment of the Licavoli mob is a result of constant plodding on an elusive trail of evidence which time and again proved so discouraging as to indicate the feasibility of dropping the case as impossible.

Aggressiveness, perseverance and tenacity—those are the watchwords of success, in the opinion of Lee Murlin, lawyer and soldier.

Murlin's natural ability as a leader and his persistence and tenacity won him rapid promotion to corporal and then to sergeant. In one engagement he assumed command of his company after all its officers had been killed and gained recognition of his superiors in the form of an appointment to an officers' training school at Crobrough-on-the-Sussex, England.

He returned to France a lieutenant of royal engineers, stepped up thru the lower grades and when the armistice was signed was a brevet-captain—no small achievement, since enlisted men in the English army rarely earn the opportunity even to qualify for commissions.

"When I came home," he says, "I completed my law education at Ohio Northern university and then returned to Lima to practice law." The military bug hit him again,

TOM LICAVOLI MAILED GREETING CARDS HERE

Gang Chief Sends Christmas Messages With Toledo Postmark.

While police and federal authorities sought Tom (Yonnie) Licavoli, gang leader, who is wanted on charges of violating the federal prohibition law, the dapper gangster dropped his Christmas greeting cards in a Toledo mail box. They were postmarked Dec. 21 and were delivered Dec. 23.

The cards, attractively engraved, wished the recipients the greetings of the season and the cards were signed "Yonnie."

Leo Mocer, Gang Chieftain's Brother-in-Law, Called Bell Killer

HUNTED IN OTHER CITIES

Police Informant Says Suspect Emptied Two Guns at Kennedy's Car

Leo Mocer, 23, notorious gunman who is wanted in a number of cities as a suspect in gang killings, has been identified positively by an eye-witness as the slayer of Miss Louise Bell, who was murdered while seated in an auto with Jack Kennedy, bootlegger, near the Interurban station, Nov. 30, 1932.

A warrant for Mocer's arrest on a first degree murder charge has been obtained by Toledo police. It is in possession of Detective Art Langendorf, who signed the affidavit against Mocer and has been conducting a systematic search for him for several days.

Police say the witness who identified Mocer said he did the shooting with a pair of pistols while riding in an auto which was driven by an accomplice.

Linked With Licavoli.

According to police, Mocer is a brother-in-law of Yonnie Licavoli and the only important member of the Licavoli gang other than Yonnie, who is still at large.

Police say they have definite information that Mocer is a professional killer who will contract to take the life of anyone for a fee of \$500, \$250 of which is delivered when the killing is agreed upon, and

LICAVOLI MEN TO FACE COURT

Five Members of Gang Will
Appear Before Hahn on
Old Charges

Five members of the Licavoli gang, arrested after a raid Oct. 28 at Hill Avenue Gardens, a reputed retail outlet for Licavoli liquor, will be arraigned Tuesday on prohibition charges before Federal Judge George P. Hahn.

Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur were arrested in the raid, Louis Szyperski was picked up in Columbus with a load of liquor, and Ralph Carsello and John Mirabella were arrested in an apartment on Parkside boulevard.

Dr. Lewis A. Querner failed to plead on a charge of dispensing narcotics without a license when he was arraigned today before Judge Hahn and sentence was deferred.

William Wilson, colored, pleaded guilty to violation of prohibition laws; Charles Mayms to violation of the narcotic laws, and Ethel Morton to violation of the Dyer act. All sentences were deferred.

JUDGE RAMEY BOOSTS BOND IN RACKET CASE

Gang Leader, Wanted by U. S.,
Fails To Appear on
Suspicion Charge

A brand-new search for Yonnie Licavoli was launched today by police, this time at the emphatic order of Judge Homer Ramey of municipal court.

Indignant over failure of Licavoli and two of his henchmen—"Wop" English and Ralph Carsello—to appear before him on suspicious person charges brought in connection with recent racketeering activities against operators of dry cleaning shops here, Judge Ramey declared forfeited \$500 bonds for appearance of three men, ordered their arrest on bench warrants and imposed new bonds of \$10,000 for each man.

This action followed an impassioned plea by Irving Friedmar, attorney for Licavoli and his aids, for a continuance of their case and a short verbal clash between Friedmar and the court.

Large Crowd In Court.

Failure of Licavoli to appear in court today was disappointing to police, who have been seeking the dapper gang leader for several weeks on liquor conspiracy charges contained in a federal grand jury indictment returned against him and 13 of his henchmen. Detectives had hoped Yonnie would come into court and that they could arrest him on the government charges.

This was a dandy scheme and had only one flaw—the failure of Licavoli to show up.

A large and cheerful crowd was in the courtroom when the case of the state of Ohio vs. Licavoli et al. was called. Judge Ramey glanced over the crowd, frowned at the tittering and abandoned his own facetious mood.

"Silence in the courtroom or I'll put everybody out and lock the doors," he said. "If you came here

to dance and have a good time, I'll clear the court, remove the chairs and let you go to it."

Judge's Face Stern.

This wisecrack went over big and the crowd roared its approval. But the judge did not smile.

Friedmar stepped up to the bench.

"I'd like to make a statement in this case," he said. "I want to ask for a continuance and I think I'm entitled to it."

"Are your clients here?" asked Judge Ramey.

"No," replied the attorney.

"Then how can you ask for a continuance?" demanded the court.

"This is the first time I have asked for a continuance," explained Friedmar, "and the police have asked for four."

"On what grounds can you seek a continuance?" asked Judge Ramey.

Grounds Deep Secret.

"Under certain circumstances," said Friedmar.

"What are they?" asked the court.

"I can't tell you," replied Friedmar.

The judge reddened with anger.

"Where are your clients?" he asked.

"I can't tell you," replied the attorney.

"Then you have no right to ask for a continuance," retorted the court. "If the case has been continued four times, as you say, you must have consented to these postponements."

"I'm getting sick of newspaper headlines blaming the court for continuances in this case, without the court asking why the case was continued. All the court has desired is to please both sides. I'm not going to have more headlines without some reason for a continuance. What's all the mystery about in this case?"

"All I know," said Friedmar, "is that my men are not here."

15 Minutes To Get Men.

"Can you give me a certificate to show your clients are sick in a hospital or where they are, or why they can't be here?" asked Judge Ramey.

"If you'll be fair with the court, I'll co-operate with you. I'll give you 15 minutes to produce these men."

"I can't do it," said Friedmar.

"Then," said the court angrily, "your clients are not playing fair with you. How can you communicate with them if you don't know where they are? What are their bonds at present?"

Informed bonds were \$1000 for English and \$500 each for Licavoli and Carsello. Judge Ramey de-

clared: "I declare these bonds forfeited. I hereby issue bench warrants for the arrest of these men and order the police to bring them in. New bonds hereby are set at \$10,000 for each man."

POLICE WAIT FOR YONNIE IN VAIN

Gangster, Wanted on Two
Charges, Fails To Oblige by
Surrendering to the Law

Despite persistent rumors that Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli had returned to Toledo from an out-of-town hiding place last night and planned to surrender today, noon found police and federal authorities still waiting for the elusive fugitive. Licavoli is wanted on a federal liquor indictment and a charge of being a suspicious person made in a municipal court bench warrant.

Detective Inspector Emmett Cairi received an anonymous phone call at his office in the Safety building last night, informing him that Yonnie just had entered the city.

"You want to catch Licavoli, don't you?" the mysterious caller asked. "Well, he just entered Toledo and is driving out Sylvania avenue now. If you get a car out there you can get him."

Inspector Cairi notified all scout cars by radio to watch for Licavoli and sent two speed cars filled with detectives to the Sylvania avenue district. But Licavoli was not seen.

Later reports came to the Safety building that Licavoli would surrender to federal authorities who have warrants for the arrest of him and a dozen of his henchmen for organizing and operating a huge illicit liquor business in Toledo.

\$250 when it is accomplished.

He is wanted in Detroit for two murders. Police there say he took part in the killings of Henry Tupancy and Milford Jones.

Toledo police say he is suspected of complicity in the gang war slaying of Jim Lahey early in 1932, and of the attempted slaying of Lahey in a shooting on Sylvania avenue several months before gangsters took Lahey's life.

Has Record Here.

Detective Langendorf arrested Mocer here after the Lahey killing and police held him for 26 hours until they were threatened with a writ of habeas corpus. They then released him. Twenty hours later Detroit police asked that Mocer be arrested in connection with the Milford Jones killing.

Mocer is known to Toledo police under two aliases, George Bono and Leo Licavoli. When arrested here the first time, Aug. 27, 1931, he gave his address as the Fretti apartments, 15th street. He also gave 715 Smith street, Monroe, Mich., and 1920 Front street, Detroit, as addresses. Mocer gave his name as George Bono at that time. He was charged with being a suspicious person and fined \$5 and costs.

He was arrested again Feb. 16, 1932, on suspicion and was released the next day. He has a long police record in Detroit. He was arrested there in August, 1924, for grand larceny and was sentenced to from one to five years, was on bond before he began to serve the sentence and jumped bond.

In Buckley Case.

In 1926, he was arrested on a charge of violating the United States drug act. He was arrested four times in 1927 for robbery while armed and was discharged each time. In 1928, he was arrested as a probation violator and was discharged. He was arrested for robbery while armed again in 1929 and was discharged.

Detroit police sought him in November, 1931, for questioning in connection with the murder of Jerry Buckley, radio announcer, and at the same time Toledo police were seeking him as a suspect in the gang slaying of Aaron Harris, 26, of 2057 N. 12th street.

Harris was shot to death while riding on Nebraska avenue in an auto with Jimmy Lahey, Toledo racketeer, and Sam Loedyn on May 11, 1931. Lahey later was shot to death near Monroe, Mich.

Mocer is a Detroit-born Italian. He is five feet eight and one-fourth inches tall, weighs 138 pounds, has hazel eyes, dark hair and a light complexion.

CARSELLO PUT IN JAIL UNDER \$10,000 BOND

Reputed Licavoli Aide Is
Held in Bombing After
Appearance in Court
on Liquor Charge.

Ralph Carsello, reputed lieutenant of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, fugitive gang leader, was locked up in the Safety building Tuesday when he was unable to furnish \$10,000 bond following his arrest in the federal building on a bench warrant.

The bench warrant was issued and the high bond fixed by Judge Homer Ramey three weeks ago when Carsello, Licavoli and "Wop" English failed to appear in police court on charges of being suspicious persons placed against them following the bombing of the dry cleaning establishment of C. C. Engle, 1850 West Bancroft street.

Carsello was arrested by Detective Art Langendorf after he appeared in federal court with four others to answer to indictments charging them with being members of a bootlegging gang which federal officers said was allied with Licavoli.

When Carsello was taken before Judge Ramey, accompanied by his attorney, Harry G. Levy, the judge asked Detective Langendorf if he cared to suggest a new bond.

"This high one suits me," the detective said, and Carsello, unable to furnish it, was locked up.

Attorney Levy also represented Carsello and the others in federal court. He received permission not to enter formal pleas on the indictments so that the old federal bonds could stand until the men go on trial within the next few days.

Carsello's federal bond is \$4,000. The others, and their bonds: John Mirabella, \$8,000; Louis Szyperski, \$2,000; and Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur, \$1,000 each.

The five were arrested in a raid Oct. 28 on the Hill Avenue Gardens, where federal officers confiscated a large quantity of wine, beer and liquor.

bles, who, federal officers charge, were working in close connection with the Licavoli outfit. All but Naples have been arrested. They are indicted in six charges each, including conspiracy to violate the prohibition act. Seven overt acts are cited. These men were arrested three weeks ago in a raid on the Hill Avenue Gardens, at Hill avenue and Wenz road.

LICAVOLI GROUP INDICTED BY U. S.

Continued from Page 1
Rose Supper Club." He is charged further with running the "Show Boat" night club at 422 1/2 Superior street, and with maintaining the headquarters of his liquor ring at 1737 Nicholas building; the Ira apartments, apartment 304, located at 1302 Parkside boulevard; the Argonne hotel, and at 513 Monroe street, where, according to the indictment, "said co-conspirators would buy, sell, manufacture and deal in intoxicating liquor."
This same group, the indictment continues, leased the premises at 1413 Holmes street where two huge stills, of 2,000 and 1,000 gallon capacity respectively, were found by federal agents last February. Also found at the Holmes street address, the indictment states, were 18,000 gallons of mash; 140 pounds of yeast, an electric motor; eight 2,000 gallon wooden vats; other vats; a pump; two 25 horsepower boilers and 32 bags of corn sugar.
Licavoli has never been convicted of any crime in Toledo since he moved here from Detroit two years ago. In the interim he is reputed to have gained control of the local liquor business.

U. S. AGENTS PUSH SEARCH FOR LICAVOLI

Will Look Through House Again; Gangsters Are Uneasy at Failure to Surrender.
FUGITIVES BELIEVED IN QUEST OF BOND
Representatives of Mob Go to Chicago for Cash; \$10,000 Expected to Be Figure Set.

Another search of the home of Yonnie Licavoli, gang leader, in Pemberton drive and also visits to several flats believed to be used as hideouts for rum runners, were planned Friday by George Weeks, deputy U. S. marshal.
Federal officers working with Marshal Weeks hope to get a line on the whereabouts of Licavoli and his henchman, Ernest LaSalle, wanted on indictments charging liquor law violations, along with James Naples.

Gangsters Uneasy
It was reported at the Federal building that there is a feeling of uneasiness among Licavoli gangsters because their leader failed to surrender on the indictments after he promised to do so. There is an old unwritten law in the underworld that when a criminal gives his promise to an officer of the law it must be kept.
All the policing powers of the federal government in this part of the country were set to work to bring three men into federal court. This force includes special agents of the department of justice acting for the prohibition subdivision, secret service men and special investigators. They will be assisted by United States deputy marshals under Marshal Weeks who for several days have been seeking the accused men. They are armed with capias signed by Federal Judge George P. Hahn.

Police Co-operating
Safety Director Albert P. Fall said Friday that members of the police department have been co-operating with the federal officers who made the investigation of operations of the bootlegging gangs here since last January. He declared that he conferred with the federal officers shortly after Jan. 1 and instructed Detective Arthur

Continued From First Page

Langendorf, head of the police liquor, vice and gambling squads, to co-operate with federal officials.
Lee N. Murlin, United States attorney in charge here, said Friday that he has not had contact for several days with the attorney who is representing Licavoli.
Bond Not Set
The last report from this attorney was, Mr. Murlin said, that he would accompany Licavoli to court within 24 hours and appear before Judge Hahn prepared to furnish \$10,000 bond. The amount of Licavoli's bond, it is understood, has not been set definitely.
One of the officers taking part in the search is reported to have said that the accused men are having trouble in procuring the heavy bonds which the government is almost certain to place on them to hold them pending their trial which Mr. Murlin says will be in the near future.
Two of Licavoli's lieutenants are said to have made a hurried trip to Chicago Wednesday to confer with the ringleader of a certain mob in an attempt to get funds to meet the bonds. They are said to have returned Thursday night, but whether they were successful is not known.
Members of a number of bonding companies in the city who are accustomed to give bonds in federal

court say their companies have had no application for bonds from any of the Licavoli men.
Seek to Raise Cash
Federal officers believe the gangsters are attempting to raise enough money to post cash bonds, and that they will attempt to get the bonds set at the lowest possible minimum because they are putting up cash.
Some federal officers also believe that Licavoli will not come in voluntarily and give bond unless he is able to do so also for LaSalle and Naples. All the others are under bonds placed by United States commissioners at the time of their arrests on liquor charges during the last month. Such bonds hold good until they are arraigned on the charges in the indictment.
Others named in the indictments are George Petcoff, Russel Syracuse, Howard Lane, Harry Silverino, Sam Brown, Russell Palmer, Edward Beck, Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Louis Szyperski, Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur.

Development in Search Expected Today by L. N. Murlin.

Developments climaxing a search of more than a week were expected Monday in the case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, indicted by the federal grand jury here on liquor charges along with 14 others, Lee N. Murlin, United States attorney, said.
Search Saturday by city detectives and Al Yeager, U. S. deputy marshal, proved fruitless after visits to a number of flats and apartments where it had been rumored Licavoli might be found.
Those making the search are of the opinion that Licavoli has been out of the city for several days in an effort to get cash to meet the bond of probably \$10,000 which Judge George P. Hahn will place him under when arraigned on the indictment charges.

LICAVOLI HUNT STILL GOES ON

Search for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, alleged Toledo gang leader, was extended throughout the United States and Canada Saturday as he continued to remain at liberty despite his indictment, with 14 others, by a federal grand jury a week ago.
A searching squad, led by Detective John Hovey and Al Yeager, deputy U. S. marshal, set out before noon to visit hotels, apartments and other rendezvous which Licavoli is known to have frequented here before his indictment.
Mayor Thacher, meanwhile, ordered all reports on the last two gangster shootings submitted to him and said he would study them

LICAVOLI HUNT IS EXTENDED INTO CANADA

Organization of Vigilante Group Hinted; Mayor Asks for Report on Killing.
Continued From First Page
over the week-end in his investigation of the police department.
Reports were current that Toledo business men are organizing a vigilante group similar to Chicago's Secret Six so that they can take the battle against gangsters into their own hands.
If Licavoli leaves his hiding place, there is scarcely a city in the country where police and federal secret service officers are not watching for him, according to Lee N. Murlin, United States attorney.

Sure of Deportation

Mr. Murlin also declared that he felt sure Licavoli will be deported to the United States quickly if he enters Canada, because of his reputation and connections with Detroit gangsters.
Ernest Joseph LaSalle, a Licavoli lieutenant, also is sought in connection with the indictments, which charge that the gang operated a liquor business on a large scale here a year ago.
Toledo police also want LaSalle, who was named, with Pete Corrado and John Rai in murder indictments issued after the machine-gun killing of Louise Bell at the Interurban station 10 days ago.
Mayor Thacher, after asking Safety Director Albert P. Fall for reports made by officers who investigated the gang shootings, said he had no intention of acting hastily in his much-heralded investigation, but that he will go to any extreme necessary if he finds justification for a department shakeup.

Threatens Dismissal
The mayor said that if any irregularity is revealed, he will dismiss whoever is responsible and let the dismissed officer take his case to the civil service commission.
The local vigilante group is being organized to fight the gangsters with their own methods, casting aside the restrictions and red tape of the law, one of its organizers reported.
Active police officers will be barred from membership, but others who are willing to use weapons if necessary, will be recruited to give racketeers a dose of their own medicine. Certain characters will be "disciplined" so frequently that they will finally leave Toledo in desperation, the organizer predicted.

LICAVOLI HUNT STILL PUSHED

Developments in Search Expected Today by L. N. Murlin.
Development climaxing a search of more than a week were expected Monday in the case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, indicted by the federal grand jury here on liquor charges along with 14 others, Lee N. Murlin, United States attorney, said.

Search Saturday by city detectives and Al Yeager, U. S. deputy marshal, proved fruitless after visits to a number of flats and apartments where it had been rumored Licavoli might be found.
Those making the search are of the opinion that Licavoli has been out of the city for several days in an effort to get cash to meet the bond of probably \$10,000 which Judge George P. Hahn will place him under when arraigned on the indictment charges.

Unfinished Business

Toledo's Gangwar Death List Grows But Law Fails To Put Finger on the Guilty
Following is a list of gang killings in Toledo and Lucas county in the last 18 months, in which there have been no prosecutions. What are the people of Toledo going to do about this situation?
July 17, 1931—Harry Gertzlin and Al Jaffe, Cleveland bootleggers, shot on West Toledo lane near Michigan border.
Aug. 7, 1931—Chester H. Marks, Toledo night club operator, shot in rear of his home, 2650 Broadway.
Oct. 26, 1931—Abe Lubitsky, 23, small time gangster, and Norman Blatt, gambler, shot from auto while parked in Lubitsky's car at Bancroft street and Franklin avenue.
March 16, 1932—Jimmy Lahey, Toledo gangster and hijacker, shot on Stearn road, off Dixie highway, near Michigan border.
Aug. 3, 1932—Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore, Monroe and Toledo gangsters, shot; Dagastino near State hospital, Mighiore in Old Orchard.
Nov. 30, 1932—Miss Louise Bell, innocent friend of Jack Kennedy, speak-easy proprietor, shot while parked in front of Interurban station by three men in a passing auto.
Dec. 12, 1932—August Annarino, gangster, taken for a ride and his body dumped on South street near Byrne road.

Gangland's Answer

TOLEDO'S gangland delivered its answer to police threats and federal indictments yesterday when the bullet-riddled body of another bootlegger and beer runner was found in a South Side snowdrift.
It is quite evident that gangsters have no fear of police interference in their affairs of state and that public opinion, brought to a sudden head by the slaying of a woman in the downtown streets, means little or nothing when a member of a rival gang is to be put on the spot.
It is easy for the administration and police department to lapse into a coma, believing that rival factions will kill among themselves and thus remove leaders from the scene of action, but this does not in any way clear up the situation.
Toledo must be cleared of gangsters and racketeering. If the city cannot accomplish the feat with a well organized police department, headed by officers who are supposed to know how to suppress crime, then it becomes the duty of the county and a first day's assignment for those newly elected law enforcement officials who will take office Jan. 1.

LICAVOLI AGAIN EVADES POLICE

Four Detectives Search Homes for Gangsters Without Result.
Four detectives under Acting Inspector George Timiney searched three homes here Tuesday night seeking Yonnie Licavoli, John Rai and Ernest LaSalle, known gangsters, but failed to find the fugitives.
Licavoli, young gang leader here, and LaSalle were named in federal conspiracy indictments. Rai, LaSalle and Pete Corrado were named in murder warrants as the slayers of Miss Louise Bell, killed by machine gunners in November when an attempt was made to put Jack Kennedy on the spot.
The first home searched was that of Jacob Sulkin, 4523 Overland parkway, then the Licavoli home at 2733 Pemberton drive, and later the home of Russell Syracuse, also named in the conspiracy indictments with Licavoli and LaSalle.

The detectives had a federal capias. Rai and LaSalle are known Licavoli lieutenants and were arrested last summer when detectives raided a home in Westway near the city limits, shortly after the gang murders of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore. This home was described as a sub-headquarters of the Licavoli mob.
Syracuse, whose home was searched Tuesday night, also is said to be a Licavoli lieutenant and was seized in a raid on a st. l. in Hopewell street some time ago. He is free on bond on that charge.

SUSPECTS SOUGHT IN LICAVOLI HOME

Three Men Indicted Murder Not Found by Detectives
Detectives led by Inspector George Timiney last night searched the home of Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, 2733 Pemberton drive, three men under grand jury indictment for the murder of Louise Bell. They were unable to find any of the three men sought: John Rai, Ernest LaSalle or Russell Syracuse.
Detectives John Michalak, Arthur Brown, Ray Scheetz and Owen Green participated in the search.
Miss Bell, 22, was slain by machine gun bullets Nov. 30 when she was riding near the Interurban station in the car of Jack Kennedy, speakeasy operator.
Police also searched the home of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin at 4523 Overland parkway.

SUSPECTS SOUGHT IN LICAVOLI HOME

Three Men Wanted for Murder Not Found by Detectives
Detectives led by Inspector George Timiney last night searched the home of Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, 2733 Pemberton drive, three men wanted for questioning in the murder of Louise Bell. They were unable to find any of the three men sought: John Rai, Ernest LaSalle or Russell Syracuse.
Detectives John Michalak, Arthur Brown, Ray Scheetz and Owen Green participated in the search.
Miss Bell, 22, was slain by machine gun bullets Nov. 30 when she was riding near the Interurban station in the car of Jack Kennedy, speakeasy operator.
Police also searched the home of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin at 4523 Overland parkway.

HUNT FOR LICAVOLI RESUMED BY POLICE

Officer Reports Seeing Gang Leader in City, No New Clues.
Police and federal officers today resumed their two-week search for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, youthful gang leader who is wanted by the government on an indictment charging liquor law violations, with apparently no more idea of where he is than they have had.
There was a brief flurry of excitement and hope at the Safety building late Saturday afternoon when Patrolman E. F. Kline, on traffic duty at Monroe and Summit streets, phoned headquarters that he believed he had seen Licavoli and another man on Summit street in a large sedan.
The search swung to Delta, O., Saturday, where Mabel Candella, wanted on a capias warrant as a witness in the Incorvavia-Besace shooting, operates a fruit farm. No one was arrested there, altho the officers found several members of the Licavoli gang there.

Five Licavoli Aids To Answer Charges

Assistant U. S. District Attorney Lee N. Murlin announced yesterday that five men believed to be associated with Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli are scheduled to appear in federal court Tuesday to enter pleas to the charges of liquor law violation listed in the indictment returned against them at the same time Licavoli was indicted.
The men are Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Louis Szyperski, Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur. All were arrested in connection with a federal raid on the Hill Avenue Gardens last Oct. 25.

LICAVOLI WANTS NO TRIAL DELAY

Continuance or Change of Venue Undesired Despite Hayes Murder Rumors

Despite rumors linking his gang with the Detroit killing of Jimmy Hayes, Toledo gambler, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli is ready to go to trial on schedule next Tuesday.

The ex-gang chief, indicted for conspiracy in four murders, will not ask for a continuance or for the removal of his trial to another and less prejudiced county, Cornell Schreiber, Licavoli's attorney, indicated in a statement Friday.

It had been expected that in view of the prejudicing effect of rumors that Licavoli henchmen may be responsible for the Hayes killing, Mr. Schreiber might ask either for removal of the case or a continuance of the trial to a later date.

Many Inquiries Made

Mr. Schreiber's statement, directed "to the public," reads:

"I represent Thomas Licavoli. Mr. Licavoli's trial here is set for next Tuesday.

"Many inquiries have come to me as to whether a request would be made for a postponement of the trial or for removal of the case for trial in another county.

"Mr. Licavoli does not want the trial delayed, nor does he want the case sent to another county for trial. He does want the case to be tried in this county on the original trial date, if it is at all possible to secure a fair trial.

"A fair trial is guaranteed by the Constitution to everyone accused of an offense, and a fair trial means that the case shall be heard by a jury that approaches its duty with an open mind, and with no preconceived ideas of guilt or innocence.

Wearies of Long Jail Stay

"A fair trial means that the case shall be heard before an impartial judge and that only legally competent evidence shall be allowed.

"Calm reflection should convince everyone that no man should be tried by gossip, rumor, lurid reports, passion, prejudice, race hatred or the numberless other considerations that have no place in an American court, and no man should be tried by word or print upon the streets.

The place of trial should be in a court of justice and in no other place.

"Mr. Licavoli has been in jail awaiting trial since March 8, a period of seven months, and he respectfully asks the public only that he may be permitted to leave these months of weary waiting to appear in court for a fair trial. He asks only that the public be guided solely by the evidence as it may appear under oath and under judicial observation, and by no other influence."



JIMMY HAYES

Gerald James (Jimmy) Hayes, Toledo gambler who was murdered in Detroit Thursday, and his grief-stricken widow are shown in the accompanying pictures. Mrs. Hayes was unable to view the body of her husband in the Wayne county morgue after arriving in Detroit. Mrs. Hayes was in her home, 2708 Collingwood avenue, when word reached her that her husband had been murdered.

HUNT LICAVOLI PALS IN SLAYING

Jimmy Hayes Murder Laid To His Refusal To Aid Defense Fund

Continued From Page One

been given me to the effect that Hayes was a most peaceful and docile man under ordinary circumstances, but inclined to be hard to handle when drinking."

Licavoli Link Traced

Mr. Krise and Detroit police traced an obvious connection between Massie and the Licavoli gang. They pointed out that Massie and Pete Licavoli, Yonnie's brother, were arrested for the murder of Milford Jones, St. Louis gangster, in a night club here some time ago.

They said Massie, the reputed to be a big operator in gambling and liquor, was known not to have a great amount of liquid assets at the present time. Lacking cash of his own, they said it was only natural to assume he would be looking for cash elsewhere to help Yonnie thru his present difficulties.

All of the authorities were careful to point out, however, that there is no evidence that Yonnie had sought Massie's aid.

Door Man Is Held

"What is more natural than to assume Massie asked Hayes to contribute to Yonnie's defense?" Mr. Krise asked, "and what is more natural than to assume that Hayes refused and because of his condition made some slurring remarks about Yonnie's nationality?"

"If he did, Massie and Bommarito saw red and Hayes took the consequences."

Mr. Krise expressed the opinion that the Negro door man of the Maxine club, Charles Cady, the last man to see Hayes, Massie and Bommarito leave the club, has not told the authorities all he knows about the situation.

It was significant that Cady was

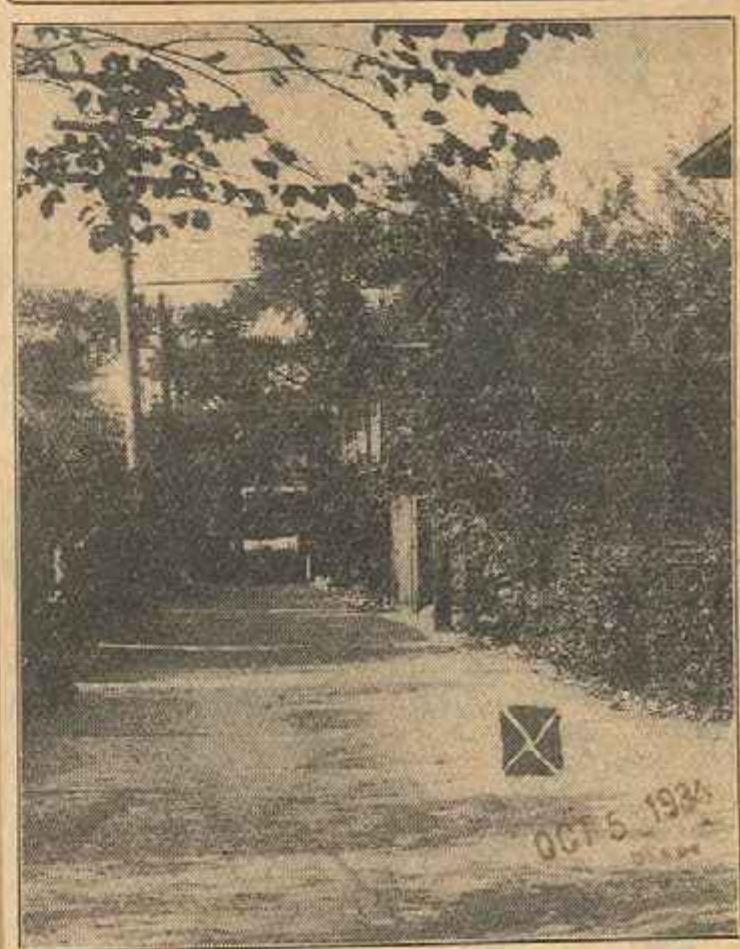
Appeals for Fairness

"Calm reflection should convince everyone that no man should be tried upon gossip, rumor, lurid reports, passion, prejudice, race hatred, or the numberless other considerations that have no place in an American court, and no man should be tried by word or print upon the streets. The place of trial should be in a court of justice and in no other place.

"Mr. Licavoli has been in jail awaiting trial since March 8, 1934, a period of seven months, and he respectfully asks the public only that he may be permitted to leave these months of weary waiting to appear in court for a fair trial. He asks only that the public be guided solely by the evidence as it may appear under oath and under judicial observation, and by no other influence."

Mr. Schreiber today awaited a call from Arnold F. Bunge, assistant county prosecutor, to view exhibits which the state intends to use at the trial. Mr. Bunge returned Thursday from a trip in which he is believed to have interviewed an important witness in another city.

HAYES' BODY FOUND HERE



The body of Gerald James (Jimmy) Hayes, 48, Toledo gambler, whose murderers are sought by the police of two cities, was found in this alley in Detroit. The alley where the body was found early Thursday is in one of the Detroit's better residential districts.

LICAVOLI TRIAL COUNSEL ASKS FOR FAIR PLAY

Appeals to Public to Forget Prejudice in Gang Leader's Coming Case.

Cornell Schreiber, attorney for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli in the gang leader's coming trial for several first degree murders, including that of Jack Kennedy, beer baron, today appealed directly to the public for fair play during the trial of his client.

Mr. Schreiber, utilizing the unusual device of an open letter to the public, declared that Licavoli seeks neither the postponement of the trial nor its removal to another county, and said gossip, race hate and prejudice should not be permitted to play any part in shaping the attitude of the jurors and public toward the case.

Writes Letter

The letter, which is over Mr. Schreiber's signature, follows:

"To the Public: I represent Thomas Licavoli. Mr. Licavoli's trial here is set for next Tuesday, Oct. 9.

"Many inquiries have come to me as to whether a request would be made for a postponement of the trial or for the removal of the case for trial in another county.

"Mr. Licavoli does not want the trial delayed, nor does he want the case sent to another county for trial. He does want the case to be tried in this county on the original trial date, if it is at all possible to secure a fair trial.

"A fair trial is guaranteed by the Constitution to everyone accused of an offense, and a fair trial means that the case shall be heard by a jury that approaches its duty with an open mind, and with no preconceived ideas of guilt or innocence. A fair trial means that the case shall be heard before an impartial judge and that only legally competent evidence shall be allowed.

SLAIN GAMBLER, WIFE



MRS. HAYES

MURDER TRIAL EXHIBITS SHOWN

Licavoli's Lawyer Sees Objects to Be Used by State.

Exhibits which will be used by the state in the first degree murder trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster, were shown to his lawyer, Cornell Schreiber, Friday afternoon, by Arnold F. Bunge, assistant county prosecutor.

Reporters were not allowed to view the exhibits which were presented to Mr. Schreiber behind closed doors of the grand jury room which adjoins the private office of Frazier Reams, county prosecutor. The lawyer spent more than an hour in his study of these exhibits.

Mr. Bunge would not inform reporters of the nature of the exhibits. It is believed, however, that maps showing the location of the four murders with which Licavoli is charged together with bullets extracted from the victims' bodies were shown to Mr. Schreiber.

It is believed that two weapons found by several boys in a marsh at Point Place which were identified during the Joseph (Wop) English trial as the weapons used in the slaying of Jack Kennedy, July 7, 1933, were inspected by Mr. Schreiber.

Two guns which were found at Akron where English was arrested but which were ruled out of the English trial by Judge Roy R. Stuart probably were shown to the defense lawyer. It is believed the state will attempt to introduce these guns in the Licavoli case.

Frazier Reams, county prosecutor, said that it never was his intention of presenting this evidence to the public before the trial.



WRONG PICTURE USED

News-Bee Regrets Error in Identity of Jimmy Hayes Photograph.

A photograph purporting to be that of Jimmy Hayes, slain Toledo gambling house operator, was published in two editions of Thursday's News-Bee thru an error of identification. The picture was that of James G. Hayes, former Toledo Western Union operator and now a resident of Chicago. The latter Hayes, also known as "Jimmy," for many years worked in the old Western Union offices on Summit street. The News-Bee regrets the error.

Gambler Jimmy Hayes.

HAYES KNOWN AS 'GOOD GUY'

Murder Victim Rose to Head Toledo Gambling From Job as Taxi Driver

Jimmy Hayes, a local boy who rose from taxi driver to big-time boss of the Toledo rackets before the Licavolis came to town, was known as "Toledo's honest gambler." His place at 220 St. Clair street was a gambling house where "gentlemen" could shoot craps, play roulette or any other of the well-known gambling games for whatever stakes they cared to name.

His place at 613 St. Clair street, sometimes called the Jovial club, was the poor man's gambling establishment. Here the dice rolled around the table for 25-cent bets, altho dollar and five-dollar bets were not unusual.

It cannot be proved, altho it's widely believed, that Jimmy Hayes owned the larger part of the Buckeye cigar store, 229 Superior street. The Buckeye is the town's premier horse race betting establishment.

"Cleaned Out" in 1929.

The Buckeye also operates a "numbers" racket. Numbers, taken from bank clearances in a certain formula that makes guessing hazardous, pay off 500 to one. It is the working man's gamble. Nickels and dimes, even pennies, are bet on the numbers. It is a form of the old "policy" game and is extremely popular among Toledo's Negro citizens.

Jimmy Hayes, like all professional gamblers, was a "sucker" for the other fellow's racket. He played heavy in the stock market. He was "cleaned" in the market break of October, 1929, and plunged back in for the upswing. He was cleaned again in the second break.

But, it is a fact, Jimmy made good every overdraft local stockbrokers held against his account after the debacle.

Operated "Millionaires' Club."

In recent years Jimmy became interested in big money gambling. For several years he operated the

STATE PREPARES LICAVOLI CASE

To Issue Subpenas for Witnesses in Trial of Gangster.

Subpenas will be issued within a few days for witnesses who will be introduced by the state in the first degree murder trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster, scheduled to start before Judge John M. McCabe next Tuesday.

It is believed that the subpenas will call for the appearance of witnesses from many sections of the state in which the Licavoli gang is said to have operated.

With a record of six victories in six first degree murder trials Frazier Reams and his assistants, Joel Rhinefort and Arnold Bunge, will be prepared for a stiff legal battle with Cornell Schreiber, ace criminal lawyer.

The first degree murder convictions, three of which carried the death penalty and three a recommendation of mercy, were obtained in the trials of Joseph (Wop) English for the murder of Jack Kennedy; Frank Vacciano and Albert Bruno, electrocuted for the killing of John J. McLaughlin, Park Lane hotel clerk; Floyd Baldwin for the golf course murder of John Parker, Toledo insurance agent; and Frank Starke for the slaying of George Stacey, taxicab driver.

Licavoli Hearing to Be in February

The petition in error filed in the court of appeals by counsel of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli following his conviction on the charge of first degree murder probably will not be heard until February, 1935.

Opposing counsel in the case agreed to the delay to permit additional time for the filing of briefs. The case had been set down for hearing next Monday.

At present the appellate court has only 24 cases pending, eight of which have been heard and are ready for decisions, and five of which have been assigned to be heard next week.

COURT BACKS GANG MURDER VERDICT HERE

4-20-35 Cincinnati Bench Rules Trial Was Fair; Errors Bill Is Turned Down

Yonnie Licavoli must spend the rest of his life in Ohio Penitentiary, the First District Court of Appeals ruled in Cincinnati last night. The court upheld the former gang leader's conviction here of conspiracy in the murder of four persons.

In an opinion covering 21 pages, written by Judge Matthews, the three members of the court concurred that Licavoli received a fair trial. Dealing with every phase of error charged by Cornell Schreiber, Licavoli's attorney, the court found none that was prejudicial to the deceased gang leader.

"The affirmation of the Licavoli verdict by three judges of the Court of Appeals from Cincinnati," Prosecutor Frazier Reams said today, "though not unexpected, was nevertheless gratifying."

"We have believed that the indictment, though novel, was correctly drawn, that the trial was conducted without prejudicial error and that the charge given by Judge McCabe was eminently fair."

"This being the first of the 13 cases under the gangster indictment to go to the Court of Appeals, it is reasonable to have such complete approval as to the law of the case."

Waits Legislative Action.

Mr. Reams, preparing for trial of three Licavoli gangsters included in the 13 indicted for the murders, is awaiting legislative action on a bill which would permit a joint trial. Present law provides that persons charged with a capital offense must be tried separately.

The three awaiting trial are Ralph Casello, John Rai and Anthony Bease.

Joe (Wop) English, first one convicted, was sentenced to the electric chair, but his punishment was commuted to life imprisonment by former Governor Mide.

Others indicted for the murders of Abe Lubitsky, Norman Blatt, Louise Bell and Jack Kennedy are fugitives from justice. They are Leo Mocer, John Mirabella, Ernest Lalle, James Licavoli, Russell Syracuse, Harry Leonard and Sebastian Lupica.

Michigan Branch of Licavoli Gang Blamed for 'Ride'; Victim Beaten, Riddled After Series Game

Jimmy Hayes, 48, well-known Toledo professional gambler, was found slain in an alley in Detroit Thursday. The dice by which he lived were in his pockets.

Hayes, who stepped out from behind the wheel of a taxi here years ago to become the city's best known gambler, had gone to Detroit Wednesday to attend the opening game of the world series.

He had been severely beaten and there were shotgun slugs in his head and back.

A policeman walking his beat found the body at 2 a. m. in an alley off Palmer street near the downtown district.

Joe Garvin, inspector of Detroit police, who knew Hayes for many years, was first to identify the body. He indicated Hayes had attempted to disguise himself. His hair appeared to have been dyed red.

There was no evidence of a struggle at the place the body was found. Inspector Garvin said it was apparent the gambler had been slain elsewhere and his body hauled to the alley.

Initials in his clothing gave the first clue to his identity. Besides the pair of dice, police found \$123 on the gambler.

Inspector Garvin said he telephoned Hayes' wife at their home 2709 Collingwood avenue, and notified her of the finding of the body.

Word of the slaying apparently was first received here by Mrs. Hayes. The report next was heard in the downtown district and later at the Safety building.

Operated Petoskey Club.

Neighbors of the Hayes family said they only recently had returned from Petoskey, Mich., where Hayes operated the Ramona, an exclusive club.

They said they had not seen Hayes around the house for several days. During the summer, they said, while the family was away, the gambler frequently visited the house.

Detroit police were of the opinion Hayes was taken for a ride by members of the Detroit branch of the Licavoli mob.

It was known that Hayes had refused to "deal" with members of the Licavoli gang when they "took over" the gambling houses here several years ago.

Just what part Hayes may have been expected to play in the forthcoming trials of members of Yonnie Licavoli's gang was carefully concealed by Prosecutor Reams.

It was known that Hayes appeared before the grand jury while it was collecting data to indict members of Licavoli's gang.

Prosecutor Is Silent.

He was in the jury room but a short time and those closest to him were certain the jurors obtained no information.

"Had you expected to call Hayes as a witness in the Licavoli trial?" Prosecutor Reams was asked.

"I wouldn't say as to that," was the hesitant answer.

"I don't know Hayes except by reputation," the prosecutor said in response to other questions. "I wouldn't say anything about his connection with the Licavoli case."

Toledo authorities, interested in the Licavoli angle of the case, swung action immediately news of death was received here. Reams held phone conference with Prosecutor Har-

Hollywood County club in Hollywood, Fla., during the winter season.

Last year he refused the proposition of the owners of the club because "big money" from Miami Beach, 15 miles away, refused to drive the lonely Ocean boulevard to Hollywood. They stayed in Miami Beach and patronized the three or four gambling resorts allowed to run last winter.

For some years Jimmy has owned and operated the Ramona Country club near Petoskey, Mich. It is a "millionaires' club, catering to people who afforded yachts and \$10 steak dinners.

Operated Two Places.

Hayes always had been known here as a "gentleman gangster." He had hundreds of friends and frequently entertained in his home.

The boys about town always were able to borrow small amounts from the gambler, most of which they never repaid.

He operated two places here. One was at 631 St. Clair street, known as the Jovial club. Here the average man could go in and attempt to increase his stakes by playing dice for small amounts.

The other place at 320 St. Clair street was operated for the boys who could play for higher stakes.

Dodged Gang in 1926.

Once before Hayes was attacked by gangsters. That was in September, 1926.

The gang trailed him in his auto from a restaurant on St. Clair street. At 16th street and Jefferson avenue, the gunmen overhauled Hayes' auto.

"Stick 'em up and pull over to the curb," one of them shouted. Hayes attempted to speed away. Two shotgun charges struck him in the back.

Police at that time believed the gunmen sought to kill Hayes for his activities in gambling circles in Cleveland.

Hope It Isn't Jimmy, Licavoli Prays in Cell

"Too Nice a Fellow" To Be Killed by Detroit Friends, Yonnie Says of Gambler Hayes

"I hope to God it isn't Jimmy—I hope they're wrong."

Fervently, over and over as he paced his cell, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli murmured that prayer Thursday in the county jail.

With only traces of his once dapper appearance remaining, Yonnie smoked a cigaret in short, nervous puffs while a News-Bee reporter told

him that Jimmy Hayes, Toledo "gentleman" gambler, had been killed by Detroit gangland guns.

"Too Nice a Fellow."

"The police are saying your Detroit friend did the job," Yonnie was told. Hayes testified before the Lucas county grand jury that indicted the dapper gangster chief and 12 of his aids for four killings here.

Yonnie, his features blurred thru the screen over the cell block entrance, studied his right shoe and without looking up answered impatiently:

"Ah—those are only ideas they got. Jimmy was too nice a fellow to do that to. I always liked Jimmy."

Tough For Yonnie.

There was a long pause.

"Is that the only reason you're sorry, Yonnie?"

"Well," came the answer, "it makes it tough for me right now. I'm going on trial Monday."

His voice changed for a moment to a rebellious note.

"God, I've been in here seven months. That's an awful thing to happen right now."

He turned into his cell, put out the cigaret and began his refrain again.

"God, I hope it isn't Jimmy."

Licavoli Recovers From Operation

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, is recovering in his cell in block C and D, Ohio penitentiary, from a recent minor operation.

Licavoli, according to Warden James Woodard, was operated on 10 days ago. Licavoli never has undergone an operation for a stomach disorder which he said necessitated his being in the penitentiary hospital. Licavoli is serving a life term for conspiracy in a series of gangland murders.

LICAVOLI AIDS REORGANIZED IN AKRON GANG

Federal Agents Descend on Rubber City To Trail Public Enemy No. 1

News-Bee State Service.

AKRON, July 3.—Federal agents hunted Alvin Karpis, bandit and killer in Akron today.

The detail of "G-Men" swung into the city late last night armed with information that the Government's Public Enemy No. 1 uses the rubber city as a hideout for himself and a newly organized gang of gunmen and killers.

The new Karpis gang is believed to include remnants of the Yonnie Licavoli mob from Toledo, surviving killers of the notorious Detroit Purple mob, and members of a Pennsylvania stickup gang.

Akron is one of the chief bases of their operations through Northern Ohio, federal men believe, and their most important hideout.

Several of the Licavoli mobsters believed to have joined the new combine are wanted for the murder of Jack Kennedy in Toledo.

Karpis was the object of a desperate manhunt here several months ago when he kidnaped a Pennsylvania physician and forced the doctor to accompany him to Wadsworth, near here, where he was bound, gagged and left in a Grange hall. There the trail ended.

Federal agents talked to County Prosecutor Herman Werner here for two hours last night about reported Karpis hideouts. The prosecutor refused today to disclose the conversation.

Licavoli Visits Injured Relatives in Fostoria

Life-Term Prisoner Taken From Penitentiary in Columbus to Hospital by Warden, Guards; Unable to Attend Funeral.

For the first time since he was taken to the Ohio penitentiary a year ago to serve a life term for murder, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, former Toledo gang leader, glimpsed the world outside of prison walls Sunday when he was escorted to Fostoria, O., to visit members of his family who were injured in an automobile near that city Friday.

Licavoli was taken by automobile from the prison at 11 A. M. guarded by James C. Woodard, warden; Col. W. J. Walker, superintendent in charge of maintenance at the prison, and Charles Hayden, guard. In Fostoria he visited his mother, Grace; his wife, Zena, and his daughter, Concetta, 16 months old, remaining with them about an hour. The trip was made without any untoward incident, Mr. Woodard reported.

Has Chance to Recover

Mrs. Grace Licavoli is in the most serious condition of those in the hospital, but has a chance to recover. All were injured when the

automobile in which they were riding struck a truck north of Fostoria. The gangster's father, Matthew, and his daughter, Grace, 3, were killed in the accident.

Mr. Woodard said that Licavoli will not be permitted to attend funeral services for his relatives because they will be held in Detroit, outside the state of Ohio.

Services for the child and Mr. Licavoli will be held at 10 A. M. in the Holy Family Roman Catholic church, followed by burial in Mt. Olive cemetery. The bodies will be placed in a mausoleum temporarily.

Driver Discharged

James LaFace, Detroit, driver of the car in which the Licavolis were riding on their way to the prison to see Yonnie, has been discharged from the hospital.

The accident occurred two miles north of Fostoria when the car crashed into a truck trailer, spun around and skidded into a farm yard. Mr. Licavoli and Grace, who was sitting on his lap, were killed instantly.

YONNIE VISITS INJURED MOTHER

NOV 25 1935

Warden Yields to Plea After Doctors Report Death Near for Accident Victim

News-Bee Staff Service.

COLUMBUS, Nov. 25.—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, was back in Ohio Penitentiary today after having been permitted to go to Fostoria under guard Saturday for an hour's visit with his mother, in a critical condition in a hospital there after an auto accident.

Warden James C. Woodard permitted the trip after an attending physician had told him the mother, Mrs. Grace Licavoli, Detroit, was in danger of death.

Licavoli's father, Michael Licavoli, and his elder daughter, Grace, were killed in a collision near Fostoria Friday as the family was en route to Columbus to visit him. His wife, Mrs. Zena Licavoli, and his one-year-old daughter, Concetta, were injured slightly.

YONNIE'S FATHER, GIRL ARE BURIED

NOV 27 1935

Detroit Gangster Attends Rites; Licavoli Remains in Ohio Penitentiary

Bodies of Michael Licavoli, 65, and Grace Licavoli, 4, father and daughter of Toledo's once powerful gang overlord, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, today rested in a vault at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Detroit.

Services for the two victims of an auto accident near Fostoria last Friday which injured Yonnie's mother, wife and younger daughter, as they were en route to Ohio State Penitentiary to visit him, were Tuesday in Holy Family Roman Catholic Church, Detroit.

Are Friends of Family

There were 11 cars of flowers for Yonnie's father and daughter, but the glitter familiar to funerals of gangsters and their families was missing.

Those who attended the services were for the most part friends of the Licavoli family; people poorly and simply dressed, who had known the gangster's family before the sons became prominent during the prohibition era.

Among those present were Pete Licavoli, brother of Yonnie, who is a butcher in Detroit; Yonnie's wife and her widowed mother, Mrs. Joseph Mocer, and Frank Cammarata, Detroit gangster and son-in-law of Michael Licavoli.

Yonnie Unable To Attend

Cammarata, who is serving a 15- to 20-year term in the state prison at Jackson, Mich., was taken from the prison to the services by guards. Flanked by guards, Cammarata walked into the church carrying his own 4-year-old daughter, Grace Marie.

Bodies of Licavoli's father and daughter were placed in the funeral vault until burial plans are completed.

Yonnie, who began serving a life term for murder a year ago, was unable to attend the services, since prison rules prohibit him from being taken outside the state.

WAR IS ORDERED ON LICAVOLI MOB

DEC 4 1935

Reams Says Old Gang Is Trying to Resume Activity Here.

Aroused by information given him by Frazier Reams, county prosecutor, that the old Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli mob had become active in Toledo within the last week, Police Chief Ray Allen said today he would order the special investigation and Lieut. John Russell's now famous saw and ax squad to take action to check further moves of the group.

Mr. Reams, who sent four principals of the Licavoli mob to Ohio prison for life terms, in a formal statement said that he had seen with his own eyes within the last week activity among some of the old crowd who were associated with the Licavoli mob.

The prosecutor immediately conferred with Sheriff James O'Reilly and Chief Allen.

Mr. Reams was assured by both they would cooperate in keeping the Licavolis out and to prevent gamblers from setting up establishments in Toledo or outside the city in Lucas county.

Mr. Reams said that the recent activity of the Licavoli group was the first he has noticed in the last two years.

The prosecutor said that effort of the old Licavoli group to renew operations here must not happen as it will mean another wave of murder such as was experienced by this community several years ago. He added that city and county law enforcement officials are united to do everything within their power to prevent this.

Mr. Reams said that the department of justice report just released indicates that Toledo had by far the lowest murder rate of any city in the state for the last year.

\$140,000 LICAVOLI SUITS ARE OPENED

Sum Asked in Death Of Father, Daughter in Crash.

BOWLING GREEN, April 26 (AP)—The first of five suits seeking \$140,000 in damages as the result of the deaths of Michael Licavoli, father of Yonnie Licavoli, and the latter's three-year-old daughter, Grace, and injury to his wife, mother and another daughter, in an automobile accident near Fostoria Nov. 22, 1935, started in common pleas court today. The Rheinhardt Trucking Co. of Portsmouth was defendant in the suit.

The first case, centering around the death of Yonnie's father, seeks \$35,000 for his death while a passenger in an automobile driven by James LaFace, employe of Pete Licavoli, Detroit.

The Licavoli family was en route to Columbus to visit the convicted Toledo gang leader when the automobile collided with a truck on a curve.

LICAVOLIS DENIED DEATH CLAIM AWARD

Jury Told Car of Gangster's Family Was Speeding.

BOWLING GREEN, April 25—A jury deliberated 45 minutes last night before returning a verdict for the Rheinhardt Transfer Co. of Portsmouth in a \$25,000 damage suit filed by James Mocer, special administrator of the estate of Michael Licavoli, father of the convicted Toledo gang leader, Yonnie Licavoli.

Four other suits asking a total of \$115,000 from the Rheinhardt firm are pending in connection with the death of Yonnie Licavoli's daughter, Grace, 3, and injuries to his wife, Zena; his mother, Grace, and James LaFace, an employe of Pete Licavoli, of Detroit.

The jury took but one ballot. Witnesses testified LaFace was driving at a high speed and failed to negotiate a curve, skidding against a truck owned by the company. He was driving the family to visit Yonnie, serving a life term in the Ohio penitentiary.

Three Licavoli Gang Indictments Nolled

SEP 22 1937

Three old indictments against members of the once dreaded Licavoli mob were nolled by Prosecutor Thomas O'Connor yesterday with the approval of Judge John M. McCabe.

One indictment charged Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, alone, with the murder of Jack Kennedy, Toledo night club operator. This indictment was returned Aug. 10, 1933. Sulkin was tried and convicted on a conspiracy indictment in which he was named with several other gang members. Sentenced to die in the electric chair, his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Gov. Martin L. Davey.

This conspiracy indictment was nolled yesterday as to Harry Leonard, alias Chalky Red Yaranowski; Anthony Besase and Sebastian Lupica. These three are serving five-year terms for extortion. At the time they pleaded guilty to the extortion charges, it was agreed they should be freed from the murder conspiracy indictment. Mr. O'Connor explained.

The third nolle was entered as to Lupica and Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, in connection with an indictment charging them and Morris and Arthur Shapiro with keep-

ing and exhibiting gambling devices.

The Shapiros were fined, court records show. The nolle was entered as to the others because they are serving long prison sentences on other counts, Licavoli's being a life sentence, the prosecutor explained.

MOTHER AND SECOND GIRL ARE INJURED

NOV 22 1935

Family of Former Toledo Gang Chief Driving To Pen When Auto Sideswipes Truck Near Fostoria

EXTRA

News-Bee State Service.

FOSTORIA, O., Nov. 22.—The father and three-year-old daughter of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, ex-Toledo racket king, were killed outright this morning two miles north of here in an auto crash.

Yonnie's pretty, black-haired wife, his mother and another daughter are in critical condition in City Hospital here as a result of the accident.

The car in which the five were riding to Columbus to see Yonnie, who is serving a life sentence for his part in four Toledo gang slayings, sideswiped a truck on a sharp curve on U. S. Route 23.

The Licavoli car was demolished, witnesses reported.

It was believed the party of five were en route to the penitentiary from Detroit where Mrs. Licavoli had made her home with her husband's parents since the dapper ex-gangster was committed to the penitentiary.

Of the three in the hospital, Mrs. Licavoli was reported most seriously injured.

LICAVOLI ASKS TO SEE FAMILY

Lifer Begs Warden for Leave as He Learns of Traffic Deaths

Nov. 23 1935

News-Bee State Service.
COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 23.—Behind the gray walls of the Ohio Penitentiary, Yonnie Licavoli was told late yesterday how his 4-year-old daughter and his father had been battered to death in an auto crash near Fostoria. And how his wife, his other daughter and his mother were injured.

Five hours after the tragedy, Warden J. C. Woodard went into "White City" to the cell block that is to hold the convicted Toledo gang chief for the rest of his life.

The warden offered Licavoli a chair beside him.

"You were expecting your parents and wife today, weren't you?" the warden asked.

Runs Back to Cell

"Yes, I've been waiting for them all day," Yonnie replied.

"Well, Yonnie, I've got some bad news for you," the warden said, and proceeded to read the story from a newspaper account.

Licavoli grabbed a thumb in one hand and squeezed it. His jaw quivered as the warden read.

At the conclusion, Licavoli looked up and asked:

"Is there any chance of getting up there to see them? I'd be the most appreciative man in the world if I could go."

Warden Woodard told Yonnie he would telegraph the hospital for the

Please Turn To Page 2, Column 5.

Lifer Begs Warden for Leave as He Learns of Traffic Deaths

Continued From Page 1.
condition of the injured members of the family, and if their condition was so serious they might not live, he would "see what he could do about it."

Yonnie stared into space a moment, then sprang from the chair and ran back to his cell.

Wife, Baby Improved

But it appeared today that Licavoli will not leave the prison. His wife, Zena; his year-old daughter, Concetta, and his mother, Mrs. Grace Licavoli, were reported greatly improved in Fostoria City Hospital, where they were taken after the crash. Hospital attendants said they might be well enough to be released today or tomorrow.

Meanwhile the bodies of 4-year-old Grace Licavoli and Michael Licavoli, the father, were sent from Fostoria to the Detroit home of the Licavolis.

The auto trip which ended in tragedy was to have been an "anniversary" visit to the imprisoned man. One year ago Nov. 10 Licavoli was taken to the penitentiary to begin a life sentence for directing four Toledo gang murders.

Baby's Doll Not Scratched

His family had not visited him in several weeks.

Wheeling around a curve, their new Ford V-8 tilted on two wheels, slipped to the outside of the curve, crashed with a truck and trailer of the Reinhardt Transfer Co., of Portsmouth, O., going in the opposite direction.

The Licavoli car was demolished. Passers-by who went to the aid of the victims found the dead baby's doll on the back seat, unscratched, its filmy dress soaked with blood.

In a bottle was milk for the baby. J. P. Welch of 861 Oakwood Avenue, Toledo, was the only witness to the crash.

"I was driving south at about 50 miles an hour when the Licavoli car passed me at a terrific speed," Mr. Welch said. "The car was unable to keep to the inside and smashed into the truck."

Mr. Welch ran to a nearby farm and phoned Fostoria.

Mother's Eyes Injured

From their fields on the curve came August Kreala and his son Ralph, the black soil on their hands enriched with blood as they loaded the broken bodies into the car of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Leslie.

The Leslies took the victims to the hospital.

The elder Licavoli lived at 13321 Wilshire Avenue, Detroit, while the gangster's wife lived at 3445 Grand Avenue. LaFace's home is at 3758 Pennsylvania Avenue.

The tragedy all but completed the breakup of the home Yonnie Licavoli founded when he married shy retiring Zena Mocerl in Detroit several years ago and brought her to Toledo to be a gang chief's wife.

Merciless as he was with his gang enemies, young Licavoli was a "family man." He established his wife in a beautiful home in Old Orchard and divided his time between her and his rackets.

Leaves Wife To Face Police

Two children were born to them, both girls.

The younger was yet unborn when Yonnie, hunted for murder, fled his home, leaving his shy wife to cringe at the repeated invasions of police raiders.

Then Licavoli was arrested and brought to trial. Regularly to County Jail came Zena Licavoli, sometimes bringing their baby.

When their second child was a few weeks old, she sat through her husband's trial.

Collapsed During Trial

Then came Nov. 10, 1934, when Licavoli was taken to the penitentiary. Red-eyed, Zena Licavoli abandoned their home here and moved to Detroit with her relatives.

With Zena Licavoli through the trial and afterward was the gangster's mother. During the trial she collapsed, spent hours in a coma.

During the year that Licavoli has been in the penitentiary, the entire family have been regular visitors.

Licavoli's Child Killed



GRACE LICAVOLI

Grace Licavoli, 3-year-old daughter of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, was killed in an automobile accident near Fostoria, O., today.

Car Hits Truck as Family Is on Way to Visit Yonnie in Prison.

Death struck down two members of the Licavoli family in a traffic crash near Fostoria, O., today.

Matthew (Michael) Licavoli, father of Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo gang chief serving a life sentence in the Ohio penitentiary in Columbus for gang murders, and the latter's daughter, Grace Licavoli, 3 years old, were killed when an automobile occupied by them collided with a truck and trailer.

Three other members of the family, including the convict's wife, Mrs. Zena Licavoli, and their chauffeur, were injured.

Mrs. Licavoli was cut on the chin and her cheeks.

Mrs. Matthew Licavoli, mother of the convicted hoodlum, suffered gashes on the face and possible internal injuries.

James LaFace, driving the car, was cut on the face and knee.

Concetta Licavoli, 18-months-old child of Yonnie, received a deep cut between the eyes.

Taken to Fostoria Hospital

The party was being driven to the Columbus prison to visit Yonnie when their car collided with a truck two miles north of Fostoria and careened into a ditch. All the injured were taken to the Fostoria hospital and the bodies of the victims were removed to the Harrold funeral home.

The car was wrecked. In it was found unbroken, but covered with blood, the doll which Grace Licavoli had been holding.

The machine hit the trailer of the Reinhardt Transport Co., Portsmouth, O. This was not damaged. The driver went to Fostoria at once to report the accident.

The elder Licavolis lived at 13321 Wilshire Avenue, Detroit, while the wife of Yonnie has been living at 3445 Crane Avenue, Detroit.

LaFace, who was at the wheel, gave his address as 3758 Pennsylvania Avenue, Detroit.

Yonnie's brother, Pete Licavoli, also lives in Detroit.

The convict's wife and two children moved away from Toledo several months ago.

"Through With Rackets"

He and his bride, the former Zena Mocerl of Detroit, were married in the Michigan city, Feb. 6, 1932.

A sumptuous banquet attended by men of every type was served in the Hotel Tuller. At that time the new husband announced that he was "through with the rackets."

The newlyweds moved into a palatial home at 2733 Pemberton drive where numerous guests were entertained. Developments disclosed that the luxurious residence had been converted into a rendezvous for gangsters.

Home Raided Repeatedly

Mrs. Licavoli's life was unhappy almost from the moment she descended from the altar. Her home was raided repeatedly after Licavoli became enmeshed in his underworld activities. Her two children were born in the days when the Licavoli name was constantly before the public and in the courts.

The Licavoli reign ended when Yonnie was convicted of conspiracy in four Toledo underworld murders.

His first lieutenant, Jacob (Fire-top) Sulkin, recently won a 60-day reprieve from the electric chair in Columbus while the Licavoli triggerman, Joe English, alias the Buffalo Wop, is serving a life sentence with his former chief.

Informed of the fatalities, prison officials in Columbus said Licavoli would be notified by Warden James C. Woodard who was away from the institution. The warden was expected to return before nightfall.

NOV 22 1935 LICAVOLIS INJURED



MRS. GRACE LICAVOLI



MRS. ZENA LICAVOLI

Mrs. Zena Licavoli, wife, and Mrs. Grace Licavoli, mother of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, were injured in a fatal automobile crash near Fostoria, O., today. They were on their way to visit Licavoli, now serving a life sentence in the Ohio penitentiary, when the accident, which cost the lives of the gangster's father and daughter, happened.

LICAVOLI IS DENIED FOUR COURT PLEAS

Trial in Prohibition Case Will Start

on April 4 1933

In four orders by Federal Judge George P. Hahn in the prohibition case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, the court yesterday overruled the defendant's plea in abatement, overruled demurrers to every count in the indictment and also overruled the defendant's motion to quash the indictment.

The court granted eight specifications in Licavoli's motion for an order requiring a bill of particulars concerning certain counts in the indictment and overruled two specifications.

The bill of particulars already has been filed by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, who prepared it immediately after it was ordered orally by the court March 10.

The trial has been set for April 4 at 10 a. m.

Licavoli Attorneys Seek Federal Books

Attorneys for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli will ask the United States circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati today to mandamus Judge George P. Hahn to open the records of the federal grand jury which indicted Licavoli on charges of violating the national prohibition act.

Licavoli's trial, which had been set next Tuesday, may be delayed nearly a month, Judge Hahn said yesterday.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney here, said yesterday he is ready to proceed if the application for a hearing is allowed by the circuit court.

LICAVOLI TRIAL DELAY IS SEEN

Attorneys Will Petition to Have Judge Hahn Mandamused.

A petition asking that Federal Judge George P. Hahn be mandamused in the Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli case will be filed in the federal circuit court of appeals, Cincinnati Thursday by Attorneys John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, acting for Licavoli, Mr. Hackett said Wednesday.

The action seeks to compel Judge Hahn to open the records of the federal grand jury here which indicted Licavoli on a number of counts charging violations of the prohibition act. In a plea of abatement filed here by Licavoli several weeks ago Judge Hahn overruled a section of the abatement request including that part asking that the minutes of the grand jury be examined by his attorneys.

The trial of Licavoli and six alleged accomplices was set for April 4. The latest move in the case is expected to delay the trial. Lee N. Murlin and Herman Krueger, United States attorneys here, will prosecute for the government. Mr. Murlin said the prosecution is ready to meet the situation if the circuit court grants the mandamus request.

Seeking Signatures

Licavoli Lawyers Can't See Record

Attorneys for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed gang leader, lost their fight in the United States circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati Thursday to compel the government to permit them to inspect the record of the grand jury which indicted Licavoli and several others on liquor conspiracy charges. Judge George P. Hahn of federal court refused the defense motion recently, and it was this ruling which the appellate court upheld.

MURLIN FILES ANSWER TO LICAVOLI MOTION

U. S. Attorney Charges Move To Get Jury Evidence Is Dilatory.

In order to bring Yonnie Licavoli to trial at the earliest possible date, District Attorney Lee N. Murlin today filed an answer to the petition of Licavoli's attorneys asking the circuit court of appeals to allow an inspection of the federal grand jury evidence used to indict Licavoli.

Altho allowed 30 days to file his answer, Mr. Murlin filed immediately and a hearing on the petition for a writ is set for April 10. Judge Hahn has tentatively set the trial date for May 2.

In his answer Mr. Murlin says that every legal presumption is that the indictment is regular and that the mandamus action is a dilatory move.

Licavoli's lawyers contend there was no evidence to give cause for the indictment against him charging conspiracy to violate prohibition laws.

Warrants Dropped in Bell Slaying

Murder warrants against Pete Corrado, Ernest Lasalle, John Rai and Leo Mocerri who had been charged with the machine gun killing of Louise Bell at Superior and Jackson streets last November, have been withdrawn, it was learned Friday.

Miss Bell, a friend of Jackie Kennedy, was riding with him in an automobile when the gunmen opened fire. Kennedy was not wounded.

Withdrawal of the warrants is said to have been agreed upon because there was no evidence that the four had been involved in the killing. Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo, has insisted that the quartet, named in the warrants, were not associated with him.

HURT IN AUTO JAM



"Yonnie" Licavoli.

KREFT REPORT AT ODDS WITH HOSPITAL VIEW

Coroner, in U.S. Examination, Says Hurts Minor; Leg Broken, Report.

Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo racketeer, was not injured seriously enough in an accident Friday to prevent his appearance in federal court next Tuesday for his trial on charges of violating the national prohibition act.

This was the opinion of Coroner Krefst Saturday after he had examined Licavoli in St. Vincent's hospital on an order from Federal Judge George P. Hahn.

"I have ordered x-ray pictures made of Licavoli's back and bruises, but after a cursory examination, I am convinced he is not seriously hurt and that his injuries will not incapacitate him for court duty," Dr. Krefst said.

Hospital Says Leg Broken.

At the hospital, after Dr. Krefst had examined Licavoli, it was said he had received a broken leg, which is in a cast.

"He has been having too many visitors," an attendant said. "He has signed a release and will be taken home."

Lee N. Murlin, expecting Licavoli to seek a postponement of his trial as a result of his injuries, requested Judge Hahn to order the examination.

"We are going to trial with this case Tuesday if it is within our power and Licavoli is able to be in the courtroom," Murlin said.

Does Vanishing Act.

While Dr. Krefst and his aids, Col. C. E. Whitney, department of justice agent, and a city detective, were en route to Licavoli's home at 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard, the dapper racketeer was on the way to the hospital in another one of his famous vanishing acts.

LICAVOLI SEEKS ORDER ON COURT

Plan To Ask Higher Court for Writ To View Record Indicates Delay

Attorney for Yonnie Licavoli, indicted with six other men for conspiracy to violate the prohibition laws today or tomorrow will ask the circuit court of appeals to mandamus Federal Judge George P. Hahn to allow the lawyers to inspect the record of the grand jury that indicted their clients.

Attorneys John W. Hackett and Harry G. Levy had asked the court for permission to inspect the record. Judge Hahn overruled the motion, along with several other motions. This new action is in the nature of an appeal to a higher court.

The Licavoli trial was scheduled to start April 4. This new action may cause additional delay in going to trial.

Col. Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, who conducted the investigation that led to the indictments, declared today he will fight the mandamus action.

"I am ready to take any steps necessary to prevent further delay of the Licavoli trial," Col. Murlin said. "Our case is prepared and we are ready to place it before a jury on its merits."

LICAVOLI ATTORNEYS SEEK JURY RECORDS

File Petition To See Indictment Evidence Denied by Judge Hahn.

Attorneys for Yonnie Licavoli late yesterday filed with the circuit court of appeals at Cincinnati a petition asking the court to require Federal Judge George P. Hahn to allow the attorneys to inspect the records of the grand jury that indicted Mr. Licavoli.

A memorandum accompanying the petition claims that no competent evidence was given the grand jury to warrant the indictment against Licavoli on a charge of conspiracy to violate the prohibition laws. A copy of the papers was filed in federal court here.

LICAVOLI CASE BRIEF IS FILED

Circuit Court of Appeals Gets Government Charges.

The brief of Lee N. Murlin, United States attorney, in opposition to mandamus proceedings against Federal Judge George P. Hahn filed in the federal court of appeals, Cincinnati, by attorneys for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, is expected to come to the attention of the judges upon resumption of the court Monday, Mr. Murlin said.

John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, attorneys for Licavoli, sought in federal district court here to have the indictment against Licavoli on liquor charges abated and the minutes of the grand jury opened to the attorneys. They said Licavoli was indicted largely upon hearsay evidence and that his constitutional rights were not respected.

Judge Hahn found against the appeal. It is now attempted by defense attorneys to have Judge Hahn overruled, resulting in the opening of grand jury proceedings.

Attorney Murlin who, with his assistant, Herman Krueger, will prosecute the indictment charges, filed his opposing brief almost simultaneously with the mandamus move. Licavoli's trial was set for April 4. The move to the higher court delays it and Judge Hahn has set May 8 as the tentative date.

Licavoli Refused Plea in Dry Case

The attempt of the attorneys for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed gang leader, to compel the government to permit them to inspect the record of the grand jury which indicted Licavoli and several others on liquor conspiracy charges was defeated yesterday when the United States circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati refused the plea.

The defense motion was refused recently by U. S. Judge George P. Hahn here.

'Yonnie' Licavoli Injured When His Auto Overturns

Reputed Gang Chief Slated To Go on Trial Tuesday

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, who federal authorities say is the czar of Toledo liquorism, is in bed at his home, 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard, with injuries suffered early Friday in an auto accident near Angola, Ind., it was learned yesterday.

Licavoli, who is scheduled to go on trial Tuesday before Federal Judge George P. Hahn on charges on which he was indicted several weeks ago by a federal grand jury, was treated at 5 p. m. yesterday by a Toledo physician who reported he was suffering from a severely wrenched back and bruises.

When notified of the condition of Licavoli, which may result in a postponement of his trial, Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney in charge of the Toledo office, said he would investigate the matter at once.

Licavoli told the physician the car in which he was returning from a visit to Chicago with a friend overturned in a ditch six miles east



Thomas Licavoli

of Angola when a tire blew out. He was placed in another machine by his companion and brought to Toledo. The driver of the Licavoli car, which was badly damaged, escaped with minor injuries.

'YONNIE' CAN MAKE TRIAL, SAYS KREFT

Coroner Claims Licavoli Is Well Enough to Appear in Court

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, purported Toledo racketeer chieftain, is well enough to appear in federal court tomorrow for his trial on liquor charges despite injuries received by the Toledoan last Friday in an auto accident near Angola, Ind., Coroner Frank G. Krefst said yesterday.

The coroner made this assertion after learning the reputed gang baron had been removed from St. Vincent's hospital in a plaster cast without X-ray photos of his injuries having been made.

Prior to Licavoli's removal from the hospital Dr. Krefst had declined to make any definite statement as to Licavoli's condition until after the X-ray pictures had been made.

This means that federal authorities probably will demand that the young Toledoan be present in court tomorrow for the opening of his trial on several charges arising out of an alleged huge Toledo liquor enterprise, even though he has to be taken into the courtroom in a wheelchair.

REPUTED GANG HEAD EXAMINED

APR 30 1933

Trial Decision Will Be Based on X-Ray Photos

Decision as to whether injuries received by Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed Toledo gang leader, in an auto accident Friday near Angola, Ind., will prevent his appearance in federal court Tuesday for trial on liquor charges, will be made tomorrow after X-ray photos of the injuries are made, Coroner Frank G. Kreft has informed federal authorities.

The coroner's opinion was expressed after he had made a cursory examination of Licavoli at St. Vincent's hospital on orders of Federal Judge George P. Hahn. The order was requested by Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney here, who feared Licavoli would seek a delay of his trial on grounds he would not be able to appear in court.

Back Is Strained

Dr. Kreft was told Licavoli had received a strained back and bruises in the mishap which occurred when his auto plunged into a ditch near the Indiana city after a tire blew out.

Dr. Kreft said Licavoli already had been placed in a cast when he arrived at the hospital to examine him. The coroner immediately suggested that X-ray pictures of the injuries be made after the cast had dried sufficiently.

Attendants at the hospital asserted the cast would not be dried sufficiently until tomorrow when the photos will be made and a report submitted to Licavoli's attending physician. The report undoubtedly will be examined by Dr. Kreft in his capacity of court physician.

Even as Dr. Kreft, Col. C. E. Whitney, of the United States department of justice, and a city detective were en route to Licavoli's residence at 2733 Pemberton drive this morning he was being driven to the hospital by friends on orders of his physician, Dr. Joseph Sweeney.

LICAVOLI ABLE TO GO ON TRIAL

Neither Murlin Nor Defense Attorney Anticipates Delay for Injuries

There are no X-ray pictures of the injuries which may prevent the appearance of Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo racketeer, in federal court Tuesday for trial on charges of violating the national prohibition act.

This was revealed Monday at St. Vincent's hospital, where Licavoli spent a short time Saturday. At the same time it was revealed that Licavoli wore no cast on his sprained back when he was in the hospital.

Expects No Delay

Lee N. Murlin, United States district attorney, repeated Monday that he expects to meet Licavoli in court Tuesday in spite of his injuries.

"As far as we are concerned, we are ready for trial," Murlin said. "We will insist on no delay. I don't know if Licavoli will try to delay his trial or not, but from my investigation I believe he can be tried without any discomfort to himself."

John W. Hackett, Licavoli's attorney, said Monday he is ready for trial and that so far as he knows, the trial will begin according to schedule.

After Licavoli was reported injured in an auto accident near Angola, Ind., last Friday, an investigation was begun by Murlin. Although no request for a continuance was made, Murlin anticipated there might be one. A department of justice agent is investigating the accident now in Angola.

"Able To Appear"

Coroner Kreft examined Licavoli in the hospital on order from Federal Judge George Hahn and pronounced him fit to appear in court, although the racketeer refused to have X-rays made for examination to determine the full extent of his injuries.

Approximately 50 witnesses have been subpoenaed to testify at the trial. Many from distant cities are here now.

Co-Defendants Admit Conspiracy Charge Against Them

JURY IS SELECTED

Yonnie Keeps Judge and Jury Waiting for Hour

Five men accused with Yonnie Licavoli of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition law walked into federal court Tuesday a half hour after Yonnie appeared for trial and pleaded guilty.

The defendants, all of whom were named in the same indictment with Licavoli, were Howard Lane, Harry Silverino, Russell Palmer, Sam Brown and Edward Beck.

Judge George P. Hahn accepted their pleas and remanded them to the county jail for sentence.

After pleas of the five were heard, the court issued a warrant for Russell Syracuse, one of the other defendants who failed to appear in court. Judge Hahn also declared the \$5000 bond posted by Syracuse as forfeited.

Jury Box Filled

The jury box had been filled with 12 prospective jurors who had heard opening statements of both the government and defense when the other defendants were brought into the courtroom.

The prospective jurors were excused while the court accepted their pleas.

The only other person named in the indictment is Ernest LaSalle, who has not been apprehended.

Licavoli, Toledo's No. 1 public enemy, appeared for his trial at 11:28 a. m., having kept the court, government attorneys and 70 jurors and witnesses waiting one hour and 11 minutes.

Although this is an unprecedented procedure, neither Licavoli nor his attorneys offered an excuse.

At Licavoli's home, Mrs. Licavoli said Yonnie had been ill in the morning.

When he appeared, Licavoli was leaning heavily on Harry Levy, one of his attorneys. With them was Jack Hackett, his other attorney.

Poses, Goes to Court

Licavoli posed, without comment, for a picture. He proceeded to the

LICAVOLI GOES BEFORE JURORS IN WET CASES

MAY 2 1933

Toledo Gang Leader Refused Delay in Trial in United States Court

Continued From Page 1.

that Licavoli and his gang operated a downtown headquarters in the Nicholas building under the name of the Interurban Truckers, directing their widespread underworld activities there and from the Ira apartments, 1302 Parkside boulevard. The jury also was informed Licavoli maintained offices in the Argonne hotel and at the General Importing Co. plant, 513 Monroe street.

Those named in the indictment with Licavoli are George Petcoff of the General Importing Co., Russell Syracuse, Howard Lane, Harry Silverino, Russell Palmer, Sam Brown, Ernest LaSalle and Edward Beck.

Two Wanted for Murder

How many would show up in court Tuesday was a question. Ernest LaSalle is wanted by the Toledo police department on a first degree murder warrant. Edward Beck has not been apprehended. Syracuse is under bond to the federal court in another matter, as are Lane, Silverino, Brown and Palmer. Petcoff is available.

It was indicated in the indictment that the gang gained its foothold in Toledo May 15, 1931, when Licavoli, Johnny Rose, convicted Toledo bootlegger, and John O'Connell, proprietor of the Club Lido, 3093 121st street, Point Place, conferred regarding the leasing of a roadhouse to Yonnie Licavoli and his brother, Pete, alleged Detroit murderer.

Six Charges Listed

Specific charges against Licavoli and his eight lieutenants follow:

1. Possession of 1500 gallons of alcohol.
2. Manufacture of 3000 gallons of alcohol.
3. Maintenance of a nuisance, a completely equipped large alcohol distillery at 1413 Holmes street.
4. Possession of one 2000-gallon still, one 1000-gallon still, 18,000 gallons of alcohol, one electric

Conference Held

Before Judge Hahn signed the order for the examination he conferred with Attorneys John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, counsel for Licavoli, who asserted they had no knowledge of the mishap and had not thought of requesting a delay of the trial. Licavoli, likewise, was said to have denied any intention of seeking a postponement of the hearing.

Meanwhile federal court attaches are proceeding with preparations for the trial and a wire barrier has been constructed around Judge Hahn's chambers to exclude anticipated throngs of onlookers.

licavoli left the hospital Saturday afternoon.

When told by John Hackett and Harry Levy, defense attorneys, that their client was in constant pain which might affect his testimony, Judge Hahn said that if Licavoli's condition is not better by the time the jury is impaneled he may grant a postponement of two or three days.

U. S. Has 65 Witnesses

Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, said it may take several days before the jury is selected. The government has 65 witnesses and the majority of the jur-

Continued on Page 2, Sixth Column

courtroom. He seemed to be in good health and was carefully dressed.

Licavoli's appearance followed an agreement in the judge's chambers at 10 a. m. between defense attorneys and Lee N. Murlin, United States district attorney, that Licavoli could not waive his constitutional rights and absent himself during the impaneling of a jury.

At 10:15 a. m. Attorneys Levy and Hackett left the building and said they would bring him in.

Continuance Falls

Injuries Licavoli is reported to have received Friday in an auto accident at Angola, Ind., were the basis upon which his attorneys Monday unsuccessfully tried to get a continuance of the trial. The trial was to have begun at 10 a. m.

Before the trial Judge George P. Hahn announced nothing will be accomplished Tuesday except the choice of a jury. Testimony will be taken Wednesday and Thursday, he said. The court will be adjourned Thursday until Monday.

Disappeared After Indictment

Licavoli is in court to face the ordeal he has avoided since Dec. 8, 1932, when the indictments were returned by the federal grand jury. After he had been indicted he disappeared. Police made a futile search for him here and federal operatives traced him thruout the country.

It was not until Jan. 23, 1933, however, that he surrendered to city detectives. He pleaded not guilty and was released under \$10,000 bond.

He faces two indictments. One names Licavoli and eight of his henchmen on six counts with 24 overt acts listed in the conspiracy count, while the other, against Martin Kaptur, named five others who are considered as Licavoli lieutenants. Kaptur, however, is said by federal authorities not to be connected with the Licavoli gang.

The indictments came as the result of an eight-month investigation by government undercover men from Washington and Toledo operatives and were the first real blow dealt organized liquor traffic in Toledo.

Operated Downtown

Scores of witnesses summoned before the grand jury by Murlin revealed an amazing story of how racketeers operated here.

The jury learned, it is charged, Please Turn to Page 2, Column 1.

motor, eight 2000-gallon wood vats; two 1000-gallon wood vats; two 1000-gallon galvanized vats; one pump; two 25 H. P. boilers, and 33 bags of cane sugar at the Holmes street distillery.

5. Manufacture of 18,000 gallons of mash, fit for distillation into alcohol, at the Holmes street plant.

6. Conspiracy between April, 1931, and February, 1932, to violate the prohibition law by entering into an agreement to manufacture, transport, possess and sell beer, whisky, gin and alcohol.

The conspiracy count charges the group with combining with several co-conspirators—Rose, Larry Friedman, James Bronson, Mahlon Avery, Leonard Brady and Louis Levy—to engage in the manufacture and barter of liquor as an organization to be controlled by Yonnie Licavoli.

Maximum Fines Listed

Among places the indictment charges the gang leased and operated were the Club Lido and the Show Boat, closed Superior street night club.

Here are the maximum fines and sentences Licavoli faces on six counts against him:

Possession, \$500 fine; manufacture, five years in the penitentiary, \$10,000 fine; maintaining a nuisance, one year in the workhouse or a jail; possessing implements for the manufacture of liquor, \$500 fine; violation of internal revenue act, two years in the penitentiary; conspiracy to violate the liquor laws, two years in the penitentiary and \$10,000 fine.

LICAVOLI GOES ON TRIAL TODAY

MAY 2 1933

Judge Hahn Refuses To Grant Delay for Inquiry

The trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed Toledo gang leader, will start at 9:30 a. m. today in federal court, Judge George P. Hahn announced yesterday.

Judge Hahn refused to postpone the trial 10 days because of injuries suffered by Licavoli last week in an auto accident near Angola, Ind., after listening to the testimony of Coroner Frank G. Kreft. Dr. Kreft was appointed by the court to examine Licavoli.

Dr. Kreft said he visited the alleged gang leader at St. Vincent's hospital Saturday, but was unable to make a complete examination of Licavoli because of a cast covering his spine. Dr. Kreft said he did not believe the injury was serious enough to delay the trial.

Out of Hospital

Dr. Joseph J. Sweeney, Licavoli's physician, said his patient was complaining of pains in his back and abdomen. Dr. Sweeney said he ordered a cast put on Licavoli as a matter of precaution.

The testimony of Dr. John Murphy, X-ray specialist at St. Vincent's hospital, showed that Licavoli was removed from the hospital to his home at 2733 Pemberton drive before Dr. Murphy had an opportunity to take an X-ray. Licavoli

LICAVOLI TRIAL WILL BEGIN TODAY

Continued from Page 1

ors will be from neighboring towns. Licavoli and eight alleged henchmen will be tried on six counts and 24 overt acts charging violation of the prohibition act. Licavoli is on bond of \$10,000. Five of the other eight, George Petcoff, Howard Lane, Harry Silverino, Sam Brown and Russell Palmer, are also on bond and are expected to appear.

Russell Syracuse and Ernest LaSalle, wanted here for the slaying of Louise Bell, 21, on the night of Nov. 30, 1932, at Superior and Jackson streets, and Edward Beck never have been apprehended, but were indicted with the others in December, 1932.

Indicted After Raid

The men were indicted following a federal raid on a house in the 1400 block on Holmes street where two stills, one of 2,000-gallon capacity and the other of 5,000-gallon capacity were confiscated. They also are charged with maintaining a nuisance as operators of the Club Lido, Plantation Inn, Show Boat and Golden Rose Supper club.

The gang is reported to have operated several offices in various parts of the city in handling their liquor business.

MAY 2 1933

GANG CHIEFTAIN AND 14 OTHERS TO FACE COURT

DEC 8 1932

With the guns of gangland still echoing their din of death over Toledo, the United States government stepped into the picture today with the beginning of a roundup of 15 members of two interlocking groups accused of operating highly organized businesses in the manufacture and distribution of booze. The charges are contained in two indictments returned secretly by the federal grand jury Friday.

At the head of the list of those indicted was Thomas Licavoli, whose name has been linked with every major crime of gangsters for the last two years.

Licavoli, who lives in a palatial home at 2733 Pemberton drive, is accused as the leader of a group which operated with headquarters disguised as the Interurban Truckers at 1737 Nicholas building. Headquarters were maintained also, it is charged, at apartment No. 304, Ira apartments, Dorr street and Parkside boulevard; the Argonne hotel and 513 Monroe street.

In addition to maintaining a distillery at 1413 Holmes street, where thousands of gallons of liquor was manufactured, the organization is charged with operating a string of night clubs, including the Lido, Plantation inn and the Golden Rose Supper club.

In one indictment containing six counts and charging 24 overt acts, those indicted with Licavoli are:

- Ernest Joseph LaSalle;
 - George Petcoff;
 - Russell Syracuse, alias Harry Johnson, alias Joe Russell, alias Joe Russi, alias R. Siroguso, alias Joe Rocco, alias Russell Vintour Syracuse, alias Sarro Syracuse, alias Sarra Syracuse;
 - Howard Lane, alias Bud Gardner, alias Harold Moses Gardner;
 - Harry Silvenino, alias Harry Shiveino;
 - Sam Brown, alias Jack DeGrasse, alias Joe Dusseau;
 - Russell Palmer, alias Ross Palmer;
 - Edward Beck, alias Eddie Beck, alias Eddie.
- Licavoli was indicted under these aliases: Yonnie Licavoli, Thomas Lewis, T. J. Lewis, Tom Loser, Tom Lasser, Tommy Licavoli, Tom Licavoli, Thomas Garni, James

agent incognito to sell and deliver to him in Columbus, O. 75 gallons of alcohol, two cases of whisky and one case of beer.

Government officers who handled the investigation said that operators of the Hill avenue place and the Licavoli gang co-operated and that there was a close connection in their business deals. The work of investigation which resulted in the indictments has been carried on for more than a year.

Licavoli, who came here from Detroit about two years ago, was reported to have gained rapid power in the booze business and at one time planned to "take over the town," controlling gambling and vice as well.

He has the reputation of being the czar of those trafficking in liquor and gained much prominence as the leading spirit in an assort-

Faces U. S. Charge



Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli.

ment of rackets, including one to prey upon dry cleaners here. Charges resulting from the bombing of the C. C. Engel dry cleaning place in West Bancroft street are still pending against Licavoli and others.

Never Convicted Here

After gaining a foothold in the Toledo underworld, Licavoli moved to a Spanish bungalow in Wendover drive on the edge of Old Orchard. This place was raided.

With his power increasing steadily, Licavoli was married at an

other cities. The witnesses told of a cleverly masked board of directors' room in a downtown produce house. They told of how the gang extended its tentacles into roadhouses and cabarets.

Months of Work

Months of work by some of the government's best undercover agents had pieced together the picture before Lee N. Murlin, assistant federal district attorney, marshaled his witnesses before a federal grand jury to tell the story on which the indictments were based.

They told how the Licavoli dynasty came into being, modestly, on May 15, 1931, when Licavoli made a bid to lease a Point Place roadhouse; how, gradually, a chain of roadhouses was built up for Licavoli liquor, put up in bottles with fancy labels, and sold at fancy prices.

They told of the establishment of a huge alcohol distillery at 1413 Holmes street with its two stills, one with a capacity of 2000 gallons.

Gang a Sinister Power

They described how, by November, 1931, the gang had made itself a sinister power great enough to establish headquarters in the Argonne hotel. From rooms 401 and 406, direct telephone lines reached into gang centers in six other cities and over them were whispered messages which controlled the movement of huge cargoes of liquor.

A few days later a second and more businesslike headquarters was set up in the Nicholas building and the name, "Interurban Truckers" painted on the door.

Just after Christmas of the same year headquarters were moved to a less conspicuous location in the building of the Central Importing Co. at 513 Monroe street.

Business Outfit

To this place came the directors to sit around their conference table, discuss the progress of their business, the output of their distillery, the attitude of the police and the extending of the sinister dynasty.

Meanwhile, in Room 219 at the Argonne hotel, lounged the musclemen and bodyguards of Licavoli and his lieutenants, ready to do the bidding of their chief at the crook of a finger. Here, too, stopped the lesser lights who made the rounds of the gang's "customers" and roadhouses to see that their boss was not cheated and that no liquor was being bought from outside sources.

All these things the undercover agents watched stealthily. They followed and they peered. They bought and they drank. Slowly they set the trap for the elusive underworld power Toledo police could feel, but could not touch.

Today the trap was sprung.

Monroe street; Ernest LaSalle, also sought by police for the first-degree murder Nov. 30 of Miss Louise Bell at Jackson and Superior streets; Howard Lane, Harry Silvenino, Russell Palmer, Sam Brown and Edward Beck.

A second indictment contains similar charges against Martin Kaptur, operator of the Hill Avenue Gardens, and five minor Licavoli mobsters—Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Louis Szyperski, John Naples and Walter Jasinski.

Both indictments charge possession, manufacture and sale of liquor, maintenance of nuisances and conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act.

The bills charge operation of the huge Holmes street distillery which was raided several months ago by federal agents and which is said to have been the manufacturing plant for liquor sold by the gang to resorts and roadhouses. The Licavoli gang also is charged with operation of the Golden Rose Supper club in Point Place; the Show-Boat, downtown night club, and the Hill Avenue Gardens, a suburban roadhouse, as nuisances in which liquor was kept and sold.

The band is said in the indictments to have started operations here in April, 1931, continuing until February, 1932.

Licavoli, it is said, is fully aware

of the indictment returned against him and is purported to have boasted, "I have nothing to be afraid of, because I never sold a bottle of liquor in Toledo in my life."

Detroit police today joined Toledo authorities in the search for Ernest J. LaSalle, 31; Pete Corrado, 28, and John G. Rai, 25, Licavoli gang henchmen named in first degree murder warrants as the slayers of Miss Louise Bell, 22, in a machine gun shooting outside the Interurban station here Nov. 30.

The three gangsters operated there for several years before coming to Toledo.

Detective John Hovey of the homicide squad named the trio as the slayers when he swore out murder warrants late Wednesday shortly after Mayor Ad Thacher had demanded an explanation from policemen assigned to the shooting as to why they had made no progress.

The mayor is expected to meet with police officials today.

Yamer, Swartz and Schwartz.

The second indictment returned contains five counts charging seven overt acts against Ralph Carsello, John Naples, John Mirabella, Louis Szyperski, Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur, all identified with the operation of the Hill Avenue Gardens at the junction of Hill avenue and Wentz road.

The indictment against members of the Licavoli group charges that on Feb. 10, 1932, they had in their possession in Toledo 1,530 gallons of alcohol fit for beverage purposes and that during the period of from about Jan. 5, 1932, to about Feb. 10, 1932, they manufactured and distilled spirits unlawfully to the amount of 2,000 gallons.

Charge Liquor Manufacture

During this period, the indictment says, the defendants maintained a common nuisance at 1413 Holmes street, where liquor was manufactured and where stills of 2,000 gallon and 1,000 gallon capacity were operated.

In addition, it is charged, they had at the Holmes street address 18,000 gallons of mash, 140 pounds of yeast, an electric motor, eight 2,000 gallon wooden vats, additional vats, a pump, two 25 horsepower boilers and 32 bags of corn sugar.

On Feb. 10, 1932, one count charges, the defendants made and fermented 18,000 gallons of mash in preparation for distillation.

The indictment says also that the Licavoli gang conspired in Lucas county and Monroe and Wayne counties, Mich., with Larry Friedman, James Bronson, Mahlon D. Avery, John Rose, Leonard Brady, Louis Levy and numerous others to violate the national prohibition act. These persons, it is alleged, trafficked in whisky, alcohol, gin and beer.

Clubs Termed Nuisances

In the clubs Lido, Plantation Inn and Golden Rose Supper club in Point Place, it is charged, the defendants maintained common nuisances in all of these places by reason of the sale of liquor.

The Licavoli crowd also is accused of having operated the Show Boat, a night club at 422½ Superior street.

Licavoli is named as the man who organized all of the places named. The accused, it is alleged, held meetings in their various headquarters where they sold large quantities of intoxicating liquor.

The first overt act in the indictment asserts that John Rose, acting for Licavoli, conferred with John O'Connell regarding the lease of the Club Lido and Plantation

Inn.

The conference, the indictment says, was held in the Secor hotel May 20, 1931. On July 5, 1931, it is charged, Licavoli conferred with John Canelli, Sr., and guaranteed the payment of the grocery account of the Golden Rose Supper club. It is further charged that on July 6, 1931, Licavoli paid \$250 to Mrs.

J. H. O'Connell for rent of the Golden Rose Supper club, which had been leased for six months.

Maintained Headquarters

On Feb. 10, 1932, it is charged that the defendants maintained a headquarters and a meeting place in the General Importing Co., owned and organized by George Petcoff at 513 Monroe street, and at the same time meetings of the defendants were held in room 219 of the Argonne hotel.

It is charged that a pump and a motor purchased in Detroit by Harry Silvenino in January, 1932, was shipped to George Petcoff in Toledo and was used in the illegal manufacture of liquor.

One Larry Friedman, the indictment says, purchased a Ford coupe from the Lyman D. Arnold Co. and used the car in making trips between 513 Monroe street, 1413 Holmes street and the Argonne hotel.

Additional purchases of equipment for the distillery in Holmes street also are charged in the indictments.

Other alleged conspirators, whose names were unknown to the government investigators, are referred to in the indictment and indicate widespread ramifications in the operation of the liquor business and close connections between Toledo and Detroit gangsters and bootleggers.

The indictment against Carsello, Mirabella, Szyperski, Jasinski and Kaptur charges frequent purchases of liquor from them at the Hill Avenue Gardens.

All of these men were arrested two weeks ago in a raid on the Hill Avenue Gardens and placed under heavy bond for action of the grand jury.

Undercover Agents Active

Names of various undercover federal prohibition agents, who bought whisky at 50 cents a drink and \$3.50 a pint, as well as Canadian beer, also are listed in the indictment. Each one of those accused in the indictments is charged with possession and sale of liquor as well as conspiracy.

One accusation states that they made arrangements with a federal

elaborate affair in a Detroit hotel and moved his bride into the home in Pemberton drive. He later purchased this place and had a protective arrangement of landscaping placed around it.

Licavoli was never convicted of any crime in Toledo, although he was arrested on numerous occasions as a suspicious person. He also has a police record in Detroit, having been connected with relatives, some of whom are now in prison.

Licavoli's mob was connected by police with the machine gun murder of Louise Bell, 22, of the Jarvis apartments, who was slain while in the automobile of Jack Kennedy, 24, bootlegger, at Jackson and Superior streets Wednesday night.

Two of his gang were partly identified through pictures as being members of the murder trio that killed the girl in an attempt upon the life of Kennedy, a Licavoli rival.

Through the many months of patient investigation which preceded action of the grand jury, Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, co-operated closely with government investigators and took care of the legal details of the inquiry.

Agents Bare Far-Reaching Booze Machine

Federal Men Uncover Complete Organization to Dispense Licavoli Liquor

With the indictment of Yonnie Licavoli and 13 members of his mob, the federal government has ripped the lid off Toledo's underworld and laid bare the workings of what United States agents declare is the most amazing liquor gang in the city's history.

The jurors who returned the indictments heard from a score of witnesses the story of an organization perfect in every detail—a huge business with its production plant, its import and export division, its gang-controlled outlets, its board of directors and its dictator.

This gang, the jury was told, had its headquarters in a downtown hotel, with direct phone lines to

U. S. OUT TO GET LICAVOLI GANG

Search Spurred by Failure of Leader To Keep His Surrender Promise

Federal officials today began an intensive search for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang chieftain and 13 of his henchmen following Licavoli's failure to keep his promise to surrender to United States marshals at the Federal building on indictments charging liquor conspiracy.

On two occasions when United States marshals visited Licavoli's home at 2733 Pemberton drive, they were told he would appear at the Federal building with his bondsmen not later than yesterday for arraignment before Judge George P. Hahn on the liquor charges.

Indictments Secret

It is rumored in underworld circles that Licavoli, who admittedly is in hiding, will not surrender until he has obtained bond. Belief was expressed he was out of the city yesterday.

Despite Licavoli's pledge to surrender, Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, who conducted the eight-month investigation of the gang's activities, has requested that he be arrested on sight. Officers were unable to locate the gang chief, altho a News-Bee reporter found Licavoli in his home Tuesday.

Authorities yesterday revealed that two indictments naming Licavoli and 13 of his lieutenants on the liquor charges had been returned secretly by the federal grand jury last Friday.

Manufacture Charged

One of the indictments names Licavoli and eight of his principal henchmen on six counts which are supported by 24 alleged overt acts. Others named in this bill are Russell Syracuse, said to be Licavoli's chief lieutenant; George Petcoff, operator of the General Importing Co., 513

U. S. ACCUSES LICAVOLI AND ALLEGED AIDS

Eight-Month Probe Brings Action by Grand Jury

SEVEN ARRESTED

Indictments on Liquor Charges Are on Six Counts

Culminating eight months' investigation by federal agents headed by Assistant United States District Attorney Lee N. Murlin, a federal grand jury a week ago returned a secret indictment of six counts against Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, reputed Toledo gang leader, and eight of his alleged lieutenants.

The indictment was made open by Judge George P. Hahn yesterday when all but two of the men, Licavoli and Ernest LaSalle, had been arrested and placed under bond.

Others Are Named

The others named in the indictments, which charged possession, manufacture and sale of intoxicants, maintaining a nuisance and conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act, were:

Russell Syracuse, alias Henry Johnson, alias Joe Russell, alias Joe Russi, alias R. Siroguso, alias Joe Rocco, alias Russell Vintour Syracuse, alias Sarro Syracuse, alias Sarra Syracuse.

Howard Lane, alias Bud Gardner, alias Harold Moses Gardner.

Harry Silvenino, alias Tarry Shiveino.

Russell Palmer, alias Ross Palmer.

Edward Beck, alias Eddie Beck, alias Eddie.

Sam Brown, alias Jack de Grasse, alias Joe Dusseau.

George Petcoff.

Twenty-four overt acts were cited.

Other Group Indicted

Also indicted secretly Friday were Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Louis Szyperski, Walter Jasinski, Martin Kaptur and John Na-

PILOT FLOORS HOODLUM AND SITS ON HIM

Henchman of Licavoli Starts Fight in Hunt for Girl

THIRD ARREST

Two Others Still Sought in Kennedy Murder; Two in Jail

Another Licavoli henchman, Ralph Carsello, was captured in Akron yesterday after he had been knocked down and sat upon by an unarmed transport pilot.

Painted as a gunman and dangerous character, Carsello was found flat on his back with the flier astride him at an apartment where he had gone hunting for an old girl friend. He was in much the same position as Joe (Wop) English who dived under a bed when police raided his Akron apartment recently.

Carsello Third
Carsello is the third of the Licavoli gang arrested at Akron in the last few weeks. Besides English, who will go on trial here today for the murder of Jack Kennedy, the leader, Yonnie Licavoli, was captured there. Licavoli, police said, was the only one who made any show of resistance. Akron officers charged he reached for a snub-nosed pistol.

John Mirabella and Russell Syracuse still are hunted while Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin and English are in jail here. All were indicted for first degree murder in the death of Kennedy last July.

Went To See Girl
Carsello, police said, went to the apartment where his friend formerly resided and found it occupied by Glenn Clark, air transport pilot, and his wife. Mr. Clark informed Carsello that the woman was no longer a resident of the apartment.

Carsello insisted that the girl was still there and attempted to force his way into the apartment. Fists began to fly and Carsello discovered himself stretched on the floor with Pilot Clark sitting on top of him, a press dispatch said.

It was in this position that two squads of police found Carsello.

Taken to police headquarters, Carsello was immediately recognized by Detective Gilbert Mosley who several weeks ago arrested Licavoli and English.

Gives Different Name
Carsello gave his name as Robert Bortel when booked.

Detective Captain George Timiney will go to Akron today to return Carsello who is wanted by Prosecutor Frazier Reams for questioning in the investigation of the Kennedy murder.

Federal authorities here are awaiting a mandate from the federal court of appeals in Cincinnati before arresting him to serve a sentence of eight months in the workhouse, imposed by Federal Judge George P. Hahn last February when Carsello was found guilty of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition amendment.

The case was carried to the higher court but the sentence was upheld.

Police said Carsello inadvertently aided in identifying himself by muttering as he entered the apartment, "I'm a member of the Licavoli gang."

After his arrest, Licavoli was returned to Toledo and then taken back to Akron and fined \$100 in the Summit county common pleas court for carrying a concealed weapon.

Fire Truck Speeds to Licavoli Home

Firemen were called to the home of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 2733 Pemberton drive, Monday, when a city truck caught fire in front of the Licavoli home. A crew of workmen was repairing the street with tar when one of the men was burned on the face. The truck was partly burned.

Caught in Akron



Ralph Carsello

Carsello, reputed Licavoli henchman, was arrested yesterday in Akron and is held there for Toledo authorities in the investigation of the murder of Jack Kennedy.

REAMS TO PUSH WAR ON GANGS

Confers With Timiney on Complete Elimination of Licavoli Mob.

Plans for the continuance of Prosecutor Frazier Reams' campaign against organized gangsters were made Tuesday at a conference between the prosecutor and Capt. George Timiney of the Toledo police department.

Mr. Reams said the lengthy meeting was the first he had had with Captain Timiney since the conviction of Joseph (Wop) English, Licavoli gangster, who is scheduled to die in the electric chair for the murder of Jack Kennedy, Toledo beer baron.

The prosecutor said plans were made for the complete elimination of the Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli gang. "We want these gangsters to realize that they are completely through in Toledo and Lucas county," Mr. Reams said.

He added that he had also conferred with Captain Timiney regarding hoodlums who are still in Toledo loitering around the downtown area. He has instructed the detective captain to bring in these men for questioning.

Mr. Reams said he asked Captain Timiney to keep tabs on suspected gangsters and other hoodlums who drop in Toledo now and then as was the case with James Licavoli, Detroit gangster and cousin of Yonnie Licavoli. Their activities will be checked constantly by the police department and the sheriff's office, Mr. Reams said.

Methods of bringing to arrest other members of the Licavoli gang and especially John Mirabella and Russell Syracuse, indicted with English for the Kennedy murder, were discussed, the prosecutor said.

YONNIE'S PLEA BEFORE COURT ON MONDAY

Verdict Appeal To Be Heard by U. S. Judge in Cincinnati.

The appeal of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, from a conviction here on charges of violating the national liquor law, will be heard Monday in United States district court of appeals at Cincinnati.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, who prosecuted Licavoli, a Toledo gang leader, in the trial that resulted in his being sentenced to serve two years in federal prison and fined \$50,000, will represent the government.

Licavoli's attorneys appealed the conviction on the grounds the court erred in allowing alleged co-conspirators to testify and insufficient evidence. The gangster is under \$30,000 bond. The government charged he operated a huge distillery here.

LICAVOLI APPEAL COMES UP MONDAY

U. S. Circuit Court Will Consider Case in Cincinnati

The United States circuit court of appeals will sit in Cincinnati Monday to consider the appeal of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, for a new trial. Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, will argue the case for the government.

Licavoli was convicted here last June in federal court of having conspired to violate the prohibition act. Judge George P. Hahn sentenced him to serve two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5,000. He has been out on nearly \$30,000 bond pending his appeal.

The 40-page brief of the case was sent to the court yesterday by Mr. Murlin. Licavoli's attorneys charge a number of errors in the trial, including insufficient evidence and court error in admitting the evidence of a co-conspirator.

The case of Walter J. Patton, formerly of the Smith & Patton Sales Co., Defiance, convicted in federal court here two years ago of conspiring with Virgil Squire, acquitted cashier of the First National bank of Defiance, to defraud the bank of \$10,000 by forged notes, also will come up Monday.

YONNIE'S PLEA BEFORE COURT ON MONDAY

Verdict Appeal To Be Heard by U. S. Judge in Cincinnati.

The appeal of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, from a conviction here on charges of violating the national liquor law, will be heard Monday in United States district court of appeals at Cincinnati.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, who prosecuted Licavoli, a Toledo gang leader, in the trial that resulted in his being sentenced to serve two years in federal prison and fined \$50,000, will represent the government.

Licavoli's attorneys appealed the conviction on the grounds the court erred in allowing alleged co-conspirators to testify and insufficient evidence. The gangster is under \$30,000 bond. The government charged he operated a huge distillery here.

COURT PONDERES LICAVOLI PLEA

U. S. Jurists in Cincinnati Take Gangster's Appeal Under Consideration.

The case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader who was sentenced to serve two years in the Leavenworth federal penitentiary and pay a fine of \$5,000 on the charge of conspiracy to violate the prohibition law, was taken under consideration by the U. S. district court of appeals in Cincinnati Monday, an Associated Press dispatch said today.

Licavoli, who was represented by Attorney Harry Levy, was not present as oral arguments on the appeal were heard. The government was represented by Col. Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney here, who successfully prosecuted Licavoli and a group of his followers. A verdict finding Licavoli guilty was returned May 10.

There was no indication, as the attorneys closed their arguments, as to when the appeals court decision would be reached or what it would be. The defense contended that the conviction was based on insufficient evidence and that the trial judge erred in permitting evidence of an alleged co-conspirator to be considered.

DECISION DELAYED ON LICAVOLI APPEAL

Federal Tribunal Hears Plea of Convicted Toledoan.

News-Bee State Service.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 11.—After a hearing Monday, the United States circuit court of appeals took under advisement the appeal of Thomas Licavoli, reputed to have been Toledo's most important illicit liquor operator, from a conviction in federal court there last May 10 of conspiracy to violate the prohibition act. He was sentenced by Judge George P. Hahn to serve two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and pay a fine of \$5,000 and costs.

Licavoli was represented Monday by Harry G. Levy, attorney, and the government by Lee N. Murlin, assistant district attorney at To-

COURT CONSIDERS LICAVOLI APPEAL

Arguments in Liquor Case Completed in Cincinnati

Whether Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli shall go to jail or make another bid for freedom in a lower court rested with the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati last night.

The Associated Press reported there were no indications, as attorneys closed their oral arguments, as to when the court's decision would be given or how it would go. If the court upholds the government, Licavoli must, unless he appeals to the supreme court, enter Leavenworth penitentiary for two years and pay a \$5,000 fine. But, even if it acts in his favor, the court will not order him set free despite passage of the repeal amendment. His case will be remanded to a federal district court for re-trial.

The court took the case under advisement today after listening to brief oral arguments on his appeal from conviction on charges of conspiracy to violate the prohibition laws. Licavoli, free on \$30,000 bonds pending a decision, was not present as Harry G. Levy of Toledo argued for him that the lower court had erred in bringing conviction, and Assistant District Attorney Lee N. Murlin defended the conviction and sentencing, both re-emphasizing contentions made in briefs submitted to the court.

Licavoli was found guilty May 10 of conspiracy through operation here of The Golden Rose and Showboat night clubs where the government said federal agents had purchased liquor.

16 Accused in Bills Returned Secretly After Probe of Slot Machines Here.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, deposed Toledo gang leader, heads the list of 16 slot machine owners who were indicted secretly by the Lucas county grand jury this week after an investigation by Prosecutor Frazier Reams of slot machine activities in Toledo and Lucas county, it was revealed today.

Other prominent machine owners who were named in the indictments are Ben and Joseph Fretti, operators of the Acme Sales Co., and Thomas Worland, operator of the DeLuxe Sales Co.

The grand jury returned four separate indictments under section 13066 of the general code which prohibits the keeping and exhibition of slot machines. They are similar to the informations filed last week by Prosecutor Reams against 24 proprietors of drug stores, cigar stores, restaurants and beer parlors.

Ten Counts in Bill
One indictment containing 10 counts names the following: Ben and Joseph Fretti, Louis H. House, Albert L. Fetzer, Dallas Utter, Robert Duncan, Clarence Holmes, Merle Fike, Ben Bame and Sam Lupica.

The second indictment, one of two counts, names Worland. The third indictment, one of two counts, names Licavoli, Morris and Arthur Shapiro and Sebastian Lupica. The final indictment, consisting of one count, is against Arthur M. Albrecht.

In the indictment against the Fretti group the defendants are accused of keeping and exhibiting slot machines at the following places: one at the Carl H. Yarger billiard parlor, 609 Main street; six at the Stark & Hawkins Co. cigar stores in the Spitzer building, Board of Trade building and the Ohio building; one in the White Palace restaurant, 303 Cherry street; one at the restaurant of Harold L. Sears, 427 Fourteenth street; one at the Manhattan Lunch, 315 St. Clair street; two at the Kraemer cigar store, Richardson building; two at the Summit-Cherry cigar store, and two at 450 Huron street.

Three Machines Cited

The indictment against Worland accuses him of having three slot machines in Thompson's inn, Point Place, and one at Ernie's Place, Monroe street and Whiteford road.

The indictments against the Licavoli group which operates as the State Sales Co. in Milburn avenue, charges them with having two slot machines in the Schnell drug store, 1026 West Bancroft street, and two at the Owen Wholesale Market, 2221 Albion street.

The Albrecht indictment charges him with exhibiting three slot machines in the Interurban bowling alleys, Jackson avenue and Superior street.

Immunity Granted

The majority of these indictments are the result of testimony

given last week to the grand jury by proprietors of these establishments who were granted immunity by the jurors.

They are said to have testified as to the ownership of the slot machines which were in operation in their places of business on or about Aug. 1, 1933.

The Albrecht indictment is based on a violation said to have occurred April 1.

It is understood that the prosecutor has statements taken from slot machine owners when he initiated his crusade against slot machines many months ago. Testimony of the business men will be used as corroborative evidence in connection with the owners' statements.

Reams Answers Requests

Prosecutor Reams decided on taking drastic action against slot machine owners after several requests were made of Chief of Police Dan Wolfe and Sheriff David Krieger to rid the city of the vending machines.

Recently owners have placed the machines back in operation assuring the proprietors that everything had been fixed with the prosecutor. Hundreds of complaints were received by Mr. Reams that the devices were in the open and operating near schools.

Penalty for violation of this statute calls for a fine of from \$50 to \$500 and a sentence of from 10 to 90 days.

The decision to make public the names, although returned in secret indictments, was made to permit those involved to come in and post bond before capiases were served and before the cases were docketed. The jurors are said to have felt that this was proper inasmuch as some have indicated their intention to come in this afternoon to arrange for \$500 bond.

Bertha Hindall, 808 Jefferson avenue, who was among two score persons named in information last week in connection with slot machine operations, pleaded guilty before Judge Stuart today of exhibiting a machine in her place of business.

Her bail was set at \$500 personal recognizance pending sentence.

LICAVOLI INDICTED BY JURY IN AKRON

Toledo Gang Leader Is Accused of Carrying Concealed Weapon

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, local gang leader, was indicted by the Summit county grand jury yesterday in Akron on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

Licavoli, who is free under \$2,000 bond, was indicted for carrying a .38 caliber revolver when he was arrested in Akron, Sept. 26, by Detective Captain George Timiney and Detective Chris Brennan, Toledo officers, and Akron authorities.

The Toledo gang chief was taken into custody as a material witness in the Jack Kennedy murder. After being released on \$5,000 bond he was taken back to Akron by Sheriff David A. Krieger to face the concealed weapon charge.

Licavoli is at liberty under bond of more than \$30,000 some of which has been posted in federal court pending an appeal for a new trial following a sentence for violation of the national prohibition act.

Licavoli Is Linked With Akron Racket

The name of Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo hoodlum chief, was brought into an investigation Saturday of a bootleg shakedown racket at Akron, O., following the arrest of 10 racketeers, five from Akron and five from Cleveland.

Leaders of the plot informed Akron bootleggers that they would have to pay \$25 a week for protection.

"To hell with the police—we're running this thing," bootleggers quoted them as saying.

Licavoli, indicted there on the charge of carrying concealed weapons, will be questioned by detectives who believe he is an ally of the extortionists.

Appeals Court Gets Licavoli Records

Copies of the record in the case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, convicted in federal court here last spring on an indictment charging violation of the national prohibition act, were forwarded to the circuit court of appeals, Cincinnati, Thursday. The record contains 216 pages. Attorneys will have 21 days after the filing in which to file briefs.

Licavoli was sentenced by Judge George P. Hahn to serve two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and pay a fine of \$5,000. He is at liberty under bond of \$25,000 pending the decision of his appeal prepared by his attorneys, John W. Hackett and Harry G. Levy.

SENTENCE APPEALED BY YONNIE LICAVOLI

Toledo Gang Leader Seeks To Discount Liquor Conviction.

Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, Friday filed in the United States circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati an appeal from a two-year jail sentence and a \$5,000 fine imposed in the United States district court at Toledo under an indictment charging conspiracy to violate the Volstead act.

In the indictment, Licavoli, with a number of other members of his gang, was accused of having operated an illicit distillery at 1412 Holmes street, where two stills, one of 2000-gallon capacity and one of 1000-gallon capacity, were confiscated.

COLE, DONOVAN TREAT LICAVOLI WITH KINDNESS

Gang Chieftain and Aids Given "Clean Bill" by Judges

The followers of Yonnie Licavoli, who moved into Toledo two years ago to wage vendetta in many types of racketeering and who rose to the position of the most feared and most respected lawbreakers in Toledo history, are as pure, according to the records of the criminal division of the municipal courts, as the lilies of the field.

Eighteen times in 18 months Yonnie Licavoli or one of his inner circle—Wop English, Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Russell Syracuse, Leo Mocerl, Pete and Joseph Licavoli—have been arrested by Toledo police only to be given clean bills of health and morals, nearly always by the municipal court.

In the majority of times, this court whitewashing has been applied by Judge Len Donovan or Judge Ira Cole, both of whom are candidates for re-election in November.

A Different Story.
But in the federal court and in the common pleas court the action which has taken place is in direct contradiction of what happened when the gang was lined up in municipal court.

Licavoli has been sentenced in federal court to two years' imprisonment for conspiracy to violate the prohibition act. Wop English is in jail, indicted by the county grand jury for the Jack Kennedy murder. Mirabella and Syracuse are sought for the same killing. Ernest LaSalle, still another Licavolian, is wanted for the Louise Bell murder. And yet these men and their satellites, chiefly at the instance of Judges Cole and Donovan, were cleared time after time by the municipal court.

Six times Mirabella, for instance, was arrested by Toledo police. Three times Judge Cole marked the case off docket and dismissed him; another time he varied his terminology.

Twice Syracuse was haled into court. Once Judge Donovan marked his case off docket. The second time Judge Cole did as much for him.

English was off-docketed by Judges Donovan and Ramey, discharged by Judge Frank O'Connell and still another time was released by Haas.

Once Yonnie himself was arrested as a suspicious person. He forfeited his bond when he failed to appear. Judge Cole, continuing the generosity of the municipal bench toward the gang, then ordered the forfeit vacated; that is, the Yonnie ignored the court and failed to appear when the court said to, the court didn't mind the slight and told him and the bonding company, in effect, to forget about it.

No such orders have been issued by the federal court, from which Yonnie is now free on appeal under bond totaling \$27,000!

The record cited is merely that of the major Licavoli gang members. The same judicial generosity was shown the errand boys and lackeys of the gang.

The chronological history of the Licavoli gang in municipal court needs little embellishment.

"Insufficient Evidence."
"Insufficient evidence," Judge Donovan said Jan. 29, 1932, as he dismissed the case of Syracuse, charged with being a suspicious person. The case was marked "off docket."

"Insufficient evidence," repeated Judge Cole July 15, 1932, in marking a suspicious person charge against Mirabella off docket.

"Insufficient evidence," chorused Judge Donovan on Sept. 20, 1932, as he marked off docket a disturbance charge against English.

Johnny Rai and Ernest LaSalle both then living in a Licavoli branch headquarters at 4635 Westway, were arrested in a raid by the

Please Turn to Page 5, Column 2

hoodlum squad Aug. 6, 1932. Detroit authorities advised Toledo police the two were gunmen and had been run out of Detroit. The next day they were freed on a habeas corpus writ and when they appeared for trial Aug. 9 as alleged suspicious persons, Judge Donovan again provided a dismissal and an "off docket."

Licavoli Cousins.
Pete Licavoli, 28, of Detroit, a cousin of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, was the first of the family to be arrested here. He, with Mirabella, Syracuse and six other friends, was arrested Jan. 1, 1932, by Detective Captain George Timiney, now leading the search for Mirabella and Syracuse in the Kennedy murder. Others arrested then were Anthony Armnie, 28, of St. Louis; Pete Corrado, 28, of Detroit; Johnny Rose, 26, then a Toledo bondsman; Morris Feldman, 28, of Detroit; Maxwell B. Wolfe, 28, of 2270 Warren street, and Edward Hoffman, 27, of Detroit. Wolfe and Hoffman were released by Emmett Cairl then detective inspector, when investigation revealed they had no connection with the gang. The others were put in court on suspicious person charges. Judge Cole marked all cases off docket for lack of sufficient evidence.

On Jan. 29, 1932, Detectives Carl Hartung and Arthur Langendorf arrested Mirabella and Johnny Rai and charged them with vagrancy. Judge Ramey discharged them in court Feb. 17, 1932, after granting two continuances.

Leo Mocerl, 23, of Detroit and Toledo, a Licavoli gunman and muscle man and brother to "Yonnie" Licavoli's wife, was arrested on suspicion Feb. 16, 1932, by Detectives Hartung and Langendorf. Chief of Police Louis J. Haas released him.

English Arrested.
"Wop" English was arrested as a suspicious person by Detectives Langendorf and Christ Brennan March 31, 1932. Judge Ramey marked the case off docket May 3, 1932, after four continuances had been allowed.

Mirabella was arrested April 19, 1932, by Patrolman Carl Varner on a charge of malicious destruction of property, which later was changed to conversion. Judge Cole discharged him.

Rai and Harry Silverino, 26, of Torrance drive, were arrested June 17, 1932, by Capt. Timiney and Detective John Michalak, who attempted to hold them for questioning about activities of the Licavoli gang. Their attorney obtained their release on a writ of habeas corpus. They were arrested again three days later, however, and charged with being suspicious persons. Judge Donovan discharged them June 30.

James Licavoli, 28, then of Clement drive, a cousin of "Yonnie" Licavoli and released only last Thursday from a Detroit jail, was arrested by Capt. Timiney here June 30. Chief Haas released him.

Mirabella was arrested the morning of June 30 and released on bond on a charge of being a suspicious person. Other members of the hoodlum squad arrested him again that evening on the same charge. Judge Cole marked the charges off docket in court July 15.

"Yonnie" Licavoli was arrested here for the first time Oct. 25, 1932, after he had settled down in a fashionable residence at 2733 Pemberton road. He forfeited bond by not appearing to answer a suspicious person charge, but when rearrested was discharged by Judge O'Connell. Judge Cole vacated the order forfeiting Licavoli's bond Feb. 13, 1933.

Ralph Carsello, 28, then of 2120 Dorr street, known here and in Detroit as a Licavoli lieutenant, had been arrested with "Yonnie" and he, too, was discharged in court by Judge O'Connell. Now police are seeking him as a material witness in the Kennedy murder.

Federal Charge Sticks.
Carsello, Mirabella and Carmen Carpinelli, 24, of Minneapolis, were arrested by the police liquor squad in a raid on 2120 Dorr street Oct. 30, 1932. Carsello and Mirabella were turned over to federal authorities on charges of violating the national prohibition act. Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney who, with Edgar W. Norris, now is running against Donovan and Cole for election to the municipal bench, obtained a conviction against Carsello and only last week had the conviction affirmed by the court of appeals. Federal authorities now are seeking Carsello to sentence him on this charge. Mirabella was acquitted by the jury. Carpinelli was released on a charge of being a suspicious person.

Syracuse, English and Charles Bassett, 27, of 729 Locust street were arrested April 29, 1933, on charges of being suspicious persons. Syracuse forfeited his bond and Judge Ramey issued a bench warrant for him. He has not been caught since then. Judge O'Connell discharged English in court May 18. Bassett, then believed by police to be a bootlegger buying beer from Licavoli, was found guilty and fined the court costs by Judge O'Connell May 14.

Mirabella and English were arrested June 15 on suspicion but were released by Haas, then detective inspector.

Held In Akron.
Licavoli was arrested in Akron Sept. 14 and English on Sept. 30 for questioning in the Kennedy murder. After questioning here, Licavoli was taken back to Akron to face a charge of carrying concealed weapons in connection with a pistol which Capt. Timiney found in his pocket at the time of his arrest. Akron judges immediately bound him over to the grand jury. All of which brings the Toledo records of the Licavolis and their gang up to the present time without a conviction in municipal court.

MURLIN PROMISES TO JAIL LICAVOLI

Says Gangsters Will Get Stern Treatment if He's Elected

"There are people who have been residents of Atlanta and Leavenworth for more years than they like to remember who would be delighted if that were true," United States Attorney Lee N. Murlin, candidate for judge of the municipal court, told the Twelfth Ward Women's Republican club at St. Andrew's church last night in answer to a rumor that he only recently became a resident of Toledo.

"And if the people of Toledo will put up with me a little while longer I'll send Yonnie Licavoli to join them," Mr. Murlin continued.

Mr. Murlin promised also that if he is elected judge "Yonnie and his hoodlums will not ignore the municipal court or the laws of this city and state."

"The stern side of the court will be shown to Yonnie, the hoodlums, and known criminals. The merciful side I shall reserve for the weak and the deserving," he said. "I will not harass the petty first offenders and the weak and defenseless as a smoke screen behind which the vicious criminal is allowed to carry on his activities," Mr. Murlin said.

Licavoli Is Fined for Having Pistol

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo hoodlum leader, escaped with a fine of \$100 and costs when he was arraigned before Judge Lionel S. Pardee in Akron Saturday for carrying a concealed weapon. Licavoli paid and disappeared immediately.

Prosecutor Ray B. Watters assailed the sentence, declaring that if authorities were to break up organized gangs it would be imperative to obtain greater co-operation of the courts. The maximum penalty in police court is \$500 and from 30 days to six months.

Licavoli Fined \$100, but Judge Is Criticized

A county prosecutor in Akron yesterday took to task a common pleas judge for imposing a fine of \$100 on Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo hoodlum, for carrying concealed weapons, according to the Associated Press.

The jurist, L. S. Pardee, observed in passing sentence that he did not want to give Licavoli a prison sentence because, he said, it might interfere with disposition of a federal liquor charge pending against him here.

The prosecutor, Ray Watters, refused to draw up the journal entry when, after pleading guilty, Licavoli was fined the \$100.

"Let the court make its own entry," he asserted. "If we are going to break up organized crime and gangsters, we must have the co-operation of the courts. We must use strong-arm methods and not treat these people as law-abiding citizens."

Licavoli is at liberty under \$35,000 bond on the liquor charge.

OHIO CITIES JOIN TO FIGHT GANGS

Licavoli Case Arouses Akron Mayor; Will Call Conference.

A war against gangland by authorities of all northern Ohio cities, aided by federal operatives, was begun Monday by Mayor C. Nelson Sparks of Akron following Common Pleas Judge L. S. Pardee's action in letting off Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, with a small fine there Saturday on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

Prosecutor Frazier Reams, credited with having forced Licavoli and others to seek refuge outside of Toledo, and Mayor Thatcher will be invited to meet with officers of other cities in Akron next week.

The Akron mayor has invited Attorney General Cummings to send federal men to Akron to investigate the spread of gangland activities there, and has invited Assistant Attorney General Joseph H. Keenan to meet with northern Ohio officials.

Licavoli was fined only \$100 and costs, amounting to \$25.95, by Judge Pardee after, it is alleged, Licavoli attorneys previously had shown an eagerness to settle for \$500 when

the case was held to the common pleas court from the police court.

Mayor Sparks, who has invited officials of Toledo, Cleveland, Canton, Massillon, Warren and other cities to the conference, will ask the visitors to demand the enactment in their home cities of a Los Angeles ordinance which requires police to register every ex-convict known to be in the city.

In his statement, the Akron mayor charged that gangsters of the Licavoli type never make any city a hangout unless they know in advance that there is a legal "mouthpiece" who can protect them in case they are picked up by police.

LICAVOLI-Thomas

23444.

HELD FOR U. S.
OCT 23 1934

An attractive young woman living in the house was not arrested. The detectives found a .38 caliber revolver in a trunk and seized it.

Licavoli's brother, Pete, was arrested here in the Show Boat night club several weeks ago and is held without bond for trial in the Buckley shooting in Detroit. Both he and Yonnie were reported to have an interest in the operation of the Show Boat, against which padlock proceedings were filed in federal court following a raid which revealed a hidden bar in the place.

There are no charges pending against Yonnie in Detroit. James E. McCarthy, chief of detectives, however, wired Toledo police saying that he will send witnesses in the Buckley murder here if Licavoli refused to waive extradition.

Yonnie Licavoli had been held on a charge of suspicion which was changed to that of being a suspicious person by Emmett Cairl, inspector of detectives, Friday noon. He was released under a \$3,000 bond to appear in police court Oct. 20.

YONNIE LICAVOLI IS ARRESTED HERE

OCT 23 1934
Detroit Gangster Leader Fights Return on Murder Charge

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 28, arrested yesterday by Detective George Timiney and the "hoodlum" squad in a West Toledo house for Detroit police, last night refused to waive extradition after a conference with his attorney, Harry Levy.

Licavoli, brother of Pete Licavoli, also arrested in Toledo for Detroit where he was wanted in connection with the slaying of Gerald Buckley, radio announcer, said he refused to waive extradition because "they keep you in jail too long up there."

Yonnie also is said to be wanted by Detroit police for connection with the Buckley shooting.

Yonnie is said by Toledo police to have been a partner in the Show Boat night club, closed following a liquor raid.

Toledo police acknowledged Yonnie as the leader of a gang which operates in Toledo, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo and Rochester.

LICAVOLI IS FREED ON BOND OF \$3000

OCT 24 1934
Witnesses Fail To Link Suspect in Gerald Buckley Slaying

Three witnesses of the Gerald Buckley murder, who were brought here yesterday by Detroit detectives, were unable to identify Tom (Yonnie) Licavoli, arrested Thursday by Captain George Timiney and members of the hoodlum squad, Inspector Emmett Cairl said.

The charge on which Licavoli was held was changed from suspicion to suspicious person by Inspector Cairl and Licavoli was released under a \$3,000 bond to appear in police court next Friday.

Detectives Andrew O'Day and Harry Gershaw of the Detroit department, talked to Licavoli before his release.

Pete Licavoli, Tom's brother, was arrested here several weeks ago in the Show Boat night club and is held in Detroit without bail for trial in the Buckley shooting. The brothers are reported to have financial interest in the night club against which padlock proceedings have been filed in federal court.

LICAVOLI OUT ON BOND

Freed When Witnesses Fail To Link Him in Buckley Case

Effort to link "Yonnie" Licavoli with the Gerald Buckley murder failed Friday when witnesses from Detroit could not identify the brother of the gangster, Peter Licavoli.

OCT 24 1934
"Yonnie" Licavoli was arrested here Thursday. He was released Friday under \$3000 bond and was ordered to appear in police court in one week on a charge of being a suspicious person.

TOM LICAVOLI IS REARRESTED IN NEW RAID

NOV 23 1934
Brother of Suspect in Buckley Death Held for Probe

Raiding for the second time a fashionable home on Wendover drive, Detective George Timiney and his squad rearrested Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 28, and also took two other men in the house into custody last night. One of the latter is Ernest LaSalle, 31, who was released following his arrest recently in connection with a Mansfield bombing.

HELD FOR INVESTIGATION

The third suspect gave his name as John Angersolla, 43, of Cleveland. Yonnie, placed in police court on a charge of being a suspicious person, after his first arrest, was released by Judge Ira Cole.

Detective Timiney said the suspects are held for investigation. Technical charges of suspicion were placed against them. The hoodlum squad chief said the trio are included in a list of suspects that are scheduled to be arrested on sight.

HEARING SCHEDULED

Yonnie is a brother of Pete Licavoli who is held by Detroit officials in connection with the slaying of Gerald Buckley, radio announcer.

A cousin, James Licavoli, is held at the Safety building on a charge of being a fugitive from justice in connection with a Detroit murder.

He refuses to waive extradition and a hearing is scheduled in Judge Cole's police court Nov. 27.

Licavoli Free Of Rum Term

Escapes Prison Sentence and Fine on U. S. Court Ruling

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, under indictment with 12 others for four Toledo gang murders, escaped a sentence of two years in Leavenworth and a fine of \$5,000 for liquor law violations under a ruling of the United States district court of appeals in Cincinnati yesterday, according to the Associated Press.

The court, following a ruling of the United States supreme court, reversed the conviction against Licavoli and remanded the case to the lower courts with orders to dismiss the action.

Licavoli was indicted in federal court here Dec. 2, 1932, for 230 overt acts of conspiracy to violate the Eighteenth amendment. Judge George P. Hahn imposed the sentence after a jury found him guilty.

The supreme court has held that the Eighteenth amendment to the constitution became inoperative with adoption of the twenty-first amendment, and that the courts could no longer proceed legally with cases against liquor law violators.

Licavoli, with Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin and 11 other Licavoli henchmen were indicted March 8 by the Lucas county grand jury for the four murders here. Both Licavoli and Sulkin are being held in the county jail without bond.



YONNIE LICAVOLI, alias "Yonnie," held at the Safety building on federal charges after his arrest Thursday by Detective George Timiney in a West Toledo restaurant. Tom is a brother of Pete Licavoli, arrested here several weeks ago as a suspect in the Buckley murder at De-

Licavoli Deprived

Of Soft Prison Job With Pen "Numbers"

Licavoli Is Linked

With Pen "Numbers"

MAR 6 - 1939

Toledo Lifer Placed in 'Idle' Company

Reported as Having Banked Game in Ohio Prison; New Warden Refuses Comment.

MAR - 1939 Under 'Rigid Discipline'

COLUMBUS, March 3 (AP)—Rigid discipline was clamped down in Ohio penitentiary tonight, and Acting Warden W. F. Amrine said it had ended a "critical condition which required immediate attention."

Amrine took charge of the prison yesterday when Warden James C. Woodard was suspended as a climax to an investigation ordered by Welfare Director Charles L. Sherwood.

Asked if he had expected any revolt from convicts because of the change, Amrine replied:

"We took precautions. I am happy to tell you we had no trouble. "Because of favoritism to some convicts and lack of discipline, a critical condition existed here," Amrine asserted, "and it required immediate attention."

Discipline Established

"Rigid discipline has been established, everyone is being treated fairly whether or not he has influential friends, and all is quiet."

In ordering the investigation, Sherwood said that some convicts had been granted special favors, and liquor and drugs were peddled within the walls.

Declaring that conditions of which he "could not approve" existed at the prison's Junction G. A. brick plant, Amrine relieved C. A. Heffelfinger of his supervisory duties there and placed in command a guard, J. Milton Folk.

Evils Corrected

Earlier, the acting warden suspended Thomas M. Joyce of Columbus, a guard at the penitentiary

whom he said, admitted borrowing "considerable" money from inmates.

To correct "some evils and improper situations," Amrine said he had transferred several prisoners from posts in the dining room to an idle company. Among these was Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader serving life for murder.

The acting warden said Licavoli previously had received "special favors." The dining room was considered a "soft spot" in which to work.

"We are going to treat them all alike," Amrine reiterated. "Licavoli is in an idle company—at present, anyway."

Acting Warden W. F. Amrine today said he was not prepared to make that statement when asked if reports were true that Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, notorious Toledo gang leader, was banking a numbers game while serving a life sentence in the Ohio Penitentiary for four gangland murders here.

Mr. Amrine said apparently the administration that followed that of Preston Thomas, who was ousted as Warden, fell into the same error of its predecessor by granting special favors which resulted "in a great deal of wrongdoing in the prison."

Insists He Was Justified

He insisted he was justified in reorganizing the kitchen and dining room detail. Licavoli had been assigned to the kitchen detail until he and 17 other prisoners were removed from their semi-trusty work Friday. They now are quartered in the idle cell block.

Mr. Amrine said there no longer was "any of this wrongdoing."

He would not discuss the truth or falsity of reports not only that Licavoli was banking a numbers game in the penitentiary or that he was a ringleader in illicit liquor activities in the prison.

Licavoli has had several ups and downs since he and four of his henchmen were sentenced to life terms for slayings which grew out of an attempt by the Licavoli mob to control liquor activities in Toledo.

Says Guards Aided Prisoners

He had a "soft job" until Frazier Reams went to Columbus in 1935 to investigate Yonnie's operations within the prison. As a result of this investigation, Warden Thomas was ousted and Licavoli was transferred from his influential position in the Catholic Chapel and placed in an idle cell. A few months later he was working in the kitchen commissary.

Mr. Amrine disclosed his investigation had revealed guards had assisted prisoners in obtaining money despite the fact that possession of actual cash is supposed to have been forbidden in the prison.

The acting warden said the prisoners used this money in the "banking" system, for gambling and to buy contraband goods.

Licavoli Reported

In Policy Racket

MAR 1939 While refusing to comment on rumors that Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader and murderer, was operating a numbers bank in the Ohio penitentiary, where he is serving a life sentence, Acting Warden W. F. Amrine yesterday drastically curtailed prisoner's privileges.

It is also reported that Licavoli was leader of an illicit liquor ring in the penitentiary. Amrine refused to comment on the reported activities of the former gang leader. All cash has been taken from prisoners.

Licavoli Finds 'Angel' To Boost Sales Of Songs 'Dreamed' In Ohio Prison

COLUMBUS, Dec. 15 (UP)—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang killer who boasted connections with the old Purple Gang in Detroit and with Al Capone, has found an angel to boost the songs he's been dreaming up behind the grim, gray walls of Ohio Penitentiary.

It's a long way from Tin Pan Alley, but the Toledo lifer is serious about a promise made by Joe Glaser, one of the nation's top song bookers, to whom he has sent some of his songs.

For the last two years Licavoli has been putting together tunes like "I'm Sticking Around," "Alone With My Tears," "When I Come Home Again," and "I'll Be With You in the Spring."

Songs Reflect Moodiness

Most of his 35 copyrighted titles reflect the moody, wistful dreams of the inmate, but his "Olga From the Volga" is a lusty Muscovite "who would rather shoot than eat," and recalls a currently popular pistol packer.

"I'm going to make good at this business and some day I'll walk out of here and have a legitimate en-

terprise that will keep me and my wife and little girl," Licavoli, who entered the prison 10 years ago for a gang killing, said.

Counting on "Angel"

"Joe Glaser has promised he will stop and see me en route to New York from Hollywood some time

this month," Licavoli said today. "I'm sure counting on him to make my songs click."

Yonnie, nearing his 40th birthday, admits he doesn't know one musical note from another. He starts humming a tune and keeps working it over until it sounds right.

Then he seeks out his pal, Holton Kelly, Negro lifer, at a prison band practice. Kelly, a cornet player, goes to work and soon the two inmates have the tune smoothed out, ready to put on paper.

Licavoli, who writes under the name of Tommy Thomas, says song writing is tough. But he admits it will be tougher to win a commutation of his stretch sentence.

NOV 19 1945

James Licavoli Sent To Prison

One to Five-Year
Sentence Given

BLADE

James Licavoli, 41, today was sentenced to serve one to five years imprisonment in Ohio Penitentiary by Judge John M. McCabe of Common Pleas Court on the charge of extortion. He recently pleaded guilty.

A plea by Attorney John J. Barone that his client be put on probation was refused.

Mr. Barone told the court Licavoli has lived "open and above board" for a number of years and that the Cleveland police and FBI always knew where he was. He was a good citizen who was unfortunate to bear the name Licavoli, he said.

Objection of Prosecutor

Joel S. Rhinesfort, Lucas County prosecutor, said Licavoli had not lived as a good citizen, that he engaged in business in Cleveland in violation of the law and passed under the name of White.

Judge McCabe declared that already considerable leniency had been shown Licavoli in not putting him on trial for murder.

Licavoli was arrested last June on the charge of first degree murder in connection with four gangland slayings here.

Recently he was indicted on the charge that he and Ernest LaSalle, 44, had by threats extorted money from Charles Mares, alleged bootlegger, on July 15, 1932. Licavoli was released on \$10,000 bond so he could visit his parents before being sentenced.

LaSalle Serving Terms

LaSalle now is serving two one-to-five sentences for extortion.

Both men were members of the Yonnie Licavoli gang, which operated in Toledo 12 years ago.

NOV 20 1945

James Licavoli Sent to Prison

TIMES

James Licavoli, 41, yesterday followed Ernest LaSalle, 44, to prison on charges of extortion. Both men, former members of the Yonnie Licavoli gang here, recently pleaded guilty to the charges and LaSalle was taken to the Ohio penitentiary to begin two consecutive sentences of one to five years each.

Licavoli, who had been released on \$10,000 bond to enable him to visit his parents, yesterday returned to Toledo and was sentenced by Common Pleas Judge John M. McCabe to one to five years in the penitentiary.

Both were accused of extorting money from Charles Mares, alleged bootlegger, on July 15, 1932. Both had been indicted with others of the Licavoli gang on charges of four gangland murders here more than a decade ago.

2 Licavoli Gang Members Guilty

NOV 9 1945

LaSalle Given 2
Five-Year Terms

BLADE

James Licavoli, 41, and Ernest LaSalle, 44, held in jail here in connection with four 12-year-old gangland slayings, today pleaded guilty to charges of extortion a few minutes after indictments were returned by the Grand Jury.

LaSalle was sentenced by Common Pleas Judge John McCabe to two consecutive five-year terms in the penitentiary on two counts and Licavoli, pleading that he wanted to visit his parents in St. Louis before going to prison, was freed under \$10,000 cash bond.

Licavoli, accused of one count, was ordered to appear before Judge McCabe at 10 a. m. Nov. 19 for sentencing. Licavoli's bond was posted by Attorney John J. Barone, who represented both men. The attorney brought the money to the courthouse in a briefcase.

Threats Are Charged

The indictments against the two charged that they, by threats, extorted money from Charles Mares, an alleged bootlegger, on July 15, 1932. The second count against LaSalle accused him of extorting money from Martin Schweitzer, alleged Toledo hoodlum, on July 15, 1931.

Turn to Page 6, Col. 5

Refused To Help Licavoli, Pearson Wires The Blade

Declined To Intervene In Gangster's Case After Talk With Reams, Newsman Declares

Drew Pearson, newspaper and radio commentator, has declined to intervene in efforts to have Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli released from the Ohio Penitentiary. Licavoli, erstwhile Toledo gang leader, is serving a life sentence for complicity in a series of gangland murders in the early '30s.

In a telegram to The Blade last night, Mr. Pearson said that he wished "to make it plain that at no time did I intervene in the Licavoli case."

Mr. Pearson confirmed that members of the Licavoli family had talked with him, but that after further investigation, including a discussion with Frazier Reams, former Lucas County prosecutor, he declined to enter the case.

Mr. Reams prosecuted the cases which sent Licavoli, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin and Joseph (Wop) English, along with lesser figures in the gang, to the Ohio Penitentiary for life terms.

Relayed \$5,000 Offer

A public relations man, Irving Davidson of Pittsburgh and Washington, had admitted to The Blade that he had relayed an offer of \$5,000 from the Licavoli family to the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation in Washington, a pet project of Mr. Pearson.

Paul Richman, executive secretary of the foundation, reported to The Blade's Washington bureau that the mother, wife and daughter of the former gang leader were in Washington three months ago with a check to give Mr. Pearson for foundation purposes.

Engaged By Licavolis

Mr. Richman said that his interest in the Licavoli case was aroused through Mr. Davidson and that he had visited the Ohio Penitentiary six weeks ago to discuss it with Warden R. W. Alvis.

He said he understood Mr. Davidson had been engaged by the Licavoli family.

Gov. Frank J. Lausche told The Blade from Columbus that while he had not been approached directly in the Licavoli case, he had heard two months ago that an attempt was being made to interest Mr. Pearson in the plight of Licavoli, who has been jailed since Nov. 10, 1934.

Licavoli Loses Trusty Privilege At Penitentiary

Toledo Gang Leader Given Foundry Job In Rule Violation

Because he broke a prison rule, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli has lost his privileged assignment as head nurse in the outer dormitory at Ohio Penitentiary and now is laboring in the institution's foundry, Ralph W. Alvis, warden, revealed today.

The violation consisted of having passed \$20 to a prisoner inside the walls, Mr. Alvis declared. The offense occurred about three weeks ago, the warden added. Mr. Alvis said he did not know what kind of work Licavoli is doing in the foundry.

Deprived Of Privileges

The warden's action deprived the former Toledo gang leader of unlimited visitor and other privileges which were his by reason of his position as head nurse.

Licavoli is the third member of his gang serving life sentences in the prison to lose a favored position within a year, Warden Alvis said.

About a year ago Joe (Wop) English lost his job as head groundskeeper and John Rai was removed as prison clerk for violating prison rules.

Still In Good Favor

The only two members of the Licavoli gang in the prison who apparently are still in good favor are Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin and Ralph Carsello. The warden said he did not even know Carsello.

All five were convicted by Lucas County juries of murder in the first degree in connection with four gangland slayings in Toledo. English and Sulkin were first scheduled to be executed but Ohio governors commuted their sentences to life terms when the jury in Licavoli's case recommended mercy. The jury trying Carsello and Rai also recommended mercy.

Several months ago, it was revealed that a public relations man, Irving Davison, had contributed \$5,000 from the Licavoli family to the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation in the hope of enlisting the support of Drew Pearson, columnist, for Licavoli's release. Mr. Pearson refused to give any help.

Licavoli will be eligible for parole in November, 1954.

Board Weighs Licavoli's Bid To Get Out Of Prison

Life Term, Imposed In Gang Killings, Up For Review After Two Decades

The Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission this week was considering the application for commutation of sentence of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli serving a life term in the Ohio Penitentiary for four gangland slayings in Toledo in the 1930s.

A Lucas County Common Pleas Court jury in 1934 convicted Licavoli of first degree murder and recommended mercy. Under Ohio law, life terms for first-degree murder must be commuted to second degree before the convict becomes eligible for a parole hearing after 20 years.

Licavoli was convicted of participation in the slayings of Abe Lubitsky and Norman Blatt in 1931, and of Louise Bell, killed in 1932 in an unsuccessful effort to kill her sweetheart, Jack Kennedy, Kennedy, who was Licavoli's chief rival for control of the bootleg business in Toledo, was shot to death in Point Place the next year.

Licavoli was leader of the gang although he did not participate in the actual shootings.

Earlier this year the board had before it the application for commutation of sentence of Joseph (Wop) English, triggerman for the mob. Although the board did not make public its recommendation, Governor Lausche decided not to commute English's life sentence.

In the case of Licavoli's application, the board will not make its recommendation to the governor public, either.

Besides English and Licavoli, other members of the gang serving life sentences for the slayings are Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, John Rai and Ralph Carsello. Sulkin becomes eligible for a commutation hearing in May, 1955, and Rai and Carsello in March, 1956.

Toledo Gunman Loses Bid To Shake Life Sentence

Lausche Refuses To Commute 1st Degree Murder Penalty For 'Yonnie' Licavoli

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, has lost out in his bid for commutation of the life sentence for first degree murder he is serving in the Ohio Penitentiary, it was learned today.

Governor Lausche refused to commute the penalty to second-degree murder—an action that denies the convict the right to a parole hearing, it was learned.

Under Ohio's 20-year law, first-degree murder convictions must be commuted to second degree before the convict becomes eligible for a parole hearing.

The Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission last month interviewed Licavoli. The board's recommendations to the Governor never are made public.

5-Year Wait

Licavoli now will have to wait five more years before the Pardon and Parole Commission can consider his case again.

The commission's recommendations are advisory only and the Governor is not bound to follow them.

Licavoli is the second of his gang to fail to get a parole hearing. Last March the Governor refused to act in the case of Joseph (Wop) English, who also is serving a first degree murder sentence.

Licavoli was the leader of a gang of hoodlums who descended on Toledo in the early '30's to seek control of the bootleg business.

The gang's guns killed Abe Lubitsky and Norman Blatt in 1931, and Louise Bell in 1932 in an attempt to slay her sweetheart and Licavoli's chief rival, Jack Kennedy. The next year Kennedy himself was shot to death in Point Place.

Licavoli Release Sought By Family

Cleveland Senator Hired As Attorney

TOLEDO, Feb. 8—Sen. Joseph W. Bartunek, Cleveland, Democratic minority leader of the Ohio Senate, has been retained by the family of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli in an effort to effect the Toledo mobster's release from the Ohio Penitentiary.

Mr. Bartunek, a Cleveland attorney acknowledged today he was retained by Mrs. Thomas Licavoli of Detroit.

It is his intention, Senator Bartunek said, "to review the entire Licavoli case to see what can be done to get Mr. Licavoli released from prison."

The Toledo gangster is serving a life sentence for first degree murder. Senator Bartunek explained that for Licavoli to be released, it would first be necessary to have his sentence commuted by the governor to second degree murder and then to obtain a parole for his client.

Jury Asked Mercy

English, triggerman in the Kennedy shooting, was the first to be convicted of first degree murder. He was sentenced to the electric chair, but the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by the late Gov. George White. Licavoli was the second to be convicted. The jury recommended mercy.

Later Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, John Rai and Ralph Carsello were convicted of the crimes,

and they, too, are serving life sentences. Sulkin's case comes up before the Pardon and Parole Board next May.

Ever since the prison doors closed on Licavoli, his relatives and friends have sought to get him free. In 1950 efforts were made to enlist the sympathy and support of a syndicated newspaper columnist and radio commentator. This attempt, which involved a \$5,000 donation by the Licavoli family to the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation, got nowhere.

While in prison, Licavoli has written more than 50 songs under the name of Tommy Thomas.

Writ Asked For Licavoli By His Wife

Toledo Gangster Claimed Victim Of Faulty Indictment

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS, Feb. 12 — The wife of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster serving a life term for four murders, has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus for him in U.S. District Court here.

Mrs. Jennie M. Licavoli, Grosse Pointe, Mich., alleges in the petition filed for her husband that he was the victim of a faulty indictment. She argued that he was indicted with others for conspiracies to kill and murder four persons when there is no Ohio statute making conspiracy to kill and murder an indictable and punishable offense.

The suit said there is an aiding and abetting law but the terms "conspirator" and "aider abettor" are not synonymous. It added that Licavoli is innocent and is being deprived of his constitutional rights.

It asked that Warden E. L. Maxwell of the Ohio Penitentiary deliver Licavoli for a hearing in U.S. District Court on the case. Representatives of the Ohio attorney general's office said no hearing was set.

Licavoli entered the penitentiary in November, 1934, after being convicted of murder in the first degree. His wife is represented by William Ahern, Columbus attorney.

Drew Pearson Aid Sought In Move To Free Licavoli

FEB 25 1950

FEB 25 1950

BLADE

BLADE

Family Donation Of \$5,000 Called 'Smart' Publicity

The continuing effort to free Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli from the Ohio Penitentiary has taken a new turn, involving the services of a public relations man who is trying to enlist the aid of Drew Pearson, the columnist and radio commentator.

The public relations man, Irving Davidson of Pittsburgh and Washington, admitted to The Blade yesterday that he had induced members of Licavoli's family to give \$5,000 to the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation in Washington, a pet project of Mr. Pearson.

Paul Richman, executive secretary of the Hoover Foundation, told The Blade's Washington Bureau that the mother, wife and daughter of the former Toledo gang leader, who is serving a life sentence for murder, went to Washington three months ago to give the check to Mr. Pearson.

Governor's Comment

Mr. Richman said that his interest in the Licavoli case was aroused through Mr. Davidson and that he had visited the Ohio Penitentiary six weeks ago to discuss it with Warden R. W. Alvis.

He said he understood that Mr. Davidson had been engaged by the Licavoli family.

Gov. Frank J. Lausche said in Columbus today that while he has not been directly approached on the Licavoli case, he had heard two months ago that an attempt was being made to interest Mr. Pearson in the plight of Licavoli, who has been jailed since Nov. 10, 1934 for complicity in four prohibition era gang murders in Toledo.

Termed Smart Publicity

Mr. Pearson was not in Washington today. His office reported he is vacationing in Florida.

Mr. Davidson said the idea of the Hoover Foundation gift was his own brain child. He declared he had no intention of trying to buy Mr. Pearson's sympathy but that he regarded the act as a smart public relations move.

Turn to Page 3, Col. 4

Continued from First Page

As Mr. Richman explains the offering of the \$5,000 donation, Licavoli's mother, wife and daughter went to Mr. Pearson and said they had received a letter from Licavoli suggesting the gift, pointing out that if he had received proper guidance as a child he might have led a more orthodox life.

No Strings Attached

According to Mr. Richman there were no strings attached to the gift. He said that Mr. Pearson was touched and suggested that he publicize the donation. The women asked him not to mention it at the time, Mr. Richman added.

The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation was organized last year by Mr. Pearson, Mr. Richman, Eugene Casey, Arthur Newmyer, Sr., and Arthur Newmyer, Jr., with the intention of building a boys' town similar to the one in Nebraska and of operating a research institution on the sociological aspects of juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Casey, a White House secretary under Franklin D. Roosevelt and who served a jail sentence for income tax evasion, donated 530 acres of land on the Potomac River near Great Falls, Md.

Hoover's Name 'Adopted'

The foundation now is pressing for enactment of a bill authorizing a federal donation of \$5,000,000 and is attempting to raise an additional \$5,000,000 through public subscription.

While the foundation has adopted the name of the chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mr. Hoover is reported to be displeased about it.

Mr. Richman said yesterday

that because of Mr. Hoover's protests, the foundation's directors are discussing changing its name to the George Washington Foundation.

A Chance Encounter

Mr. Davidson's own story of his activities in behalf of Licavoli is that it began through a chance encounter in Detroit.

He said he was in Toledo to seek support for Licavoli and described himself as a former export-import dealer in Mexico. He said he is now engaged in public relations work in Washington with side interests in prefabricated housing projects.

While in Detroit on a housing errand, he says he met a man he had helped previously on a naturalization case in Washington. This man took him to a dinner at a home which turned out to be that of Licavoli's mother, he said.

\$1,000 Expense Account

His decision to thrust himself into the case was made purely out of sympathy, he said, although he admitted later he had submitted an expense account of \$1,000 to the family this year.

His dealings apparently were with the female members of the Licavoli family since he reported that Yonnie's brother, Pete Licavoli called him in Washington late in 1949 to tell him that he wanted "nothing to do with Washington phonies."

Mr. Davidson said he also received an anonymous call at his home warning him to get out of the case or he would wind up in the river.

Discussion With Reams

His activities in behalf of Licavoli appear to have been confined to trying to bring about the intervention of Mr. Richman and Mr. Pearson as a means of arousing public sympathy and an active campaign for the convict's release.

He says he persuaded Mr.

Richman to talk with Warden Alvis and Frazier Reams, who was Lucas County prosecutor during the trial of Licavoli, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, Joseph (Wop) English and other members of Toledo's most notorious gang.

Mr. Reams today confirmed the fact he had discussed Licavoli with Mr. Richman in Washington last winter. His only comment was: "My job as prosecutor was to put them in, not to get them out. Those decisions are up to the parole board and the Governor. I thought it (the conviction) was right at the time and it's up to them to decide if it is still right."

Reformed Character

Mr. Davidson said that his original meeting with Licavoli in the penitentiary was arranged through the intervention of Mr. Richman, who, he claimed, called his friend, Albert A. Woldman, state industrial relations

director, to ask that Mr. Davidson be allowed in the visitors' section.

According to both Mr. Davidson and Mr. Richman, Warden Alvis spoke warmly of Licavoli's record as a prisoner. They quoted the warden as saying that Licavoli is a model prisoner and that he would have no objection to a gubernatorial commutation of sentence.

Mr. Davidson said his investigations in the case have convinced him that Licavoli is a reformed character who has paid his debt to society. His release has been blocked by ill will stirred up by self-styled friends on the outside who are anxious to "spring" the former gang chief in the hope of personal profit, he added.

Sulkin Also Deserving

He reported that while he has no personal interest in Sulkin, a subordinate of Licavoli in the gang, he was told by Warden Alvis that Sulkin is at least as deserving of release as Licavoli and that no commutation request should be made unless both convicts are included.

Licavoli was sentenced to life in November, 1934, for complicity in the murders of Abe Lubitsky, Norman Blatt, Jackie Kennedy and Louise Bell. Sulkin and English were found guilty of

first degree murder and designated for the electric chair for the same offenses but their sentences later were commuted to life.

Two other members of the gang, Ralph Carsello and John Rai, are serving life sentences for the same four murders.

Under state law all must serve 20 years before their cases may be reviewed by the State Parole Board which can then at its discretion recommend executive clemency. Licavoli will complete 20 years of imprisonment in November, 1954.

Struggle To Free Licavoli Goes On For 15 Years

FEB 26 1950

FEB 26 1950

FEB 26 1950

Wealthy Toledo Gangster In Penitentiary For Life Term Subject Of Many 'Fix' Moves

It has been nearly 16 years since Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli disappeared behind the dingy walls of the Ohio Penitentiary to begin a life sentence for four prohibition era murders in Toledo, but the struggle to obtain his freedom never has been relaxed.

A Blade reporter with the party taking the then youthful gang leader to Columbus in 1934 received the distinct impression at that time that Licavoli did not intend to spend the rest of his days in a cell block.

"It is believed Licavoli will depend on the leniency of some future governor for an opportunity to reshape destiny," the reporter wrote.

Started Upon Entry

Available evidence indicates that the attempt to reshape the Licavoli destiny began shortly after he was enrolled at Colum-

bus as Convict No. 68,912. It took two forms. One was to get preferred treatment for him in jail, the other was to get him out of jail.

The latest of these maneuvers to place Licavoli back in circulation came to light yesterday in the shape of a projected public relations scheme, conceived with the idea of enlisting the sympathy and support of Drew Pearson, syndicated newspaper columnist and radio commentator.

This operation, which involved a \$5,000 donation by the Licavoli family to the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation, a project in which Mr. Pearson is interested, didn't click, but the efforts to free Licavoli are not likely to stop.

A Wealthy Man

He is no ordinary convict. He was barely in his 30s when he entered the penitentiary, a wealthy man with an impressive home in Old Orchard. Judging from the \$5,000 gift to the Hoover Foundation, the family still is comfortable financially.

There is a story—which Toledo police believe but obviously can not verify—that there is \$100,000 in cash awaiting the man who can answer the jackpot question: "How do we get Yonnie out?"

Licavoli moved to Toledo from Detroit in 1930 with a coterie of relatives and associates and proceeded to take over the bootlegging and kindred rackets.

Four Shot to Death

During the period from 1931 to 1934, three bootlegging competitors of the Licavoli outfit, Abe (The Punk) Lubitsky, Norman (Big Agate) Blatt and Jackie Kennedy, were murdered by gunfire. Also slain was Kennedy's current girl friend, Louise Bell, who got in the way of a slug intended for Kennedy at Superior and Jackson Sts. in Nov., 1932.

It is for these murders that Licavoli and four of his old henchmen, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, Joseph (Wop) English, Ralph Carsello and John Rai, are doing life in the penitentiary. Eight others were indicted in 1934 for the same killings but they were either convicted on lesser charges or are still at large.

Special Privileges Cited

Licavoli's way of influencing people made itself evident short-

ly after he began prison life. Early in 1935, Frazier Reams, the Lucas County prosecutor who conducted the case against Licavoli, went to Columbus with fire in his eye to charge that the prisoner was enjoying special privileges such as lounging in the prison hospital as a "patient."

As a result of the investigation which followed, Warden Preston E. Thomas resigned. Later in the 1930s a similar uproar over alleged indulgence of Licavoli led to the departure of another penitentiary warden, J. C. Woodward.

After the 1935 prison investigation Licavoli was assigned to work in the woolen mill. Later he served as porter of the prison chapel and worked in the prison

sterilization section. He currently is living in the honor block, is an attendant in the psychiatric ward and is regarded as a model prisoner.

Licavoli Eats Well

His financial condition and outside connections, however, have continued to serve him well. In 1937 it was announced that he had been punished by confinement in the prison "hole" for smuggling in a batch of choice frying chickens for his private table.

In 1939 a prisoner testified during an investigation of the serving of South American corned beef, that Licavoli ate steak almost daily.

Licavoli began early to turn his leisure time to cultural pursuits. In 1935 the Ohio Penitentiary News printed a piece of his fiction. In 1942 he received nation-wide publicity through announcement that he had become a song writer and had sold

such appropriate titles as "Alone With My Tears" and "I'll Be Waiting, Dear."

'Fix' Efforts Continue

He has continued his musical pursuits and has written more than 50 songs under the name of Tommy Thomas.

Most of the attempts to free Licavoli have been conducted at the "fix" level through approaches to minor political figures with the objective of reaching the upper strata of state government.

In September, 1940, however, Toledo police trapped two Detroit men in the home of Harry Craig, Holland, a state witness in the Kennedy murder.

Safety Director Edward A. DeAngelo said the men were overheard attempting to bribe Mr. Craig to alter his testimony. The two Detroiters were fined and released.

Other Moves Revealed

Shortly after former Gov. Thomas J. Herbert left office in 1949, two other moves to free Licavoli came to light.

One came in the form of a personal plea to Mr. Herbert

from a lawyer who had been associated with a friend of the governor. The lawyer apparently had been retained by the Licavoli family.

Another came from a Cleveland lawyer who asked leniency for Licavoli on grounds that he was the victim of unfair publicity and deserved his freedom.

Must Serve 20 Years

Gov. Frank J. Lausche said in Columbus last week that, while he often has heard rumors of activity on behalf of Licavoli, he cannot recall being approached personally on the matter in either of his two terms.

As a lifer, Licavoli must serve 20 years or until November, 1954, before his case can go before the State Parole Board for review. His freedom at that time or later depends, however, upon the governor, who alone has the power to commute the sentence.

PRINCIPALS IN YONNIE LICAVOLI LIQUOR TRIAL SPOTLIGHT



Here are the principal figures in the liquor trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli as they were caught by Clarence Gray, News-Bee artist. Upper left is Federal Judge George P. Hahn. Jack Hackett, chief defense counsel, is shown in the lower left. In the center, the defendant. Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States attorney, is shown at the extreme right. Above Licavoli, grouped left to right about the counsel table, are Herman Krueger, Mr. Murlin's assistant; Col. C. E. Whitney, special agent for the department of justice, and Georg Petcoff, co-defendant. Below, Harry Levy, Mr. Hackett's associate, and Yonnie are shown.

Attorney, in Closing Argument, Says Russell Syracuse, Fugitive, Was Leader of Gang. MAY 9 1933

The case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and George Petcoff, accused of liquor conspiracy, went to the jury in federal court at 11:27 A. M. Tuesday, one week after trial of the two indicted men was opened.

After closing arguments of attorneys for both the government and the defense were completed, Judge George P.

Hahn instructed the jurors as to the law, rules of evidence and reasonable doubt. The jurors then retired to elect a foreman. Henry H. Zimmer, Monclova township, who acted as alternate juror, was excused.

The jurors at noon were taken to the Elks club for lunch, after which they returned to the federal building to begin their deliberations.

Accuses Fugitive

Russel Syracuse, bond jumper, was the real ringleader in the conspiracy which led to the trial of Licavoli and Petcoff and Licavoli "stands as free of crime as any man in the courtroom, not excepting the district attorney," John W. Hackett, defense counsel, said in his closing argument.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, followed Attorney Hackett.

Had Syracuse faced trial on the indictment instead of disappearing, Mr. Hackett said, his name, instead of that of Licavoli, would have been heard of as the leader of the plot.

Calls Dry Law Vicious

"This is only another instance of the working of this vicious law, which, I hope, by the grace of God, will soon be repealed," Mr. Hackett said in referring to the Volstead act. "Nothing can glorify this case, regardless of a built-up indictment. There is no dispute here about the night clubs, or the still in Holmes street or apartments in the Argonne and other places. This is only scenery painted by the district attorney and I can't say that the district attorney can be very proud of his artistry."

Mr. Hackett wanted to know why Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, John Rose and others mentioned in the trial of the case were not arrested, asserting that there was more evidence against them than against Licavoli.

Mr. Murlin, making the closing argument for the government, declared the defense was using old tactics and asked why government witnesses were not cross-examined and why no witnesses were presented to show what Licavoli was doing during the conspiracy. It is too bad that the government cannot present its cases to suit the defense, he said.

Did Not Cross-Examine

The defense attorneys, Mr. Murlin continued, wanted everyone

mentioned in the trial in court except Licavoli, whom he described as the directing brains of the organization. The defense did not cross-examine witnesses from the Argonne hotel, he said, because those witnesses told the truth.

"Don't forget, this is Licavoli's government as well as yours," he asserted. "What right has he to have such an organization to cause an compel others to take the rap for him? Who is Licavoli that he should make a lot of money and live

Continued on Page Four, 3rd Col.

Continued From First Page

luxuriously by illegitimate means when honest people have to work for a living? What would you think of justice if we only arrested a few understudies and didn't arrest the brains of such an organization as this man Licavoli had?"

No testimony was offered in Licavoli's behalf after the government rested its case Monday afternoon. Grant Denman, counsel for Petcoff, called five character witnesses in his client's behalf.

Employe Testifies

James Nicoloff, an employe in Petcoff's firm, the General Importing Co., whose testimony as a government witness had to be refreshed by his testimony before the grand jury, also appeared for Petcoff to testify that he heard his employer beg Detective Art Langendorf to clear out men, named as co-conspirators, from the store.

Mr. Denman also intended to call Detective Langendorf, but he was not available, and the government agreed to the stipulation that he would have testified that Mr. Petcoff asked him three or four times to oust men, named as Licavoli's associates, from the place.

The argument of Mr. Denman in behalf of Petcoff obviously embarrassed Licavoli and his attorneys, Mr. Denman contending that Petcoff was innocent, but was enmeshed by the conspirators.

Police Aid Asked

Mr. Denman argued that "These men, some of whom pleaded guilty, men I wouldn't want to meet in the dark, walked in on Mr. Petcoff and used his place. He did the best he could, implored the police to clear them out, and got rid of them as quickly as possible."

Petcoff's lawyer said that the testimony showed that corn sugar used in the gang's distillery was ordered by telephone; he quoted testimony showing that when Petcoff learned the sugar was being shipped to his store, he took Rus-

sell Syracuse, alleged Licavoli lieutenant, and Licavoli himself to task, and was told, Mr. Denman said, to shut up.

Mr. Denman read government exhibits showing that Petcoff wrote the Chicago sugar firm to inform them that Licavoli had used his name for protection in ordering sugar, and that Licavoli would have to pay for it.

Consent Not Given

"I don't propose to discuss Licavoli's part in this case," Mr. Denman continued, "but this instance surely shows Petcoff was not a conspirator. Petcoff never assented to anything. It was done without his consent when these men found their other headquarters uncomfortable. They had no home and they moved in on Petcoff."

Mr. Denman quoted government testimony showing that Licavoli had given the General Importing Co. address in buying a piano, and that the address also was given in the purchase of automobiles for the liquor gang, to show that Petcoff, as Mr. Denman phrased it, was imposed upon.

With reference to a pump for the distillery, which Petcoff partly paid for with a check, Mr. Denman argued that if his client had known the pump was to be used for the distillery, he would not have left a

tion, but would have paid cash.

Says Client Not Involved

Attorney Harry Levy, co-counsel with Mr. Hackett for Licavoli, contended that the government had not produced one scintilla of evidence involving his client in the conspiracy.

Mr. Levy accused the district attorney of failure to give Licavoli the presumption of innocence, but rather of presuming him guilty, and then drawing inferences from certain happenings.

Mr. Levy argued that if Licavoli had the extensive organization the government contended, he would not have stored liquor in a closet of the Argonne hotel.

Taking up a government inference that because the name Friedman was spelled in two different ways on a lease, the name was fictitious, Mr. Levy said.

"They argue that because Friedman signed his name wrong, he is using a fictitious name; therefore he is guilty of a crime; therefore Licavoli, who approved his credit, also is guilty of a crime."

"All we want is a fair trial," Mr.

Levy concluded. "We do not want sympathy, and have not asked for it, but we are asking that there be no prejudice when you consider this case."

Expansion Traced

Attorney Herman Krueger argued for the government that Licavoli had been linked with operation of the Golden Rose and Show Boat supper clubs through various testimony; said that men who pleaded guilty in the case had been shown to have daily conferences with Licavoli in the Argonne; that he had been referred to as the boss; that telephone calls at the Ira apartments, Argonne, Interurban Truckers' office in the Nicholas building, and the General Importing Co.

The expansion of the Licavoli organization was traced by Attorney Murlin, beginning with the operation of the night clubs.

Mr. Murlin argued that the evidence showed Licavoli was the operator of these places; that nuisances in violation of the liquor laws had been committed there, and that the nucleus of his organization was assembled there.

Then, Mr. Murlin contended, Licavoli decided to branch out into the wholesale liquor trade, and the headquarters at the Ira apartments, Interurban Truckers and Argonne hotel were established. He commented upon testimony of Frances Thompson, attractive young woman who told of seeing Licavoli and his enlarged organization confer with a mysterious "Harry" of New York at the Ira apartments.

Maid's Testimony Cited

Mr. Murlin dwelt at length upon testimony of his star witness, Murtle Dunn, maid at the Argonne, who described seeing the augmented group take orders from Licavoli at daily conferences in the Argonne—"There was the boss," Mr. Murlin said, pointing at Licavoli—and of seeing cases of liquor carried in and out of the Argonne headquarters.

"When Licavoli decided to go into the liquor manufacturing business, so as to get the manufacturer's profit as well as the wholesaler's, he cut overhead by moving into Petcoff's place," Mr. Murlin asserted.

The district attorney charged that Licavoli had tried to hide behind his associates, but that various circumstances had linked him, including his wedding invitations and a rent receipt for his Pemberton drive home, found in a desk at Petcoff's place.

Mr. Murlin cited various aliases shown to have been used by Licavoli, and asked the jury, "How can he say he was just a legitimate business man when he used all these names?"

Character witnesses for Petcoff

were Dan Searles of Searles Bros. greenhouse; J. A. Parker, Toledo club, sugar broker; Dave Davies, insurance man; George M. Goulden, 1104 Oakwood avenue, merchant, and F. W. Hein, 2129 Collingwood avenue, insurance man.

CLOTHING FIRM SUES LICAVOLI

3 Suits for \$230 and 6 Shirts for \$72 Are Items on Bill.

A peep into Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli's wardrobe was afforded curious Toledoans Wednesday when H. J. Reisig & Son, Monroe, Mich., filed suit in common pleas court here for the collection of a bill. Licavoli is on trial in federal court on a conspiracy charge.

The action is directed against Licavoli under the alias of Thomas Lasher, 2733 Pemberton road, and is for \$552.45, covering goods purchased in May, June and July, 1932. Listed are three silk-lined suits for \$230, May 8; six custom shirts for \$72, May 18; three flannel trousers for \$61, May 28; one pair of trousers for \$18.50, June 2; one suit with two pairs of flannel trousers for \$111, June 10, and one suit with one pair of flannel trousers for \$92.50 on the same day.

An item for July 18 showed that Licavoli owed the Monroe firm a balance of \$67.45 on a dry cleaning bill. A credit memorandum for \$100 on account was noted as of June 2.

other papers dealing with the purchase of corn sugar which was used in the manufacture of liquor at 1413 Holmes street, were identified by Mrs. Sylvia Hewitt, office manager of the Chicago firm, and Harrison T. Irwin, 2850 Robinwood avenue, former bookkeeper for the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, Petcoff's company. Mr. Irwin is the son of Councilman Harry T. Irwin.

Attorney Denman charged that these documents were seized unlawfully by government agents from Petcoff's files, but his objections were overruled. The letters show that Petcoff instructed the Chicagoans that Licavoli would be responsible for paying for two carloads of corn sugar purchased in the name of Petcoff's firm.

Mr. Irwin testified that Russell Syracuse, fugitive alleged to have been Licavoli's chief lieutenant, frequented the General Importing Co. for six weeks, and was visited by several men, including Licavoli, Ernest Lasalle, John Rose, Eddie Beck and Bud Gardner.

Talked in Italian
The witness also said that a dozen or more blue envelopes offered as exhibits were left in a drawer of a desk Syracuse used. The envelopes contain invitations to Licavoli's marriage and wedding dinner in Detroit, Feb. 6, 1932.

Mr. Irwin testified that Syracuse frequently carried on telephone conversations in Italian. A previous witness, Mrs. Myrtle Dunn, 826 City Park avenue, told of Licavoli using this language in addressing men who met with him in a room at the Argonne hotel almost daily in November and December, 1931.

Mrs. Dunn, colored maid at the Argonne, was an important witness in the government's effort to prove that Licavoli maintained headquarters for his henchmen in the Argonne. She was the first witness to be cross-examined at any length by the defense, but her story was not shaken.

The maid said that almost daily, shortly after 10 A. M., Licavoli would sit at a desk in the hotel's room 426, surrounded by other men identified with the liquor organization. She said Licavoli seemed to be issuing orders, although she admitted she did not understand Italian.

Tells of Tip
Once, she said, Licavoli "talked mad in English" and "said he was paying them to do some work and he wanted it done." Lasalle, she related, told her she would be tipped "when the boss came in from New York," and when Licavoli arrived, she declared, he gave

her \$2.
Mrs. Dunn described cases she found in closets of rooms 426 and 401. She looked into one which was open, she said, and saw bottles labeled whisky and "Gordon Dry Gin." She said she saw Gardner, Sam Brown and Harry Silvenino carry out these cases one Saturday.

An Argonne bellboy, Charles Thorpe, told of seeing Licavoli and Rose in the fourth floor rooms. On cross-examination he said he never saw any cases carried out, but that he saw a wooden box measuring three by five feet carried to the headquarters.

Lyman D. Arnold, automobile dealer, testified he had tried unsuccessfully to sell Licavoli a automobile, but that Licavoli used to sell some cars to him, he would recommend as O. K. Mr. Arnold indicated a bill of sale for a Ford coupe as one sold to a Larry Friedman through this arrangement. This car was found at the Holmes street distillery. Mr. Arnold also told of selling trucks to "James Brown and George White," who had the Licavoli O. K.

Detective Chris Brennan described a police raid on an office at 1737 Nicholas building Nov. 10, 1931. The office, with "Interurban Truckers" lettered on the door, was said to have been another headquarters. The detective said that Lasalle and Jimmy Licavoli were present, but Yonnie was not.

LICAVOLI TRIAL IS ADJOURNED UNTIL MONDAY

Government Completes Testimony in Liquor Conspiracy Case Late Friday.

Trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and George Petcoff on liquor conspiracy charges, will be resumed at 10 A. M. Monday when counsel will argue before Federal Judge George P. Hahn the admissibility of testimony and exhibits offered by the government.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. attorney, completed the presentation of 51 witnesses late Friday. He reserved the right to reopen the government's case Monday should he find it necessary.

The jury, which must decide the guilt or innocence of Licavoli, was instructed to return at 1:30 P. M. Monday to hear the testimony of defense witnesses, if any are presented.

Defense Undecided
Harry Levy and John Hackett of defense counsel, said they have not decided their exact line of defense, although they will, of course, insist that the government's evidence has not linked Licavoli with the conspiracy.

It is not expected that Licavoli will testify in his own behalf. Neither are the five alleged henchmen indicted with him, who pleaded guilty, expected to be witnesses.

It appeared probable from tactics pursued by the defense lawyers in the first part of the trial that they will argue that while the five might have conspired to make alcohol, the government has not proved that Licavoli was their leader.

Federal Agents Testify
Government agents who shadowed Licavoli and his alleged associates, who uncovered and finally raided a huge distillery in Holmes street, and who were active in working up other evidence already presented, occupied the witness stand most of Friday afternoon.

Chad B. Howard, a federal investigator for two years, said he began Jan. 13, 1932, to watch Petcoff's firm, the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, which the government contends was one of the headquarters.

The agent said that Edward Beck, who pleaded guilty, conferred with Russell Syracuse, a fugitive, on that date, and then drove to the A. H. Lumm Co., where a 1,000-gallon galvanized vat was loaded on a truck. Mr. Howard said he followed the truck, but lost it at Bancroft and Cherry streets. The agent said he believes the same tank was one confiscated at the distillery.

Defense Objects
The next day, Mr. Howard said, Licavoli and Leo Mocerri left a taxicab to confer with Syracuse at the Monroe street place, and drove to a drug store at the Hillcrest. A defense objection prevented him from answering a question as to the relationship of Licavoli and

Mocerri, a brother-in-law.
Jan. 27, 1932, Mr. Howard said, he walked along a railroad track back of the Holmes street address and smelled alcohol and mash. He trailed Syracuse and a girl, who drove the Ford coupe from the place to the Argonne hotel, he said. He visited the distillery nightly until it was raided Feb. 10, and it always was in operation, he said.

Mr. Howard said that with seven other agents, he raided the distillery Feb. 10, and found a 2,000 and a 1,000-gallon still, large quantities of alcohol, mash, yeast and sugar, and vats, tanks, pumps and a boiler. Syracuse, Brown, Harry Silvenino, and Gardner alias Howard Lane, were arrested.

Raid Is Described
The agent said that as they approached, he heard Syracuse say, "We've got to keep this place going in order to get production."

Mac Harper, another agent, testified that Brown told him the night of the raid that one still had a capacity of 1,400 gallons a day.

W. M. Rankin, former agent in charge here, also described the raid. He admitted the search warrant covered a concrete building, and not a house at the address, where one still was found, and Attorney Levy objected to his testimony, because of lack of a warrant for the house.

It developed, however, that the house was not searched until after the agents found pipes leading to it from the concrete building, and the objection was withdrawn.

Homer Smart, commercial manager for the Ohio Bell Telephone Co., identified slips listing hundreds of long distance calls from the General Importing Co., the Interurban Truckers, the apartment of Lasalle in the Ira apartments, and the apartment of "H. C. Schwartz," identified as Licavoli, in the Argonne.

TRIAL OF LICAVOLI CONTINUES TODAY

Prosecution, Defense to Clash Over Testimony of Witnesses

Trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, purported Toledo liquor syndicate leader, and George Petcoff, head of the General Importing Co.,

513 Monroe street, on liquor conspiracy charges, will be resumed Monday before Federal Judge George P. Hahn.

The case will be reopened after the week-end adjournment with arguments of counsel over the admissibility of testimony of certain government witnesses and the introduction of many exhibits which have been offered in evidence by Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, in charge of the prosecution.

Following Judge Hahn's rulings on the arguments the jury of six men and six women will be summoned into the courtroom to hear the defense of the two men who are represented by Attorneys John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, for Licavoli, and U. G. Denman, representing Petcoff.

The government rested its case late Friday after testimony of 51 witnesses had been given. Mr. Murlin, however, reserved the right to re-open the case if he sees fit.

Five other men indicted with the two defendants on trial already have pleaded guilty to the charges of liquor law violation. They are: Howard Lane, Harry Silvenino, Russell Palmer, Sam Brown and Edward Beck. They probably will be sentenced at the conclusion of the trial.

LICAVOLI CASE TESTIMONY HIT

Bitter Legal Battle To Mark Trial Monday

A bitter legal skirmish between government attorneys and counsel for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, alleged dictator of a Toledo liquor ring, and George Petcoff, head of the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, is anticipated tomorrow when the trial of the men on liquor conspiracy charges is resumed in federal court.

Attorneys John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, counsel for Licavoli, and Attorney U. G. Denman, representing Petcoff, will oppose vigorously the admission in evidence of portions of the testimony of several government witnesses and also the introduction of several exhibits which have been offered by Lee N.

Murlin, assistant United States district attorney.

Arguments To Be Heard
The testimony in question was received in evidence tentatively by Federal Judge George P. Hahn pending his rulings on arguments of counsel at 10 a. m. Monday before the jury is summoned into the courtroom to hear the defense of Licavoli and Petcoff.

Among the exhibits to be protested are certain memoranda and correspondence seized in a raid on the offices of the importing company which the defense contends was taken unlawfully.

Attorney Hackett late yesterday asserted the defense offered in behalf of the two men will be regulated to a great extent by Judge Hahn's rulings on the arguments Monday.

The government rested its case against the purported conspirators late Friday after testimony of 51 government witnesses had been given.

Agents Describe Raid
The finale of the government's case brought the trial to its dramatic peak as federal agents testified in detail about their lengthy surveillance of alleged members of the syndicate which ended in raids upon a huge alcohol distillery at 1413 Holmes street, and the offices of the importing company.

Five men who were indicted with Licavoli and Petcoff on several counts of violation of the national prohibition act, pleaded guilty last Tuesday as the trial of the two men got under way. They are: Howard Lane, Harry Silvenino, Russell Palmer, Sam Brown and Edward Beck.

All are held at the county jail pending sentence with the exception of Lane who is at liberty under \$3,500 bond.

Two other men named in the Licavoli indictment, Russell Syracuse and Ernest LaSalle, are fugitives from justice. LaSalle also is sought by police on a first degree murder charge.

U. S. HOLDING WITNESS BACK ON LICAVOLI

Murlin To Offer Surprise Testimony if Gangster Speaks in His Defense

By DONALD POND

The appearance of a surprise government witness and the question of what tactics counsel for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli will employ Monday afternoon when they get their chance to present evidence in his behalf held the center of interest Monday morning as Yonnie's trial on liquor charges neared a close in federal court.

The new government witness, subpoenaed after Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States attorney, had rested tentatively Friday afternoon, is Miss Sari Gravlino of the crown attorney's office, Windsor, Ont. It is believed that she will be asked to testify about Yonnie's one conviction in a career which has not been free of acquaintance with police. He served a term in the provincial penitentiary for this.

This conviction, a matter of six years ago, was for carrying arms in Canada without a permit.

She will not be called, however, unless Licavoli is put on the stand by his attorneys.

Defense Exhibits Reduced.

Murlin withdrew seven of his 94 exhibits and Judge Hahn ruled out 12 more. Among those left, however, was a letter over Petcoff's signature saying he was acting as an agent to buy Licavoli's corn sugar. The defense, after an intermission at 11 a. m., was to ask for a directed verdict of acquittal.

Attorney Jack Hackett, who represents Yonnie, said that he and Harry Levy, co-counsel, could not formulate their plans until after the judge had made his exhibit decisions. Whether Grant Denman, attorney for George Petcoff, co-defendant with Licavoli, will string along with them or will work separately probably was to be determined by the decisions, too.

One of two courses seemed probable.

Yonnie May Talk For Self.

Yonnie may take the stand himself, the defense attorneys gambling against what may happen to their client on cross-examination to get his personal denial to the jury. If he is called, there will be tense drama in the courtroom with Mr. Murlin, who has vowed to put the gangster behind the bars, at last given a chance to question Yonnie

directly on the crimes alleged in the indictment.

On the other hand—and this is considered more likely by experienced courtroom observers—the defense may rest with the presentation of no evidence at all, relying on the widely known persuasive powers of Attorney Hackett in an all-important closing argument.

Would Fit In With Tactics

This also would fit in with Attorney Hackett's tactics of seldom cross-examining government witnesses during the trial, thus rushing Mr. Murlin and, at the same time, indicating to the jury a contempt for their testimony.

The defense is said to feel that, while the government clinched the commission of liquor crimes against most of the nine men named with Licavoli, five of whom pleaded guilty as the trial started, it has not established the fact that Licavoli was the leader of these men or the planner of their crimes.

Petition Set For Yonnie Licavoli

BLADE

Toledo Gangster Got 'A Bum Rap,' Attorney Declares

Toledo Blade Bureau 23444

COLUMBUS, Sept. 12—A petition asking Governor Lausche to commute the life sentence of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang overlord of prohibition days, is near completion.

Licavoli's attorney, State Sen. Joseph W. Bartunek, Cleveland, said he spent considerable time in Toledo in research on the case and believes his client got "a bum rap."

The leader of the Senate Democrats insists the mobster "was never proven guilty of conspiring to commit the murders" for which he was sentenced.

"Licavoli was out of town when the crimes were committed," Senator Bartunek said.

22 Years In Prison 23444

Licavoli now has served about 22 years, and this punishment "is more severe than his involvement in the crimes," he declared.

"Even if he was the leader of the gang, as alleged, and I don't believe he was," continued the attorney, "he has made tremendous adjustment in prison and a transition to a decent God-fearing man."

In order for the Toledo gangster to be eligible for parole, his first-degree murder conviction must be commuted by the Governor to second-degree murder. It is that commutation toward which the petition is aimed.

Wife's Decision BLADE

Mrs. Licavoli will make the decision on whether the petition is to be submitted, Senator Bartunek said.

If she decides in favor of it, the commutation appeal will be taken to the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission which then will make a recommendation to the Governor. He is free to accept or disregard the commission's recommendation.

According to Warden R. W. Alvis of the Ohio Penitentiary, Licavoli had a commutation hearing last December.

Four others of the Licavoli gang serving life sentences also have had commutation hearings.

Joseph (Wop) English had his hearing in 1933, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin had one last year, and John Rai and Ralph Carsello had hearings earlier this year.

Commutation denials are not announced by the governor's office or the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission.

Commutations granted usually announced at a major holiday—Christmas, Easter or Thanksgiving.

Licavoli Back In Pen; Camp Probe Closed

DEC 27 1958

Head Of Honor Place Forced To Resign

COLUMBUS, Dec. 28 (AP)—A former Toledo gang leader is back in Ohio Penitentiary and the investigation of special privileges allegedly accorded him is closed, the chief of the state correction division said today.

The prisoner is Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, convicted of first-degree murder in November, 1934, and accused of ordering the murder of four persons while leader of a Detroit and Toledo gang.

Maury Koblentz, chief of the state correction division, said the case is closed now that a state prison honor camp superintendent, Lt. Thomas Crowe of Logan, has been forced to resign. Lieutenant Crowe resigned after an Ohio highway patrol report that Licavoli had made a number of long-distance phone calls and received more than the authorized number of visitors at Hocking Honor Camp near Logan.

Charges that Licavoli got special food, his own dining room, use of an auto and uncensored mail were not substantiated, Mr. Koblentz added.

The investigation began after a reporter for the Columbus Dispatch, Roy Cross, visited the camp and wrote of Licavoli receiving special privileges.

Parole Board's Vote Reported Against Licavoli

No Chance Of Aid From Governor Seen In 5-Year Review

By FRANK KANE

Toledo Blade Bureau

COLUMBUS, Dec. 19 — The Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission reportedly again has recommended against freeing Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo mobster serving life in the Ohio Penitentiary for four murders.

Joseph Doneghy, commission chairman, declined comment on the report. He pointed out that the commission customarily does not reveal its recommendations.

But it was understood from other authoritative sources that the commission voted against Licavoli's release earlier this month.

It was the second time the commission recommended against the release of the 55-year-old Licavoli, who now has served 25 years in prison.

Up To Governor

Under Ohio law, a lifer automatically comes before the commission after serving 20 years. At that time the commission may make a recommendation to the governor for release which could lead to a commutation of the sentence, and would make him eligible for parole or an outright pardon.

After that, his case is automatically reviewed every five years. Licavoli went before the commission in 1954 and was turned down. His case came up again this month.

The final decision, of course, is up to the governor, but the word around the statehouse is that none of the Licavoli gang now serving life in prison can expect any release from Governor DiSalle.

Other Members Of Gang

Other members of who are still serving sentences for the murder of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, alias Wop Johnny Rai and Ralph Carsello, according to M. C. state correction comm

He said their cases are up for review by the commission at varying intervals.

Rankin M. Gibson, to Governor DiSalle, governor has received letters from Licavoli's friends and relatives asking for his release.

A check of the files that almost all of the came from Detroit, where Licavoli's family now resides from penitentiary camp Columbus.

The Federal Bureau of investigation, however, forwarded a report to the governor's office that \$100,000 being offered by unknown persons to anyone who could locate Licavoli's relatives.

Presumably the release of Sulkin would pave the way for a parole for Licavoli, indicated.

Former Purple Gang Member Held In Ohio Racket Slayings

Ernest LaSelle Quizzed In Cleveland On Killings At Youngstown, Warren

CLEVELAND, Aug. 1 (AP)—A man described by police as a member of the old Detroit-Toledo Purple Gang was held in jail today without charge for questioning in recent racket slayings in Youngstown and Warren.

Ernest (Fusco) LaSelle, 59, was picked up by detectives early yesterday on Euclid Avenue. He gave a New York address.

Officers said he had just left another former member of the Purple Gang, which controlled bootlegging, gambling and other rackets in Michigan and Ohio during the prohibition era.

Police Inspector Richard R. Wagner said LaSelle had been in Cleveland about the times of the slayings of Vince DeNiro, a top rackets figure in Young-

stown, and Mike Farah, a Warren racketeer.

"We can't let that coincidence go unchecked," Inspector Wagner said.

DeNiro, 39, was killed July 17 when a bomb ripped apart a car when he turned the ignition key.

Farah, 56, was killed at his home July 10 by shotgun blasts fired from a car.

Police said LaSelle told them he had lived in Warren but moved to New York last summer because authorities kept questioning him. He said he had just come to Cleveland from Warren. Police said he had nearly \$600 in his pockets.

Police at Youngstown said LaSelle was known as Ernie Fusco there and dealt with DeNiro.

Licavoli Seeks Revival Of Writ In Freedom Bid

COLUMBUS, March 7 (AP)—Counsel for Thomas Licavoli, Toledo slayer sentenced to life imprisonment in 1934, has filed an application seeking to revive a habeas corpus petition that was rejected in U.S. District Court here Feb. 13, Attorney General William Saxbe said yesterday.

The application and an accompanying brief said the action by Judge Mell G. Underwood was taken prematurely and before a brief on questions to be presented had been filed, Mr. Saxbe said.

Mrs. Jennie M. Licavoli, wife of the prisoner, said in the original habeas corpus petition that her husband was convicted on a faulty indictment.

Licavoli Mobster To Stay In Prison

Governor DiSalle refused to commute the life sentence of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, a mobster in the onetime Licavoli gang here.

The Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission, on a 3-to-2 vote, had recommended commutation of the sentence. Sulkin, sent up for first-degree murder, has served in honor status for 20 of the 25 years he has been confined to prison.

Turn to Page 5, Col. 2

JAN 14 1963

Continued from First Page

The governor said he could not concur in the recommendation because Sulkin was part of "syndicated racketeering." The Licavoli gang was one of the first virtually to dominate a community. The gang's notorious heyday in Toledo was in the early 1930's.

Sulkin's original death sentence was commuted to life.

"It was a tough decision to make," Governor DiSalle said today. "Sulkin is now 70 years old. If it had been a case of isolated crime, a crime of passion, it would have been different."

Recalling that two years ago, he turned down a similar plea for the gang leader, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, the governor added:

"The Licavoli mob was one of the first criminal syndicate groups. I felt, as did the commission minority, that his (Sulkin's) release would be a symbol of encouragement to those criminal groups who practically take over a town."

Counsel For Licavoli Seeking New Writ

COLUMBUS, March 6 1963 Counsel for Thomas Licavoli, Toledo slayer sentenced to life imprisonment in 1934, has filed an application seeking to revive a habeas corpus petition that was rejected in U.S. district court here Feb. 13, Attorney General William Saxbe said today.

The application and an accompanying brief said the action by Judge Mell G. Underwood was taken prematurely and before a brief on questions to be presented had been filed, Mr. Saxbe said.

Mrs. Jennie M. Licavoli, wife of the prisoner, said in the original habeas corpus petition that her husband was convicted on a faulty indictment.

Licavoli Case Up For Hearing

OCT 23 1964

TOLEDO-BLADE
Commutation
Of Sentence Sought

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 60, a former Toledo gangster serving a life sentence in the Ohio Penitentiary for conspiracy to commit four murders, is scheduled to appear before the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission for sentence commutation during hearings in December.

Licavoli, who has been in prison since Nov. 10, 1934, last appeared before the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission Dec. 21, 1959. At that time, the commission, by a vote of 4 to 1, recommended to then Governor DiSalle that Licavoli be kept in prison. Licavoli also had been refused commutation in December of 1954.

Under state statutes, if the first-degree murder conviction is reduced to second degree, Licavoli could be immediately considered for parole. If the conviction is reduced to manslaughter, he would be eligible for immediate release.

The Pardon and Parole Commission's sole function is to conduct hearings, make necessary investigations, and make its recommendation to the governor. The governor can either accept or reject the commission's recommendation.

In September, 1963, Licavoli, several members of his family, and friends wrote letters to Governor Rhodes pleading for his release. The pleas were rejected.

Among those who sought Licavoli's release was a prospective employer who operated a macaroni plant in Michigan.

New Licavoli Appeal Given Parole Group

Former Mobster
Asks Commutation
For Third Time

DEC 2 1964

COLUMBUS, Dec. 2—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, onetime kingpin Toledo mobster, pleaded yesterday for the third time before the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission for commutation of a life sentence he is serving for conspiracy to commit four gangland murders.

No decision was announced by the five-member commission after the hearing. The commission's authority is to make a recommendation on Licavoli's petition for executive clemency after conducting the hearing and necessary investigation.

It may take two months before a decision is announced and then Governor Rhodes may accept or reject it.

The 60-year-old Licavoli, ganglord in Toledo in the prohibition era, has been confined to the Ohio Penitentiary since Nov. 10, 1934. He and several members of his gang were convicted in Toledo in a series of murder-conspiracy trials.

Commutation of his life sentence could lead to a reduction from first-degree to second-degree murder conspiracy, which would make him eligible for parole consideration; or to manslaughter, which would make him eligible for immediate release.

Licavoli had to spend 20 years in prison before he could file a commutation plea. His first bid was turned down in 1954. By a 4-to-1 vote in 1959, the commission also refused to recommend executive clemency to then Governor DiSalle.

In September, 1963, Governor Rhodes rejected pleas from Licavoli's family and friends for his release. Among those petitioning the governor was a Michigan employer who operated a macaroni plant.

If commutation is not granted this time, Licavoli will have to wait another five years before renewing his plea before the commission.

23449

Licavoli Parole Vetoed Third Time

COLUMBUS, Dec. 29—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, prohibition era gangster from Toledo, was turned down a third time today in his effort to win parole.

Licavoli, 60, who once headed a gang credited with 16 murders, had sought clemency from Governor Rhodes.

But Mr. Rhodes, as Ohio governors have done twice before, followed a recommendation of the pardon and parole commission and rejected Licavoli's bid to have his first-degree murder conviction commuted to second-degree so he would be eligible for immediate release.

Freedom Plea Being Renewed

NOV 4 1965

For Licavoli
Attorney's Action
2nd In 2 Years For
Former Gang Leader

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 61, prohibition era gang leader in Toledo, is making another bid for freedom after serving 31 years in prison for his role in a gang slaying here.

An attorney for Licavoli, Moses Krislov of Cleveland, has filed a notice of appeal with the Sixth District Court of Appeals. Harry Friberg, county prosecutor, said the action is tantamount to preparing an appeal to the Ohio Supreme Court.

The notice indicates that the appeal is being made on substantial questions arising under the Ohio and U.S. Constitutions, and on grounds that questions of public and great general interest are involved.

Sentenced In 1934

This is Licavoli's second court attempt in two years to gain his freedom from Ohio Penitentiary. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1934 for his part in the July 7, 1933, slaying of Jack Kennedy, a Toledo speakeasy owner, and also for the killings of Norman Blatt, Abe Lubitsky, and Louise Bell.

Four other Licavoli gang members, Johnny Rai, Ralph Carsello, Joseph (Wop) English, and Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, were sentenced at the same time for the killings. All are still in prison except Sulkin, who was released in July, the day after his 75th birthday.

In 1963, a petition for a writ of habeas corpus for Licavoli was denied by U.S. District Judge Mell Underwood in Columbus. The writ was filed by Licavoli's wife, Jennie, of Grosse Pointe, Mich., who contended her husband was the victim of a faulty indictment.

In 1964, the Ohio Pardon and Parole Commission unanimously recommended against granting clemency to Licavoli, who had asked for commutation of the life sentence.

Earlier Requests

Similar requests by the ex-mobster, whose bootlegging operations reached into Detroit and Canada, were rejected in 1954 and 1959.

Licavoli, born in St. Louis, became a millionaire running whisky over the Detroit River from Canada to Detroit and Toledo.

Former Governor DiSalle who rejected Licavoli's plea for clemency in 1959, said the mobster "continued his old habit of trying to buy special privileges."

Mr. DiSalle was referring to an investigation which reported Licavoli, then imprisoned at Hocking prison farm, was receiving guests in expensive eating lobster tables.

Licavoli Denied Court Hearing

Conviction Appeal
Sought In '34 Case

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS, Dec. 22—The Ohio Supreme Court today refused to hear a former Toledo gang leader's appeal from a 1934 murder conspiracy conviction.

The court unanimously dismissed Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli's appeal request, saying only that "no substantial constitutional question is involved."

The rejection is expected to pave the way for the return of the case to the federal courts. In 1963, a petition for a writ of habeas corpus was denied here by U.S. District Judge Mell Underwood, who maintained that Licavoli had not exhausted his remedies in the state court.

Last week Licavoli's attorney, Moses Krislov, Cleveland, had argued that prosecution comment on Licavoli's failure to testify at his own trial, prosecution beating and other coercion of witnesses, and newspaper publicity created an atmosphere that made the trial unfair, and would have prohibited a fair trial had Licavoli won reversal of the initial conviction.

Loses High Plea

Ohio Court Refuses
Freedom-Bid Action

TOLEDO-BLADE

COLUMBUS, Dec. 22—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, prohibition era gang leader in Toledo, has been turned down by the Ohio Supreme Court in his belated appeal from a life sentence in prison.

The high court today refused to review the appeal which Licavoli's counsel said was made to clear the way for further efforts to obtain habeas corpus release from federal court here.

In Prison Since 1934

Licavoli, leader of Toledo's old Purple Gang, has been in prison since 1934. In 1963, U.S. District Judge Mell G. Underwood had dismissed his petition for release on grounds he had failed to appeal to the State Supreme Court from his first-degree murder conviction in Lucas County.

The 61-year-old Licavoli had made a futile request to Governor Rhodes for a second-degree murder commutation to make him eligible for parole. Former governors turned down similar requests in 1954 and 1956.

Indicted In 4 Killings

Licavoli had been indicted with a dozen others in four Toledo gangland-style slayings. Victims were Jack Kennedy, a rival bootlegger and speakeasy owner, gunned down July 7, 1933; Abe Lubitsky and Norman Blatt, shot fatally in an automobile Oct. 6, 1931, and Louise Bell, slain Nov. 30, 1932.

Counsel for Licavoli said he had never appealed before to the high court for fear that, if tried again, he might not get a mercy recommendation under which he received a life term. Without a mercy recommendation, a death sentence would be mandatory.

PAGE 3

Licavoli Freedom Bid Taken Before Ohio Supreme Court

Hearing Asked On Appeal From 1934
Conviction In Toledo Slaying

COLUMBUS, Dec. 16—A fair trial should be given to free Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, prohibition-era gang leader in Toledo, after 31 years in prison was argued here today before the Ohio Supreme Court.

Moses Krislov, Cleveland, an attorney for Licavoli, asked the court to hear an appeal from Licavoli's 1934 Lucas County conviction for his part in the 1933 slaying of a Toledo speakeasy owner, and for three other killings.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr. Krislov said the appeal was not made 30 years ago because Licavoli then faced the "grisly alternative" of a new trial in a prejudicial climate that could send him to the electric chair instead of merely to prison. Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment.

SLOT MACHINE SUSPECTS ASK CASE QUASHED

10 of 16 File Plea Against Joint Indictment

FIVE GIVE BOND
 DEC 5 1933
 Defense Attorney Says Date of Offenses Is Indefinite

Ten of the 16 men named Tuesday in four indictments charging them with displaying slot machines, yesterday filed a motion to quash the one indictment in which they are named jointly.

The men, all alleged to be operating gambling devices out of the Acme Vending Co., 103 Michigan street, are: Ben and Joe Pretti, Louis H. House, Albert L. Fetzer, Dallas Utter, Robert Duncan, Clarence Holmes, Merl Fike, Ben Bame and Sam Lupica.

Each of the 10 has posted a \$500 personal recognizance bond to insure his appearance for arraignment next week.

Says Date Is Indefinite

Lionel Levy, attorney for the defendants, asserted in the motion that the date of the alleged offenses were not given with sufficient exactitude. The misdemeanors charged are said to have been committed "on or about Aug. 1, 1933." There are 10 counts in this indictment.

Five others also furnished \$500 bond yesterday. They were: Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Morris and Arthur Shapiro and Sebastian Lupica, all alleged to be connected with the State Service Co., 1311 Milburn avenue; and Arthur M. Albrecht, Point Place.

Although the offense charged in the indictments is only a misdemeanor, the voting of the indictments is considered a victory for Prosecutor Frazier Reams.

Starving Is Goal

Shortly after the murder of Kennedy, the prosecutor into the crime led him to the conclusion, he has intimated, that the "take" from slot machines constitutes one of the principal sources of income for the underworld. The most effective method of dealing with Toledo gangsters, he decided, was to starve them to submission.

The prosecutor first asked Sheriff Dave Krieger and Chief Daniel Wolfe to destroy all the machines they could find in Lucas county, but officers didn't see many. Within the last month, the operators displayed the machines again in numerous restaurants, cigar and drug stores both in Toledo and in the county outside the city limits.

The offense is punishable by a fine of from \$50 to \$500, and a sentence of from 10 to 90 days.

REAMS STARTS 'SLOT' ROUNDUP

DEC 1 5 1933

Deputy Sheriffs Begin Drive To Bring In Last Of 22 Violators Named

A final roundup of the 22 store and restaurant keepers against whom informations for harboring slot machines were filed last week was under way Friday preparatory to their arraignment Monday.

Deputy sheriffs were directed by Prosecutor Reams to serve notice on all those who have not yet entered pleas to appear prepared to plead before Judge Roy Stuart in common pleas court Monday.

When all pleas are in, those who have pleaded guilty will be sentenced and trial dates will be fixed for those who have pleaded not guilty.

Fight Quash Motion

Meanwhile, the prosecutor prepared to combat a motion filed late Thursday by 10 of the 16 persons indicted by the grand jury on charges of keeping and exhibiting slot machines to quash the indictment against them.

Concurring in the request to common pleas court to quash the indictment were Ben and Joe Pretti, Louis H. House, Albert L. Fetzer, Dallas Utter, Robert Duncan, Merl Fike, Clarence Holmes, Ben Bame and Sam Lupica.

Oppose Indefinite Time

The 10 were named together in one of the four indictments voted by the jury. The motion, on behalf of all of them was filed by Attorney Lionel Levy. As grounds for the request to quash, it declares that the time of the alleged offense is not set forth with sufficient certainty in the indictment.

What legal move will be made by the other six indicted has not been revealed. All 16 have entered appearance and have been released under \$500 personal bond each.

ROBBER GANG HUNTED HERE

Bandits Seize Money, Guns at Bryan, Lock Up 15

Police and deputy sheriffs guarded roads leading into Toledo last night in an effort to capture a gang of four bandits who held up the Williams county hardware store in Bryan yesterday and obtained \$200 and a dozen shotguns, after they had locked 13 clerks and customers in a cellar. They escaped in an auto and headed toward Toledo.

Jay Warren, proprietor of the store, said the gang leader resembled photographs of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, formerly head of a gang here.

Customers Unmolested

The customers were not molested. As two of the bandits forced them into the cellar, they warned their victims that the basement steps were in bad condition.

Warren was forced to open the cash register from which the money was taken. Then he was locked into the basement with the others and all were warned not to attempt to leave for an hour.

Gun Cases Stripped

A few minutes after the robbers had driven away, Warren managed to escape through a ventilator shaft, and freed the others.

They discovered the gun cases stripped of every shotgun and pump shotgun they had held.

Authorities were notified and given descriptions of the bandits.

The proprietor said none of them resembled descriptions of members of the Dillinger gang which operated several weeks ago in northwestern Ohio.

LINK LICAVOLI IN SOUTH BEND

BRYAN RAID'S

Gang Gets \$200 in Ohio Town, Then Strikes for \$3000 In Indiana

DEC 2 1933

News-Bee State Service

BRYAN, O., Dec. 22.—Raiding the Williams county hardware store here late Thursday, four bandits armed themselves with shotguns and obtained \$200 from the cash register after forcing 15 patrons into the basement, and then, about three hours later, raided the Sears, Roebuck store at South Bend, Ind., getting more than \$3000 in cash.

Upon the pretext of making purchases, three of the robbers entered the store here about 5 p. m. and a moment later, as a fourth member of the gang entered a rear door, announced: "This is a stickup, folks." All the customers and Jay Warren, the manager, were herded into the cellar with the warning to be careful as the steps were in bad condition.

Warren, however, was obliged to open the cash register before going into the cellar.

The warned to remain in the cellar an hour, Warren climbed thru a ventilator and unlocked the door for the imprisoned patrons as soon as he heard the bandits depart.

Sheriff Leroy Siders of Williams county, who was summoned, was searching the countryside for the robbers when he was advised by South Bend authorities that four bandits resembling those in the raid here, had just held up the Sears, Roebuck store there, obtaining between \$3000 and \$4000.

Warren said that the leader of the gang resembled pictures he had seen of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, gang chief of Toledo, according to Sheriff Sider. He described two of the men as six feet tall, dark and apparently brothers.

FAMILY RELEASED ON LICAVOLI BOND

JAN 2 1934

Furfas and Wife Want To Get Loan on Their Property

Frank Furfas, 825 Avondale avenue, and his wife, Madeline, who last Sept. 25 pledged real estate valued at \$400 on the \$5,000 bond of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, yesterday asked to be relieved of the lien so they might negotiate a loan on their property.

William F. Renz, clerk of courts, released them from their responsibility, since there remained more than adequate security for the Licavoli bond. The state requires that \$10,000 worth of property be posted to secure a \$5,000 bond, Mr. Renz explained. He still has \$25,720 in property posted, he said.

Licavoli was released on \$5,000 bond from the county jail where he was held as a material witness in the first degree murder case of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, who is charged with slaying Jack Kennedy.

Using the Bootleggers Toledo police and local law enforcement officers throughout the country have new responsibilities thrust upon them and must cope with new dangers since the United States supreme court has ruled that the cases against thousands of men and women accused of federal liquor law violations must be dismissed. FEB 7 - 1934

The repeal of the Eighteenth amendment relieves congestion of federal court dockets and lightens the work of hundreds of judges and district attorneys, but it opens jail doors and automatically cancels the bonds of many who not only are liquor law violators, but also "big time" gangsters, racketeers, bandits and possibly murderers.

In many cases federal officers, having some information of their other criminal activities which could not be proved in court, succeeded in convicting notorious defendants of liquor law violations or income tax law evasion.

Among the income tax dodgers is Al Capone, now confined in a federal prison. Among the liquor law violators who probably will be benefited by the supreme court ruling is the well known Mr. Yonnie Licavoli of Toledo.

No one knows better than Louis Haas, Toledo detective inspector, that many of the bootleg fraternity will continue in the illicit sale of liquor, or in the operation of slot machines and gambling joints or in racketeering and banditry. Few of them are well equipped by education and experience to make "big money" legitimately. And Attorney General Cummings comments

sagely: "I am not convinced by any means that the criminal instinct of a considerable element in this country has been changed." FEB 7 - 1934

And so the Toledo police hoodlum squad will don their new steel vests and pack machine guns and tear bombs in complete accoutrement for a new drive on public enemies who must be prosecuted on new charges.

LICAVOLI JAIL TERM SOUGHT

Authorities May Ask U. S. Help in Sending Gangster to Prison

FEB 7 - 1934

The attorney general of the United States may be asked to make a special investigation of the case against Yonnie Licavoli, formerly in the limelight as Toledo's Public Enemy No. 1, before Licavoli is allowed to go free under a supreme court ruling Monday that all prohibition cases pending on appeal must be dropped because of prohibition repeal.

This was learned from authoritative sources Monday with the explanation that Yonnie's gang activities had been of such a nature as to make it desirable to send him to a federal penitentiary for all of the two years to which Judge George P. Hahn sentenced him when a jury found him guilty last summer of conspiracy to violate the prohibition law. An appeal is still pending.

At the same time the efforts were being made to press the case against him, Yonnie phoned The News-Bee to deny that he was active in gangland, and that if the police had been aiming at him when he made a statement Monday that gangs were organizing here for trouble, the police were wrong.

"It's all a lot of ballyhoo about me organizing a gang," Yonnie said. "I am lying low, trying to get along and preparing to start in legitimate business. I'm glad all that liquor business is over." The gangster added he was staying at his Pemberton road home most of the time.

REAMS SURE HE CAN MAKE CHARGE 'STICK'

Shapiro and Lupica Named With Ex-Gang Leader; Bond To Be \$500

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, one-time Toledo gang leader, was revealed Wednesday as one of 16 racketeers against whom the Lucas county grand jury has returned secret indictments for keeping and exhibiting slot machines.

The 16 were named in four indictments, containing a total of 13 counts and involving 21 slot machines. The secret indictments were returned to Common Pleas Judge Scott Stahl late Tuesday.

Named with Licavoli are Arthur and Morris Shapiro and Sebastian Lupica. They are said to be associated in the State Service Co., 1311 Milburn avenue.

The indictment against them contains two counts. One charges them with owning two machines found in the Elaine A. Schnall drug store, 1026 West Bancroft street. The other specifies two machines at Owens Bargain Wagons, Inc., 2221 Albion street.

Reams Is Confident

Prosecutor Frazier Reams announced he has evidence on which he believes he can obtain the conviction of Licavoli.

The erstwhile gang chief, whose gang has pretty well been knocked out from under him in the last year, is under heavy bond awaiting the outcome of his appeal from a federal conviction for liquor violation.

Ten owners, collectors and concessionaires of the Acme Vending Co., 103 Michigan avenue, Toledo's premier headquarters for slot machines, also are under indictment.

Named in the indictment against the Acme outfit are Benjamin and Joseph Fretti, Louis H. House, Albert L. Fetzer, Dallas Utter, Robert Duncan, Clarence Holmes, Merle Fike, Ben Bame and Sam Lupica.

Places Are Named

The indictment contains 10 counts naming the defendants with keeping and exhibiting slot machines at the following places: One at the Carl H. Yarger billiard parlor, 609 Main street; two at the Stark & Hawkins cigar stand in the Spitzer building; two at the Stark & Hawkins cigar stand in the Board of Trade building; two at the Stark & Hawkins cigar stand in the Ohio Bank building; one at the White Palace restaurant, 303 Cherry street; one at the restaurant operated by Harold L. Sears at 427 14th street; one at the Manhattan lunch, 315 St. Clair street; two at the Kraemer cigar store in the Richardson building; two at the Summit-Cherry Market cigar store, and two at the Inman drug store at 450 Huron street.

Tom Worland, said to be the principal owner of slot machines operating in Lucas county outside the city limits, was named in another indictment on charges of keeping and exhibiting slot machines.

Three Found in One

The indictment against Worland contains two counts charging him with owning three slot machines found at Thompson's Inn, Point Place roadhouse, and one found at Ernie's place, Monroe street and Whitford road.

Arthur M. Albrecht, Point Place, said to be a small slot machine owner, was charged with keeping and exhibiting gambling devices.

The indictment against Albrecht charges him with owning three machines displayed in the Interurban bowling alleys, Jackson and Superior streets.

The indictments, considered one of the biggest guns so far fired in Prosecutor Reams' war to drive slot machines out of the city and the county, where they have been solidly entrenched for years, came as the climax of several days of investigation by the grand jury.

During that investigation a score of shopkeepers, restaurateurs and small business men were called before the jury to testify concerning ownership of machines found in their business places.

Some of those called testified willingly. Others, believed prompted by the slot machine interests, stood on their constitutional rights and refused to answer the jury's questions.

Sleuth Finds Machines

These indictments against alleged machine owners, followed by a few days' information filed by Prosecutor Reams against 22 merchants and restaurant proprietors in whose places of business slot machines were found by a special investigator working under the direction of the

Prosecutor. Some of those named in the information were among witnesses called before the grand jury before indictments against alleged owners were voted.

Will Be Freed on Bond

The decision to make the indictment public, although they were returned secretly, was made after arrangements with Judge Stuart to allow those named to come in of their own accord and be served with the capias and then be released under bond.

The ordinary procedure in such cases is that indictments remain secret until the defendants have been arrested. In this case the judge allowed the attorneys to notify their clients to come in thus obviating the necessity of having deputy sheriffs bring them in.

When alleged owners, under indictment, are arrested, they probably will be released under \$500 personal bond, Judge Roy Stuart announced Wednesday when Attorney Lionel Levy called on him and said that he suspected that some of his clients are among those indicted and would like to arrange bond in advance.

One Name Stricken

The bond is the same as that fixed by Judge Stuart for each of the 22 proprietors of business places against whom information charging them with exhibiting slot machines were filed last week.

Bertha Hindall, proprietor of Bill & Bertha's restaurant, 808 Jefferson avenue, one of those against whom information were filed, entered a plea of guilty before Judge Stuart Wednesday and was released on \$500 personal bond. The information had also contained the name of William Hindall, but his name was stricken when it was learned he is no longer co-proprietor of the restaurant.

Judge Cole Orders Return of Machines

Three slot machines seized by deputy sheriffs on orders of Prosecutor Reams in his drive to banish the device, were returned to their owners late Tuesday by Municipal Judge Ira R. Cole.

Judge Cole's order returning the machines followed a hearing on a replevin action brought by Donald Feak, owner of the machines and proprietor of the Automatic Games Co., 411 Eastern avenue.

Thomas Bretherton, assistant county prosecutor, who represented Sheriff Krieger, as defendant, said he would appeal the case to common pleas court.

Finds No Gambling Evidence

Judge Cole ruled that no evidence was submitted showing that the three machines were used as gambling devices prior to or during the time they were used at three locations in Maumee. They were seized in September.

A penny device that was perched on Judge Cole's bench during the hearings was seized in the drug store of Mrs. Ida Eckert, Maumee. The two other machines were identical.

Attorney Samuel Stone, counsel for Mr. Feak, argued that no evidence had been submitted to show that the machine had been used for any other purpose than entertainment and the vending of gum.

Judge Plays Machine

Once during the hearing Judge Cole played the machine with a penny and a pink ball of candy gum rolled out.

Mr. Bretherton quoted court decisions to show that actual evidence of gambling was unnecessary for lawful seizure if it could be shown that it "was possible to turn a device to gambling ends."

Mr. Feak and Louis Sonderiott, employe in the Eckert drug store, were the only persons who testified.

Reams Cets Lowdowns—But This Time Prosecutor Learns All About Himself

Handwriting Expert Tells Him He Should Pick Confidants Carefully

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and his satellites would, we believe, find themselves in hearty accord with Lorne A. Milne's analysis of the handwriting of Prosecutor Reams.

"Mr. Reams," says Mr. Milne, whose expert knowledge of handwriting has been made available to News-Bee readers, "cannot remain inactive for any length of time. He wishes always to carry all his plans thru to a successful conclusion."

Continuing his description of Mr. Reams' character as it reveals itself in the prosecutor's handwriting, Mr. Milne says:

"Mr. Reams is in fact extravagant with his energies.

Gives Him Lowdowns

"It would be well for him by all means to fully consider what he undertakes and endeavor to accomplish his aims with less physical effort than has been his custom. Being of a rather nervous type he exhausts his energies needlessly. He should conserve in that particular.

"He has a conscientious nature, standing ready at all times to do even more than his share as he has a fear that others might not think he was doing enough. His conclusions are drawn from the principles involved and not from the circumstances surrounding a case. Mr. Reams is apt to take others into his confidence too often, so it would be



Prosecutor Reams and Lorne A. Milne

well if he gave attention to his selection of confidants as some are apt to make disclosures which might prove embarrassing."

How important is it to you to learn your faults, or toward what social and economic pursuits your real talents point?

There's a Daily Award

Thousands of persons already have profited from the character analyses of Mr. Milne, who brings 25 years experience to the task of

analyzing your character from your handwriting.

The News-Bee is giving its readers this chance to have their handwriting analyzed and at the same time win a cash award if their handwriting sample is picked as one of the daily winners.

Each day Mr. Milne will select the handwriting specimen revealing the most distinctive traits of character. A prize of \$5 will go to the writer selected.

Four grand prizes of \$25 will be awarded to the man, woman, boy and girl whose handwriting reveals outstanding traits among all the entries during the 30-day contest.

Fill out the coupon in the lower right corner of the page and mail it to Mr. Milne.

Licavoli Posts Bond In Slot Machine Case

Gang Leader Is Last to Appear of 16 Persons Indicted by Grand Jury on Gambling Device Charge

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, was the last of 16 persons indicted on the charge of exhibition and possession of slot machines by the grand jury to appear voluntarily and post bond of \$500 at the courthouse today.

Morris and Arthur Shapiro and Sebastian Lupica, said to be owners with Licavoli of the State Sales Co., and Arthur M. Albrecht, Point Place, also provided bond this morning.

Fourteen Appear

Fourteen of the persons named

appeared voluntarily before William Ream, clerk of courts, yesterday and posted \$500 bond to assure their appearance before Judge Roy R. Stuart to plead to the indictments.

Despite the fact the indictments were returned secretly against the 16 alleged operators of slot machines publication of their names was authorized after the prosecutor's office had agreed that those indicted might be permitted to appear voluntarily to post bond without having capias for their arrest served upon them.

Similar to Others

The indictments charged the defendants with keeping and exhibiting slot machines and were similar to information filed last week by County Prosecutor Frazier Reams against 24 proprietors of drug stores, cigar stores, restaurants and beer parlors.

Those who appeared yesterday are: Ben and Joseph Fretti, 103 Michigan street; Clarence Holmes, 934 Woodward avenue; Albert Fetzer, 107 Michigan street; Dallas Utter, 2815 117th street; Merle Fike, 2738 106th street; Gertrude and Frank Zettner, Route 5, Bay Shore road; Robert Duncan, 324 15th street; Thomas Worland, 129 Maumee avenue; Sam Lupica, 3325 Bishop street; Louis House, 405 Platt street, and Ben Bame, 521 Beacon street.

Yonnie Licavoli Appears at Clerk's Office To Answer Jury Indictment

Yonnie Licavoli appeared in the sheriff's office in the courthouse at 11:30 a. m. and was conducted to the clerk's office by Chief Jailor Jay Gilday. He deposited \$500 bond and left the building. He was the last of the 16 indicted persons to make bond.

All 16 persons against whom the Lucas county grand jury returned secret indictments Wednesday, charging them with keeping and exhibiting slot machines, except Yonnie Licavoli, deposed Toledo gang leader, had appeared voluntarily at the courthouse by 11 a. m. Thursday and had been released under \$500 personal bond each.

Word was received by deputy sheriffs Wednesday night that Licavoli would appear Thursday morning. Those who were admitted to bond Thursday are Arthur M. Albrecht, 5916 Edgewater drive, Point Place; Sebastian Lupica, 3325 Bishop street, and Arthur and Morris Shapiro, both of 1323 Moore street.

Arraignment of indicted persons probably will be delayed until a week from Saturday, it appeared Thursday, following the announcement of Common Pleas Judge Roy Stuart that he will not hold the regular criminal arraignment Saturday.

Eleven of the 16 alleged slot machine operators who were secretly indicted Tuesday on a charge of exhibiting gambling devices, appeared at the courthouse yesterday to receive their capias and post \$500 personal recognizance bonds with Clerk of Courts William F. Ream.

They were: Joe and Ben Fretti, 103 Michigan street, alleged operators of the Acme Vending Co.; Clarence Holmes, 934 Woodward avenue; Albert Fetzer, 107 Michigan street; Dallas Utter, 3315 Eleventh street; Louis House, 405 Platt street; Sam Lupica, 3325 Bishop street; Thomas Worland, 129 Maumee avenue; Robert Duncan, 324 Fifteenth street; Merle Fike, 2738 106th street, and Ben Bame, 521 Beacon street.

Worland Indicted Alone

Members of the State Service group are indicted on two counts: the first charging that they operated two machines at the Elaine A. Schnall drug store, 1026 West Bancroft street, and the second charging that they operated two machines at Owens Bargain Wagons, Inc., 2221 Albion street. The date of both are Aug. 1.

In no case have the proprietors of the stores been named, immunity having been granted them, it is alleged, in return for the information some of them furnished to the prosecutor and the grand jury.

Shortly after the Kennedy murder, Prosecutor Frazier Reams began his drive against the operation of slot machines in Lucas county, believing them to be one of the principal sources of income for the underworld.

The return of these indictments is considered a victory for the prosecutor, even though the of-

Of these, Worland was indicted alone, the other 10 jointly.

An indictment charging the same offense was also returned jointly against Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Morris and Arthur Shapiro, and Sebastian Lupica, all supposed to be connected with the State Service Co., 1311 Milburn avenue.

That the Acme Vending Co. and the State Service Co. are reputed to specialize in the distribution of slot machines to stores and restaurants.

A fourth indictment named Arthur M. Albrecht on one count of displaying three machines in the Interurban Bowling alleys, of which Jack Haggerty is the proprietor. The date of this alleged offense is April 1, 1933.

10 Counts Made

The Acme group are indicted on 10 counts, all dated Aug. 1. The charges are: one machine at Carl H. Yarger's billiard parlor, 609 Main street; two in the Spitzer arcade cigar store; two in the

Board of Trade building, cigar store; two in the Ohio bank building cigar store; one in the White Palace restaurant, 303 Cherry street, of which H. C. Winters is the proprietor; one in the restaurant of Harold Sears, 427 Fourteenth street; one in the Manhattan lunch, 315 North St. Clair street; two in the Richardson building cigar store; two in the Summit-Cherry Market cigar store, and one at the Paramount drug store, 450 Huron street, of which Bruce Inman is proprietor.

Thomas Worland, reputed to be in control of slot machine activities in the county outside the city limits, is indicted alone on two counts; one of displaying three machines at Thompson's Inn, Point Place, of which Dan Thompson is proprietor, and the other of displaying one machine at Ernie's Place, Monroe street and Whitford road, of which Ernest Heckman is the proprietor. The date of both is Aug. 1.

Proprietors Not Named

Members of the State Service group are indicted on two counts: the first charging that they operated two machines at the Elaine A. Schnall drug store, 1026 West Bancroft street, and the second charging that they operated two machines at Owens Bargain Wagons, Inc., 2221 Albion street. The date of both are Aug. 1.

In no case have the proprietors of the stores been named, immunity having been granted them, it is alleged, in return for the information some of them furnished to the prosecutor and the grand jury.

Shortly after the Kennedy murder, Prosecutor Frazier Reams began his drive against the operation of slot machines in Lucas county, believing them to be one of the principal sources of income for the underworld. The return of these indictments is considered a victory for the prosecutor, even though the of-

LICAVOLI PUTS UP \$500 BOND

DEC 14 1933
Ex-Gang Leader Appears at Clerk's Office To Answer Jury Indictment

16 SLOT MACHINE TRUE BILLS VOTED

Licavoli and Two Fretts Are Indicted; Bond Is Posted

DEC 14 1933

ense charged is only a made inventor, bearing a possible fine of from \$50 to \$500, and a possible jail sentence of from 10 to 60 days.

YONNIE LICAVOLI, TOLEDO'S MOST PROMINENT GANGSTER, HAS DAY IN COURT AND LEAVES



Left above, Licavoli is shown in the center facing the camera. To the left of him is his attorney, Harry Levy, and to the right his other attorney, John W. Hackett. Center, is a full length view of the dapper gang leader as he strolled thru the Safety building. Right, he is being booked at the Safety building by Turnkey Alvin Schulz.

Licavoli Writ Denied By Judge Habeas Corpus Petition Rejected

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS, Feb. 15—U.S. District Judge Mel Underwood yesterday denied a petition for a writ of habeas corpus for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster serving a life sentence in the Ohio penitentiary.

The petition was filed by Mrs. Jennie M. Licavoli, Goose Pointe, Mich., who claimed that her husband was the victim of a faulty indictment.

The petition was opposed by Attorney General William Saxbe. Licavoli was represented by William Ahern, Columbus attorney.

Licavoli entered the penitentiary in November 1934, after being convicted of murder in the first degree.

Beer Rivals of Licavoli, Jack Kennedy, Brownie, Merge Toledo Interests

Men Who Introduced 15-Cent Brew To Compete With Yonnie's 25-Cent Beverage Form Combine as Gang Leader Awaits Trial.

JAN 26 1933

A beer king is in a legal mess! Long live two beer kings! Thus fluctuates the professional allegiance of Toledo's liquor world. Yonnie Licavoli surrendered Monday to arrest on federal indictments. Today two of his business enemies let it be known to their friends they have merged interests.

Jack Kennedy, who was shot at not long ago by gangsters who missed him but killed Louise Bell, his girl, is one party to the merger. A man, whose name is Brownie, is the other.

These gentlemen have 15-cent beer in common. Brownie introduced Toledo to 15-cent can beer a year ago to the considerable confusion of Licavoli, who continued to charge the wholesale equivalent of 35 cents a glass for the same beer.

Kennedy owns and operates one of Toledo's largest and best appointed speakeasies on St. Clair street, sells beer for 15 cents a glass, provides a

ping pong table for his guests, and serves a cheap and appetizing meal to his customers.

Not depression-conscious, Licavoli, a year ago, was all-powerful in beer circles in the city and county, and ruled, with regal authority, that beer would be 25 cents a glass.

Some obscure spots, however, defied the ruling, dropped Licavoli beer, and began buying from Brownie, whose brew is believed to be made in Monroe, Mich.

The cut into the Licavoli trade was felt, and one downtown spot,

Please Turn to Page 3, Column 3.

LICAVOLI RIVALS FORM COMBINE

Jack Kennedy and Brownie Gain Ascendency as Yonnie Awaits Trial

Continued From Page 1

whose 25-cent beer business in the 400 block of Superior street had fallen to practically nothing but chasers, bought Brownie's beer and cut the rate to 15 cents a glass. The place was raided promptly by police, returned to 25-cent beer and expired thru lack of sympathy on the part of cash customers.

That was the beginning of Brownie's rise and Licavoli's fall. More and more spots took advantage of Brownie's Beer Bargain. The Licavoli price tumbled; eventually, with much grace.

Then Jack Kennedy left his cocoon and emerged a full-fledged, big-time operator by starting his spot on St. Clair street—and he bought Brownie's beer.

As Kennedy and Brownie grew more affluent, they became better friends and Licavoli felt the cork drop out of his business. At the end of his personal reign it is reported that his beer business was off tremendously.



DEAL WITH LICAVOLI SQUELCHED BY JUDGE

O'Connell Insists on Trial Without Waiting on Federal Court.

Yonnie Licavoli and Ralph Carsello appeared in the corridor of the Safety building this morning and waited outside municipal courtroom while their suspicious person case was continued until 2 p. m.

Judge Frank O'Connell observed that none of the city's witnesses were present when Irwin Friedmar, defense attorney, insisted the trial proceed.

He asked George Timiney, detective captain, where his witnesses were and Capt. Timiney said he had an arrangement with Attorneys Harry Levy and John Hackett not to try the case until the trial against the two suspects in federal court is completed.

The judges ordered the witnesses into court this afternoon to proceed with the trial.

Licavoli and Carsello left the building together.

LICAVOLI CASE IS CONTINUED

JAN 31 1933
Delay Granted to Give
Witnesses Opportunity to Get
Witnesses.

The hearing of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and Ralph Carsello on charges of being suspicious persons was continued in police court Tuesday morning until 2 P. M.

Detective Captain George Timiney informed Judge Frank O'Connell when the case was called that he had an understanding with Attorneys John Hackett and Harry Levy to have the case continued until after the two have been tried in federal court on indictments charging violation of the prohibition laws and conspiracy.

Attorney Irving Friedmar, however, objected and asked that the hearing proceed. The court postponed it until the afternoon session to give police an opportunity to bring in their witnesses. Eleven witnesses, most of them dry cleaners, were subpoenaed for the hearing.

Licavoli and Carsello were arrested on an affidavit sworn out by Captain Timiney following the bombing of the C. C. Engel dry cleaning plant, 1850 West Bancroft street. The case was continued to Nov. 10, Nov. 22, Nov. 29, Dec. 21 and Jan. 31. When the defendants failed to appear, their bond was reduced to \$10,000. This was later reduced to \$3,000. Joseph (Wop) English, arrested with the men, failed to appear in court. A bench warrant for his arrest was issued and his bond was placed at \$10,000 by Judge Homer A. Ramey.

CARSELLO HELD ON \$10,000 BOND

Licavoli Aid Arrested After Getting Continuance on Federal Charge

Ralph Carsello, 28, who gave his address as Monroe street and his occupation as a barber, successfully postponed his arraignment in federal court on liquor charges this morning, but a half hour later found himself in jail under a \$10,000 municipal court bond on a suspicious person charge in connection with the bombing Oct. 24 of the C. C. Engel Dry Cleaning Co., 1859 W. Bancroft street.

Carsello, a Licavoli gangster, who was arrested by federal men Oct. 28 after a raid on the Hill Avenue Gardens, appeared before Judge George P. Hahn today for a scheduled arraignment. His attorney, Harry Levy, however, arranged for arraignment immediately before trial to continue Carsello on his present bond.

Bond Set at \$10,000.

As he was leaving the Federal building, Detective Arthur Langendorf arrested Carsello on a suspicious person charge and took him before Judge Homer Ramey in municipal court, who had issued an attachment Dec. 21, last.

Judge Ramey, on that date declared Carsello's \$1000 suspicious person bond forfeited when he failed to appear in court, issued a bench warrant for him and set the bond in advance at \$10,000. Today he let the bond stand at \$10,000 despite the protest of Attorney Levy.

Questioned Once.

Carsello was picked up Oct. 26 for questioning in the Engel bombing. Yonnie Licavoli and Wop English also were arrested on the same charge, and their cases were continued until Nov. 10, when they failed to appear.

Others whose arraignments were continued in federal court this morning in Carsello's case are John Mirabello, Louis Szyperak, Walter Jasinski and Martin Kaptur.

LICAVOLI ARRESTED IN HIS HOME HERE

Under Arrest



Thomas Licavoli

Gang Leader Sought for Six Weeks on Rum Conspiracy Charge Is Caught by Detectives.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, young gang leader who has been sought for a month and a half on an indictment charging him and eight of his lieutenants with operating a rum smuggling ring, was taken to the federal building Monday afternoon.

The arrest ended a search which was made by agents of the federal government and police, which has included periodic visits to the palatial Licavoli home at 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard.

The gang leader appeared at the federal building at 1:15 P. M. in custody of Capt. George Timiney and Detectives Brennan and Fielding, who said they had arrested Licavoli in his home.

Detectives James Ford and Merle Unkle, accompanied by Sergt. Albert Bernhagen and three patrolmen, raided the place at 10 A. M. Monday but failed to find the fugitive.

Licavoli is accused in the federal indictment, which was returned by a grand jury Dec. 8, with violating the prohibi-

tion laws and with conspiracy. Those indicted with him are Ernest Joseph LaSalle, George Petcoff, Russell Syracuse, Howard L. A. n. e, Harry Silvenino, Sam Brown, Russell Palmer and Edward Beck.

Detectives Had Tip

The detectives, who have been working with government officers since the return of liquor conspiracy indictments against Licavoli and several of his henchmen, said they acted Monday on a tip that Licavoli had returned home.

In the house, they said, were Mrs. Licavoli and her infant daughter, a maid, Mr. and Mrs. John Mirabello, Ralph Carsello, and a Toledo man.

Carsello was convicted and Mira-

Gang Leader Leaves While Attorneys Prepare Defense on U. S. Charges

Continued From Page 1.

the Licavoli home he took with him Detectives Chris Brennan, Robert Fielding and James Tafelski, members of his hoodlum squad.

The detectives were admitted promptly when they arrived at the Licavoli home. They found Yonnie ready to leave.

The gang leader kissed his wife and child and accompanied the detectives. They went immediately to the office of Col. Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, who directed the eight months investigation that resulted in the indictment

against Licavoli.

Col. Murlin notified Judge George P. Hahn of the arrest and Judge Hahn announced the prisoner could be arraigned immediately.

Pleads Not Guilty.

Col. Murlin waited a short time before bringing the prisoner into court until Licavoli's attorney arrived in the federal building.

In court Licavoli sat with his two attorneys at a trial table until the judge had disposed of a liquor case in which the client pleaded guilty and asked the court to show him mercy.

Then the clerk shouted: "Yonnie Licavoli."

Yonnie stood at the trial table. Attorney Levy approached Judge Hahn.

"Your honor," he said, "We regret to say we must enter a plea of not guilty at this time. We will ask time to study the indictment returned against our client."

"The plea of not guilty will be accepted," Judge Hahn responded. "You will be allowed two weeks to study the case and file your motions."

Then turning to Col. Murlin, he added: "What bond do you recommend?"

"Ten thousand dollars," answered Col. Murlin.

"Is that satisfactory?" the court asked. Both Attorneys Hackett and Levy nodded.

"Court will be adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow," continued the judge.

Quizzed in Bombing.

From the court room Licavoli went to the federal clerk's office where the Concord Casualty & Insurance Co., New York, signed his appearance bond.

Then he accompanied the four detectives who arrested him to the Safety building. There he was booked again on a suspicious person charge and again finger-printed.

The suspicious person charge was placed against him after he and Carsello were questioned in connection with the bombing of the C. C. Engel Dry Cleaning Co. last October.

After he had been finger-printed, he was questioned briefly in connection with recent gang murders here.

To Detectives John Hovey and Harry Clark he made the following question and answer statement:

Q. Thomas Licavoli, 28, of 2733 Pemberton drive, Toledo, voluntarily make the following statement:

Q. Calling your attention to the night of Nov. 30, 1933, if you can remember, where were you from 6 p. m. until the following morning?

belle acquitted last week on liquor charges in connection with the operation of Hill Avenue Gardens, a cabaret raided last fall.

Faces Other Charge

Carsello also is due to appear in police court Wednesday on the charge of being a suspicious person, placed against him following the bombing of a dry-cleaning establishment last fall.

The indictments against Licavoli and several others accuse them of a gigantic liquor conspiracy involving the operation of stills and cabarets for wholesaling and retailing of liquor.

A. So far as I can remember I was home. There were quite a few people at my home. I would say about seven or eight were there.

Q. Do you care to divulge the names of these people?

Not in Business Now.

A. I don't think it is necessary unless I was called upon to do so.

Q. Do you know Jack Kennedy?

A. I know him from seeing him around, yes. I have seen him once or twice.

Q. Do you happen to know Louise Bell?

A. No, I don't. There are very few women I know in Toledo.

Q. On the night of the 30th of November did you leave the house at any time?

A. I don't think I did. At that time I think I had a cold.

Q. What business are you in, if any?

A. I am not in any business now. My people own a few chain stores and they were figuring on opening a store or two between Detroit and Toledo.

Q. Were you anywhere near Superior and Jackson between 11 and 12 o'clock on the night of Nov. 30, either alone or with anyone?

A. No.

Q. Would there be any reason why you should shoot Jack Kennedy?

A. I know of no reason in the world.

Q. Is there any bad feeling between the two of you at the present time?

Never in Kennedy's Place.

A. No. There never was.

Q. Have you ever been in Kennedy's place on St. Clair street?

A. No, I have never been in there. There are very few places that I have been in, in Toledo.

Q. Are you the owner of one or more autos?

A. I am not the owner of any

auto. My wife owns an auto.

Q. If you knew who shot Miss Bell would you tell police?

A. Absolutely.

Q. Did you know August Annarino?

A. No. I never met him.

Q. Did you hear of him being found dead out in the country?

A. Only what I read in the papers.

Q. Now, Johnnie, do I understand you had no hand in any of the killings around Toledo?

A. None whatsoever.

Q. Is this a true statement of facts?

A. It is true.

J. Have you ever been arrested?

A. Yes, several times.

Baby Looks Like Dad.

Q. Were any of these arrests for felony?

A. I don't know what they were for. I know I was picked up.

Q. Did you ever serve any time in any penal institutions?

A. No. Not in this country.

Q. Are you the owner of a pistol?

A. No.

The statement was taken in 20 minutes, then accompanied by his attorneys, Licavoli went to the police clerk's office.

Here he signed a new bond with a local bondsman and by consent of Capt. Timiney his appearance in police court on the suspicious person charge was postponed from tomorrow until the end of the month.

"I just want to get home and play with that baby," Licavoli said. "She looks just like her dad."

When he walked out of the Safety building he looked up to the blue sky and smiled.

"Now," he said, "I'm going home and answer door bells to keep them from waking up the baby."

POLICE VISIT LICAVOLI HOME

Officers Search for Yonnie, But Nobody Is There But Three Aids, Wife

Toledo police made another unsuccessful attempt to capture Yonnie Licavoli, racketeer, this morning after they received an anonymous tip that he was hiding in his home at 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard.

Sergt. Albert Bernhagen, with Detective Merle Unkle and four uniformed policemen, searched the palatial home. They found three of Licavoli's chief henchmen, but no Yonnie.

In the house, chatting with Mrs. Licavoli when the officers entered, were Ralph Carsello, John Mirabello and Jacob (Fire Top) Sulkin. Licavoli is under federal indictment for violation of the liquor laws, but has succeeded in evading arrest since he was indicted more than a month ago.

Mrs. Licavoli was obviously upset over the visit, for after the officers had given up hope of finding Licavoli in the house, she refused to open the door for another visitor.

"I have nothing to say," she shouted as she peeped thru the lace curtain at the front door.

Sergt. Bernhagen said he saw the new Licavoli baby in the house, but was evasive when questioned about other discoveries.

"You'd better ask the chief about it," the sergeant suggested, as he replaced his gun in its holster and climbed into a scout car beside his driver, William Wisnofski.

Detective Inspector Louis J. Haas said the phone call which led to the raid was received by the detective bureau.

"It might have been good. We found three of Licavoli's men, but we couldn't find him," Haas added.

LICAVOLI DEFENSE BEING PREPARED

Bitter Legal Battle Is Predicted on U. S. Indictment

A bitter legal fight against the federal indictments which name Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed gang leader, with others in an alleged liquor conspiracy was predicted yesterday as both the defense and prosecuting forces prepared for the impending trial of Licavoli and several of his alleged henchmen.

Licavoli, who was reported to have spent yesterday out of the city, has also been said to have been bordering on a nervous breakdown and that he is suffering from an ailment which may necessitate an operation and an indefinite postponement of his trial.

John Hackett and Harry Levy, attorneys for Licavoli at his arraignment following his arrest Monday, were granted a two weeks' period by Judge George P. Hahn in which to study the indictments against their client and to file motions and it is believed no definite court action will be taken before the two weeks are up.

The alleged gang leader is expected to confer with his attorneys regarding the charges against him.

Licavoli denied all knowledge of the allegations in the indictments against him when arrested Monday. He is at liberty under bond of \$10,000 in connection with the federal charges.

He is also scheduled to appear in police court Jan. 31 to face a charge of being a suspicious person. Bond on the latter charge was fixed at \$1,000.

LICAVOLI, WIFE LEAVE TOLEDO

Gang Leader, Free on Bond, Absent While Attorneys Prepare Defense

Thomas Yonnie Licavoli is a fugitive again today.

The 28-year-old gang leader fled Toledo a few hours after he was released yesterday on \$10,000 bond in federal court on a charge of violating the national liquor law and \$1000 in police court on a suspicious person charge.

With him on this flight the dapper 28-year-old gang leader took his wife and their month-old baby he saw for the first time yesterday shortly before he surrendered to police who had been seeking him more than a month in connection with a liquor conspiracy involving more than a dozen persons.

Licavoli has promised he will return to Toledo to appear in municipal court Jan. 31, with Ralph Carsello on the suspicious person charge.

His attorneys, John W. Hackett and Harry Levy, have been allowed two weeks to study the federal indictments and file briefs.

The gang leader was arrested yesterday in his home, 2733 Pemberton road, Old Orchard, after Captain of Detectives George Timiney had received an anonymous telephone call advising him Licavoli was at home and ready to surrender.

When Captain Timiney went to

Please turn to Page 2, Column 1.

Alleged Gangster Held

LICAVOLI FIGHTS EXTRADITION

Brother of Indicted Hoodlum Refuses To Appear in Detroit for Questioning

Tom (Yonnie) Licavoli, brother of the notorious Peter Licavoli, Detroit gangster indicted for the Gerald Buckley murder, will not voluntarily return to Detroit for questioning in connection with the same crime.

Licavoli, arrested here Thursday afternoon in a West End bungalow, told two Detroit detectives Friday that he will fight extradition.

Witnesses Coming.

Witnesses to the murder of the radio announcer will arrive in Toledo from Detroit to view the suspect Friday.

Licavoli was arrested by Detective George Timiney, head of all police raiding units, and Detectives William Rogers and Carl Hartung.

Altho no liquor, dope, guns or other contraband objects were found in Licavoli's possession, he was hurried off to jail while the police remained to search the premises and found a loaded .33-caliber revolver locked in a trunk. They confiscated this.

Climax of Roundup.

Licavoli's arrest climaxes a brilliant hoodlum roundup conducted by Detective Timiney since his elevation a few weeks ago to the position as head of liquor and vice squads.

It is understood that Licavoli is being questioned in connection with many police affairs in both Toledo and Detroit, particularly connected with the gambling racket.

TOM LICAVOLI FREED ON LACK OF EVIDENCE

Judge Cole Rules Facts Do Not Warrant Holding Man.

Tom (Yonnie) Licavoli, arrested two weeks ago by the hoodlum squad, was freed in court Monday on a suspicious person charge.

Judge Ira Cole announced the evidence in the case did not justify holding Licavoli or continuing the \$2000 bond. When Licavoli was arrested Detroit police were reported ready to send a group of witnesses here, but no appeared against the suspect in court except Detective George Timiney and members of the hoodlum squad.

LICAVOLI SOUR DESPITE ACTION OF U. S. COURT

Gang Leader Holds Glum View of Life as He Prepares To Fight Charges

Using as a springboard the federal appeals court decision which Thursday afternoon freed him of all liquor charges, Yonnie Licavoli expressed himself freely Friday in his county jail cell on a number of subjects, including his present murder prosecution and prosecutors, and his own family.

The usually dapper and not unpleasant gang leader, who won for himself the title of Toledo's foremost gang leader, was in a philo-sophic mood, a pair of blue bedroom slippers (no socks), slacks and a not too pristine shirt, which was open at the collar. He disclosed, just incidentally, that his wife was expecting another baby while he languished in the jail on charges of conspiracy to murder four persons.

"I never killed anybody," Licavoli declared. "If I ever killed anybody, I hope to never see my wife and baby again. Just because they arrest a bunch of my friends, they have to bring me in, too. I'm selling

my house to raise money for my defense. I expect I can get \$4000 or \$5000."

Apparently not unduly elated by the appeals court decision, which had been forecast in an earlier supreme court ruling, Yonnie praised Municipal Judge Lee N. Murlin, his prosecutor in the federal case for the way the case had been conducted.

"Murlin went at it in a very fair and square way," said Yonnie. "Compare that with the way Reams (County Prosecutor Frazier Reams) is trying to hang this thing on me—three years old!"

From Reams, Licavoli turned to Detective Captain George Timiney, also prominent in his prosecution.

"George Timiney never arrested anybody," he said scornfully. "Timiney and Reams have it all framed up. Reams is going to run for attorney general and Timiney is going to run for sheriff. Why, Timiney never had to hunt me up to arrest me. Whenever I heard they were looking for me I called them up and told them to come out and get me."

Obviously somewhat downcast by his detention, Licavoli confined his remarks on the federal case to the opinion that he didn't see how the ruling could affect the murder case.

Yonnie Pal of Politicians, Lawyer Says in 'Wop' Plea

"Every politician in town is glad to have Yonnie Licavoli for a friend," A. J. Bianchi, Akron attorney, told a visiting court of appeals here Monday.

Mr. Bianchi's reference to Licavoli came in the midst of an impassioned plea for the life of Joe (Wop) English. The court—Judges Clarence G. Washburn, Ross W. Funk and P. H. Stevens—took the appeal under advisement after hearing arguments of Mr. Bianchi and Attorney DeWitt Fisher on behalf of English and Assistant Prosecutors Joel Rhinefort and Arnold Bunge for the state.

English is in the Ohio penitentiary awaiting electrocution April 20 for the killing of Jack Kennedy July 7 in Point Place.

"The prosecutors have been talking all along about Licavoli being a gangster," Mr. Bianchi said. "I do not know anything about him except that he lives in one of the finest houses in town, associates with all the politicians, and every

politician is glad to have him for a friend."

Arguments to the jury made by Prosecutor Frazier Reams and his assistants during the English trial, Mr. Bianchi branded as "the most uncalled-for, the most vicious arguments ever made in a trial in the state of Ohio."

Both Mr. Bianchi and Mr. Fisher attacked as prejudicial error the fact that Common Pleas Judge Roy Stuart, in closing his charge to the jury, instructed the jurors only as to verdicts of first degree murder with and without mercy and omitted reference to finding the defendant not guilty.

Alleged "extravagant" statements to the jury made by prosecutors were blamed by Mr. Rhinefort and Mr. Bunge on the hostile attitude of defense counsel during the trial.

"All thru this case," Mr. Rhinefort charged, "they were trying to put us on the pan and trying to try somebody else beside the defendant."



Yonnie Licavoli

YONNIE LICAVOLI FIGHTS REMOVAL

Witnesses Will Attempt to Identify Gang Suspect.

Yonnie Licavoli, 25, gangster suspect arrested in a raid on a quaint Spanish bungalow in Wendover drive Thursday, will not return to Detroit voluntarily. Witnesses are expected here Friday to try to identify him in connection with the investigation of the murder of Gerald Buckley, Detroit radio commentator, who was shot to death in July, 1930.

Detective Lieutenant O'Day of the Detroit police department questioned the prisoner Friday morning.

Detective George Timiney, accompanied by Detectives Carl Hartung and William Rogers, all members of the hoodlum squad, raided the house Thursday afternoon. Yonnie, dressed in pajamas, answered the doorbell and was placed under arrest for questioning in regard to bombings and other gangster activities here. He denied everything.

OCT 23 1931

OCT 23 1931

MAR 26 1934

MAR 27 1934

MAR 27 1934

MAR 27 1934

GANG SUSPECTS WILL FACE COURT

Supposed Lieutenants of Licavoli Charged as Suspicious Persons.

Two supposed lieutenants of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed gang leader, will be arraigned in police court this morning on suspicious person charges as a result of the filing of affidavits against them yesterday afternoon by Detective Inspector George Timiney.

The action eliminated the necessity of a hearing on a writ of habeas corpus, scheduled for 4:30 p. m. yesterday before Common Pleas Judge Scott Stahl.

The two suspects, Joe Rai and Harry Silveino, both 26, were arrested Saturday and released on \$500 bail.

Inspector Timiney said that he is checking reports from Detroit police that the Licavoli mob may be implicated in the slaying in Detroit last Wednesday of Milford Jones, St. Louis gangster. The Detroit police advanced a theory that the killing of Jones was the outgrowth of a fight for control of the Toledo underworld.

LICAVOLI MEN DUE IN COURT

Face Suspicious Person Charges; Gunmen Reported Here.

Filing of suspicious person affidavits by Detective Inspector George Timiney eliminated the necessity for a hearing on writs of habeas corpus for John Rai and Harry Silveino before Judge Scott Stahl in common pleas court late Monday.

It was reported here Tuesday that two automobile loads of St. Louis gunmen have arrived in Toledo, presumably seeking reprisal for the murder of Milford Jones, St. Louis gangster, in Detroit last week.

Rai and Silveino, said to be lieutenants of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, were arraigned in police court Tuesday on suspicious person

charges. The cases were continued until Saturday.

The writs were sought Saturday when the men were arrested for questioning after Licavoli had been ordered to leave the city. Judge Stahl continued the hearing until Monday, and ordered the prisoners freed under \$500 bond.

Toledo and Detroit police are investigating reports that the Jones murder resulted from a war for control of liquor and gambling rackets here.

LICAVOLI HUNTED BY DETROIT POLICE

Fifty Jailed in Murder of Milford Jones in Beer Warfare

Detroit police announced yesterday that Pete Licavoli, well-known in Toledo underworld circles, is one of three "prominent figures" whom they are seeking for questioning in connection with the slaying last Wednesday in Detroit of Milford Jones, St. Louis gangster, according to an Associated Press dispatch. The others are Joe Masie and Joe Bommarito, both of whom are known to local police.

Pete Licavoli is the brother of Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, reputed gang leader, who was recently ordered out of Toledo by Detective Inspector George Timiney. Two of "Yonnie" Licavoli's supposed lieutenants, who were arrested here last week, were arraigned in police court yesterday as "suspicious persons." Their cases were continued until Saturday.

The Detroit authorities, who attribute the killing of Jones to a fight for control of the underworld in Toledo, arrested more than 50 men and women in connection with the case.

WANTED FOR QUIZZING IN GANG KILLING

AUG 9 1932
Suspect at Inquest Offers To Produce Yonnie by Tomorrow

Yonnie Licavoli, sought by police for several days for questioning in connection with the double slaying here last week of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore in a gang war over booze, will appear tomorrow at the resumption of Coroner Frank O. Kref's inquest into the case, the coroner was assured today.

The assurance came from Ernest LaSalle, himself a suspect in the slayings, and was given as the suspect testified at the coroner's inquest.

"I believe I can bring Yonnie in here at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning," LaSalle told the coroner.

Coroner Issues Warning. "Tell him," replied the coroner, "that it would be wise for him to appear, for we are going to get him whether he comes voluntarily or not."

With the coroner when he made the assertion were Detectives John Mullen and Dinnie Clark of the police homicide squad. They said that should Licavoli appear for questioning at the inquest, they would not detain him, since they sought him only for questioning and did not plan to hold him longer than necessary.

LaSalle's promise to surrender Licavoli came after Coroner Kref had asked him why John Rai, arrested with LaSalle Friday night in a luxurious Westway home here, had not appeared for questioning at the inquest.

"John must have misunderstood the hour of the inquest," said LaSalle. "I will bring him here tomorrow, and believe I can find Yonnie Licavoli and have him here also."

LaSalle denied emphatically he knew anything concerning the slaying of Dagastino and Mighiore. Dagastino was found dead in his car on a lonely road in South Toledo and Mighiore died late yesterday in County hospital, where he was taken after he had staggered to the home of Joseph P. Everett on Barrington road, shot thru the head.

"I never had any business dealings with Dagastino, and neither did I quarrel with him," said LaSalle. "I did not learn of his murder until the next day when I read the newspapers."

Says He Has Alibi.

"I drove to Detroit at 7:30 p. m. the night of the shooting," he said, "and did not return to Toledo until 2:30 a. m. I was with friends all the time and can provide an alibi."

LaSalle said he was a salesman of cigars and cigars for Earl McCabe at McCabe's place at 617 Monroe street.

He said Yonnie Licavoli operates a butter and egg distributing store on Monroe street.

Dagastino was associated with Tony Rossini in management of the Rossini restaurant at 214 Huron street, despite Rossini's declaration to the contrary, Mrs. Virginia Lee Sturniolo, 19, of 920 Huron street, a waitress in the restaurant, testified at the inquest.

GIRLS HUNTED AS WITNESSES IN GANG WAR

AUG 10 1932
Companions of Pete Dagastino Sought for Questioning

The search for two girls who were with Pete Dagastino, and Dominick Mighiore, when they were shot by gangsters last Wednesday night, was renewed by police Tuesday night, following testimony obtained by Coroner Frank G. Kref that the men left Rossini's restaurant, 214 Huron street, with the girls.

The testimony was provided by Mrs. Virginia Lee Sturniolo, 19, of 920 Huron street, a waitress at the restaurant. She said the two girls had never been in the place before and that she did not know them.

Licavoli to Appear

Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, reputed gang leader has been sought by police since the slaying, also is scheduled to appear at Dr. Kref's office Wednesday at 11 a. m. for questioning.

A promise that he would produce Licavoli was given to Dr. Kref by Ernest LaSalle, who was subjected to an hour's questioning. LaSalle said he was in Detroit the night of the shooting. He said he also would have John Rai, who was scheduled to appear Tuesday at the coroner's office Wednesday morning.

Detectives John Mullen and Harry Clark assisted Dr. Kref in questioning LaSalle but he was emphatic in his denial of any knowledge of the slaying.

Occupy Rear Booth

He said he was a salesman of cigarettes and cigars for Earl McCabe, 617 Monroe street, and that Licavoli was engaged in the butter and egg business in Monroe street.

Mrs. Sturniolo testified it was her understanding that Dagastino was interested in the restaurant with Tony Rossini.

She said it was the custom of Dagastino and his friends to occupy a rear booth in the place, and that last Wednesday night when the two girls, who later left the restaurant with Dagastino and Mighiore, entered they were summoned to the booth by Tony Rossini.

YONNIE LICAVOLI FAILS TO APPEAR

AUG 10 1932
Reputed Racketeer, Promised for Questioning in Gang Slaying, Missing

Yonnie Licavoli failed to appear before Coroner Frank G. Kref today for questioning at an inquest into the slaying here last week of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore in a gang war feud, and Coroner Kref immediately issued subpoenas for Licavoli and John Rai, said to be one of the Licavoli lieutenants.

Licavoli's appearance before the coroner was promised yesterday by Ernest LaSalle, arrested with Rai last week as suspects in the double slaying and now at liberty on writs of habeas corpus.

Rai also failed to appear at the inquest today.

The coroner handed the subpoenas for the two men to Detective Dinnie Clark, who was in the coroner's office in anticipation of the inquest. Detective Clark said he would make every effort to find the men and serve them with the subpoenas.

Arrest Not Planned.

It was emphasized again by the detectives assigned to the murder case that they did not plan actually to arrest Licavoli, but merely to question him.

At the beginning of the coroner's inquest yesterday LaSalle promised the coroner he would return to the inquest today and bring with him Licavoli and Rai. None of the three men appeared.

The subpoena lists Rai's address as 4635 Westway, the place where he and LaSalle were arrested, and gives Licavoli's address as Pemberton drive, Old Orchard.

Hope To Find Men.

"We hope to find the two men and have them here for questioning tomorrow," said the coroner.

Testimony at the inquest yesterday sent police searching again today for two young girls who left

Rossini's restaurant at 214 Huron street with Dagastino and Mighiore Wednesday night an hour before they were shot.

Mrs. Virginia Lee Sturniolo, 19, of 920 Huron street, a waitress in the restaurant, told Dr. Kref yesterday of the two girls, and said Tony Rossini, proprietor of the restaurant, had called one of the girls by name. Mrs. Sturniolo said she had never seen the girls before.

DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING



Yonnie Leaves Court.

LICAVOLI DENIES PART IN SLAYING

Fashionable Mobster Questioned in Gang War Shootings Offers Alibi

Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, for whom Coroner Frank G. Kref had been seeking two days, stepped out of a bandbox into the coroner's office today and said he knew nothing of the slaying here last week of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore and hardly knew the men themselves. In fact, Yonnie confessed, he spoke to them only to be sociable.

Following his avowal of innocence Coroner Kref returned a verdict of homicide by a person or persons unknown.

Attended Party.

Licavoli, the breath of fashion in a cream-colored hat and mouse-colored gabardine suit with a diamond-studded watch ribbon stretched across his chest, established an alibi for himself and said he had known the two hoodlums only slightly and had never had any dealings with them.

"I knew Dagastino and Mighiore only by sight," Licavoli said. "I spoke to them when I met them just to be sociable. Beyond that I never had anything to do with them."

With Licavoli came John Rai, said to be one of his henchmen, and Attorney Harry Levy. Rai, too, had his alibi and denied any knowledge of the killing.

On the day of the shooting, Licavoli attended a family party given for his mother, who was leaving for St. Louis, he testified. He said he did not leave his house that night and knew nothing of the shooting until next morning.

Coroner Reads Verdict.

Rai, who was arrested with Ernest LaSalle, another alleged Licavoli henchman, several days ago at 4635 Westway, testified that he knew the two victims only slightly, had had no dealings or differences with them and was at his home the night of the shooting.

When the two had finished their testimony, Coroner Kref read his verdict in their presence.

Paul Daniels, 725 Erie street, chef in the cafe of Tony Rossini at 214 Huron street, also summoned for questioning, said that on the night of the shooting he saw Dagastino and Mighiore accompanied by two girls go out of the restaurant thru the kitchen and disappear into a

LICAVOLI DENIES PART IN SLAYING

Fashionable Mobster Questioned in Gang War Shootings Offers Alibi

Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, dapper, bejeweled mobster, appeared at Coroner Frank G. Kref's inquest today and flatly denied any knowledge of the fatal shooting here Aug. 3 of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Mighiore, hoodlums.

Following his denial, Coroner Kref returned a verdict of homicide by a person or persons unknown.

Attended Party.

Licavoli, the breath of fashion in a cream-colored hat and mouse-colored gabardine suit with a diamond-studded watch ribbon stretched across his chest, established an alibi for himself and said he had known the two hoodlums only slightly and had never had any dealings with them.

With Licavoli came John Rai, said to be one of his henchmen, and Attorney Harry Levy. Rai, too, had his alibi and denied any knowledge of the killing.

On the day of the shooting, Licavoli attended a family party given for his mother, who was leaving for St. Louis, he testified. He said he did not leave his house that night and knew nothing of the shooting until next morning.

Coroner Reads Verdict.

Rai, who was arrested with Ernest LaSalle, another alleged Licavoli henchman, several days ago at 4635 Westway, testified that he knew the two victims only slightly, had had no dealings or differences with them and was at his home the night of the shooting.

When the two had finished their testimony, Coroner Kref read his verdict in their presence.

Whoever shot Dagastino, the coroner said, inserted the muzzle of a gun into his right ear and pulled the trigger.

QUIZ OF LICAVOLI, AID TO BE TODAY

AUG 11 1932
Men Will Be Questioned in Connection With Gang Slayings

Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, reputed gang leader, and John Rai, one of his supposed lieutenants, sought for questioning in connection with two recent gang killings here, will be at Coroner Frank G. Kref's office today at 11 a. m., the coroner was notified in a telephone message last night from an unidentified person.

Dr. Kref received the message a few hours after he had issued subpoenas for the two men, after they failed to put in an appearance yesterday morning, as promised by Ernest LaSalle when he was questioned Tuesday. The coroner said the person who called him explained that Licavoli did not know he was supposed to appear Wednesday.

Detectives John Mullen and Harry Clark, who were given the subpoenas to serve on the two men, said a search for them last night was unavailing. They said if they fail to appear today the search will be continued.

LICAVOLI DENIES PART IN KILLING

AUG 11 1934

Declares He Was in No Way Connected With Beer Outbreak

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 28, of 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard, appeared before Coroner F. G. Kreft Thursday accompanied by his attorney, Harry Levy, to testify that he knew nothing of circumstances surrounding the gang slayings of Pete Dagastino and Dominick Meghiore.

"Tell us what you know about these murders," he was directed by the coroner.

"It's impossible," Licavoli replied. "I don't know anything about them."

Asked by Detective Harry Clark if he were connected with the slain men, Licavoli said, "In no way, shape or form." He said they never had worked for him, but that he knew them slightly as casual acquaintances in Monroe and Detroit.

The night of the killing, Licavoli said, he was at home from 5 P. M. to 1 A. M. with his mother, sister and other relatives. These relatives boarded a train for St. Louis at 1 A. M., he related.

John Rai, who gave his age as 26 and his home as 4635 Westway, told Coroner Kreft that he was slightly acquainted with the murdered men but never had had dealings or arguments with them.

On the night of the shooting, he said, he was at home with his wife and one of the wife's girl friends.

Coroner Kreft reminded Rai that he was under oath to tell the truth, and Rai replied that his testimony was the truth.

Paul Daniels, 725 Erie street, former chef at Rossini's restaurant, also was questioned Thursday, but he was unable to shed any light as to the identity of the two girls seen in the eating place with the victims shortly before they were shot.

New Blow Falls on Mother of Once Powerful Licavolis

BLADE

FEB 5 1937

Daughter to Leave United States and Join Her Husband in Italy, So Mrs. Grace Licavoli Will Have to Carry On Alone Here.

Mrs. Grace Licavoli, 63, of Detroit, mother of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, is sad.

For another blow has fallen to the Licavoli family—one time so rich and so powerful.

The blow came in the form of a decision yesterday by Mrs. Grace Cammarata, her daughter and sister of Yonnie, to leave the United States, join her husband, Frank Cammarata, notorious paroled bank robber, and live with him in exile from the country where she and her two children were born.

Yonnie's mother was near tears yesterday as she recounted the woes of the Licavoli family.

"I've seen two of my sons go to prison; and a son-in-law, and two nephews face trial for murder," she said. "Now Grace is going to Italy. The children will forget me. For 42 years I have lived here in America. There is nobody any longer left back in Italy for me. My family is all dead. I must stay on here as long as I live."

Mrs. Licavoli's face was etched in sorrow. The last seven years has brought bitter tragedy. Again and again she saw the Licavoli gang match strength and wits with the law—and lose.

Frank Cammarata went to prison for bank robbery.

Pete Licavoli was sent to the federal penitentiary for bribery.

Yonnie is serving a life sentence

in Ohio prison for four Toledo murders.

A nephew is serving life sentence for bank robbery in Jackson.

Another nephew is wanted by police for murder.

The husband of Mrs. Licavoli and father of Yonnie was killed in an automobile accident near Fostoria.

Grace, daughter of Yonnie, was killed in the same accident.

"I've got to keep on," said Mrs. Licavoli.

"I have suffered so much."

TO PROSECUTE LICAVOLI CASE

SEP 27 1934

Reams, Rhinefort, Bunge to Conduct Trial for Murder.

The Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli first degree murder trial which starts Oct. 9 in Judge John McCabe's courtroom will be prosecuted by Frazier Reams and his assistants, Joel T. Rhinefort and Arnold F. Bunge.

This decision was made Friday afternoon at the staff meeting of Mr. Reams and his assistants in the grand jury room.

Dr. Joseph Futros, investigator for the state parole board, who has been assigned to check into details of the Joseph (Wop) English conviction, was in Toledo Friday.

He said that he is not working on the English case at present but that he intends to be a daily spectator at the trial of Licavoli in order that he may obtain the facts. Records in the case of English who was convicted of the murder of Jackie Kennedy have been turned over to Dr. Futros.

LICAVOLIS AWAIT SECOND CHILD

AUG 11 1934

Gangland Leader's Wife Taken to Hospital From Home.

Mrs. Thomas Licavoli, wife of Toledo's gangland leader, Yonnie, is in St. Vincent's hospital awaiting the arrival of their second child.

Mrs. Licavoli was taken to the hospital from her home at 2733 Pemberton drive Friday afternoon. The Licavolis have a daughter.

Mrs. Licavoli is occupying the same room that she had when the first child was born. It is a room done in blue and gold and is the most expensive in the maternity wing. The gangster's wife is registered at the hospital under her correct name for the first time, having used an assumed name on the first occasion.

Licavoli himself is held in the county jail awaiting trial on a first degree murder charge in the deaths of Jack Kennedy, Louise Bell, Norman Blatt and Abe Lubitsky. He was arrested March 8.

REPUTED GANG

HEAD QUIZZED

AUG 12 1932
Licavoli Testifies
for Coroner's
Inquest

Denial that he had any knowledge of the slaying of Pete Dargathio and Dominick Migliore here last week was made by Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli when he appeared yesterday before Coroner Frank G. Kretz for questioning in connection with the killings.

Licavoli, who had been sought for two days by the coroner, appeared at Dr. Kretz's office yesterday with his attorney, Harry Levy. He said that he knew Dargathio and Migliore casually, but that they had never worked for him and that he never had any dealings with them.

Licavoli said that he was at his home, 3733 Pemberton road, the night of the slaying, and that he knew nothing about it until the next day. John Rai, reputed lieutenant of Licavoli, also appeared at Dr. Kretz's office yesterday and testified that he knew the murdered man slightly but that he had no knowledge of the slayings. He said he was at home the night the slayings were shot.

Coroner Kretz, who devoted several days to questioning gangster suspects, rendered a verdict yesterday that Dargathio and Migliore were killed by a person or persons unknown.

Paul Daniele, 725 Erie street, a chef in the Rosini restaurant, testified that on the night of the slaying the two murdered men left the restaurant with two girls. Police have been unable to locate the two girls.

'Alone With My Tears'

Yonnie Licavoli Turns Prison Cell Into Song-Writing Studio

23444

AUG 21 1932
COLUMBUS, Aug. 20 (AP)—One of Ohio penitentiary's erstwhile bad boys—ex-gang leader Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli of Toledo—has turned his cell into a big house version of Tin Pan alley.

The 30-year-old Italian, serving a life term for murder, is sending song after song to music publishers and band leaders, Warden Frank D. Henderson said today, and reports indicate Licavoli is meeting some success.

After eight years served without a chance of parole, Licavoli collaborated with Harlow Gould, inmate director of the prison band, and Kermit Jackson, recently paroled Stark countian, to write the words for a series of ballads stressing love, waiting and patriotic themes.

Some of the titles are "Sweetheart of the U. S. O.," "My Rosary of Love," "When Purple Shadows Fall Beyond the Blue," "I'll Be Waiting Dear," "We're Coming Over," and "Alone With My Tears."

Licavoli works in the prison sterilization plant, helping clean mattresses and clothing. He sleeps and writes songs in a four-man cell, nine feet by nine square.

He and four lieutenants in a Toledo gang were sentenced to life terms for four slayings in 1931, '32 and '33. State, prison and Lucas county officials have made several investigations into reports that Licavoli's friends on the outside had attempted to get trial witnesses to change testimony and help free the five whose only hope for freedom lies in commutations of sentence.



THOMAS (YONNIE) LICAVOLI

REAMS STUDIES RACKET DETAIL

Prosecutor Surveys Evidence While Aids Question New Witnesses

AUG 22 1933

Arnold Bunge, assistant county prosecutor, said Tuesday he would call in and talk to several persons in the inquiry into the murder of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger, and into the slot machine and gambling rackets.

Prosecutor Reams plans to spend the day studying testimony.

City police Monday visited known betting establishments downtown every 15 minutes. There were no wagers placed openly.

It was reported Tuesday that some Toledo slot machine operators are trying to evade Prosecutor Reams' order banning machines by placing machines that vend mints.

Ask Reams' Ruling.

The attempt to legalize the machines is one of the first ever made here, it is said. Heretofore, they have paid to the fortunate, nickels, dimes, quarters and, in a few instances, slugs.

Mr. Reams has been requested by several operators to rule on the status of the rebuilt machines. He refused to, advising the operators to employ attorneys.

He said he would instruct the police and sheriff to confiscate the machines if they are being used for any purpose but the sale of merchandise. The custom in the past has been to provide a poor grade of mint or gum and offer it as a subterfuge. Most customers left the "prize."

Another new device on the market is a ball gum machine. The prosecutor has one in his office for examination.

Denies Gambling.

Pressing his investigation of gambling, the prosecutor Monday questioned Edward Warnke, said to be operator of a gambling place owned by Jimmy Hayes at 631 S. St. Clair street.

Warnke said he managed a restaurant at that address, but denied he operated gambling games. He said a room occupied by the Jovial club in rear of the place has a membership of 360 who play cards.

He said Hayes is in jail, and the Licavoli gang over asked him to pay tribute.

Quiz Johnny Rose.

Another questioned Monday in connection with the gambling probe was Johnny Rose, former Licavoli aid and former manager of the Golden Rose and Show Boat Night clubs. It was not his first appearance before the prosecutor in the same connection, however.

Meanwhile, Capt. George Timiney sought Yonnie Licavoli and members of his gang to ask them additional questions concerning the murder July 7 of Jack Kennedy, Toledo bootlegger, whose slaying led to the sweeping investigation of rackets by the prosecutor.

REAMS CHECKS RACKET DATA

Business Men Called by Prosecutor in Sifting of Gamblers' Stories

AUG 25 1933

Prosecutor Reams, investigating the murder of Jack Kennedy, has obtained from a merchant, whose name was withheld, corroboration of the testimony of a gambler whose word had been doubted.

The prosecutor Friday expected to ask several other Toledo business men to appear at his office for questioning to check testimony that had been given by racketeers and gangsters. The business men will be protected and their names will not be published.

In addition to the business men, Reams and Detective Captain George Timiney will question Jack Haddad, 25, alias Samuel Haddad, of 441 Palmwood avenue, about rumors that he has been connected with the Licavoli gang. Haddad was arrested Thursday night.

The prosecutor has dropped the case of Frank Enpactato, 30, of Monros, who was arrested Wednesday and turned over to United States immigration authorities for possible deportation. Federal agents reported Enpactato could not be deported because he had never served a sentence for a felony, which is a requirement under government codes.

ARREST NEAR FOR LICAVOLI

Authorities Believe Gang Chief Will Be Nabbed Within Few Days.

AUG 27 1933

Belief that Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo gang leader who is sought for questioning in the murder of Jackie Kennedy, beer baron, may be arrested within a few days was entertained Thursday by local authorities.

Prosecutor Frazier Reams who conferred Wednesday afternoon with one of the investigators from the office of Harry S. Toy, Wayne county prosecutor, dubbed by reporters as "Little Clarke" said he expected results soon.

Mr. Reams said the investigator who called him from Detroit early Wednesday before coming to Toledo had given him several helpful suggestions. They discussed developments in the Kennedy investigation, Mr. Reams said.

Arnold F. Bunge, assistant county prosecutor, who has been active in the investigation, said much information has been received recently from citizens who voluntarily came in and presented evidence to the prosecutor.

Mr. Bunge hoped this evidence coupled with that uncovered by Mr. Toy's special investigators may assist in building up an air-tight case against organized gangsters. Much of the information concerned the gangland slayings of Miss Louise Bell, Kennedy's girl friend, and Abe (the Punk) Lubitsky, the assistant said.

MURDER BULLET FOUND IN POLE

Slug Discovered Near Scene of Kennedy Slaying Taken to Prosecutor

AUG 29 1933

A .45 caliber pistol bullet, removed from a telephone pole near the scene of the murder of Jack Kennedy in Point Place, July 7, was brought to Prosecutor Frazier Reams yesterday by a resident of the neighborhood.

Questioning of persons who have information about the crime is being continued by Arnold Bunge, assistant prosecutor. Detective Captain George Timiney, detailed to the case, is still in Bowling Green in connection with the dry cleaners' Perrysburg bombing case.

The attempt to starve gangsters into submission by cutting off their various sources of illicit revenue is being rigorously continued, according to the prosecutor.

KENNEDY DEATH QUIZ IS PUSHED

Hoodlums and Point Place Witnesses Examined By Reams and Aid

AUG 30 1933

Prosecutor Reams Tuesday began to concentrate on the Kennedy murder, questioning two Toledo hoodlums and several Point Place witnesses to the slaying. He avoided a meeting between the Point Place residents and the hoodlums.

The hoodlums are Tony (Whitey) Besese and Manuel Lacati. They are said to ride around in a maroon Ford V-8 coach, the type and color of the car described as the one in which the killers fled from the Point.

Besese and brother have been questioned by police in several gang slayings, including the Annarino and the Incoavis murders. Besese and Lacati were questioned by Arnold Bunge, assistant prosecutor, in Mr. Reams' office in the courthouse.

At the same time, Mr. Reams questioned the Point Placers in his private law office in the Board of Trade building. His purpose in separating the investigation, he said, is to shield Point residents who have been giving valuable information.

The latest valuable clue, furnished by a resident of the village, is a .45-caliber bullet found imbedded in a telephone pole and presented to the prosecutor Monday.

NEW ANGLES IN KENNEDY MURDER FOUND

Prosecutor Confers With New Investigator From Detroit; Pleased With Arrests.

AUG 30 1933

Important new angles in the investigation of the murder of Jackie Kennedy, Toledo beer baron, have been uncovered by Detroit investigators, Prosecutor Frazier Reams announced Wednesday.

The prosecutor, who has been conducting a starvation campaign against organized gangsters, conferred Tuesday afternoon with "Little Clarke," Detroit investigator, and a new investigator who has been working on the case during the last four days. This latter investigator has been responsible for uncovering the new developments, the prosecutor said.

Pleased With Arrests

Mr. Reams was well pleased with the arrest of Tony (Whitey) Besese and Manuel (Monk) Licati, admitted bootleggers, who told authorities Tuesday that the automobile which they had been operating bearing the license plates of Sebastian (Buster) Lupica actually belonged to Ralph Carsello, sought in the Kennedy killing investigation. They are held under \$5,000 bond each.

The prosecutor said that this was valuable information. This automobile is said by authorities to resemble a machine seen at Point Place the night that Kennedy met his death in that district.

Besese and Licati, who told reporters they were fruit salesmen, may be indicted by the grand jury on charges of forgery in connection with the obtaining of a license for the Carsello car, officials said. They are bootlegger henchmen of Yonnie Licavoli, wanted here for quizzing in the Kennedy murder.

Manager Questioned

Lupica, manager of the State Sales Co., Licavoli slot machine outfit, was questioned by Mr. Reams Tuesday.

Besese was active in making arrangements to obtain bond for Licavoli when the gang leader was convicted of conspiracy to violate the federal liquor laws in federal court last spring.

Arnold Bunge, assistant prosecutor, said he intended to question a Point Place resident Wednesday.

Clarence Holmes, a slot machine operator for the Fretti brothers, was questioned by Assistant Prosecutor Arnold Bunge Wednesday. Holmes was the only one of 12 men working for the Frettis who failed to appear for questioning Saturday. He telephoned Mr. Bunge Wednesday that he would be in.

MRS. LICAVOLI IS QUESTIONED, KNOWS NOTHING

Gangster's Wife Has No Idea Where Yonnie Can Be; Ware Has Alibi

SEP 1 1933

Mrs. Yonnie Licavoli Friday had stepped on and off the stage in Prosecutor Reams' investigation of the murder of Jack Kennedy.

The young mother was questioned Thursday by Mr. Reams' assistant, Arnold Bunge, and Detective Captain George Timiney, relative to the absence of her gangster husband. She appeared in the prosecutor's office with her husband's attorney, Harry Levy.

Obviously nervous, the dark young woman appeared sincere. She said the much-sought Licavoli left the city several weeks ago on "business." She said she could not recall the nature of the business or his destination.

Anxious To See Yonnie.

She, too, is anxious to learn where he is, she said. She agreed to ask Licavoli to communicate with the prosecutor, when and if he returns.

Mrs. Licavoli is the daughter of Joe Mocerri of Detroit. During the protracted wake for her father, Kennedy was shot to death at Point Place July 7. She is a sister of "Black Leo" Mocerri, another suspect in the Kennedy killing.

Joseph Eppstein, attorney for the Lubeck Brewing Co., Friday made an explanation about the car seized two weeks ago from Ben Ware and still held by police in connection with the Kennedy slaying. Ware had severed his connections as office manager of the brewery the day before he was questioned by Capt. Timiney about the car, Mr. Eppstein said.

Bill of Sale Asked.

Mr. Eppstein said it was reported erroneously that Ware had borrowed the car from Harry (Little Napoleon) Weiss, convicted Cleveland racketeer. He said the car belongs to Morris Weiss, Cleveland, who is neither a relative nor acquaintance of Harry Weiss. Capt. Timiney has given Mr. Eppstein permission to take the car, which is held in the police building garage, when he presents a bill of sale for it, he said.

Mr. Eppstein said he has the bill of sale in his office.

Yonnie Seized in Akron With Gun in Pocket; Detectives Trail Three Henchmen of Gang Chief Wanted Here in Kennedy Murder

At 2 p m. Thursday Detective Capt. George Timiney and Detective Chris Brennan will leave Akron, O., for Toledo with Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli.

SEP 14 1933

They arrested Licavoli late Wednesday afternoon as the gang chief was window shopping in a downtown Akron street, with a .32 automatic pistol on each hip.

"Yonnie" will be questioned by Prosecutor Reams and Assistant Prosecutor Bunge regarding the whereabouts of

Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella and Joseph English, who are wanted for the murder of Jack Kennedy, a rival bootlegger.

Lee Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, has asked that Sheriff Krieger hold Licavoli for the federal government and that he will have a federal officer on duty to take him into custody.

The prosecutor's office has indicated it will hold Licavoli as a material witness to the Kennedy murder, may place a charge of operating a gambling device against him, and certainly will ask for an extremely high bond, probably \$50,000.

May Be Accused of Murder.

Licavoli made a motion toward his hip-pockets as he was approached by Detectives Ernest Binkley and Gilbert Mosely of the Akron force, who accompanied Detectives Timiney and Brennan, but they clamped cuffs on him before he was able to reach either weapon.

"He looked pretty sheepish when we found those guns on him," Detective Brennan said. "Otherwise, he had little to say except that he supposed he might as well go back and face the music. He'd have to some time, he said."

On Trail of Three.

The capture of Licavoli punctuates a man hunt that Capt. Timiney has conducted since he was assigned to aid Prosecutor Reams in the solution of the murder.

Capt. Timiney believes that Carsello, Leo Mocerri, English and Mirabella all were in Akron last Saturday night when they held some kind of a party. They are not in Akron now, Timiney says.

"They're here for the same reason they are in Toledo—muscling in," Timiney explained.

Akron detectives said they have known that Licavoli and his henchmen have been in and out of Akron for the last two weeks and all members of the force were looking for them.

Go Looking for "Yonnie."

Earlier that day, they had gone to the Marne hotel and found Licavoli registered under the name of Sturns. They returned shortly after noon with Timiney and Brennan and before they reached the hotel they found him.

Questioned about why he had the guns, Licavoli said, "Well, what would you do?"

Attorney Fred Ormsby, one of Akron's ace criminal lawyers, talked with Licavoli for two hours Wednesday night in the jail, but Licavoli indicated he would make no effort to evade returning to Toledo.

Assistant Prosecutor Bunge said he does not know what his office will do with Licavoli, but that he expects to confer with Prosecutor Reams as soon as Reams returns Thursday from his vacation.

There was no activity at the Licavoli home in Pemberton drive early Thursday. Two cars were in the garage.

BANK HOLDUP QUIZ FACED BY LICAVOLI

2 Witnesses of Robbery in Farrell, Pa., on Way Here to Confront Gangster.

SEP 15 1933

PICTURE OF YONNIE STARTS CHECK-UP

Attorney Barred From Room by Reams When Client Undergoes Questioning.

Investigation of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, in a new role—that of bank robber—was begun Friday as he was taken to the grand jury room in the courthouse for questioning by Prosecutor Frazier Reams.

Two witnesses of the holdup of the Sol J. Gully bank at Farrell, Pa., where seven bandits took \$15,000 Tuesday, were on their way to Toledo to look at Licavoli and members of his gang, who are suspected of the holdup.

Mrs. Pearl Maurer, a bank employe, and Karl E. J. Wild, a young watchmaker whom the bandits kidnaped, tentatively identified a picture of Licavoli Thursday as one of the robbers, but said they would have to see him in person "to make certain."

Licavoli was returned to Toledo Thursday from Akron, where he was arrested Wednesday afternoon. He has been seen in Youngstown, near Farrell, recently, police said.

Believed Plausible

Authorities here considered it entirely plausible that local gangsters, without revenue here since Prosecutor Reams began his drive against racketeering following the gangland slaying of Jackie Kennedy at Point Place July 7, may have turned to bank robbery to obtain funds for defense and sustenance.

Licavoli was taken to the courthouse shortly before 11 A. M. Friday by Detectives James Tafelaki and Chris Brennan. His attorney, Harry Levy, insisted upon being present when he was questioned, but Prosecutor Reams, fresh from a week's vacation in Michigan, denied him this privilege.

The prosecutor, who was accompanied by Joel Rhinefort and Arnold Bunge, his assistants, told Licavoli that it was not the cus-

Continued on Page Eight, 3rd Col.

tom of the prosecutor's office to permit attorneys to be present during questioning, and that if Licavoli had no objection, he would like to have Mr. Levy retire. Licavoli said that was all right with him, and Mr. Levy went to lunch.

The questioning was not begun until noon, the prosecutor and his assistants being delayed at a bank hearing before Judge James Martin.

The prosecutor expected to question Licavoli on a number of gangland subjects as well as the Kennedy case. Charges ranging from first degree murder to extortion may be placed against him.

The gangster, who has been the object of an extensive search on the part of county and city officials for six weeks, arrived in Toledo at 3:25 P. M. Thursday in the custody of Detective Captain George Timiney and Detective Brennan.

Arrested in Akron

He was arrested by these officers assisted by Gilbert Mosely and Ernest Binkley, Akron detectives, Wednesday afternoon in front of an Akron department store. He had been registered at a hotel under an assumed name for two weeks.

While Mr. Reams is questioning the suspect, Paul Weisenberg, expert in the bureau of identification, will attempt to restore the numbers on a .38 caliber revolver found in Licavoli's possession when he was arrested in Akron. Detectives said that the original numbers on the weapon had been removed. It is possible that they may be restored through the use of acids.

It is also planned to send the gun to the Detroit police department for examination by ballistics experts. More than a score of weapons seized in a local pawnshop during the Kennedy investigation have been checked by these experts. Bullets that have ended the lives of several of Toledo's gangsters have also been tested by the Detroit police.

Is Not Handcuffed

Licavoli was taken to the Safety building by the detectives after they parked their automobile in the Civic Center garage. He was not handcuffed but walked between the officers. In the office of Louis J. Haas, inspector of detectives, Yonnie answered few questions of reporters.

"We had a nice automobile ride," he said, "and I'm glad it's all over."

Asked about the gun he was carrying when he was arrested Licavoli said: "That was one of the few times I've ever carried a gun. In fact, I forgot I had it in my pocket. I'm sorry they found it on me."

Mr. Bunge, who has been doing the detail work of Mr. Reams' racketeering investigation, went to the Safety building immediately after Captain Timiney arrived with the suspect. He said that he questioned Licavoli generally but that the gangster preferred not to talk until his attorney, Harry Levy, arrived.

To Wait for Reams

Following Mr. Levy's appearance it was decided not to question the gangster until Friday morning when Mr. Reams would be on the job. It was arranged that Yonnie be held on suspicion in the Safety building.

When booked by the turnkey Licavoli gave his age as 29 and his occupation as a salesman. He had a few papers and some money on him when he was searched by the jailer.

Licavoli asked to be placed in a cell with another prisoner so he could have someone with whom he could talk. He said it was "too lonesome" to be in a cell alone. He spent the night in the bull pen, sleeping on a bench.

Wife Permitted to Visit Him

Mrs. Licavoli, who had informed authorities she had not seen her husband since he left six weeks ago, was given permission to visit the gang leader Thursday night.

Yonnie had not been seen around Toledo since Prosecutor Reams learned that a gun used in the killing of Kennedy was sold to Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, who has been linked with the gangster's activities here. Sulkin is held on a first degree murder indictment.

Mr. Bunge said that Licavoli will not be held as a material witness in the Kennedy murder but will face some charge growing out of the murder investigation or out of Mr. Reams' probe into racketeering in the county and city.

The assistant prosecutor said that Akron police have placed a holder on Licavoli because of his arrest on the charge of carrying concealed weapons.

Issues Federal Detainer

Lee Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, has issued a federal detainer which will keep the prisoner in custody regardless of what

action the city or county officials take. Mr. Murlin explained that Licavoli's conviction as a liquor conspirator has been appealed and awaits a decision.

It is believed that during eight weeks of intensive work on the part of local officers and the "Clarke Brothers," investigators from the office of Harry Toy, Wayne county prosecutor, Mr. Reams has built a case of damaging evidence against Licavoli.

The investigations of these officers, it is believed, has also resulted in the development of evidence which will demand indictments against Licavoli's henchmen, Joseph (Wop) English, Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Leo Mocerri and other lesser lights.

LICAVOLI QUIZ IN MURDER IS SET FOR TODAY

SEP 15 1933

Reputed Gang Leader Returned to City From Akron

DELAY GRANTED

Prosecutor To Question Him on Whereabouts of Henchmen

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed Toledo gang leader, who was booked at the Safety building yesterday on a charge of suspicion following his return from Akron, will be questioned at 10 a. m. today by Prosecutor Frazier Reams, his assistants and city detectives.

Prosecutor Reams returned last night from a week's vacation at Frankfort, Mich.

Licavoli, who has been missing since the arrest of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin in connection with the Jack Kennedy murder was taken into custody Wednesday in Akron and returned to this city by Detective Captain George Timiney and Detective Chris Brennan, who made the arrest.

Not Handcuffed

alleged hoodlum chief Timiney and Detective Brennan after the officers parked their auto in a garage near the police station. He walked between the two officers and was not handcuffed.

He was taken to the office of Detective Inspector Louis Haas and the detectives with Assistant Prosecutor Arnold Bunge began quizzing him but the prisoner refused to answer until his attorney, Harry Levy, arrived.

Quiz Delayed

After Mr. Levy arrived he arranged with Mr. Bunge to delay the questioning until tomorrow morning and Licavoli was taken to the turnkey's office and booked. He gave his age as 29 and his address as 2733 Pemberton drive.

Turnkey Thomas Beckler said Licavoli had only \$3 and some change in his possession besides a watch and chain and several keys. He was wearing a brown double-breasted suit, brown shoes and tan hat. The natty little mustache he was wearing when arrested shortly after the Kennedy murder during the summer was missing.

When arrested in Akron Licavoli, according to Detective Brennan, was armed with a snub .38 caliber pistol. It was the first time a gun was found on the prisoner, Detective Brennan said.

When asked what Licavoli talked about on the return trip, Detective Brennan said he discussed about everything but the Kennedy murder case. His main topic of discussion, the detectives said, was horse racing.

Assistant Prosecutor Bunge said

he believed Mr. Reams will question Licavoli on the whereabouts of several of his henchmen, Joe (Wop) English, John Mirabella, Ralph Carsello and Leo Mocerri, who also are sought in the slaying of Kennedy.

Mr. Bunge said he did not know what charge would be placed against Yonnie following the questioning but earlier in the day, Lee Murlin, U. S. district attorney, issued a federal retainer against him to keep him in custody regardless of the action taken by city and county authorities.

Licavoli was recently sentenced in federal court on a liquor charge but the sentence was deferred pending motion for a new trial.

Licavoli's wife and small child visited him last night in the cell block at the Safety building. Mrs. Licavoli brought her husband a freshly pressed suit and some fresh linen. A steak dinner with all "the

trimmings" was ordered from a downtown restaurant by the prisoner and served to him in his cell.

In a talkative mood, Licavoli told attaches of the turnkey's office that he intended to leave Toledo when "got out of this mess." He said he probably would go to California.

Licavoli Is All Washed Up With Rackets, He Announces

Henceforth Yonnie Will Be Strictly "on Legit" Because He Loves Family and Is Weary of Detectives, He Tells Timiney.

SEP 15 1933

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo's ace racketeer, is all washed up with rackets and from now on is going to be strictly on the legit" because he loves his wife and baby and is sick and tired of being chased around by detectives.

Licavoli, who is being held in connection with County Prosecutor Frazier Reams' combination Jack Kennedy murder probe and campaign against racketeers, admitted as much to Capt. of Detectives George Timiney Thursday while he was being brought to Toledo from Akron where he was arrested late Wednesday by Captain Timiney, Detective Chris Brennan and Akron detectives.

Always the meticulously dressed, gentlemanly chap, Yonnie was jovial and care-free in a tense sort of way late Thursday when he walked into the Safety building garage between Captain Timiney and Detective Brennan after a three and one-half hour ride from Akron in Captain Timiney's private automobile.

No Extra Guards Needed

The detectives, contrary to reports from Akron that Licavoli was under heavily armed guard because of a rumor that an attempt would be made by gangsters to "snatch" him from the authorities just outside of Akron, made the entire trip alone with their prisoner.

"Yonnie was a gentleman at all times and I believe it would have been almost as safe to have put a postage stamp on him and mailed him home if he had behaved as he did with us," Captain Timiney said.

En route, Captain Timiney said Licavoli declared he was through with rackets because he always was on the jump wondering what the detectives would arrest him for

time at home with his wife and baby.

The dapper Toledo gang leader also divulged the information he had bought "a piece" of a cooperative factory near Akron and was going to move out of Toledo because he was "fed up with the town."

Rackets Are for No Good

The rackets, Captain Timiney said Yonnie told him, are for no good because a fellow can't put anything away. What money a chap gets he has to put out almost as fast as it comes in.

Captain Timiney said he also discussed Yonnie's purported companionship with other Toledo gangsters, among them Jacob (Fire-Top) Sulkin, who is under indictment for first degree murder in connection with the Kennedy killing.

"Yeah, Sulkin and Johnny Rose have got me into a lot of jams in Toledo," Yonnie is reported to have said.

Licavoli was attired neatly in a chocolate-brown, single-breasted suit, brown tie to match, a brown and white checked shirt, light socks, brown oxfords and a light grey felt hat. He was taken to the office of Inspector of Detectives Louis Haas immediately on arrival at the Safety building, where he was questioned by Arnold Bunge, assistant county prosecutor.

Glad It's Over

"Yeah, we had a fine trip and I'm glad, in a way, that it's all over," he said in response to reporters' questions.

"About that gun? Well, that was one of the very few times I've ever carried one. I'm sorry they found it on me. In fact, I forgot I had it in my pocket," Licavoli said.

He refused to answer any questions about the investigation, declaring he was willing to talk to the prosecutor and that the newspapers would get any information he imparted from that source.

When asked if he had missed the

companionship of his family, Yonnie became irritated and asked, "Don't you think it's about time you gave me a rest?"

Captain Timiney said Licavoli told him on the return trip that he had been in Toledo but once since he left the city several weeks ago and on that occasion had not stopped at his Pemberton drive home because the house was dark and he had not wanted to arouse Mrs. Licavoli and his baby from their sleep.

Weapon to Be Inspected

The weapon which Licavoli was carrying when arrested was a .38 caliber snub-nosed revolver—a weapon which is popular with gangsters because its short length permits ready concealment.

The weapon, the numbers of which had been obliterated with a drill or punch, will be sent to Detroit for examination by police ballistics experts, Captain Timiney said.

"Sooner or later," Yonnie is said to have told Captain Timiney, "I would have come back to Toledo voluntarily. I was just waiting until it cooled off a little."

Despite Licavoli's declaration that he is through with rackets, Toledo authorities are of the opinion that he is pretty well tied up with racketeering not only in Toledo, but in Akron, Canton, Mansfield, Cleveland and Detroit.

It generally is conceded that "getting off the rackets" is by no means a simple step, especially for a fellow who knows a lot about them. Often such a move has a rather unpleasant aftermath, detectives point out.

HOME AGAIN



Thomas "Yonnie" Licavoli, Toledo's abdicated gang chieftain, as he appeared on his return to Toledo.

REAMS GRILLS LICAVOLI ON KENNEDY CASE

SEP 15 1933

Gang Leader Is Questioned, and Is Expected To Be Formally Accused

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 29, gangster leader, faced the music of the law again Friday, when County Prosecutor Reams and his assistants subjected him to questioning in the prosecutor's office.

Licavoli, arrested in Akron Wednesday as he nonchalantly looked over the wares in a department store window, spent Thursday night in a cell at the Safety building.

The gang chief was brought to Toledo Thursday afternoon by Detective Capt. George Timiney and Detective Chris Brennan. Police took him to Mr. Reams' office for questioning Friday morning.

Charges Impend

Assistant Prosecutors Arnold Bunge and Joel Rhinefort assisted in the questioning. The prosecutors expected charges would be preferred against Licavoli after the questioning.

Harry Levy, Licavoli's attorney, sat outside the prosecutor's office as the examination began. He left for lunch while the grilling was under way.

The prosecutor returned Thursday night from a week's vacation and arranged for the questioning.

Licavoli has been sought since the arrest of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, contact man for the Licavoli gang, in connection with the murder of Jack Kennedy, Toledo bootlegger, at Point Place, July 7.

It's Too Hot Here

Detective Captain Timiney said Licavoli declared, on his way back Thursday afternoon, that he was "sick of Toledo and left because it is hot here."

Timiney parked his car at a garage near the Safety building and the two detectives walked Licavoli

Licavoli was taken immediately to the office of Detective Inspector Louis Haas where Arnold Bunge, assistant prosecutor, questioned him. He answered questions readily until they asked him about the Kennedy murder.

Demands His Attorney

Then Licavoli demanded his attorney. After a conference with Mr. Levy, Bunge agreed to postpone the questioning until 10 a. m. Friday, when Prosecutor Reams could aid.

The gang leader was expected to be asked to tell the hideaway of Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Leo Mocerri and Joe (Wop) English, who are wanted for the Kennedy murder.

After the quizzing in Haas' office, Licavoli was taken to the turnkey's office and booked on a technical charge of suspicion. Turnkey Tom Beckler granted Licavoli's request to keep the \$3 he had in his pockets. Licavoli's wife and their year-old baby visited him in his cell for a few minutes.

LICAVOLI IS SUED FOR CLOTHING BILL

Monroe Tailoring Firm Brings Action To Collect \$552

While a jury in federal court yesterday was deciding that Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli was guilty of conspiring to violate the national prohibition act, the Monroe, Mich., tailoring firm of H. J. Reisig & Son brought suit in common pleas court against Licavoli for an unpaid clothing bill of \$552.45, plus interest since July 18, 1931.

The itemized account of Licavoli's bill in the petition showed that he was in the habit of wearing shirts that cost \$12 apiece, suits priced at nearly \$77 apiece and flannel trousers at more than \$20 apiece.

The suit is directed against Licavoli under the alias of Thomas Lasher, 2733 Pemberton drive. The account lists goods purchased in May, June and July, 1931. It lists three silk-lined suits, \$230, May 8; six custom shirts, \$72, May 15; three flannel trousers, \$61, May 28; one pair of trousers, \$18.50, June 2; a suit and two pairs of flannel trousers, \$11, June 10; a suit and one pair of flannel trousers, also on June 10, and a balance of \$67.45 due on a dry cleaning account, July 18.

A credit entry of \$100 is listed for June 2.



This picture of the Licavoli jury was taken as the jurors left the Federal building.

JUDGE HAHN RULES ON TWO POINTS IN LIQUOR TESTIMONY

Conspiracy, Nuisance Questions Cleared, Panel Returns To Deliberations After 10 Hours' Study of Mass of Evidence

By DONALD POND.

After 10 hours deliberation, the federal court jury in the liquor trial of Thomas Licavoli and George Petcoff Wednesday sent two written questions to Federal Judge George Hahn.

The questions: 1: "If the defendant is guilty of one overt act under the sixth count of the indictment, is he guilty of the count?" The count in question is one charging Licavoli and Petcoff with conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act.

Continued From Page 1. tain a nuisance at the Showboat. And the third is the conspiracy to manufacture intoxicating liquor at the illicit still." (The still at 1413 Holmes street uncovered in a raid some time ago.)

2: "Please give your instructions to the jury on the relation of so-called 'set-ups'—gingerale, cracked ice, etc.—to the maintaining of a nuisance and your ruling as to what constitutes a nuisance."

The questions, signed by Elwood Meyer, jury foreman, were given to Judge Hahn at 10:20 a. m. The judge immediately summoned Defense Attorney Harry Levy, and Lee N. Murlin and Herman Krueger, assistant United States district attorneys. The jury was ordered brought into the courtroom.

Answering the second question, Judge Hahn read the law relating to nuisances:

Rules on Nuisances. "Any room, house, boat, vehicle or place where intoxicating liquor is manufactured, sold, bartered or kept is hereby declared to be a common nuisance."

The judge explained the United States circuit court of this district has held that the proprietor of a place where meals are served and gingerale or mineral waters are provided at exorbitant or unusual prices for use with liquor is guilty of maintaining a nuisance.

To the first question Judge Hahn said:

"The answer is yes, but there has to be some explanation. To convict of conspiracy, some prior agreement between or among the parties involved must be found. In this connection, it should be pointed out that the action of a group of men may be taken as evidence of conspiracy."

Hotel Exonerated.

Attorney Murlin asked the court to remind jurors that the indictment charged conspiracy to manufacture and sell liquor and not merely conspiracy to maintain a nuisance.

"I do not sympathize," Judge Hahn told the jury, "with the government's viewpoint that liquor was sold from the Argonne hotel. And since the matter has been brought up, it seems to me I should say so."

"It seems to me," he continued, "that there are three principal things for the jury to consider under this count. The first is the conspiracy to maintain a nuisance at the Golden Rose Supper club. The second is the conspiracy to main-

Well-Dressed Yonnie

While Yonnie Licavoli waited Wednesday for the jury to decide his fate, H. J. Reisig & Son, tailors of Monroe, Mich., filed suit against him in common pleas court for \$552.45 for clothes sold and delivered and for work and labor performed.

The petition states that Licavoli paid only \$100 on a \$552.45 account contracted between May 8, 1931, and June 18, 1931. Following is the detailed list of purchases: May 8, three silk lined suits, \$230; May 15, six custom shirts, \$72; May 28, three flannel pants, \$61; June 2, one pair of pants, \$18.50; June 10, a suit and two flannel pants, \$11; same date, suit and one flannel pants, \$92.50; balance on dry cleaning \$67.45.

CARSELLO IS FREED FOR U. S. SENTENCE

Reams Agrees to Court Order Releasing Sulkis Case Witness.

Ralph Carsello, chief henchman of Yonnie Licavoli, who has been held in the county jail as a material witness against Jacob (Firetop) Sulkis, fre bunder bond in the murder of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger, was released Friday to federal authorities to serve a liquor sentence imposed upon him several months ago.

Order for his release was signed by Common Pleas Judge Roy Stuart at the request of the county prosecutor. Carsello has been held as a witness in the case since Nov. 6.

Carsello was convicted with Licavoli on a charge of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act.

PETCOFF IS ACQUITTED; ALLEGED GANG LEADER STOICAL AT VERDICT

Yonnie Guilty on One of Six Counts; Maximum Penalty Two Years and Fine of \$10,000

The United States government late yesterday scored a decisive victory in its campaign to curb the activities of gangsters in Toledo when a jury of six men and six women convicted Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act.

The jury returned its verdict amid a dramatic tenseness

of the crowded federal courtroom at 3:05 p. m. after deliberating approximately 15 hours on the fate of the purported czar of the city's most powerful rum ring, and George Petcoff, head of the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, who was tried jointly with Licavoli.

Petcoff was absolved by the jury of any connection with the illicit activities of the huge ring which the government declared Licavoli organized, dominated and directed. He was found not guilty of all six counts of the true bill.

Asks Instructions

At 2 p. m., shortly after the jury returned from lunch to resume its deliberations, Foreman Edward Meyer, 15 Whiting street, sent a note to Judge George P. Hahn which read: "The jury has agreed unanimously on several counts of the indictment but has disagreed on other counts. We believe it will be impossible to reach an agreement on these counts. We await your instructions."

Judge Hahn immediately notified Attorney Harry Levy, counsel for Licavoli, and his client; Attorney U. G. Denman, representing Petcoff, and Petcoff, and District Attorneys Lee N. Murlin and Herman Krueger. All but Attorney Denman and Petcoff assembled in the courtroom within a few moments and the jury was ushered into the courtroom, which was filled with

"Here, wait a minute," interrupted Judge Hahn, "you've read the Petcoff verdict wrong. It should be not guilty."

Mr. Wilson corrected his error, announcing the jury had found Petcoff not guilty of the charges contained in the indictment and the verdicts were accepted by Judge Hahn who ordered the panel ex-

Continued on Page 3, Fourth Column

Licavoli, attired neatly in a chocolate brown suit, brown shoes and hose and a bright blue cravat, accepted the verdicts stoically, his head cupped in one hand as he lounged in his chair at the trial table. A deep red flush which slowly spread over his face was the only indication of any emotion which may have been aroused by the reading of the verdicts.

Petcoff in Tears

Petcoff, obviously overcome with emotion, beamed joyously through a mist of tears which clouded his eyes.

Attorney Levy announced the case would be appealed immediately and Licavoli was taken to the office of United States Marshal George R. Weeks to remain in custody until the arrival of bondsmen to provide a new bond of \$10,000 for the convicted man pending the filing of an appeal bond.

"I don't believe I have any comment to make," Licavoli said as he ascended the stairs to the third floor of the Federal building, "what is there to say?"

"The defense has no statement to make just now," Mr. Levy said.

Petcoff, bubbling over with emotion, was unable to speak as he vigorously shook hands with almost a score of friends who surrounded him as he left the courtroom.

Denman Pleased

Attorney Denman, however, asserted he was quite happy over the attitude the jury had taken in Petcoff's case and that he "knew all along Mr. Petcoff was not guilty of such an offense because of my business and personal acquaintanceship with George over a long period of years."

"This," declared Mr. Murlin, chief of the prosecution, "is just one of the government's steps to rid the country of gangs. I don't regard it at all in the light of a personal victory but a matter in which I only did my duty."

spectators. The jury was polled and asked by Judge Hahn if it was believed it could reach an agreement on the various counts on which the panel thus far had failed to agree. Each juror replied in the negative.

Two Are Late

The failure of Attorney Denman and his client to appear, however, resulted in Judge Hahn ordering the jury to its room to deliberate further. He first decided to summon the jury to the courtroom at 4 p. m. but later advanced the time to 3 p. m.

Mr. Denman and Petcoff arrived at the Federal building shortly before 3 p. m. and the stage was set for the final curtain performance of the courtroom drama which has commanded the attention of the entire city for more than a week.

Foreman Meyer handed the verdicts of the jury to Deputy Kenneth Wilson who, in turn, handed them to Judge Hahn.

"The jury has disagreed as to the first five counts of the indictment insofar as the defendant Licavoli is concerned," Judge Hahn declared, "and the clerk will now read the jury's verdict as to the sixth count of the indictment."

Clerk Makes Mistake

Then Mr. Wilson read: "We, the jury, as to the sixth count of the indictment do find the defendant Licavoli guilty and the defendant Petcoff guilty."

As Licavoli Is Found Guilty on Liquor Charge

He asserted he would request Judge Hahn to sentence Licavoli Saturday and that the maximum penalty to which he is liable is a sentence of two years in a federal prison and a fine of \$10,000.

Jury in Hahn's Court

Foreman Meyer, of the jury, when interviewed by newspapermen, said the jury, on a whole, was a harmonious group. He indicated the panel had agreed Mr. Petcoff was not guilty of the charges by 4 p. m. Tuesday after taking only four or five ballots.

Regarding Licavoli, however, he said the jurors had taken at least 10 ballots on each of the six counts of the indictment before arriving at the agreement on the sixth count and finding themselves unable to agree on the other counts. The vote on each count, in the last few hours of deliberation, was the same—11 to 1 for conviction.

The counts on which the panel could not agree were those charging possession of alcohol; manufacture of alcohol; maintenance of a nuisance at 1413 Holmes street; making and fermenting mash, and possession of equipment designed for the distilling of alcohol.

Evidence Widespread

The conspiracy count, around which government attorneys had built a firm case of circumstantial evidence, contended Licavoli had controlled and directed a band which made, transported and disposed of liquor in Toledo from June, 1931, to February, 1932. The activities of the gang, the government declared, included operation of the Golden Rose Supper club, Point Place; the Showboat Night club, Superior street, and a huge alcohol plant at 1413 Holmes street.

Mr. Meyer said the jury's vote on the whole indictment ranged from eight to four to 11 to one for conviction of Licavoli on all counts of the bill where it hung for several hours. It was understood by court attaches that Minor A. Butler, 732 West Central avenue, was the dissenting voter for acquittal who finally brought the case to a close by swinging around to the viewpoint of his fellow-jurors but only as to the last count of the indictment.

The trial closed at 11 a. m. Tuesday after testimony of 51 government witnesses and six witnesses for Petcoff had been heard by the jury.

No Defense Offered

No defense was offered in behalf of Licavoli by attorneys John W. Hackett and Levy.

Counsel for each side argued for two hours and 10 minutes and closing arguments were completed at 11 a. m. Judge Hahn's charge consumed but 27 minutes after which the case was given to the jurors.

After deliberating throughout the afternoon and evening hours the panel was taken to the Fort Meigs hotel where the jurors spent the night.

Shortly before noon the foreman of the jury requested additional information from Judge Hahn as to whether the fact the jury could find a defendant guilty of committing one overt act of the conspiracy count would justify a conviction of this count. The jurors also asked further instruction as to what constituted the maintenance of a nuisance in a night club. The panel at that time indicated it was not deadlocked.

Licavoli probably will be sentenced Saturday by Judge Hahn together with Howard Lane, Sam Brown, Harry Silvenino, Edward Beck and Russell Palmer, his alleged henchmen, who pleaded guilty to the charges contained in the indictment one week ago Tuesday as their purported chieftan went on trial.

LICAVOLI MAY NOT BEGIN HIS TERM SOON

Attorneys Cite Delays Made Possible by Carrying Case to Higher Courts.

Despite his conviction on liquor conspiracy charges in federal court Wednesday, it probably will be months before Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli begins serving the sentence which will be imposed by Judge George P. Hahn.

His attorneys have three days in which to file a motion for a new trial. If this is denied, they have indicated their intention of carrying the case to the circuit court of appeals at Cincinnati.



Here is a vivid camera study of the dramatic scene in the courtroom of Federal Judge George P. Hahn late Wednesday as Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli heard a jury pronounce him guilty of conspiring to violate the national prohibition act.

The upper photo is of the trial table at which the principal figures in the case are seated. From left to right are shown, Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney; Herman Krueger, assistant to Mr. Murlin; Col. C. E. Whitney and L. P. Hutchinson, department of justice agents; George Petcoff, co-defendant of Licavoli, who was acquitted by the jury; U. G. Denman, his attorney; Harry Levy, counsel for Licavoli, and Yonnie Licavoli himself.

In the lower photo, from left to right, are: Judge Hahn, reading the verdicts; Fred Denzler, clerk of the United States district court, and Kenneth Wilson, chief assistant clerk. The photos were snapped by Carl Gifford, Times photographer.

It will take at least two months, court attaches estimated, before court stenographers get out the bulky record of the case and a bill of exceptions is prepared for submission to the appellate court.

Further Delay Seen

Because of the summer recess, the case probably will not be heard in the higher court until next fall. Further delay will ensue if the case is taken to the United States supreme court.

Meanwhile, some observers point to the possibility of repeal of prohibition laws with the further possibility of a general amnesty grant to violators. If repeal is hastened, and a general pardon is issued, Licavoli may never see the inside of a prison cell.

Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. attorney, who successfully prosecuted the Licavoli case, was busy answering the telephone Thursday as call after call of congratulations was received from prominent Toledoans.

One of the first to come in person to offer congratulations was Col. Gilson D. Light, former sheriff and safety director.

Will Continue Campaign

Mr. Murlin said Thursday that the Licavoli conviction will not end his campaign against gangsters in Toledo, and that he plans further action unless the change in administration results in a change soon in the district attorney's office.

Mr. Murlin revealed Thursday that two of his most important witnesses disappeared from the city after they had testified before the grand jury, rather than appear in the trial against Licavoli. He said, however, that he had received no report of attempted intimidation of any of the government witnesses.

Work Required Months

The conviction of Licavoli rewarded months of work by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. attorney, his assistant, Herman Krueger, and department of justice agents who were sent here as a part of the government's war on organized crime.

"This is but one of the steps of the government in its campaign against gangs," said Mr. Murlin, who was highly pleased. "I do not consider it a personal victory, but merely a matter in which I did my duty."

Licavoli's face flushed when he heard the verdict, but he displayed no other emotion. Although arrested and questioned frequently by police since he came here from Detroit two years ago to build up a powerful underworld clique, he never before had been convicted of a crime in this country. Government agents, who have traced his

Continued on Page Seven, First Col.

Bond Set at \$10,000

Judge Hahn first proposed that the new bond be \$12,000. Mr. Levy protested that his client was not prepared to post that much bond, as he had expected the old sum to be continued. Mr. Murlin suggested \$15,000, but the court granted Mr. Levy's request. Licavoli was placed in the custody of George Weeks, deputy marshal, until his bondsmen arrived.

After a delay of an hour and a half during which time Licavoli lounged comfortably in the U. S. marshal's office discussing his home, trees, shrubbery and the kind of grass seed to sow in shaded places, bondsmen arrived.

Seven persons signed the property bond before K. V. Wilson, chief deputy clerk of the court.

Bondsmen Listed

The bondsmen, and the value of property they posted; Rosalia Lupica, 3325 Bishop street, \$5,300; Peter Carollo, fruit dealer, and Lena Carollo, 529 Lucas street, \$5,800; Ernesto Partintoso, linen merchant, 442 Woodland avenue, \$5,000; Anise Fryman, manufacturer, 616 Fourth street, \$5,000; Angelo Torti, laborer, 829 Tecumseh street, \$5,000; and George Coips, junk dealer, 131 South Hawley street, \$5,000. The signers said they owned other property with a total value of \$78,000.

Petcoff was so overcome by his acquittal that he burst into tears, and was unable to make a statement. His attorney, Mr. Denman, said that Petcoff was delighted.

In a dramatic speech to the jury, Mr. Denman had asserted that the gangsters took over Petcoff's store against his wishes, involving him innocently in the operations. Testimony was introduced showing that Petcoff had appealed in vain to police to clear the gang from his place.

It was the first criminal case in which Mr. Denman, a former attorney general of Ohio, had appeared in 30 years. A friendship of 16 years was responsible, Mr. Denman said.

C. E. Whitney, Detroit, and L. P. Hutchinson, Cleveland, special agents for the department of justice, who directed the corps of operatives in working up the case against Licavoli, were elated by the verdict.

They came here more than a year ago when federal agents, who testified about trailing the gang for weeks, raided a huge alcohol distillery at 1413 Holmes street, capturing several members of the gang who were tending the still.

Evidence Gathered

Ferretting out reluctant witnesses, persuading them to testify, protecting them against possible intimidation, the secret service men succeeded in dovetailing a powerful web of circumstantial evidence against Licavoli and his associates.

Mr. Murlin, who directed their work, took the case before the grand jury when they were ready, and an indictment containing six counts was returned against nine persons last December.

Of the nine, Petcoff alone was acquitted. Five pleaded guilty when the trial opened. They were Howard Lane, alias Bud Gardner, Harry Silvenino, Sam Brown, Russell Palmer and Edward Beck.

Two, Russell Syracuse and Ernest LaSalle, are fugitives. LaSalle, who also is wanted by police on a warrant naming him as one of the machine-gun slayers of Louise Bell, never was arrested.

Syracuse Fails to Appear

Syracuse was captured at the still, and gave bond. Government officials were given to understand he would plead guilty, but he failed to appear the day of the trial although police had picked him up on a suspicious person charge a few days before.

LICAVOLI WILL BE SENTENCED ON SATURDAY

Maximum Penalty Is Two Years' Imprisonment and \$10,000 Fine; Plans to Appeal.

CONVICTION COMES AFTER LONG PROBE

Is Only One of Steps in Government's Campaign Against Gangsters, Murlin Declares.

The first effective blow against gangsters in Toledo was struck Wednesday afternoon when Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli was convicted by a jury in federal court of conspiracy to violate the prohibition laws.

He will be sentenced Saturday by Judge George P. Hahn. The maximum penalty is two years' imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

The six men and six women jurors reported they were unable to reach a verdict on five other counts against Licavoli, although the vote on these was said to be 11 to one for conviction.

Minor Butler, 732 West Central avenue, said he was the juror who held out for acquittal on the first five counts.

George Petcoff, owner of the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, who was tried with Licavoli, was acquitted on all counts.

career from boyhood, said he served a prison term for gun-toting in Canada.

Licavoli Has No Statement

Asked if he cared to make a statement, Licavoli began, "What can I —" Then he stopped, and replied, "Nothing at all."

He was smiling and good-natured, however, when asked about arrangements for bond later as he waited in the marshal's office for his bondsmen, talking with his attorney, Harry G. Levy, and John Costello, Monroe, who accompanied him to and from the federal building each day of the trial.

The jury spent about 13 hours deliberating the case. It was reported that the decision to acquit Petcoff was reached soon after the jurors retired Tuesday afternoon.

Shortly after returning from lunch at the Elks' club Wednesday, the jury's foreman, Edward Meyer, sent Judge Hahn this note:

Jury Asks Instructions

"The jury has unanimously agreed on several counts of the indictment, but has disagreed on others, and we do not believe it possible to reach an agreement on those. We await your instructions."

The judge summoned the jury, Mr. Levy and Mr. Murlin to the courtroom. He also sent for Licavoli and Petcoff, but they had not appeared when the court referred to the message, and asked the jury if such were the situation. The jurors nodded their heads. Judge Hahn instructed them to return to the jury room and try once more to reach agreement on all counts. As the jury was filing out, Licavoli entered the courtroom. He was dressed smartly in brown, the fourth suit he has worn since the trial began a week ago. Petcoff arrived a few minutes later with his attorney, Grant Denman.

Jury Is Recalled

After a conference with the attorney, Judge Hahn said he would recall the jury at 3 P. M. He did so, and when questioned revealed the jury had made no progress toward further agreement, the court instructed the clerk to poll the jury and receive its report.

Only about 20 spectators were in the courtroom.

After the verdict was read, Attorney Levy filed notice of appeal. Then bond was discussed. Since the surrender, after being a fugitive for several weeks, after the indictment was returned, Licavoli has been at liberty under \$10,000 bond signed by the Concord Casualty & Surety Co. of New York.



"Yonnie" Licavoli, left, Toledo gang leader, and a lieutenant, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, are shown as they appeared in Common Pleas Judge Scott Stahl's court Saturday, to answer charges of first-degree murder. Both were granted a continuance of one week to arrange for attorneys. Both were returned to county jail where they have reposed for two weeks since they were indicted with 11 others in connection with four murders. Licavoli will be arraigned Monday on a charge of keeping and exhibiting a slot machine.

YONNIE, FIRETOP TO MAKE PLEAS

Gangsters Will Appear on First Degree Murder Charges

Yonnie Licavoli and (Firetop) Sulkin, were to face Judge Scott Stahl in common pleas court Saturday to plead to an indictment charging them with first degree murder.

In addition, Licavoli will be confronted with a second indictment charging him with keeping and exhibiting gambling devices.

Charge Four Killings.

The murder indictment against Licavoli and the major part of his once-powerful gang is based on the killings of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger; Miss Louise Bell, friend of Kennedy, and Norman Blatt and Abe Lubitsky, small fry gamblers.

The indictment was returned by the grand jury weeks ago. Licavoli and Sulkin are the only two members of the gang named in the indictment who have been arrested.

Faces Old Charge.

The gambling indictment is one of four returned last December at the height of Prosecutor Frazier Reams' slot machine drive.

To be arraigned along with Licavoli on this charge is Arthur M. Albrecht. The other four indictments named 15 men, Licavoli and Albrecht are the first to be arraigned.

CHARGE DUFFEY ASKED DELAY FOR LICAVOLI

Opponents in Congress Race Send Letter to Reams Quoting Telegram

A charge that Congressman Warren Duffey on April 29, 1933, used his influence to obtain a delay in the trial of Yonnie Licavoli, Toledo racketeer, then held on a charge of liquor conspiracy, was made Wednesday by Mr. Duffey's political opponents.

Benjamin A. Neidlinger, chairman of the campaign committee of Carl Brandes for congress, in a letter to Prosecutor Reams not only quotes a telegram in an attempt to prove Mr. Duffey interceded for Licavoli, but openly criticizes Mr. Reams for supporting Mr. Duffey.

Mr. Reams was quick to respond to Mr. Neidlinger's charge.

Duffey Makes Denial.

Mr. Duffey also denied that he ever had asked a continuance for Licavoli.

"This is obviously eleventh hour political skulduggery of which I know nothing," Mr. Reams declared.

Telegram Is Quoted.

The telegram which Mr. Neidlinger quoted was not over Mr. Duffey's signature. It was signed by Norman J. Morrison, acting head of the federal tax prohibition division. Its text was as follows:

"Postal Telegraph
"CB 308 40 Govt D1 2 Extra XU
"1933 Apr 29 P M 2:00
"V Washington D C 29 131P
"United States Attorney, Cleveland Ohio

"Congressman Warren J. Duffey requests thirty days continuance liquor conspiracy case against Thomas Licavoli et al set for May second Stop Department unfamiliar with situation and without recommendation in matter Stop Advise how we may reply to Mr. Duffey.
"Norman J. Morrison, acting head tax prohibition division."

Letter Is Sent.

In addition to sending a copy to Mr. Reams, Mr. Neidlinger also sent Mr. Reams the following letter:

"During your last campaign, you particularly emphasized your intention to vigorously prosecute organized crime and racketeering, if elected to the office which you now hold. You now seek renomination upon the claim that you have fulfilled these campaign promises.

"However, you have recently endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Warren Duffey for renomination and reelection to congress, and have even gone so far as to solicit the indorsement of Speaker Rainey.

Hits at Delays.

"As you are aware, the Licavoli above mentioned had been confined in the Lucas county jail since December, 1933, awaiting trial by your office upon the charge of murder. No one should be better acquainted with Licavoli's past activities than

"In the face of this, how can you openly support Mr. Duffey, who used the prestige of the high office entrusted to him by the people of this district in order to intercede for Toledo's No. 1 public enemy? And, incidentally, is there any connection between your political alliance with Mr. Duffey and your evident reluctance to bring Licavoli to trial?"

(Signed) Benjamin A. Neidlinger, Chairman, Campaign Committee, Brandes for Congress.

Reams Makes Reply.

Mr. Reams' reply in full follows: "This is obviously eleventh hour political skulduggery, of which I know nothing. As to the suggestion of any reluctance on the part of this office to bring Licavoli to trial it is well known that I urged Licavoli's attorneys to have their client's case tried at the last term of court."

Here is Mr. Duffey's statement: "No request for a continuance was made at any time. Every day members of congress are called upon to ask for information from all departments of the government and it is customary to obtain information at the request of anybody."

Landed for Stand.

As further proof that he has aided rather than interfered with the suppression of crime and criminals, Congressman Duffey produced the following letter which he will read at a meeting in Whitehouse park, Whitehouse, O., Wednesday night.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, WASHINGTON.

July 9, 1934.

My Dear Mr. Congressman: This is just a word of appreciation for your courtesy and helpfulness and fine co-operation in connection with the passage of the crime bills and allied measures in which the department of justice was so deeply interested. It was an outstanding service, for which we all feel under deep obligation to you.

JUDGE M'CABE TO CONDUCT 3 WEIGHTY CASES

Trials of Licavoli, Sulkin, and Carsello in Killing of Kennedy Come Up Soon.

To Judge John M. McCabe of common pleas court probably will fall the conduct of what promises to be three of the most important criminal trials held here in years, it became evident as preparations were being made today for the opening of the September term of court.

The cases are those of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, and Ralph Carsello, now held in the county jail, charged with first degree murder in connection with the slaying of Jack Kennedy, beer dealer, July 7, 1933, while he was strolling with his sweetheart in a Point Place street. Judge McCabe, too, during the term of court will be in charge of juries, including the grand jury.

Rotation System Is Used

Assignment of criminal cases, as well as other cases evolves upon a long established custom of rotation. Judge James S. Martin last term had criminal cases. With the opening of the new term the criminal cases will pass from him to Judge McCabe.

Within the next few days orders will be issued for the drawing of the first jury lists for service about Sept. 10. These jurors will hear civil suits and minor criminal cases. First degree murder jurors have to be selected from lists drawn solely for that purpose. The common pleas court is expected in the approaching term to go a long way toward bringing all cases strictly up to date.

Trials Are Fewer

In recent years a large percentage of the cases are mortgage foreclosure suits. Most of these are not contested, and take only enough time of the judges to sign the orders incident to the sale of properties. This has reduced somewhat the number of trials and is permitting the judges to put their work in much better condition than was possible a few years ago.

The number of criminal trials has increased, especially protracted cases of the last few years that have held wide public interest, but otherwise the court work has lightened somewhat.

While the Kennedy murder cases have not been set down, Licavoli and Sulkin have been in jail since March, and it is probable an effort will be made to try at least their cases before the end of the next court term, which will close in December.

Licavoli, Sulkin Defer Plea On Indictment

Arraignment Is Set for Next Saturday

Asserting they have not yet employed counsel, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin yesterday deferred pleading to an indictment charging them with conspiracy to commit four first degree murders when they appeared before Judge Scott Stahl.

They are charged, with 11 other alleged members of the Licavoli gang, with the first degree murders of Jackie Kennedy, Louise Bell, Abe Lubitsky and Norman Blatt.

They will be arraigned next Saturday on the murder charges. Licavoli is also indicted on a charge of exhibiting and keeping gambling devices.

When asked to plead to this charge, he said yesterday he had never received a copy of the indictment. Judge Stahl ordered service and return of the indictment by tomorrow. At this time Morris and Arthur Shapiro will plead to a similar gambling charge.

Lawyer Sees Gang Leader

Licavoli Supposed To Pay Attorney in English Trial

The supposition that Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli was the man who financed the defense of Joe (Wop) English during his trial for the murder of Jack Kennedy, gained weight yesterday when A. J. Bianchi, Akron attorney who represented English, visited Licavoli in his cell in the county jail.

The visit lasted about 10 minutes. Permission to visit the gang leader was granted by Sheriff David Krieger on the request of DeWitt Fisher, Toledo, counsel with Bianchi at the English trial.

Not Licavoli Counsel

Mr. Bianchi refused to reveal on what matter he consulted with Licavoli, except to say that he was not retained to defend Licavoli, and did not expect to be.

"I am interested only in serving English," he declared.

Mr. Fisher denied knowledge of the subject of the interview. He too declared that he had not been approached to represent Licavoli.

County officials believe the visit was concerned with the hearing on the English case in the court of appeals here Monday.

Licavoli Has No Lawyer

Licavoli denied yesterday that he had retained Bianchi or any other attorney to represent him in either of the trials which face him. He pleaded not guilty yesterday to a charge of exhibiting gambling devices. He was not represented by an attorney.

Morris and Arthur Shapiro also pleaded not guilty to the gambling charge, when they were arraigned with Licavoli before Judge Scott Stahl.

LICAVOLI IS ILL; MAY BE MOVED

Physician Says He Has Symptoms of Gall Bladder Trouble.

Showing some symptoms of gall bladder trouble, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, gang leader in jail on first degree murder charges, may be removed from the county jail, where he has been held for several months, to a hospital for treatment.

Jay Gilday, county jailer, said the prisoner was examined by Dr. Edward Lyons and Dr. E. J. McCormick Monday. Dr. Lyons, the jail physician, who said he would not approve the removal of the prisoner without an examination of another physician, declared, according to Mr. Gilday, that the prisoner showed signs of suffering from gall bladder disorders.

Mr. Gilday said he had not received word as to what Dr. McCormick determined.

In any event, the jailer added, the prisoner will not be removed until Prosecutor Frazier Reams approves such a step. Licavoli is held for the murder of Jack Kennedy, beer baron.

MAR 18 1934

MAR 17 1934

MAY 1 1934

GANG LEADER MAY ESCAPE PRISON TERM

Licavoli Decision Held Up Until Supreme Court Rules in Repeal Controversy.

By reason of repeal of the Volstead act, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo, may escape serving two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and paying \$10,000 fine imposed by Federal Judge George P. Hahn after the credited head of Toledo gangland had been found guilty by a federal jury of conspiracy in connection with the operation of a large still here.

Licavoli appealed to the federal circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati and the case was argued there several weeks ago by Lee N. Murlin, then United States attorney here.

Decision in this and a number of other such cases has been held up because the United States supreme court has before it the question of whether repeal of the 18th amendment nullifies all criminal cases under the Volstead act pending on appeal or otherwise.

A memorandum made by the United States circuit court of appeals for this circuit and dealing with such cases states:

"It may be that the repeal does result in the abatement of prosecution pending in the district courts which have not been tried and in which judgments have not been entered. We still think that a repeal of a criminal statute pending an appeal from a judgment of conviction does not have the effect of abating an action or nullifying the judgment of conviction."

ed, appealed his case there has not been final adjudication of it and the department of justice may not, under the decision, continue to prosecute the case in the circuit court.

This means, Cummings indicated, that further prosecution will be abandoned.

Must Review Case

He declared that while no general amnesty will be guaranteed to Volstead violators now serving their sentences, the department has no alternative than to stop further action against those who have appealed.

All the facts in the Licavoli case will have to be reviewed carefully, however, before a final decision as to its disposal under the supreme court ruling is made, Cummings indicated.

A similar case is that involving 60 or 70 men in Chester, Pa., including John J. McClure, state senator. All were found guilty months ago of conspiracy to violate the Volstead law. Their cases were appealed and because final judgment had not been passed, they come within the attorney general's interpretation of the supreme court's decision and the defendants are expected to go free.

The big industrial alcohol prosecutions, such as that against the United States Industrial Alcohol Co., Baltimore, will not be dropped, however, according to Cummings. He pointed out that this and similar concerns are charged with the diversion of alcohol for beverage purposes, an offense against the revenue law.

To Show Leniency

Cummings said there remain thousands of cases of bootleggers, smugglers, and other liquor racketeers to be dealt with under the revenue laws.

"I am disposed to recommend leniency toward small and casual offenders," he said, "but there are some persons who have made an industry of law violation and who now are in prison or under sentence. So far as I am concerned such men will be permitted to serve out their sentences."

"There will be no general rule regarding commutations or pardons the incentive to crime may not be as great as it was in the matter of liquor violations but I am not convinced by any means that the criminal instinct of a considerable element in this country has been changed."

RULE MAY FREE TOM LICAVOLI

Court's Decision Gives Toledo Gangster Chance To Dodge Prison

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo hoodlum, may not have to serve his term for liquor law violation, a United States supreme court ruling late Monday indicated.

The ruling declared prohibition violators indicted before repeal cannot be tried in federal courts. The courts, in an opinion by Chief Justice Hughes, took "judicial cognizance" of the fact that the 18th amendment became inoperative on Dec. 5 and held that at that time all power to enforce dry laws fell.

Yonnie Out on Bond.

Licavoli has been free since last spring on \$10,000 bond after having been found guilty of conspiracy in connection with the operation of a large still. Federal Judge George P. Hahn sentenced him to two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and a \$10,000 fine.

An appeal of this sentence has been pending in Cincinnati for two months.

The supreme court ruling Monday specifically said all cases pending on appeal must be dropped.

U. S. Attorney Silent.

In the absence of official information, Gerald Openlander, assistant United States district attorney here, refused to comment. He indicated, however, that if the ruling is to be interpreted in its broadest sense, Licavoli is free.

The gangster was tried on six counts, including, besides conspiracy, possession, manufacture, maintaining a nuisance, possessing property for the manufacture of liquor and fermentation of malt. The jury disagreed on all but the conspiracy count.

SURPRISE MOVE BY KAPP AGAIN OUSTS 'SPIKE'

Crime Prevention Bureau Is Combination of Three Old Police Units

By THE NEWS-BEE MONITOR.

The Georges had the city vice situation in their hands Friday.

J. George Kapp Jr., after surviving a storm of troubles of the past few days, continued to handle the helm of the city safety department of which he is director.

George Timiney, detective captain and hoodlum chaser extraordinary, was in sole and complete charge of the vice problem.

George Kapp said Timiney would handle his new work without interference and without specific orders from above.

George Timiney said he would take no orders from outside the police department.

New Bureau Established.

In another of those surprise moves for which Safety Director Kapp is becoming noted, Police Captain Charles Hennessy was unseated Thursday afternoon from his position as head of the vice squad.

With Hennessy's removal after another brief incumbency, Kapp created a new bureau of crime prevention and placed Timiney in complete charge of it.

"This new bureau is something I have been planning for a long time," Kapp said Thursday night. "It will have complete supervision of the work formerly done by separate squads known as the hoodlum squad, the gambling squad and the vice squad. It will be charged with keeping the city free of gangsters and controlling vice."

Celebrates Holiday.

Kapp said Timiney will have a force of 13 men besides himself, picked from the police department by Timiney.

"The reason I chose Thursday for the establishment of crime prevention bureau was that Thursday was a holiday and I had a lot of time to work it out without the usual routine interferences," Director Kapp said.

If the troubles of the past few days have taught him anything, he will leave Timiney alone. And if he does, he has a reasonable chance of getting along."

Confidence in Timiney.

The talk around the Safety building indicated clearly that Timiney has public confidence.

It was predicted variously that the fixers who have caused most of Kapp's troubles by trying to sell protection with or without authorization, will take to cover with Timiney in charge of affairs.

This is especially true of the Licavolis. The Licavoli gang hates Timiney and Timiney hates the Licavolis.

Anyone representing the Licavoli gang who attempts to collect protection money under the guise of having influence with Timiney would be such an obvious imposter in the underworld that he would be laughed out of the collecting business.

Thumbs Down on Britz.

David Britz, owner of a Cherry street building which houses the notorious Roxy hotel, and who is said to have been responsible for the first unseating of Capt. Hennessy as head of the vice squad, is said to be equally unacceptable to Timiney.

For these reasons, the collection groups, which have been hounding the underworld for protection money were believed to be on the way out Friday.

With the appointment of Timiney, another principal in the news of the past few days, Police Sergeant Charles Roth, passed out of the picture.

Those who said Roth was slated to be chief of police doubted their own predictions Friday.

"Anyone who would select Timiney for an important task could hardly select Roth for a position where he would be Timiney's chief," one of the predictors said. "The combination of Roth and Timiney presents such a contrast that it just isn't in the cards."

The consensus in informed circles was that Kapp had played a trump card in Timiney's selection and with this move had "turned off the heat."

Has he done that?
Time will tell.

LICAVOLI CASE HANGING FIRE

Cincinnati Appeal Court Awaiting Action of High Tribunal; Yonnie May Escape

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, former head of Toledo gangsters, may escape serving two years in Leavenworth penitentiary and paying \$10,000 fine imposed by Federal Judge George P. Hahn after Licavoli had been found guilty of conspiracy in connection with the operation of a large still here.

Licavoli appealed to the federal court of appeals in Cincinnati and the case was argued there two weeks ago by Lee N. Murlin, then United States attorney here.

Because of repeal of the Volstead act, decision in this and a number of other such cases has been held up because the United States supreme court has not yet decided whether repeal of the Eighteenth amendment nullifies all criminal cases under the Volstead act pending on appeal.

YONNIE LICAVOLI MAY BE FREED

Supreme Court Ruling Is Expected to Release Many Others.

BY CARL D. RUTH
Toledo Blade Bureau,
Washington, Feb. 6.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster, apparently has been saved from prison by the United States supreme court.

Homer S. Cummings, attorney general, today indicated that because Licavoli appealed his case to the federal circuit court of appeals and final judgment has not yet been rendered, the department of justice probably will have to abandon its case against him and permit his release.

Under the supreme court's decision, as set in an unanimous opinion, the continuance of prosecutions of Volstead act violations after repeal of the 18th amendment cannot be sanctioned.

Since Licavoli, although convicted,

In addition to Licavoli, 30 other persons whose cases are pending in federal court here may be affected by the supreme court ruling.

PARDONS FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS ARE SOUGHT

Washington, Feb. 6 (INS)—A new effort to obtain Presidential pardon for prohibition law violators in federal prisons was inaugurated today as a result of the supreme court's ruling that all pending cases were wiped out by repeal.

The action of the high court resulted in saving thousands from prison and the next logical step is to free the thousands already in prison for the same offense.

Representative Clarence McLeod, Republican, Michigan, who has a resolution pending in congress calling upon the President to pardon prohibition law violators, is going to renew his efforts.

"We have an unusual situation," said McLeod. "The supreme court held that all cases where sentences have not been executed, including cases on appeal, are ended as a result of repeal of the 18th amendment. Those in prison or jails are not affected."

Seeks Justice for All

"Thus, a wealthy prohibition law violator who delayed his sentence for a year or two until repeal came, is freed, while the poor man who could not delay his case by appeal, went to prison."

"Every element of justice—of fairness for the poor as well as for the rich—is in favor of extension of clemency to those in prison."

McLeod will go before the house judiciary committee asking action on his resolution so congress can request Mr. Roosevelt to act.

The government would save a huge amount of money by freeing prohibition law violators.

Sanford Bates, superintendent of federal prisons, in testimony before the house appropriations committee, said that 27.1 per cent of all inmates of federal prisons, reformatories, institutions and jails are there for prohibition law violators.

By its decision, the supreme court wiped out 13,500 cases against alleged prohibition violators, many of whom have been convicted and have appealed.

Licavoli Free

Under a ruling of the United States supreme court, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, who was convicted in federal court of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition laws and whose appeal is pending in the circuit court of appeals in Cincinnati, probably will be freed.

Over 30 cases here, records in the clerk's office at the federal building show, will be quashed under the ruling.

Licavoli was convicted and sentenced by Judge George P. Hahn of the federal court here to two years in Leavenworth and fined \$10,000.

The director said he wished it understood he is not finding fault with the work Capt. Hennessy has done.

"Spike is okay," Kapp declared. "He has done a good job."

The appointment of Timiney and the creation of the crime prevention bureau were announced by Kapp after his second conference of the day with Mayor Solon T. Klotz.

The first conference was held in the morning after a public demand had been made by The News-Bee for Kapp's resignation. After that conference neither Kapp nor the mayor had intimated anything about the impending new shakeup.

Resignation Demanded.

The second conference was held in the afternoon. Kapp went directly from his second conference with the mayor into huddle with Police Chief Dan Wolfe and Capt. Hennessy. The conference with Timiney followed. Then came the new announcements.

Kapp said the selection of Timiney was made because of Timiney's reputation as a terror of hoodlums and gangsters and because of his otherwise "brilliant past record."

"I never knew Timiney personally until recently," Kapp said. "But I have been aware of the work he has been doing."

What's on the Inside.

What is behind the new shift in the police setup?

That is the question which was on everyone's tongue Friday morning.

"Did Kapp choose Timiney to divert the spotlight from himself to Timiney until the heat cools off and the demand for his own resignation subsides?"

There were many who believed the answer to this question is a positive "yes."

Timiney long has been a popular police figure. He has a habit of making spectacular and important arrests. He is a sworn enemy of the Licavoli gang and is roundly hated by them. Also it is generally felt he knows what the crime situation is all about.

In and Out of Trouble.

If Timiney performs up to expectations, observers at the city hall believe Kapp's vice troubles will be over for a while.

They condition this prediction on lack of interference from Kapp and general lack of pressure from outside the police department.

"Kapp has a facility for getting himself into trouble," one wise old head observed Friday. "It seems impossible for him to let the police do their work without molestation."

LICAVOLI X-RAY PICTURES TAKEN

Examination to Follow to Determine Need for Operation.

Whether Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader who is under indictment for four gangland murders, will seek release from the county jail on bond so he may undergo an operation hinges on a report of the result of X-ray photographs taken Wednesday in the offices of Dr. John T. Murphy, 421 Michigan street.

Licavoli was taken from the jail to the physician's offices at 10 A. M. Tuesday by Deputy William Bierwirth. Three photographs were taken, it was reported. Licavoli is said to be suffering with gall stones.

After the X-ray report, Licavoli will be examined by three physicians, Drs. E. J. McCormick, Edouard E. Lyon, and Paul Hobly, to determine if an operation is necessary. They will report to Prosecutor Frazier Reams.

Sheriff Dave Krieger said today that he doubts if he can supply three deputies to guard Licavoli in a hospital in case an operation is deemed necessary, due, the sheriff explained, to the work required of the deputies during the present strike situation here.

Sheriff Krieger said that if an operation is necessary, he will ask that it be performed in the jail.

Says Licavoli's Condition Better

It will not be necessary to operate on Yonnie Licavoli, held in county jail on the charge of first degree murder in connection with the slaying of Jackie Kennedy, Dr. E. E. Lyon, jail physician, informed Sheriff Dave Krieger today. The doctor said that X-rays by Dr. John Murphy disclosed an ulcer condition but that Licavoli could be treated in jail.

Dr. Lyon reported the gang leader had a temperature of 103 Friday night but was improved today. Jay Gilday, chief jailer, said he believed Licavoli to be suffering a severe attack of



Very Beautiful
 is the
Toledo Home
 of
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Licavoli
 recently furnished and
 decorated by

The living room is furnished in the soft greens and corals which flatter a Chinese rug. A lamp of carved Feldspar and paintings of Oriental flavor are interesting accents.

Especially beautiful in the master bedroom are spreads of peach moire and hand-made lace, on classic beds of rosewood and gold.

The J. F. Bennett Studios
 INCORPORATED
 Madison at Eighteenth

pleas court July 14 for \$50,000 against a group of dry cleaners, contending a combination in this group was ruining his business by enforcing price levels and conditions of the trade. He has been in business 15 years.
 He was named in a \$60,000 libel suit filed July 27 by Davis Cleaners & Dyers, Inc., and Jacob Davis, 2525 Collingwood avenue, which was based on statements in Engel's suit. This suit was withdrawn later.

Get the Gangsters Now
THE municipal and state authorities at once assure the public that no one needs a gangster's license to carry on legitimate business in Toledo or anywhere in Ohio.

Under cover of fog and darkness Toledo dry cleaning establishments been attacked by racketeers. One place virtually wrecked by a bomb explosion. Equipment and garments in another smashed and slashed—ruined utterly.

The unmistakable inference is that proprietors of these establishments fail to pay tribute, or to comply otherwise with regulations laid down by extortioners.

The rackets have become so firmly entrenched and the racketeers so bold in Chicago and some other large cities they virtually dominate some lines of

business. The proprietors pay regularly "protection" or their establishments bombed or burned out of existence.

Every good citizen is interested directly in subduing such criminal industry, not that lives and property may be made safe but in order that the price of legitimate services need not have to be raised to support human leeches in idleness and luxury.

The time to stop the activities of racketeers in any city is when they begin to do business. It may be difficult, if not impossible to evict them once they become firmly established by means of threats and unscrupulous political alliances.

Drive Out the Racketeers

A bad example may be very contagious. Crooks learn much by studying the methods of more successful contemporaries and employ these methods in their own way.

The much advertised racketeering tactics of Chicago gangsters headed by Al Capone prompted small fry hoodlums to establish similar nefarious enterprises in many other cities.

Thus we come down to the efforts of Toledo to establish a racket in the dry cleaning business, frightening the timid by paying a doubtful protection and intimidating the reluctant ones with bombs.

Toledo police can serve no more useful purpose at the moment than to hunt out hoodlums and drive them out of town. The racket isn't so large that these racket men can be easily known.

If the racketeers succeed in "taking over" the dry cleaning business, as they have known to have muscled in on the gambling and bootleg beer business, then there is no telling how far their mad ambitions will carry them.

Other lines of business would not be immune. Every honest business man should be allowed to run his establishment free of threat or coercion and without the necessity of paying tribute to a gang of crooks who could not possibly give them value received.

The bombing of the Engel Dry Cleaning plant, and the destruction of a quantity of wearing apparel in the Schmitz Dry Cleaning establishment, are an outrage to the citizenry of this city, and an affront to the laws intended to safeguard an honest people.

Will police answer this challenge? Will they be depended on to do their full duty of putting down this sinister menace? Let the answer be action, action, action.

Blast Shakes Hundreds of West End Homes; Operators to Ask Probe by State.

LICAVOLI GANGSTER HELD; 3 SOUGHT

Clothing Slashed in Raid by 3 Men on Second Place; Machinery Is Wrecked.

Gangland's attempt to establish a "racket" in the dry cleaning business in Toledo reached a climax Monday night when thugs, moving swiftly under cover of a heavy fog, struck twice, planting a bomb that shook many houses as their final gesture.

Joe (Wop) English, 35, of White street, a member of the Yonnie Licavoli gang, was arrested early Tuesday on orders of Acting Inspector George Timiney. Three other members of the gang also are being sought.

An immediate investigation of the invasion of the racketeers in the dry cleaning business will be asked of Gov. George White by C. C. Engel and his son-in-law, Fred Thais, whose dry cleaning plant at 1850 West Bancroft street, was damaged by a bomb at 9:30 P. M. Damage was estimated at \$300 by District Chief Joseph Kennedy.

Plants Threatened

Scarcely an hour and a half before the bombing, three men invaded the Schmitz Dry Cleaning Co., 1716 Madison avenue, and wrecked a pressing machine, slashed 25 garments and shattered two plate glass windows. A fourth man remained in the gangster car.

The forays Monday night are said to be the answer of racketeers

to proprietors of dry cleaning establishments who have not fallen "in line." It is reported the Engel and Schmitz plants had been threatened, at least indirectly. A price cutting war among dry cleaners has been in effect several days.

Detectives reported Lawrence Schmitz, proprietor of the Schmitz shop, identified the picture of a Licavoli gangster well known to Toledo and Detroit police as one of the men who entered his store. Partial identification of this racketeer

Continued on Page Seven, 1st Col.

Continued From First Page

has been made by other dry cleaners, it was reported.

Homes Are Shaken

Hundreds of homes in the west end were shaken by the explosion of the bomb, which was placed in a boiler room in the rear of the Engel shop. The force of the blast could be felt for miles. Hundreds were attracted to the busy intersection of Upton avenue and West Bancroft street, where traffic jammed.

Mr. Engel and Mr. Thais were in the store working. Mrs. Elsie Thais, daughter of Mr. Engel, was standing in the rear doorway when she saw smoke coming from the boiler plant, which is a one-story brick structure. Then she heard the explosion. They were uninjured.

George J. Deckelman, 1912 Freeman street, reported to police he thought he heard Halloween pranksters on his front porch shortly before the blast. He stepped to the door as the explosion occurred and saw a man running from the boiler room to an automobile parked in Upton avenue near Freeman street. The machine, which was occupied by a driver, then speeded toward Monroe street.

Blast Shatters Windows

The blast shattered windows in the boiler room and tore a large hole in the side wall. A window in the store was broken. An alley

separates the store from the boiler room.

Mr. Engel said he believed the gangsters intended to wreck a boiler which is used to raise the pressure in steaming clothing. This, however, was not harmed and the plant was able to open for business Tuesday. No garments were damaged, Mr. Engel reported.

Scores of homes and stores in the immediate neighborhood were damaged as the explosion shattered windows. They included the A. & P. store in West Bancroft street; Kroger store, 2210 Upton avenue; E. W. Swigert barber shop, 2212 Upton avenue; vacant building at 2214 Upton avenue; homes of Hal Elliott, 1841 Freeman street and J. M. Johnstone, 1848 Freeman street, and the paint shop of Howard Hall, 2216 Upton avenue.

Woman Knocked from Sofa

Mrs. H. O. Borchert, sitting on a davenport in her home at 2246 Upton avenue, with her husband and his brother, George, was knocked from the sofa. She was unhurt. Two windows were broken in the Borchert home.

Richard Lampert, 1340 Prospect avenue, watchman, and Mr. Thais, had been in a washroom, adjoining the boiler room, 15 minutes before the accident occurred.

Mr. Thais said he had telephoned his attorney, Joseph Eppstein, informing him he wanted Governor White to make an investigation. He stated he did not care to have his business methods dictated by members of the underworld.

Mr. Thais charged he had asked police protection three weeks ago and had not received any. The police department is impotent, he said.

Driver Is Stopped

James Collins, driver for Engel, reported he was stopped two weeks ago in Collingwood avenue, between Monroe and Dorr streets, by two men who advised him not to pick up any more wholesale dry cleaning loads.

These same men, a week previous,

followed him on his route, he said. The suspect is said to have been one of the men, police report. Mr. Engel said the same man at a meeting of dry cleaners, recently outlined the gangsters program and informed them of gangland's demands.

Frank Davis, operator of the Unique Cleaners, 1908 Berdan avenue, whose dry cleaning is done by Engel, said he had been threatened by three men and had been advised to raise prices three weeks ago. The window in the front door of his place was broken last week.

The gangsters who raided the Schmitz shop forced Mr. Schmitz, his wife, Mary, Stanley Walendzak, 2234 Westbrooke drive, a driver, Joseph Robertson, 123 Thirteenth street, a presser, and Howard Richmond, 1632 Norwood avenue, a helper, into a rear room after they flourished a gun.

Clerk Calls Police

Then they smashed a pressing machine and slashed garments. As they left the shop they broke two

windows. Anthony Schaeffer, 14, of 930 Peck street, clerk at the Berry Drug Co., Madison avenue and Eighteenth street, called police when he heard the noise.

The license number of the gangster car was obtained by Nellie De-Tanble, 1104 Orchard street. A check by police revealed the plates were forged as the original plates were found in an automobile dealer's store.

The war on dry cleaners started a month ago when the City Dry Cleaning Co. branch at 1644 Sylvania avenue, was broken into and garments were slashed.

Truck Is Looted

Merle W. Barnes, driver for the Eastern Dry Cleaning Co., reported his truck was looted at Summit and Jackson streets Monday afternoon. Clothing valued at \$75 was stolen. Mr. Engel filed suit in common

OCT 26 1932

OCT 26 1932

OCT 26 1932

WHERE RACKETEER'S BOMB EXPLODED



These pictures were taken shortly after a racketeer's bomb, set off in the window of the boiler room back of the Engel Dry Cleaning Co., 1850 West Bancroft street, shook the West End Monday night. Above is a view of the damage caused by the blast. Below, left to right, are Mrs. Fred Thaiss, Mr. Thaiss and C. C. Engel. Mr. Thaiss is a son-in-law of Mr. Engel and a partner in the business. Joseph Galloway, a motorcycle policeman, is shown in the upper picture with a flashlight.

FOILS EMISSARY OF CLEANING RACKETEERS



When a man believed to be a member of the gang terrorizing Toledo dry cleaners approached Miss Helen Donofrio, 23, of 4315 Parrakeet avenue, where she is employed, last night and began questioning her about cleaning prices, she called the proprietor. The suspect fled. Later a man of the same description slugged her 16-year-old brother, Thomas.

LICAVOLI FACES QUESTIONING IN CLEANING WAR

Reputed Gang Chief, Henchman Are Arrested

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 28, and Ralph Carsello, 28, of 1622 Monroe street, were arrested in Licavoli's home at 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard, last night for questioning in connection with gang terrorism in Toledo's competitive price war between dry cleaning establishments.

The arrests were made by Acting Inspector of Detectives George Timiney and Detectives John Michalak, Arthur Brown, Earl McBride and Ralph Murphy. Inspector Timiney said both Licavoli, who is well known to Toledo and Detroit police, and Carsello, reputed Licavoli gang henchmen, would be questioned.

Face Formal Charges

Inspector Timiney said formal charges will be preferred against Licavoli and Carsello today. Carsello was finger-printed and photographed in the identification bureau in the Safety building last night. Licavoli's specifications had previously been taken.

Joe (Wop) English, who was arrested for investigation following a bomb explosion Monday night in the Engel Dry Cleaning Co. plant at 1850 West Bancroft street and the destruction of a pressing machine, 25 suits of clothing and a plate glass window at the Schmitz Dry Cleaning Co., 1718 Madison avenue, was released on \$1,000 bond.

Fear New Outbreaks

Fearful of additional outbreaks by gangsters who are seeking to regulate dry cleaning prices in Toledo, police officials last night assigned special guards to several dry cleaning establishments which are said to have refused to obey the orders of the gangsters.

Chief of Police Louis J. Haas,

Continued on Page 2, First Column

GUARD IS PROVIDED FOR DRY CLEANERS

Continued from Page 1

who made the assignments, declined to reveal the identity of the places to be given the special guard but said every effort will be made to give them adequate protection.

State To Investigate

Frank Henry, state fire marshal, is scheduled to arrive in Toledo today from Columbus to make an investigation of the bombing of the Engel plant, it was reported last night.

Inspector Timiney said a special search is being made for three gangsters, who have been definitely linked with Monday night's outbreak.

The dry cleaners indicated they will prosecute the men if they are apprehended by police.

Asks Price Schedule

Police last night received a call from the Nagler Dry Cleaning Co., 2029 Ashland avenue, that a suspicious man entered the place shortly after 6 o'clock and asked the price schedules. He left, however, without making any threats.

Attorney Joseph Eppstein, legal representative of the Engel Co. conferred with Police Chief Haas yesterday. He said after the meeting he was of the belief the police could handle the situation and it would not be necessary to appeal to Gov. White for assistance. The plan of appealing to the governor was suggested by some of the dry cleaners.

TOLEDO THUGS ATTACK AKRON BAILIFF, FLEE

SEP 16 1933
Police Recognize Descriptions
of Four Licavoli Mobsters
Wanted Here

Five members of the gang of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, four of them wanted in Toledo for the murder of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger, attacked an invalid municipal court bailiff in Akron Friday when he tried to attach the earnings of a walkathon there for an unpaid bill.

The attacking thugs were said by Akron detectives to be John Mirabella, Joe English, Ralph Carsello and Leo Mocerl, together with another unidentified man.

Escape Police.
None was arrested. They had fled before police arrived.

As Fred Lynch, the bailiff, appeared at the walkathon and attempted to serve the attachment one of the men sprang to the cash register and took all the money. The other four set upon the bailiff, who has difficulty walking due to an illness, and beat him severely before escaping.

Hearing descriptions of the attackers, the detectives there said there was little doubt that Licavoli men named were responsible. Sheriff David Krieger is in Akron.

Acron detectives said they have known for some time that Licavoli and his men had "managed" the finances of the walkathon.

Muscled in Here.
When a walkathon was held in Toledo a year ago, Licavoli and his men muscled in both on the dance itself and on the parking lots that served it at the Coliseum.

A man and woman reported on this way to Toledo to determine if Licavoli was one of the bandits who held up a bank Tuesday in Farrell, Pa., failed to arrive Friday.

Cleveland police said they returned home after failing to identify pictures of Licavoli at the Cleveland identification bureau.

Chief in Jail.

Meanwhile, Licavoli Saturday was a guest of the county with three days ahead of him before he will again be questioned about the murder of Jack Kennedy, a bootlegger.

Prosecutor Reams had Yonnie taken to the county jail Friday night after a day of questioning, which ended with a tete-a-tete between Mr. Reams and the gangster, while four detectives and three assistant prosecutors stood outside the room in which Yonnie had spent most of the day.

The decision to transfer Yonnie to the county jail and to postpone further questioning until Tuesday came after a conference between Prosecutor Reams and Harry Levy, attorney for Yonnie, at which Mr. Reams received assurance Mr. Levy would not try to get Yonnie out of the jail by a writ.

Charge May Be Placed.

Mr. Reams would not admit it, but it is believed he made it plain to Mr. Levy that a charge would be placed against Yonnie if there were a resort to writs.

The new grand jury will meet Tuesday and Licavoli may be taken before it.

The questioning revealed nothing particularly helpful to Mr. Reams, he indicated, but it did bring a description of Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, under indictment for the Kennedy murder, which probably will not cheer Firetop's jail days or raise him in the esteem of his fellow-prisoners.

"Firetop was nothing to me but a messenger boy," Yonnie was quoted as saying. "He took some money downtown for me occasionally to pay some bills."

Grand Jury Will Get Licavoli Gang Evidence

Prosecutor Reams to Present Findings of Investigation
Tuesday; Yonnie to Be Held Without
Charge Until Then. SEP 15 1933

Evidence obtained by Prosecutor Frazier Reams and Detroit investigators against Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and his gang following the murder of Jackie Kennedy, Toledo bear baron, will be presented to the Lucas county grand jury next Tuesday.

This decision was reached late Friday after the gang leader was questioned by Mr. Reams and members of his staff regarding the slaying of Kennedy and other Licavoli activities.

Licavoli was transferred from the Safety building to the county jail where he will be held without having a charge preferred against him until next Tuesday when the first session of the new grand jury will be held.

Attorney Consents
Mr. Reams said that Licavoli's attorney, Harry Levy, had agreed not to bring any habeas corpus action before that time and had also consented to having his client held without charge.

It is expected that other information gained by Prosecutor Reams in his starvation campaign against racketeering in the county and city will be given to the grand jury in connection with the Licavoli evidence.

Authorities are awaiting the arrival in Toledo of two witnesses who have tentatively identified the photograph of Licavoli as the leader of a gang of bandits who held up the Solly J. Gielly bank at Farrell, Pa., Tuesday, escaping with \$15,000.

Mrs. Pearl Mauer, bank employe, and Karl E. J. Wild, youthful watchmaker, among the bandits' victims, who made the tentative identification, are expected in Toledo. Mr. Wild was kidnaped by the bandits. SEP 16 1933

Reams Has No Word
They said that they would have to see Licavoli in person "to make certain." No word of their visit here had been heard by Mr. Reams.

Licavoli was arrested Wednesday afternoon in Akron, which is only about 100 miles from the Pennsylvania town.

Licavoli's wife, accompanied by their child, called at the county jail to see the gang leader Saturday and was permitted to talk to him through the bars of his cell.

Told to Speak English

Mrs. Grace Licavoli and Mrs. Catherine Mocerl, of Detroit, mother and mother-in-law of the gangster, were given permission to visit him in the county jail Saturday by Prosecutor Reams, on condition that they converse in English in the presence of an attaché of the sheriff's office.

Prosecutor Reams said that Licavoli merely laughed when told that his picture had been identified as one of the bandits. The prosecutor said that the gangster was extremely nervous during the questioning Friday noon and afternoon.

The gangster professed the same lack of memory which he has exhibited in two previous examinations by the prosecutor. He declared he did not know where he obtained the pistol he was carrying when he was arrested in Akron. He thought he must have picked it up around the house.

Says He Entertained Friends

Greatly concerned about the reported identification of Licavoli in the new role of a bank robber Prosecutor Reams remembered that during the noon questioning the gangster recalled that he entertained four or five friends at a dinner party in his hotel room Tuesday night.

Asked who these friends were, Licavoli professed to have forgotten. Authorities here consider it plausible that local gangsters, without revenue here since Mr. Reams started his drive against racketeering, may have turned to bank robbery to obtain funds for defense and sustenance.

Discussing Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, who is held on a first degree murder charge in connection with the Kennedy killing, Licavoli described Firetop as a messenger boy, running errands for him at odd times. He denied ever having had any business relations with Firetop.

He insisted that he was in Detroit attending the wake of John Mocerl, his father-in-law, when Kennedy was killed by gangster bullets. This is the same alibi offered by the gangster on his two previous inquiries.

The prosecutor admitted that nothing substantial had been gained from the questioning of Licavoli. Search is being continued for Joseph (Wop) English, Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella, Leo Mocerl and other members of the disbanded Licavoli gang.

Acron police Friday night investigated a report that members of the Licavoli gang had participated in an attack on a municipal court bailiff at a walkathon there, but satisfied themselves that the report was false. Two Akron hoodlums had attacked the man in a dispute over a \$27 attachment.

LICAVOLI GOES BACK TO JAIL; FACES CHARGE

SEP 16 1933
Leader of Hoodlums
Is Questioned by
Prosecutor

THREAT DENIED

'Firetop Just Messenger
Boy,' Mobster Tells
Inquisitors

After submitting most of the day with an injured air to questioning by Prosecutor Frazier Reams as to how he earns a living, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, left the courthouse for the county jail, late yesterday, under escort of Detectives Chris Brennan and Robert Fielding. He will remain in the county jail at least until Tuesday, without recourse to bond, Mr. Reams said.

Questioned regarding a conference he had with Harry Levy, Licavoli's attorney, Mr. Reams denied that he had made any "threat" to prevent Levy's filing an application for a writ of habeas corpus.

May Prefer Charges

But it is intimated by county officials that any attempt to free the chief of the local hoodlums will be met with a serious charge being made against him.

The county grand jury, drawn for the fall term, convenes Tuesday, and information which the prosecutor and his staff have compiled during an investigation covering two months, will undoubtedly be presented for the jury's consideration then, county officials say.

While Mr. Reams, his assistant, Arnold Bunge, Detectives Brennan, George Timiney and James Tafalski, all of whom were present during the examination, would not reveal the nature of the answers Licavoli gave to the intensive quizzing, they all agreed that he could forget conveniently events that he didn't care to discuss.

Just Messenger Boy

They intimated also that Licavoli seems ready to repudiate Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, whom he referred to during the questioning as "merely my messenger boy on a few occasions," certain of the inquisitors said.

Firetop, who is in the county jail also, facing a first degree murder indictment in connection with the death of Jack Kennedy, has been generally admitted to be an important agent of Licavoli's.

Licavoli said yesterday, however, so the questioners report, that

"Firetop just ran a few errands for me, taking money to the bank and things like that. A sort of messenger boy." He denied that Firetop was one of his "gang," denied, in fact, that he has a gang. He is a salesman, he asserted.

Then He Chuckles

Licavoli chuckled when he was told that a man and a woman were coming to Toledo from Farrell, Pa., in order to determine whether he was a member of a band of robbers who held up the Farrell bank Tuesday.

Detectives point out that Licavoli has never been suspected before of having any part in a bank robbery. That sort of thing is "out of his line," they believe.

They admit, however, that the financial straits into which the Toledo underworld has fallen since Prosecutor Reams closed the gambling places and confiscated the slot machines, might induce racketeers to turn to other means of earning a livelihood.

Mrs. Pearl Mauer, an employe of the robbed Farrell bank, and Karl E. J. Wild, a young Farrell watchmaker whom the bandits kidnaped, did not arrive in Toledo, and are believed to have returned home

after visiting the identification bureau of the Cleveland police department.

Cleveland officers reported last night that the couple had viewed pictures of Licavoli and several of his lieutenants there, but had made no positive identifications.

Licavoli was arrested in Akron Wednesday by Captain George Timiney and Detective Chris Brennan, who had been searching known hangouts of the hoodlum's gang in Akron, Canton and Mansfield for several weeks. Licavoli, who was available for questioning concerning the Kennedy murder until Firetop Sulkin was charged with having bought one of the murder guns from a pawn shop clerk, had only \$3 in his pocket when he was booked at the Safety building Thursday night. He was well groomed as always, but he looked even more worried than on previous occasions when he has submitted to questioning by Mr. Reams.

Gangster's Visit at Jail Is Embarrassing to Deputy

SEP 20 1933
With the host away and Yonnie Licavoli the honor guest in the county jail, deputy sheriffs on duty promptly went into tallspins Wednesday.

The first duty assigned a deputy, following the departure of Host Dave Krieger, sheriff, on a "mysterious" adventure planned by the police homicide squad, was to escort the dapper gangster to the common pleas court of Judge John McCabe.

This task fell to Deputy Herman Rohloff. It was embarrassing for prisoner and deputy—embarrassing for Rohloff because he knew Licavoli would resent being handcuffed, for Licavoli because he hates to make public appearances in chains.

Rohloff got around a difficult situation by making a gesture as tho he might be going to place the cuffs on Licavoli's wrists—a precaution which is customarily taken with prisoners when leading them to court—and then failing to complete the movement. Then Rohloff did a

sleight-of-hand trick and slipped the manacles into his pocket.

Side by side the big deputy and the swarthy gangster walked thru the tunnel connecting the jail and courthouse. When attaches of the sheriff's courthouse office saw Licavoli loose in a corridor, they were nonplussed.

Soon a phone bell in the jail office clanged. An excited deputy from the sheriff's private office shouted:

"What's the idea sending Licavoli over here without handcuffs on?"

Deputy Harry Glick, who received the call, was angry at being reprimanded. Nevertheless, he dispatched Deputy Louis Gramling with instructions to Rohloff to return Licavoli handcuffed.

Chagrined, Licavoli reappeared in the jail office a few minutes later looking sheepishly at handcuffs circling his wrists. He was returned to a cell.

Mrs. Licavoli To Be Asked Where Yonnie Gets His Cash

Wife of Self-Styled Salesman Who Says He Doesn't Work,
in Line for Questioning SEP 20 1933

Mrs. Thomas Licavoli will be summoned before Common Pleas Judge John M. McCabe at 9 a. m. next Wednesday, to explain where she got the money to buy and furnish the Licavoli home at 2733 Pemberton drive.

Mrs. Licavoli's appearance was ordered by Judge McCabe at a hearing Wednesday for the examination of her husband, Yonnie Licavoli, against whom E. W. Scharer Coal Co. recently obtained a judgment for \$377.62 for coal delivered to himself and friends during 1932.

He was brought into court by Geraldine Connell, attorney for the coal company. With Licavoli to the courtroom came his attorney, Harry Levy, who immediately asked a continuance on the ground that he had not yet had an opportunity to consult his client.

Judge McCabe offered to give him a few minutes, but Levy refused. "Just a matter of a few minutes is not necessary," he said.

Licavoli was sworn in and went on the witness stand. In answer to Miss Connell's questioning, he said he was a salesman but was not employed by any concern.

Licavoli Questioned.

"What do you sell?" Miss Connell asked.
"Anything I can sell," Yonnie answered.
"How are you paid?"
"On commission."
"Do you have any income?"
"I have no income at present."
"You are not employed?"
"No."
"Do you own an auto?"
"No."
"Isn't it a fact that there are two autos in the garage at your home?"
"Not that I know of."

Memory Fails.

"Didn't you buy a Chrysler Imperial?"
"Oh, I gave that back to the company. I couldn't pay for it."
"Who owns the house at 2733 Pemberton drive?"
"My wife owns it."
"Didn't you buy it and give it to her?"
"No, she bought it herself."
"When?"
"The winter before last. I think."

"Where did she get the money?"
"I don't know."
"Is she employed or does she have any source of income?"
"I don't know. You'll have to ask her."
"Was the house bought outright, or was there a mortgage on it?"
"I don't know."
"Who is on the mortgage, if there is one?"
"The Toledo Trust Co. I think."
"Do you own any stocks?"
"No."
"Any brewery stocks?"
"None whatever."

Licavoli Cautioned.

"I want to remind you that you are under oath—"
"I knew that long before you told me," Licavoli said impatiently.
"Do you own any bonds?"
"None."
"Do you own any jewelry?"
"No."
"Any diamonds, stickpins, rings?"
"No."
"Do you have any insurance?"
"No, I tried to get some, but I couldn't."
"Who bought the washing machine in your home?"
"I don't remember."
"Do you have a radio?"
"Why, yes."
"Whose is that?"
"It belongs to my wife."
"Do you have any personal property at all?"
"Only what you see on me."
"You say your wife has no income?"
"I don't know."
"Will you explain to the court, then, how your wife could buy these things?"
"I don't know."
"Do you have any money in the bank?"
"None."
After this questioning, Miss Con-

nell rose and asked the court to continue the hearing for a week, so that Mrs. Licavoli could be subpoenaed as a witness. Licavoli turned angrily in his chair.

"You can go out and question my wife, but she has nothing to do with this case. I don't see any need for bringing her in here.

"Why don't you ask your coal dealer if I ever ordered any coal from him?"

Then turning to the judge, Licavoli said: "I never bought any coal from that man."

"You," Judge McCabe said calmly, "had your day in court. You could have come in then and denied that the coal had been delivered to you. I will grant the continuance."

Licavoli then was escorted back to the county jail by two deputies, who replaced handcuffs on the gangster for the trip across the street.

YONNIE TELLS COURT HE HAS NO PROPERTY

Says Wife Owns Home and All Furnishings, in Quiz on Coal Judgment.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli appeared in Judge John M. McCabe's common pleas court Wednesday with all his worldly possessions on his back, he indicated.

Licavoli was brought from his cell in the county jail, where he is being held without charge by Prosecutor Frazier Reams in connection with the Jackie Kennedy murder. He was asked about his property in a judgment debtor examination.

The E. W. Scharer Coal Co. holds an unsatisfied judgment against Licavoli for \$377.52. Attorney Geraldine Connell, after the gang chief had said the house at 2733 Pemberton drive is owned by his wife, asked continuance of the case for a week to allow time for subpoenaing Mrs. Licavoli. Judge McCabe granted the request.

Move Irritates Yonnie

This move of Attorney Connell irritated Yonnie.

"She has nothing to do in this case," Licavoli said, "and you have no business bringing her into court."

Asked as to his employment, Licavoli said he is a salesman, explaining he sells real estate or anything on which he can make a commission.

Yonnie's answers revealed that his wife owns the Licavoli Pemberton drive home, that he did not give her the money with which the house was purchased, that he did not know the source of income with which she purchased the home, that he did not buy the house and place it in his wife's name to defraud creditors, that his wife handled the whole transaction in regard to the house and that he thought the Toledo Trust Co. held a mortgage on it.

All Property of Wife

All the household goods and a radio are the property of his wife, too, Yonnie said.

When asked if his wife were employed, Yonnie answered, "She is employed at home."

Yonnie said he owned no stocks or bonds.

"Do you own any stocks in any breweries?" Attorney Connell asked.

"None whatsoever," Licavoli answered.

"I must remind you," the attorney said, "that you are under oath and must answer the questions truthfully."

"I knew that a long time before you told me," Licavoli returned.

Yonnie answered that he owned no jewelry, diamond rings, stickpins or cuff links.

Can't Get Insurance

"Do you have any insurance?" Miss Connell asked.

"No," responded Yonnie. "I can't even get insurance."

Miss Connell asked Yonnie if he had signed a contract for the purchase of a washing machine. Again Yonnie answered in the negative, adding he did not know whether the mortgage on the machine had been paid.

As to money, Yonnie said he had none in any of the open banks or any certificates of claim against closed banks.

"Do you have any personal property?"

"Only what you see on me," Yonnie said.

Yonnie took exception when Miss Connell told the court she would like to subpoena Mrs. Licavoli to question her as to the statements made by her husband and to learn about the purchase of the house. Yonnie said he had never ordered coal from the Scharer company and that he didn't know the proprietor.

Coal Delivered to Friends

The judgment against Licavoli was obtained by default Aug. 19. It was for coal delivered to Licavoli, amounting to \$21.25; to Ernie Laisle, Central avenue, \$14.50; to A. Carasello, 2915 Midwood avenue, \$7.25; to Eddie Beck, 3818 Torrence drive, \$14.50; to Russell Syracuse, 2704 Meadowood drive, \$64.25, and to the Tribby Recreation, \$241.35.

Licavoli's attorney, Harry Levy, asked continuance of the matter, saying that he had been informed of it only three minutes before the hearing was to start. Judge McCabe said he would allow him a few minutes. Attorney Levy said if that were all the time he could be given, to proceed.

LICAVOLI MAY BE FREED TODAY

Attorneys Believe Gang Chief's Bond Will Be Raised Soon.

Attorneys for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster, believed Thursday that sufficient bond will be raised to procure the release of the gang chief who will be charged with being a material witness in the first degree murder case against Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, Licavoli aide.

It will be necessary to post \$10,000 worth of property to secure the \$5,000 bond in common pleas court, it was reported. Frazier Reams, county prosecutor, agreed to release Licavoli after conferring with the gangster's attorney without placing any serious charges against him. He said it is not the proper time to bring these charges.

It also is thought that if Licavoli is able to post an additional \$5,000 bond in his federal court case he will be released by federal authorities. Sheriff David Krieger said that the only holder which he has against Licavoli is the federal court retainer. He denied that any holder had been placed by Akron police who arrested Yonnie for carrying a concealed weapon.

Attorney John W. Hackett was arranging for bond for Licavoli Thursday and expected that it would be raised so that the gangster might obtain his freedom Thursday afternoon.

AKRON POLICE WANT LICAVOLI

Chief Asks He Be Held on Concealed Weapon Charge.

Akron police Friday placed a holder on Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, hoodlum chief, who is expected to gain his freedom from the county jail here by posting bond.

Yonnie was returned to Toledo after being arrested in Akron, Sept. 12. Sheriff David Krieger Friday received a telegram from Frank J. Boss, chief of Akron police, which asked that Licavoli be held for Akron police on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

County Detective James O'Reilly notified Akron that Licavoli is expected to post bond in common pleas court. While Licavoli's bond in common pleas court has been fixed at \$5,000, the law requires that he must post twice that amount of security.

Lee N. Murlin, U. S. district attorney, said that he still has a holder on Licavoli and that before he can be released he must appear in federal court. Licavoli, convicted in federal court of violation of the prohibition act, is under bond there pending his appeal in the circuit court.

AKRON POLICE AWAIT 'YONNIE' OUTSIDE JAIL

Freedom, If Obtained, Will Be Hollow Victory for Licavoli.

Yonnie Licavoli will step out of the frying pan into the fire if he is released under \$5000 bond.

Akron police arrived in Toledo Friday night and Saturday were awaiting the gangster's release from the county jail. In event he is liberated, they will arrest him on charges of carrying concealed weapons in Akron and take him there.

LICAVOLI FAILS TO RAISE BOND

Unable to Meet County Bail, but Gives \$5,000 More for U. S.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, gangster, was having bond trouble Saturday, both in the common pleas and federal court, as he sought to bail his way out of jail.

He was unable to raise the \$5,000 bond set to hold him as a witness in the Jackie Kennedy murder, but did provide \$5,000 additional bail in federal court. Judge George P. Hahn consented to the request of Lee N. Murlin, U. S. district attorney, to add the additional \$5,000 Saturday.

This bond was signed by Mary Popovick, operator of the Thomas hotel in Lorain, O., who pledged property valued at \$37,000. Mr. Murlin said, however, that the federal holder to keep Licavoli in jail will not be withdrawn until the county bond is provided.

After his conviction of violating prohibition laws in federal court last May, Licavoli provided a \$12,000 property bond and before his arrest he put up a \$10,000 surety bond, which still is in force. Licavoli received a two-year sentence and a fine of \$5,000. His appeal from this conviction is scheduled for a hearing in the U. S. district court of appeals in Cincinnati in October.

The \$5,000 fine, Mr. Murlin said, will have to be paid by Licavoli's bondsmen if he fails to do so.

The failure of Licavoli to make bond is attributed to the strict regulations for acceptance of property for bond instituted by William Renz, clerk of courts. The only valuation of property accepted by Mr. Renz is that carried on the tax books.

Licavoli had bondsmen lined up with property valued at \$7,000 at noon Saturday.

TWO LICAVOLIS HELD IN JAILS

Jimmy Gets 90 Days While Yonnie Is Taken To Face Akron Charges

James Licavoli, cousin of the Toledo gangster, Yonnie Licavoli, was found guilty under the public enemy act in Detroit Monday. He and a member of his gang, Joe Bommarito, were given the maximum sentence of 90 days each in the Detroit House of Correction.

The section of the revised code making a person "engaged in illegal business" liable to a prison term as a disorderly person has been invoked in several minor cases. The Licavoli-Bommarito trial, however, brought the first real test of the act against known hoodlums. The jury was out little more than an hour.

A friend shouted to the pair, as they were being led, in handcuffs, to the jail:

"Hard luck."

"Okay," responded Bommarito.

Meanwhile, Jimmie's slippery cousin, Yonnie, was held in Akron, O., on suspicion. He was taken there from Toledo Monday night by Sheriff Krieger.

Akron police want him on a charge of carrying concealed weapons, but he was booked on suspicion to forestall any attempt to free him on bond. The trip to Akron with the gangster was made after Licavoli had placed the equivalent of \$5000 bond here to guarantee his appearance as a material witness against Jacob (Firetop) Sulkin, his ex-chief lieutenant, charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of Jack Kennedy, Toledo bootlegger.

LICAVOLI STAYS IN COUNTY JAIL

Yonnie Lacks Unencumbered Property Necessary to Back Additional \$5,000 Bond

Lacking \$10,000 worth of unencumbered property necessary to back a \$5,000 bond demanded by Prosecutor Frazier Reams, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli is spending the week-end in the county jail.

He was able to furnish an additional \$5,000 bond in federal court, to raise the federal holder recently placed against him. This brings the total of his bond in federal court to \$27,000. Mary Popovick, Lorain, O., pledged property valued at \$37,000 to cover the \$5,000 bond.

The federal holder will stand, however, until Prosecutor Frazier Reams' bond is met, according to Assistant U. S. District Attorney Lee N. Murlin.

LICAVOLI DEBT PAYMENT SEEN

Attorney for Gangster Assures Settlement of Toledo Coal Firm's Bill

Two promises came out of the continuance Wednesday of the examination of Yonnie Licavoli as a debtor to the E. W. Scharer Coal Co. The examination, begun last Wednesday before Judge John McCabe, was to have been concluded Wednesday with testimony of the gangster's wife, who was subpoenaed to appear.

Miss Geraldine Connell, attorney for the coal company, informed the judge that Harry Levy, attorney for Licavoli, had communicated with her by phone from Akron, O., where he is trying to effect the release of his client from jail, and that she had agreed to a continuance on two conditions:

Mr. Levy's promise that both Mr. and Mrs. Licavoli would appear before Judge McCabe at 9 a. m. Friday and Mr. Levy's promise that the \$277 debt would be settled whether they appear or not.

Licavoli's Trial in Akron Saturday

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, who Monday posted \$5,000 bond in common pleas court here as a material witness in the Jackie Kennedy murder case, Tuesday posted \$2,000 bond in Akron, O., where he was arraigned before Judge Herman E. Werner on a charge of suspicion.

Licavoli was freed after making bond in Akron but his trial there has been set for Saturday. Yonnie was arrested in Akron, O., two weeks ago and then brought to Toledo.

LICAVOLI COAL CASE SETTLED

Attorney Notifies Court Judgment Has Been Satisfied.

Although no money has changed hands as yet, Attorney Geraldine Connell, representing the E. W. Scharer Coal Co. in its action to obtain payment of an unsatisfied judgment against Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, gangster chief, informed Judge John M. McCabe of common pleas court Friday that settlement has been made.

Miss Connell was granted a 60-day continuance of the debtor hearing pending payment. The coal company had obtained a judgment of \$377.52 against Licavoli for coal delivered to his home, 2733 Pemberton drive, and to the homes of several friends.

When Yonnie 10 days ago testified he owned no real or personal property and that the house was owned by his wife, Miss Connell subpoenaed Mrs. Licavoli to appear in court Wednesday. The hearing then was continued until Friday.

LICAVOLI BOUND OVER TO AKRON GRAND JURY

Toledo Gangster Waives Preliminary Trial; Girl Released.

AKRON, O., Oct. 7.—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gangster, Saturday was bound over to the grand jury on a charge of carrying concealed weapons when his attorney, A. J. Binachi, waived preliminary hearing in Judge Stephen Colopy's court.

Meanwhile, a 22-year-old girl, arrested on a charge of suspicion in a raid on a West Hill apartment, was released Saturday by Judge Colopy, following similar release last night of a man arrested in the same raid. Joe (Wop) English, the third held in the raid, now is under first degree murder indictment in Toledo.

Licavoli's bond of \$2000 was continued. He asked for a month's continuance last Saturday because of illness of his Toledo attorney, but only a week was granted.

Licavoli Freed on \$2,000 Bond

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo gang leader, was held to the Summit county grand jury at Akron Saturday when he was arraigned on the charge of carrying concealed weapons. He provided \$2,000 bond and was released, waiving the preliminary hearing in municipal court.

The charges result from Licavoli's arrest in Akron, Sept. 13, for Toledo authorities. He was carrying two loaded revolvers.

Licavoli Seeks New Trial In Murder Case

Convicted Slayer Renews His Long Fight For Freedom

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli yesterday renewed his fight for freedom from a life sentence for his part in the murders of four Toledoans. He was sentenced nearly 32 years ago.

Moses Krislov, Cleveland attorney for Licavoli, filed a motion for a new trial in Lucas County Common Pleas Court.

Judge George Kiroff said he will set a hearing on the motion, and started a search for microfilmed records of the trial stored in the courthouse basement.

Judge Kiroff said he reviewed the indictments which charged Licavoli and 13 others with the deaths of Abe Lubitsky, Norman Blatt, Louise Bell, and Jack Kennedy.

Orders Records

The indictments read that the defendants "did unlawfully, purposely, and with deliberate and premeditated malice, conspire to kill and murder and did kill and murder" the victims by shooting. The judge said he has not seen the actual verdicts in the case but has ordered the records brought to his office.

In bringing in its verdict on Nov. 9, 1934, the jury recommended mercy for Licavoli.

The former gang leader has made repeated attempts to gain freedom. In the last attempt, the Ohio Supreme Court refused to review Licavoli's appeal. In 1963, a petition for a writ of habeas corpus was denied by U.S. District Judge Mel Underwood, of Columbus, who maintained that Licavoli had not exhausted his remedies in the state court.

Licavoli's motion for a new trial is based upon a 1965 Ohio law which allows a convicted person "post-conviction remedies," Prosecutor Harry Friberg said.

Cases Flood Courts

The law was passed by the Legislature to end the rush of habeas corpus cases which had flooded appellate courts, particularly in Columbus, Mr. Friberg said. The writs were filed by prisoners in Ohio Penitentiary seeking their freedom.

"The filing of this motion was done to open the way for appeals which could go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court," Mr. Friberg said.

The six-page brief filed yesterday alleged that Licavoli's conviction was obtained in the midst of "highly inflammable and prejudicial newspaper publicity" and public statements by the prosecutor's office that indictments would be returned against any witness who testified at the trial, "in a manner other than demanded by the prosecutor."

The motion also claims that the prosecutor commented at the trial on Licavoli's failure to testify, that the prosecution beat and coerced witnesses, and that the indictment was defective in that it charged a conspiracy to commit murder. There is no such law in Ohio, the brief stated.

State's Contention

Mr. Friberg said it is the state's contention that the indictment charges Licavoli with murder and that the indictment only mentions the conspiracy as leading up to it.

The courts of appeal have ruled on two separate appeals on other defendants that they were convicted of murder and have ruled on this specific point very clearly," the prosecutor said.

The prosecutor at the time of Licavoli's conviction was Frazier Reams, Sr. The case was assigned to Judge Kiroff because he succeeded Judge John McCabe, the presiding jurist during the lengthy case.

Mr. Friberg said he might oppose any attempt on Mr. Krislov's part to return Licavoli to Lucas County for any of the proceedings.

Licavoli Plea Hits Publicity

Denial Of Rights Claimed In Trial

The appeal of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli from his first degree murder conviction opened today in Common Pleas Court amid charges that his trial 32 years ago was held in a "veritable flood of prejudicial publicity which inundated the community."

Moses Krislov, Cleveland, Licavoli's attorney, is basing his request for a new trial on this and other contentions. Judge George Kiroff is hearing the motion for a new trial, which is expected to continue through today.

Licavoli was found guilty of first degree murder with a recommendation of mercy and has been in Ohio Penitentiary since 1934. He and 13 others were indicted on charges of murder in the deaths of Abe Lubitsky, Norman Blatt, Louise Bell, and Jack Kennedy.

Mr. Krislov introduced the record of the lengthy case, tried before a jury in the court of Judge John McCabe; photo copies of newspaper stories of 1934 and 1935, and the four-count indictment.

Mr. Krislov contended that Licavoli's constitutional rights were denied or infringed upon before and during the trial.

If witnesses failed to testify against the defendants to the satisfaction of the then prosecutor, Frazier Reams, Sr., they were held in jail until they did so, Mr. Krislov charged.

He also maintained that the prosecution caused witnesses to be beaten, coerced, and threatened in order to obtain testimony against Licavoli, alleged leader of a prohibition-era gang.

Prosecutor Harry Friberg is representing the state at the appeal hearing. Mr. Friberg was on the staff of the county prosecutor in 1934, but did not prosecute the case.

Licavoli Denied Parole In Light Of New Data

Ohio Prison Stay Expected To Continue At Least 5 Years; Crime Links Cited

COLUMBUS—Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, former Toledo gang leader, will not be approved for parole, according to George Denton, chief of the Ohio adult parole authority.

Mr. Denton said today that he has conferred with members of the parole board regarding Licavoli's parole, pending since January.

As a result of this conference, Mr. Denton said, "Licavoli will not be paroled at this time."

This will keep him in prison for at least another five years, Mr. Denton added.

Licavoli, who is in Riverside Methodist Hospital here recovering from a heart attack, has been in the Ohio Penitentiary for 35 years. He was convicted of conspiracy in connection with four gangland slayings in the prohibition era in Toledo.

His life sentence was commuted by Governor Rhodes in January, making him eligible for parole.

Although the commutation was recommended by the parole board, Mr. Denton said new facts have been brought to the board's attention by federal authorities and others. These include connections of the prisoner with questionable outside groups, Mr. Denton explained.

Licavoli planned to move to Michigan to live with his wife and daughter. However, Michigan authorities have refused to supervise him, Mr. Denton said. The parole board heard Licavoli's request for parole in January, but deferred action to investigate reports that the gang leader would be associated with underworld figures in Michigan if he were paroled.

Licavoli Returns To Prison From Outside Hospital

COLUMBUS — Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 35-year inmate of Ohio Penitentiary, returned to the prison hospital from Riverside Hospital Wednesday.

Licavoli, former Toledo gang leader who is serving a life term for four slayings in the early 1930s in Toledo, suffered a heart attack in the prison recently and had been a patient at Riverside since then.

Only Tuesday the Ohio Adult Parole Authority announced that the parole board had turned down his latest bid for parole and that it could be five more years before his case is reviewed again.

His sentence had been commuted by Governor Rhodes from a first-degree murder conviction to second degree and thus made him eligible for parole. However, after additional investigation the board decided to reject his parole.

After his release from Riverside Wednesday, Licavoli was taken to the penitentiary hospital, where he will remain until officials decide he is fit to resume normal prison life.

Licavoli Appeal Rejected By U.S. Supreme Court

Bid To Upset '34 Verdict In 4 Killings Fails; Sheppard-Type Maneuver Used

The U.S. Supreme Court today rejected an appeal of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli from his 1934 conviction in Toledo on four counts of first-degree murder.

He is serving a life sentence in the Ohio Penitentiary for his role in the gang slayings of four persons in the period from 1931 to 1934.

Licavoli apparently had been encouraged by the Supreme Court's final intervention in the Cleveland murder case involving Dr. Sam Sheppard and Dr. Sheppard's ultimate freedom.

Licavoli asked the Ohio Supreme Court to set aside his conviction on grounds that "there was a fever pitch in the community incited by prejudicial publicity," and that his trial had a "carnival atmosphere." (Similar phrases were used in arguing the Sheppard case.)

But the Ohio Supreme Court last May refused to consider the Licavoli case, declaring that "constitutional issues cannot be considered in post-conviction proceedings... where they have already been or could have been fully litigated" earlier while the defendant was represented by counsel.

The Supreme Court order today was a one-line denial of the Licavoli appeal, thus upholding the Ohio Supreme Court.

Friberg Confirms He Won't Protest Licavoli Release

Term Commuted, Parole Now Due

Late Monday, Lucas County Prosecutor Harry Friberg confirmed an Associated Press report that he has no objection to the release from prison of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, nearly blind, 64-year-old former gangster.

Licavoli, who has served 35 years for conspiracy to commit four gangland murders, Monday became eligible for parole when Governor Rhodes commuted the former Toledoan's life sentence to second-degree murder.

Licavoli therefore finally won this step to freedom after many fruitless attempts. He is serving his time at the Ohio Penitentiary in Columbus.

On the recommendation of the state parole board, Licavoli would join his wife, daughter, and son-in-law in Michigan, and would not return to Toledo.

Was Convicted In 1934

Along with four accomplices, Licavoli was convicted in Lucas County Common Pleas Court in November, 1934, for the slayings of Norman Blatt, Abe Lubitsky, Louise Bell, and Jack Kennedy.

A jury recommended mercy and spared Licavoli's life. After receiving the sentence, Licavoli was admitted to the penitentiary and then transferred to an honor camp in Hocking County, touching off a scandal.

The Lucas County prosecutor at the time, Frazier Reams, Sr., complained Licavoli was being

Has Good Prison Record

The governor's statement said that the ex-gang leader has since established "an excellent prison record leading to special recommendations from the current and preceding wardens that he be considered for clemency."

Mr. Friberg said he had no objection to Licavoli's release so long as the parole board felt he was ready for commutation, Mr. Rhodes said.

Special inquiry also was made to ascertain whether any person had been paid or promised anything to assist in obtaining a commutation, the governor's statement continued.

No evidence of such payment or promises was found and the family gave written assurance in the same vein, the statement added.

Licavoli Gangster John Rai Refused Commutation Of Murder Sentence

Governor Acts After Board Denies Parole For Yonnie

COLUMBUS (AP) — Governor Rhodes refused Tuesday to commute a life sentence for murder for John Rai, a henchman of one-time Toledo gangster Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli.

Rai and Serafino Sinatra, both Licavoli gang members, are serving life terms on murder counts in the four slayings that sent Licavoli to prison in 1934.

Rai, 62, was sentenced in 1934 along with the others.

Rhodes Explains Action

Mr. Rhodes letter, to acting parole board chairman Joe Palmer, stated:

"Notwithstanding the inmate's good institutional record, which would ordinarily form a proper ground for clemency, I am unable to accept the board's recommendation for commutation of his sentence to a lesser offense.

To commute his sentence at this time would damage public acceptance of the principle of commutation and parole which is important to proper administration of our penal system."

Rai is originally from Buffalo, N.Y., and has indicated previously that, if released, he would go to Buffalo, where he has relatives.

The parole board earlier in the day rejected parole consid-

eration for Licavoli, 65, who is currently hospitalized by a heart attack. Parole officials said that action would have the effect of keeping Licavoli in prison for up to five more years.

Licavoli's hospital confinement had apparently delayed executive action concerning Rai and Sinatra.

Decision Delayed

Mr. Rhodes acted in January to commute Licavoli's sentence to second-degree murder, thus making him eligible for parole consideration. However, the parole board delayed action pending further consideration and Tuesday's rejection of parole resulted.

George Denton, chief of the Ohio Adult Parole Authority, said 10 days ago that recommendations for Rai and Sinatra had been sent to Mr. Rhodes.

However, John McElroy, chief aid to Mr. Rhodes, said he has received nothing yet on Sinatra.

Lee Bailey Joins Team Seeking Licavoli Release

Habeas Corpus Case Now Being Pushed

COLUMBUS (AP) — Boston criminal lawyer F. Lee Bailey has made official entry into the legal maze surrounding the efforts of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli to gain his freedom from the Ohio Penitentiary.

Mr. Bailey and his associate, Gerald Alch, became supplemental attorneys with local attorney Joseph Rotondo, Cleveland attorney Moses Krislov and Washington, D. C., attorney John Maktos in the U. S. District Court case in Columbus.

Mr. Bailey was the attorney for Dr. Sam Sheppard, who won acquittal of a wife-slaying charge after a second trial.

The current case involves habeas corpus proceedings in the federal court to free Licavoli, convicted Toledo gangland slayer.

Mr. Bailey had conferred with Licavoli, now 65, early in January. At that time an association with Mr. Bailey would enter the case only after reviewing the record of the 1930 Lucas County murder trial of Licavoli and after an agreement on terms.

Licavoli Appeal For Writ Heard In Federal Court

COLUMBUS (AP) — Attorneys for convicted Lucas County slayer Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli presented oral arguments in federal court here Monday to support his petition for habeas corpus action.

The former gangland figure was represented by Moses Krislov of Cleveland and Joseph Rotondo of Columbus.

Licavoli contends some witnesses were coerced into testifying against him, and widespread publicity during his 1934 trial prevented a fair trial.

His petition is similar to the one rejected by an appellate action at the state court level.

Licavoli, recently denied parole, did not appear in U.S. District Court Monday.

Lawyers Offer Licavoli Pleas

Errors Charged In 1934 Trial

COLUMBUS (AP) — Attorneys for convicted Lucas County slayer Thomas Yonnie Licavoli presented oral arguments in U.S. District Court here Monday to support his petition for habeas corpus action.

The former gangland figure was represented by Moses Krislov, of Cleveland, and Joseph Rotondo of Columbus.

Licavoli contends some witnesses were coerced into testifying against him and that widespread publicity during his 1934 trial prevented a fair trial.

His petition is similar to the one rejected by an appellate action at the state court level.

Licavoli, recently denied parole, did not appear in court Monday.

As Licavoli Appeared for Trial



Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli is shown at the right in the above photo as he entered the federal building with Attorney Harry Levy to make a tardy appearance at the opening of his trial on liquor conspiracy charges.

Continuing his testimony, Mr. Little told of handling long distance telephone calls to New Jersey and other points.

Merle J. Eding, clerk at the Argonne, told of seeing Licavoli and others at the hotel. Leroy Watson, 2548 Portsmouth, a clerk, also testified concerning presence of Licavoli's men as did Mrs. Lillian Cruse, bookkeeper. Mary England, 826 City Park avenue, maid, said she saw the men carrying boxes from their rooms last Christmas. She did not know whether the boxes contained beer.

Five men indicted with Licavoli, who pleaded guilty and are awaiting sentence, were identified by employes of the Argonne as men who either stayed at the hotel or came there frequently while Licavoli had rooms there.

Lane, alias Gardner, Silvenino, Ed Beck, Sam Brown and Russell Palmer, who pleaded guilty, were in the court room under guard.

Licavoli said Thursday that the cast he had worn because of an injury suffered in an automobile accident had been removed and he was wearing a corset-like arrangement in its place.

After calling several witnesses to testify regarding the Golden Rose and Show Boat, night clubs, which the government contends were operated by Licavoli and his alleged associates, Mr. Murlin began introducing evidence late Wednesday regarding headquarters which he contends the conspirators maintained.

Lease Identified

Charles H. Mortimer, 2708 Robinwood avenue, manager of the Nicholas building, identified a lease for a suite on the 17th floor of the building which he said he found in the files. The suite was engaged for the Interurban Trucking Co., which the government contends was one of the blinds behind which the conspirators operated. The lease was executed by the late Sidney Spitzer.

Edgar L. Essinger, secretary-treasurer of the Sam Davis Co., told of leasing a suite on the third floor of the Ira apartments to one Albert Friedman, who had the suite from Oct. 28, 1931, to Dec. 29, 1931.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Watson, custodians of the apartment, also testified. Mrs. Watson said the apartment was occupied by Mr. Friedman, a Mr. Dean and John Howard. She said a picture of Ernest LaSalle, fugitive wanted on murder charges, as well as for federal authorities, resembled Mr. Dean.

Licavoli, who betrayed no emotion while other witnesses were

LICAVOLI TRIAL WITNESS



FRANCES HOLDERMAN

Mrs. Frances Thompson Holderman, 19, a bride of two weeks, told of her acquaintance with the reputed gangsters of the Yonnie Licavoli organization when she was called as a witness in the trial of Licavoli in federal court Thursday. Picture by Norman Hauger of the Blade camera staff.

ner and Ed Beck, also indicted, there.

Asked if Licavoli had talked to Petcoff about sugar, the witness said no. He was asked if he had not told the grand jury that Licavoli came to the place, which is operated by Petcoff, and asked for George, and that Licavoli asked "Has anything come in for us?"

"Don't Know"

"I don't know a thing about it," the witness said.

He also was asked if Licavoli had not entered a second time and asked "How about the sugar?" and if he had not described the following conversation between Petcoff and Licavoli:

Petcoff: "You haven't any right to have that sugar sent here. I don't want to get into trouble. Leave me out of this."

Licavoli: "Hush up. Never mind."

Nickoloff admitted the conversation, which was permitted to remain in the trial record. He could not remember, however, having identified pictures of Silvenino, Ernest LaSalle and John Rose as visitors of Syracuse at the importing company.

Louis A. Busam, head bookkeeper at the Toledo Edison Co., testified about applying electric current to the house at 1413 Holmes street where federal prohibition agents found a still Feb. 10, 1932.

Guaranteed Payment

John Canelli, Sr., River road, recalled as a witness, said he guaranteed payment of the electric bill at the Holmes street address for a man he knew as Russell. He identified

Continued on Page Eight, 1st Col.

Continued From First Page

Russell as Sam Brown, one of those who was indicted with Licavoli and who pleaded guilty.

Doans Vinson, of the Grinnell Bros. music house, 603 Adams street, said he sold a piano to Licavoli Jan. 7, 1932. At that time, he said, Licavoli gave his business address as 513 Monroe street, where the General Importing Co. is located, and his residence address as 2733 Pemberton drive.

Mrs. Lillian F. Nafus, 1958 Norwood avenue, testified that a man she knew as John Lewis came to see her about renting a house around Christmas time, 1931.

Pretty Blond Describes Activities of Others as Members of Gang, Known as "The Boys."

A pretty and smartly dressed blond, whose testimony referred to Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli as "the boss" and his henchmen as "the boys," added a striking bit of color to the trial of Licavoli and George Petcoff on charges of prohibition law violations in federal court Thursday.

She is Mrs. Frances Thompson Holderman, 19, of the Lotus hotel, a bride of two weeks. She seemed nervous while answering questions.

The witness told of knowing a man named Louis Levy for a year and identified a picture of Howard Lane, who was

indicted with Licavoli and entered a plea of guilty, as a man she knew under the name of Bud Gardner.

Tells of Conference

The girl testified that she accompanied Gardner to the Chateau LaFra a year ago last Thanksgiving day and was introduced to Licavoli. There were six couples in the party, she said, including Ernest LaSalle, whom she met again a short time later when she accompanied Gardner to LaSalle's apartment. This was in the Ira apartments, the girl said. A week after the visit she again was taken to LaSalle's apartment. No one was present at the time and Gardner used a key to open the door.

While there, the witness said, Licavoli, John Rose, Leo Mocerri, Russell Syracuse, John Mirabelle and a man named Harry appeared. The men held a conference in a bedroom with the door closed, Mrs. Holderman said, and she did not know what they talked about.

She then told of meeting a man named Leonard Brady, who referred to Licavoli as "the boss." Asked if the men had a name for their organization, the witness said that they referred to themselves as "the boys."

Met Brady

In January, 1932, Mrs. Holderman said, she moved to the Argonne hotel, where she was taken by Gardner, to be closer to her work. She met Brady there. When asked what he did the witness said "I knew he was working for Yonnie."

"Who paid your hotel bill?" she was asked by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney.

"I don't know whether it was ever

testifying, displayed some interest when Detective Inspector George Timiney, an old foe, took the stand.

The inspector told of visiting the Show Boat on its opening night, seeing Licavoli, and of telling him, "It's one of those things. It looks like you're not going to run this place." He also described a liquor raid on the night club when Licavoli was not present. A portable bar and a small quantity of whisky and gin were found, he said. Jake Sulkin denied he was the manager, so John Rose was ordered to report to prohibition headquarters, Timiney said. The liquor raid also was described by James J. Neal, Marietta, former federal prohibition agent.

Detective Merle Unkle told of

visiting the club two nights after the opening, and of meeting Licavoli, Rose and Sulkin at the top of the stairs.

The detective said Licavoli asked, "Why is Captain Timiney riding us?" He said he replied that police had orders to visit the place, and that "you'll see more of us."

Mrs. Millie Thompson, 1128 Colton street, salad cook at the Golden Rose and Show Boat, said guests drank liquor there, but added later that she never saw anyone drinking intoxicants.

William Fotoplos, 366 Boston place, said he was given the food concession for the night clubs by Rose and Licavoli, whom he knew as Tom Laser.

Investigation Is Ordered by District Attorney as Result of Testimony.

An investigation of what he termed the unusual loss of memory on the part of James Nickoloff, 716 Huron street, employe of the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, was ordered by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, as the result of Nickoloff's testimony in the trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and George Petcoff, charged with a liquor conspiracy, in federal court Friday.

The testimony, Mr. Murlin said, differed from information given to the federal grand jury which Nickoloff told that Russell Syracuse, indicted with Licavoli, maintained a headquarters at the importing company and brought Bud Gard-

paid, I didn't pay it."

The girl was unable to identify Harry Silvenino, one of those who pleaded guilty and was in the courtroom. Her relations with Gardner, she said, in answer to a question, were purely social.

Licavoli was accompanied by a friend, presumably a bodyguard, at his trial Thursday, the man entering the federal building and leaving it with him, and occupying a spectator's seat during the trial. Detectives said the man was John Costello, formerly of Monroe, Mich.

Identifies Licavoli

Elmer Little, 2197 Maplewood avenue, manager of the Argonne hotel, identified Licavoli as the man who lived there under the name of E. E. Swartz. Licavoli occupied rooms 401 and 405 which were selected for him by Jake (Firetop) Sulkin and John Rose, the witness said.

Leona Heyne, credit clerk at the LaSalle & Koch store, identified a credit application for John Howard made Nov. 10, 1931.

Says Licavoli Paid Bill

Mr. Little said that as much of the bill as was paid at the Argonne hotel was settled by Licavoli. There was a private telephone in the Licavoli

Continued on Page Eight, 1st Col.

Continued From First Page

rooms, he testified, and at one time Rose asked him if he saw anyone working on the line. Rose wondered whether the telephone line had been tapped, he said.

The witness also said that a man known as J. J. Dean was Ernest LaSalle and stayed at the hotel in room 219. He identified pictures of LaSalle and Syracuse as guests at the hotel.

George Jaeger, credit manager of the Hixon-Peterson Lumber Co., said Licavoli was introduced to him by Mrs. Nafus in December, 1932, and took a six months lease with a purchase clause on the house at 2733 Pemberton drive.

Tells of Shipments

H. H. Duvendack, secretary of the Toledo Terminal Warehouse Co., testified that two carloads of chip corn sugar were received for Petcoff from the S. S. Durand Co., Chicago, Feb. 2, 1932. Each car contained 600 bags of sugar, each weighing 100 pounds, he said.

Homer C. Bay, traffic manager of the Toledo Terminal Warehouse Co., testified that he released sugar to certain drivers on orders of Petcoff. The drivers included Ed Beck and Pete Mattoni. Mattoni, also a witness, said that he was a driver and clerk for the General Importing Co. He admitted having seen LaSalle, Syracuse, Beck, Gardner and Silvenino at the company. He saw Licavoli there once, he said. Larry Pimke, employe of the Toledo Terminal Warehouse Co., identified Beck as one of the drivers who hauled sugar.

Homer Smart, commercial manager for the Ohio Bell Telephone Co., turned over a mass of long distance telephone calls said to have been made from the various headquarters of the Licavoli organization.

Judge George F. Hahn informed the jurors that the trial will be adjourned until 10 A. M. Monday following the afternoon session. On reporting Monday the jurors were instructed to be prepared to remain together all night, should they receive the case that day.

Over the repeated objections of John Hackett and Harry Levy, Licavoli's attorneys, and U. G. Denman counsel for Petcoff, witnesses Thursday afternoon testified to occurrences and identified government exhibits which Mr. Murlin contends link Licavoli and Petcoff with the operations of a powerful liquor ring headed by Licavoli. Judge Hahn will rule later on what portions of the testimony may be considered by the jury.

Letters Identified

Letters exchanged between Petcoff and the American Brokersage & Warehouse Co. of Chicago, and

TESTIMONY IN LICAVOLI TRIAL WILL BE OPENED BY GOVERNMENT TODAY

Five Aids of Reputed Gang Leader Plead Guilty to Liquor Charges; Six Women on Jury

MAY 3 1933

The United States government will fire the opening gun of a barrage of testimony in its prosecution of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed Toledo racketeer chieftain, on liquor conspiracy charges, today, when Charles Dickens of 2145 Alvin street, credit manager of a downtown department store, will be called as the first of more than 65 government witnesses who will testify in the case.

As the trial of Licavoli, which promises to be one of the most sensational federal court hearings on recent years here, opened yesterday, five men indicted with Licavoli, entered pleas of guilty to the charges against them.

The pleas were made before Federal Judge George P. Hahn during the noon recess of the trial which was delayed by the tardiness of Licavoli in arriving at the courtroom. He had sought to have his

presence in court for the impaneling of the jury waived, but Lee N. Murlin, assistant United States district attorney, refused to consent.

Await Sentence

The men who pleaded guilty to the charges were: Howard Lane, Harry Silvenino, Sam Brown, Russell Palmer and Edward Beck. They were remanded to the county jail to await sentence, with the exception of Lane who was released on \$3,500 bond.

Of the remainder of the nine men named in the indictment returned against Licavoli and his aids, Russell Syracuse, forfeited a bond of \$5,000 by failing to appear; Ernest LaSalle, against whom police have a warrant on a charge of first degree murder, has not been apprehended, and George Petcoff, alleged operator of the General Im-

porting Co., on Monroe street, is being tried with Licavoli.

Through his attorney, U. G. Denman, Petcoff had sought a separate trial and a continuance but Judge Hahn overruled the motion.

A jury of six men and six women was selected to hear the case soon after the opening of the afternoon session of court. Counsel for the defense and prosecution, however,

Continued on Page 2, Second Column

Continued from Page 1

did not declare themselves satisfied with the panel until after the defense had exhausted eight of its 10 peremptory challenges and the government two of its allotted six challenges. Two alternate jurors also were selected instead of the customary one alternate because of the nature of the trial and the fact it will be prolonged.

Examination Slow

During the slow process of examination of the potential jurors, Licavoli, carefully dressed in a gray spring suit, gray shirt and gray tie, reclined in a leather easy chair which was provided to make him more comfortable. The alleged gang leader still is encased in a cast because of injuries to his back received in an auto accident Friday near Angola, Ind. With the exception of a grimace as he seated himself Licavoli did not indicate he might be in pain.

16 Excused

During the noon recess Licavoli informed newspaper men it was uncomfortable for him to sit in any position and that the cast he wore hurt his back.

The potential jurors were questioned closely by Herman Krueger, assistant United States district attorney, on behalf of the government, and Attorney Harry Levy, who with Attorney John W. Hackett, is defending Licavoli.

A total of 16 persons was excused from duty on the panel either for cause or by peremptory challenges. Among them were Mrs. J. J. Doyle, Toledo national chaplain of the American Legion auxiliary; Albert Dier, formerly postmaster at Curtice, O.; W. E. Budd, 1116 E. Bancroft street, cousin of United States Commissioner John C. Budd; W. P. Reed, Antwerp, O., former deputy internal revenue collector; W. E. Sterner, 1521 Oakwood avenue, formerly in charge of the United States employment office here, and Edward C. Sattler, of Toledo, and Herbert Stalker, 1302 Jackson street, who asserted they had formed opinions before in his opening statement before

the jury Wednesday Mr. Murlin will review the indictment returned against Licavoli and his eight purported henchmen. The opening statement for the defense probably will be made by Mr. Levy. The Licavoli indictment, which was returned secretly Dec. 2, 1932, by the federal grand jury, charges conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act between April 1,

1931 and Feb. 20, 1932, during which time it is alleged the band led by Licavoli operated the Golden Rose Supper club in Point Place; the Show Boat night club, on Superior street; maintained headquarters in the Nicholas building under the name of the Interurban Truckers, Inc.; the Ira apartments, and the Argonne hotel; operated an alcohol plant at 1413 Holmes street, and manufactured, transported and sold quantities of alcohol.

Delayed Since Winter

The gang also is charged with maintaining headquarters at the General Importing Co., at 513 Monroe street, where federal operatives assert, Licavoli and his lieutenants convened daily in a "board of directors" session.

The reputed Toledo gang lord now is beginning the ordeal he has staved off since last December. Although it was understood he would surrender to federal authorities after the return of the indictment against him he left the city and it was not until late in January that

federal marshals and was released on \$10,000 bond after entering a plea of not guilty to the charges in the secret true bill.

The Jurors

1. Mrs. Charlotte Bradley, 821 Paxton street, housewife.
2. Mrs. Mary Campy, 451 Spring Grove avenue, housewife.
3. Mrs. C. A. Cole, Wauseon, O., housewife.
4. Miss Belle DeKay, 2203 Hollywood avenue.
5. Edward Meyer, 15 Kenilworth avenue, unemployed.
6. Russell Lamb, Latty, O., farmer.
7. Mrs. Edith B. Southerland, 2248 Monroe street.
8. Minor A. Butler, 732 W. Central avenue, unemployed.
9. A. G. Palmer, 1705 Grand avenue, confectioner.
10. Mrs. Grace Shepherd, 2315 Lawton avenue, housewife.
11. Fred Holderman, 1217 Albert street, machinist.
12. A. H. Mattin, Delta, O., farmer.

Alternate jurors are: Mrs. Agatha DeLaet, Latty, O., and Harry H. Zimmer, Williston, O.

Here Are Jurors in Licavoli Trial

Seven men and five women are on the jury which is hearing the trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed gang leader, and George Petcoff on liquor conspiracy charges.

The jury: Mrs. Charlotte Bradley, 821 Paxton street; Mrs. Mary Campy, 451 Spring Grove avenue; Mrs. C. A. Cole, Wauseon; Mrs. Belle C. DeKay, 2203 Hollywood avenue; Edward Meyer, unemployed, 15 Kenilworth avenue; Russell Lamb, farmer, Paulding county; Mrs. Edith B. Southerland, 2348 Monroe street; Minor A. Butler, unemployed, 732 West Central avenue; A. G. Palmer, confectioner, 1705 Grand avenue; Mrs. Agatha DeLaet, Lyons, O.; Fred E. Holderman, machinist, 1217 Albert street, and A. H. Mattin, farmer, Delta, O.

Mrs. DeLaet, selected as an alternate juror Tuesday, replaced Mrs. Grace Shepherd, 2358 Lawton avenue, who was ill Wednesday. Henry H. Zimmer, unemployed, Monclova township, was the other alternate juror selected.

Testimony Opens After U. S. Outlines Case Against Defendant in Prohibition Case

MAY 3 1933

The story of the rise of the Licavoli liquor gang in Toledo, which the government will endeavor to prove in the trial of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and George Petcoff in federal court, was outlined by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, Wednesday.

Preliminary evidence in the case was given by five witnesses who were questioned at the morning session of the trial. Several of them identified Licavoli as the man who made purchases for night clubs under the name of Tom Laser.

Making his opening statement before the jury hearing the trial of the two men on charges of conspiracy and prohibition law violations, Mr. Murlin outlined how Licavoli is charged with creating an elaborate liquor ring in the city within a few months after he began operations here.

Mr. Murlin said that he expects the testimony of three-score witnesses to show that Licavoli "was the leader of this organization, dominated it, controlled it, and gave orders to the members of the organization."

The government expects to show, Mr. Murlin said, that in June, 1931, Licavoli, under the name of Tom Laser, came to Toledo and became the owner of the Golden Rose Supper club, 121st street, Point Place, where John Rose and Jake Sulkin associated themselves in the operation of the place,

and in making local credit arrangements for Licavoli and the club.

Tells of Raid

Mr. Murlin said he expects the evidence to show that the club was under the direct management of Licavoli until Sept. 2, 1931; that liquor was sold there by Louis Levy; that William Fotoplos had the food concession; that ginger ale and set-ups were served for consumption of liquor; that Licavoli lived at the club under the name of Tom Laser "and knew what was going on," and that Edward Beck and others assisted him.

That Licavoli moved the club to 422 1/2 Superior street Sept. 20, 1931, and operated the same kind of establishment there under the name of the Show Boat, with Rose, Sulkin and Beck assisting him and Levy selling liquor to the guests; and that Sept. 29, 1931, federal officers and police raided the place, finding a bar and intoxicants, and arresting Rose.

That in this time, Licavoli expanded his organization, adding Russell Syracuse as chief lieutenant, Howard Lane, Harry Silvenino, Sam Brown, Russell Palmer, Larry

Friedman, James Bronson, Leonard Brady, Ernest LaSalle, Leo Mocerl and others, and that the purpose of this organization was unlawfully to manufacture liquor and sell it at the two night clubs and to other dealers.

Moved to Hotel

That the organization maintained a suite at 1737 Nicholas building from Oct. 2, 1931, to Nov. 10, 1931, and that from Oct. 3, 1931, to Nov. 6, the defendants held meetings in apartment 204, Ira apartments.

That John Rose contracted the Argonne hotel Nov. 5, 1931, and arranged to rent rooms as headquarters; that Licavoli moved to the hotel that same day and registered under the name of Tom Swartz.

That on Dec. 22, 1931, the telephone company discontinued service of this telephone because of a large unpaid bill, and that the headquarters were moved to 513

Continued on Page Four, 1st Col. Continued From First Page

Monroe street, the place of business of Petcoff, owner of the General Importing Co.

That sale of corn sugar, the principal use of which is the manufacture of whisky and alcohol, was one of the businesses of the importing company.

Distillery Raided

That on Jan. 5, 1932, a member of the organization rented from the Banner Lumber Co. a house and cement block building at 1413 Holmes street, and that a huge distillery capable of turning out 1,400 gallons of alcohol a day was erected in this building.

That Jan. 28, Licavoli ordered two railroad carloads of corn sugar from the American Brokerage & Warehouse Co., Chicago, to be shipped to the General Importing Co.

That federal agents raided the Holmes street distillery Feb. 10, 1932, and heard Syracuse say to Silvenino, "We have got to keep these plants going in order to keep up production;" that the agents seized, among other things, a 2,000-gallon still complete, 18,000 gallons of mash, 145 gallons of alcohol, 140 pounds of yeast, an electric motor, eight 2,000-gallon wooden vats and two 1,000-gallon galvanized vats.

Charges Denied

Attorney John Hackett, making the opening statement for the defense of Licavoli, said that his client had no connection with the liquor ring as outlined by Mr. Murlin, that he knows nothing about it and that he is not guilty

The jury of seven men and five women, hearing the case, was sworn Tuesday afternoon after the defense had exercised eight of its 10 peremptory challenges and the government two of its six.

The \$500 bond of Russell Syracuse, indicted with Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, was ordered forfeited in police court Wednesday by Judge Homer Ramey. He is charged with being a suspicious person. A bench warrant was issued and new bond set at \$2,500. He was arrested Saturday night. He also is wanted in federal court.

as he said in his plea.

He also said that all of the overt acts charged and the counts in the indictment constitute only one violation of the law and asked the jurors to reserve their opinion until the evidence has been revealed. The opening statement of Mr. Murlin, Mr. Hackett asserted, was not evidence.

Attorney U. Grant Denman, representing Petcoff, asserted that the evidence will show his client to be a business man operating two stores and a grocery. If there was any conspiracy on the part of others named in the indictment, he said, Petcoff was not aware of it.

Juror Is Ill

Before the hearing opened Wednesday Judge George P. Hahn was informed that Mrs. Grace Shepherd, 2358 Lawton avenue, a juror in the case, was ill and could not serve. Her place was taken by Mrs. Agatha DeLaet, Lyons, O., one of the alternate jurors selected Tuesday.

The first witness was Charles Dicken, 2145 Alvin street, credit manager of the LaSalle & Koch store since June, 1931. The defense objected when the witness was

asked if he knew Jake Sulkin, but was overruled.

Sulkin came to him to arrange credit for merchandise to be delivered to the Golden Rose supper club, Mr. Dicken testified, and it was agreed that a down payment of \$100 would be made. Later, he said, Sulkin, accompanied by a man he introduced as Tom Laser, appeared.

Mr. Dicken identified Licavoli in the courtroom as the man who had been introduced to him as Tom Loser. Later, he said, Licavoli gave him a check for \$100 on the First National bank. He did not remember the signature on it.

Tells of Purchases

A ledger card was introduced showing that drapes had been purchased for the club at a cost of \$178. Another item revealed a purchase of \$27 worth of merchandise for the Show Boat.

Mrs. Warren Green, 1842 Macomber street, credit clerk at LaSalle & Koch's told of a visit to the office of Sulkin with Loser Aug. 5, 1931. She pointed to Licavoli as the man introduced as Loser. Neither witness was cross-examined.

Walter C. Auer of the LaSalle & Koch credit department, also testified. John Canelli, River road, who operates a wholesale and retail grocery at 314 Monroe street, said that in July, 1931, John Rose came in to his place to open an account for the Golden Rose Supper club, Licavoli was standing in the

store at the time and remarked that he thought it would be all right to extend credit to Rose.

Delivery of towels, napkins and other linens to the Golden Rose Supper club was described by Arthur Edelstein, 636 Winthrop street, manager of the Toledo Towel Supply Co.

Clerk Signed Laser

Chair covers his firm sent to the Golden Rose later were transferred to the Show Boat night club, he said.

His bill once was paid by Sulkin with a check signed Tom Laser, the witness testified. This check was returned for insufficient funds by the Toledo Trust Co. but later was cashed.

Frank E. Hales, 3627 Hazelhurst avenue, salesman for the Cable Piano Co., told of selling a piano to a young man and accepting \$10 down. The contract was signed by Tom Laser, but Mr. Hales could not identify Licavoli as Laser.

Testimony of witnesses concerning the name Laser pronounced the name according to the various spellings of it listed.

Payoff Denial Required In Licavoli Commutation

Statement Obtained From Wife Of Convict In Face Of Rumors

The wife of former Toledo gangster Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli was required to state in writing that no money changed hands before the inmate's life sentence was commuted to second-degree murder, John McElroy, Governor Rhrodes' assistant, said today.

The letter was requested, Mr. McElroy said, to protect the governor from rumors of a payoff in commuting Licavoli's sentence on Monday and making him eligible for parole. The ex-ganglord has been imprisoned in the Ohio Penitentiary for 35 years.

There have been widespread and persistent rumors that a large sum of money was available to anyone who could effect the release of Licavoli.

The letter from Mrs. Licavoli to Mr. McElroy said: "Neither I nor anyone with my consent or knowledge has paid or promised to pay anything of value . . ." in securing the commutation of the sentence.

Mr. McElroy said he had checked carefully to make certain that no promises were made and no money changed hands in the move to free Licavoli.

The Ohio parole board is expected to grant a hearing to Licavoli Feb. 3, 4, or 5. If parole is granted, the ex-ganglord could be released from prison in February or by mid-March at the latest, according to L. G. Ridenour, warden's assistant at the Ohio Penitentiary.

Licavoli was sentenced to life imprisonment in November, 1934, for his part in four Toledo slayings.

Three earlier pleas for commutation were turned down by Ohio governors after the parole board recommended against it.

Unanimous Recommendation

This time, however, the board unanimously recommended that Licavoli's life sentence be commuted. Before granting the plea, the governor checked with the Lucas County prosecutor's office and found that the prosecuting attorney had no objection to commutation if the parole board felt Licavoli was ready for it.

Licavoli, who will be 65 Feb. 9, is nearly blind with cataracts. If released, he will be paroled to Michigan, where his family lives.

Licavoli's conviction in Lucas County Common Pleas Court 35 years ago ended a notorious reign as a bootlegger in the prohibition era in Toledo and Detroit. Frazier Reams, Sr., then

rival who openly defied the bootlegging gang until that night when two men leaped out of a car, yanked the girl aside, and riddled Kennedy with bullets.

The year before, the first attempt on Kennedy's life ended in the death of another girl, Louise Bell, who was in the car with Kennedy at Jackson and Superior streets. Another car swept by, shooting at Kennedy and Miss Bell. He escaped injury, but she died two hours later.

Licavoli gained headlines in 1938 after an investigation of alleged special privileges enjoyed by the Toledoan while an inmate in the Hocking Honor Camp at the Ohio Penitentiary. The camp supervisor was fired as a result of the investigation, and Licavoli returned to the penitentiary.

While in prison, Licavoli has written 50 songs, and one, "I'm Sticking Around the Old Home Town," was published under the name of Tommy Thomas.

the Lucas County prosecutor, brought Licavoli and other gang members to trial for conspiracy to commit four gangland-style murders.

Two of the murdered men, Abe Lubitsky and Norman Blatt, had accused Licavoli of trying to organize the numbers game in Toledo. On Oct. 6, 1931, they were shot to death while waiting at a traffic light at Franklin and West Woodruff avenues. A third man was wounded.

A speakeasy owner by the name of Jack Kennedy was killed July 7, 1933, as he walked his girl friend along Edgewater Drive. Kennedy was a Licavoli

BIR# 53444
JAN 28 1969

TOLEDO-BLADE

JAN 29 1969

THE BLADE'S Pages of

PAGE 10

TOLEDO, OHIO, V

Release Of Licavoli

INASMUCH as the Ohio Parole Board unanimously voted to recommend the commutation of the life sentence imposed on "Yonnie" Licavoli in Toledo 35 years ago—and inasmuch as Governor Rhodes' office sought to make certain no monetary influence had been used in Licavoli's behalf—we suppose Toledo might as well accept, reluctantly, his forthcoming release from prison.

As a matter of fact, we doubt that many Toledoans nowadays even know who Yonnie Licavoli was or how he gave this city a reputation which long persisted—second perhaps only to the one Al Capone gave to Chicago—as a gang-ridden, wide-open booze and gambling town in the era of prohibition, corrupting government with money and intimidating law-abiding, peace-loving citizens with guns.

The showdown came in 1934 when Frazier Reams, Sr., then the Lucas County prosecutor, took on the Licavoli gang, charging four of its members headed by Yonnie with conspiracy to commit four gangland murders. In the most sensational trial Toledo has ever known, all four of them were convicted.

Why the jury recommended mercy for Yonnie, to save him from the electric chair, when he must have been as cold-blooded a killer as there ever was—not necessarily doing it himself but issuing the orders—has always been a mystery.

Unhappily, the breaking of the Licavoli gang did not wipe out Toledo's reputation as a gang-ridden, crime-infested city at one fell swoop. Because Toledo had such a notorious reputation, bootleggers and gamblers of a smaller fry thought they could take over the remnants of Yonnie's fallen empire.

But in a way, Yonnie Licavoli had given Toledo a civic purpose. The battle to stamp out the last vestiges of such gangsterism, to elect a sheriff who was honest, to give this city honest government, to make it a good city in which to live and do business continued. And for a good long time, the one thing the responsible citizens of Toledo didn't want was to have Yonnie Licavoli, symbol as he was of the city's seamy past, released from prison.

Now that the ex-ganglord is old and is going to live with his family in Michigan, under the Interstate Parole Compact, he can hardly be considered any further threat to Toledo, which he helped in a reverse sort of way to change for the better.

Commutation Issue Confused

Parole Board Panel Begins Licavoli Case Review

Recommendation Due On Friday

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS—A parole board panel Monday began a review of the case of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli to determine if the former Toledo gang leader should be paroled.

The panel, consisting of members of the parole board, will make its recommendation on Licavoli, and others, to the six-member parole board Friday.

Normally, the parole board makes its decisions known through publication of its minutes, several days after a hearing.

Licavoli, who has served 35 years for his role in four prohibition-era slayings in Toledo, became eligible for parole Jan. 27, when Governor Rhodes commuted his life sentence to second-degree murder.

The commutation has been the subject of contradictions and confusion since it was announced by the governor's office.

Press Release Version

According to the press release, the governor commuted the sentence on the recommendation of the parole board, implying that the act was initiated by the parole board.

However, the request for a parole board recommendation originated with the governor's office. John McElroy, the governor's chief aid, confirmed this but said the request consisted of nothing more than forwarding some letters to the parole board.

The letters, requesting reduction of sentence, were from Licavoli's wife, relatives, friends, and some clergymen, Mr. McElroy said.

Letters requesting clemency frequently are sent to the gov-

ernor and are routinely forwarded to the parole board, Mr. McElroy explained.

The press release also said that Licavoli's excellent prison record leads to "special recommendations from the current and preceding wardens that he be considered for clemency."

Warden Answers Request

Harold Cardwell, penitentiary warden, said he answered a request from the governor's office for a report on Licavoli's health and prison record but insisted he made no recommendation on commutation.

Because of the short time he has been warden (since August), Mr. Cardwell questions whether he could make a recommendation on Licavoli's eligibility for clemency.

E. L. Maxwell, who served as warden at the penitentiary for nearly a decade before retiring last year, could not be reached for comment.

However, Mr. McElroy said he erred in the news release when he said the wardens had recommended clemency for Licavoli. He said the recommendations dealt with Serafino Sinatra, a Licavoli accomplice, who has a commutation hearing scheduled for next month.

George Denton, chief of the adult parole authority, said rec-

ommendations from the wardens are not absolutely necessary in commutations. He did not regard the absence of letters of recommendation as unusual.

Rumors Of Payoff

Persons serving life sentences have their cases reviewed after 20 years and each 5 years thereafter, Mr. Denton explained. Since Licavoli has served 35 years, a substantial file has been built up in the hearings over the past 15 years, he said.

Mr. McElroy said the Licavoli case lends itself to "sensationalism" because of persistent rumors that underworld figures are willing to pay well to see Licavoli free. Mr. McElroy said that this was the subject of a special investigation and that no evidence of a payoff was found.

He said Licavoli has been ready for commutation for years but never received it because "he is Licavoli." He claimed that Licavoli had favorable votes for commutation as far back as 1959.

Mr. McElroy described Licavoli as "a sick old man with an excellent prison record."

Chairman's Resignation

Reason For Inquiry Request

In another development Monday, Harry McIlwain, Cincinnati attorney and one-time candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, asked Attorney

General Paul Brown to investigate the reduction of Licavoli's sentence.

Mr. McIlwain said one reason for the request was the resignation Friday of Arthur Shuman of Springfield, parole board chairman.

But Mr. Shuman termed "ridiculous" any suggestion that his resignation was involved with the Licavoli case. Mr. Shuman said he told Mr. McElroy of his intentions before he knew the governor planned to reduce the Licavoli sentence.

No Parole Action Set For Licavoli While In Hospital

COLUMBUS (AP) — The Adult Parole Authority plans no action on another parole hearing for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli until he returns to Ohio Penitentiary from the hospital, it was reported Tuesday. **TIMES**

Licavoli, in the penitentiary for 35 years of a life term for four gang slayings in Toledo, suffered a serious heart attack at the penitentiary March 28.

Since then he has been in Riverside Hospital and has recovered sufficiently to be moved from the hospital's coronary care unit to a semi-private room. **APR 9 1969**

Penitentiary Warden Harold J. Cardwell said physicians believe Licavoli can be returned to the penitentiary and hospitalized within a week. *H. J. Cardwell*

23449
SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Heart Attack Puts Licavoli In Hospital

Illness May Keep Ex-Toledo Gangster From Parole Hearing

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS — Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli was listed in critical condition Friday at Riverside Hospital, where he was admitted after suffering a heart attack earlier in the day in his cell at Ohio State Penitentiary.

The former Toledo gang leader was admitted to the hospital about noon, and was placed in the intensive coronary care unit. A hospital spokesman said that as in the case of all patients from the penitentiary, Licavoli would be under 24-hour guard.

Parole Hearing

His heart attack came on the eve of a scheduled parole board hearing that could have set him free. The parole board will make its monthly visit to the penitentiary next week and unless Licavoli is there his case will automatically continue until the first week of May. George Denton, chief of the adult parole authority, said.

L. C. Ridenour, deputy warden at the penitentiary, said Licavoli reported that he was ill Friday morning and was given permission to remain in bed.

Mr. Ridenour said Licavoli was moved to the prison hospital about 10 a.m. after a nurse checked him and noticed that his pulse was erratic. Doctors in the prison hospital found that he had suffered a heart attack, and he was transferred to nearby Riverside Hospital. Mr. Ridenour said **TOLEDO-BLADE**

Sentence Commuted

Licavoli, a prohibition-era gang leader, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1934 for conspiracy to commit four murders in Toledo. His sentence was commuted to second-degree murder by Governor Rhodes in January, making him eligible for parole. **MAR 29 1969**

The parole board considered Licavoli's case in February, but continued it for 60 days for further investigation. If paroled Licavoli plans to live with his wife in Grosse Pointe, Mich.

Licavoli Due Up Again For Parole This Week; Probe Of Case Asked

Check On Reduction Of Charges Sought By Harry McIlwain

COLUMBUS — Aging Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli comes up for parole again this week under shadow of a request for a state investigation of circumstances which brought him a reduced sentence.

Licavoli, 65, has served 35 years of a life sentence for four gangland slayings at Toledo in the early 1930s. Governor Rhodes last week reduced his charge from first-degree murder to second-degree murder, making him eligible for parole consideration.

McIlwain Asks Probe

Harry H. McIlwain, onetime Democratic candidate for the gubernatorial nomination, called on Attorney General Paul W.

Brown Monday to investigate the reduction of charges by Mr. Rhodes.

Mr. McIlwain, a Cincinnati attorney, wrote Mr. Brown, with a copy to The Associated Press listing the following as reasons for the request:

► Licavoli was sentenced in connection with four slayings.

► John McElroy, Mr. Rhodes' assistant, reported that the last two state prison wardens recommended Licavoli's release.

► The last two penitentiary wardens denied they made any such recommendation.

► The Parole Board chairman resigned on the eve of meetings to consider Licavoli's case. **FEB 4 1969**

► Newspaper reports that Licavoli's relatives once offered to pay handsomely for his release.

► Newspaper reports that Licavoli's wife was asked to sign an affidavit that there was no bribe offered or accepted in a connection with the case.

McElroy Admits Error

Arthur Shuman of Springfield who resigned Friday as parole board chairman, termed "ridiculous" any suggestion that his resignation was involved with the case. He said he told Mr. McElroy of his intentions before he knew the governor planned to reduce Licavoli's sentence.

Mr. McElroy later said he was in error in reporting recommendations of the present and former wardens in connection with Licavoli.

Mr. Brown said he had not received Mr. McIlwain's letter and could not comment until he studies it.

The Parole Board scheduled 82 cases to be heard in three days this week at the state penitentiary. They are expected to complete the hearings Wednesday.

Differ On Releasing News

George F. Denton, chief of the Adult Parole Authority, said minutes of board meetings are released the following Tuesday at the institution where meetings are held. He said the board could speak only through its minutes.

Board member George Bustamonte of Cleveland said results of the Licavoli case could be released earlier because of publicity surrounding the case. That decision, he added, would be up to Mr. Denton.

Mr. Bustamonte, speaking as an individual, said there are two basic issues to be considered in the Licavoli case.

Parole To Michigan Suggested

If punishment is the only criteria, he said, then the board should insist that Licavoli stay behind bars for the rest of his life. **FEB 4 1969**

If rehabilitation in prison is considered, he said, it could be a help to other prisoners, showing that they can some day hope to gain freedom. **TIMES**

If he is granted parole and follows the customary timetable, Licavoli would leave the 134-year-old state prison on March 6.

Governor Rhodes, in announcing the reduced sentence, suggested that Licavoli be paroled to Michigan. His wife and other relatives live in a Detroit suburb.

Call For Licavoli Probe Is Rejected As Political

COLUMBUS — Attorney General Paul Brown Tuesday rejected a request to investigate the commuted sentence of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli.

Harry H. McIlwain, who unsuccessfully sought the 1966 Democratic nomination for governor, asked for the investigation. He said the Licavoli case likely will be an issue in the 1970 gubernatorial race.

Calls Request Political

Mr. Brown, a Republican recently appointed to the office, termed the request from Mr. McIlwain, a Democrat and Cincinnati lawyer, "purely political."

Asked if the case could become a political issue, Mr. McIlwain said:

"If he (Mr. Brown) ignores my request then in my judgment it will be."

Mr. McIlwain, a former legislator, said he "probably will test the political water again this summer."

Licavoli, 65 and nearly blind, last week had his first-degree murder conviction reduced to second-degree murder.

Mr. McIlwain has asked Mr.

Brown to probe Governor Rhodes' action in reducing the conviction, thus making Licavoli, former Toledo gang leader, eligible for parole after serving 35 years in prison.

The parole board is studying Licavoli's case and a decision is expected by Friday on whether to grant him a parole. **TIMES**

In a letter to Mr. McIlwain, Mr. Brown said "the governor has not pardoned Licavoli; the man is still under a life sentence. The only difference is that he is now eligible for parole consideration." **FEB 5 1969**

Parole Rules Strict

Mr. Brown said if Licavoli is paroled "he will be given a list of strict rules to live by and if he violates any one of them, he will have to return to Ohio Penitentiary to continue serving his life sentence."

Mr. Brown added: "Section II of Article III of the Constitution of Ohio vests in the governor of Ohio the authority to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons. The attorney general is granted no authority to review the governor's discretion in these matters." **DM**

DRY AGENTS ARE LAID OFF

1933
onomy Ax Falls Here; Star Witnesses Against Licavoli Dropped.

The swing of the federal economy was felt Saturday by six men charged to the Toledo federal protection office, according to Associated Press dispatches from Washington. They are included in a list of enforcement officers in Ohio who have been given enforced furloughs by Attorney General Homer Cummings.

Agents connected with the Toledo office named are Frank H. Cobb, and B. Howard, William R. Unkle, and Christopher, Hiram G. Hines and Ralph Keim.

Carl Dewey, agent in charge of the local office, who apparently is to remain in his position, said Saturday that he understood Mr. Unkle is to be assigned to the Cleveland office.

Among others named in the furloughed list for Ohio is Mac Roper, who with Mr. Howard was star witness for the government in the prosecution of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo, convicted two months ago of violating the prohibition act.

Reams Will Question Stein and Licavoli Men Today

Three alleged henchmen of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli and Samuel Stein, 26, of 120 West Bancroft street, who was indicted on a first degree murder charge yesterday, will be questioned today by Prosecutor Frazier Reams in connection with the slaying of Jack Kennedy.

Prosecutor Reams announced yesterday he will quiz

Joe (Wop) English, Ralph Carsello and John Mirabella, who have been held in the county jail since Tuesday when they were arrested at the home of Licavoli on Pemberton drive, following their return from Detroit.

The indictment came as a result of the finding of a .38 caliber revolver along the banks of the Ottawa river near the scene of the murder. The gun was later identified by Detroit ballistic experts as one used in the murder and was traced to the pawn shop in which Stein was a clerk.

Refuses to Talk
Stein was arrested when he refused to give Detectives Emmett Cairl and Harry Clark a satisfactory answer as to how the weapon got out of the shop after it had been received there in March. Further questioning by Prosecutor Reams, Sheriff David Krieger and detectives failed to bring out any evidence from Stein and Wednesday night he was placed under a murder charge by Prosecutor Reams.

The grand jury returned the indictment following the presentation of evidence by Paul Alexander, assistant prosecutor; Coroner Frank G. Kreft, Sheriff Krieger and detectives assigned to the case.

Second Gun Identified
A second gun, a .45 caliber revolver, found near the spot where the other weapon was discovered by boys while picking berries at the foot of 114th street, was also identified by Lieut. Earl O. Stephens, Detroit expert, as having been used in the killing.

The serial number on the gun

Indicted



Samuel Stein
Stein was indicted yesterday of a first degree murder charge growing out of the slaying of Jack Kennedy a week ago.

PAWNSHOP GUNS CHECKED TODAY

Sheriff, Detectives To Take Six Weapons to Detroit for Check in Slayings

Sheriff Krieger and city detectives may leave Monday for Detroit with the six guns now at the Monroe street pawnshop where Samuel Stein, charged with the first degree murder of Jack Kennedy, formerly worked. These guns will be compared with bullets found in all Toledo gang murders and shootings.

Toledo police meanwhile wondered if there could be any connection between the investigation of the loan firm's guns and a forced entry into the place early Sunday. The front door window was broken, but Louis Igdaloff, president, said nothing was missing.

Prosecutor Frazier Reams Monday resumed the trial of Stacey L. McNary, president of the defunct Security-Home bank. Unless some clew or evidence is unearthed by police or the sheriff, the prosecutor's office intended to continue the murder investigation slowly and thoroughly. Stein has been indicted and cannot make bond.

Mrs. Ralph Carsello Sunday brought a spaghetti and chicken dinner to her husband, Joe (Wop) English and John Mirabella, suspects held incommunicado at county jail.

Dr. George Gerkin, jail physician, was called Sunday to attend Mirabella. It was said his ailment is rheumatism.

Attorney John Cochrane, representing Sam Stein, announced Saturday his client had identified the person to whom he says he sold the gun used in Kennedy's murder. Prosecutor Reams refused to substantiate this statement. Mr. Cochrane started on his vacation and his co-counsel, Harold S. Green, was left to advise with Stein.

attending a wake for Joe Mocerri, Licavoli's father-in-law, in Detroit at the time of the murder.

Mr. Reams, however, could not see the proposition in the same light as viewed by the four men of Zanesville. He refused to admit any of the three men held to bond on the grounds his investigation had not yet covered the facts on which he wished to question them.

Licavoli Worried
It was a solemn and apparently worried Licavoli who called voluntarily on the prosecutor Monday to ask the release of his three friends who have been held in jail for a week without bond, without preferment of charges and without a lawyer.

When Licavoli was called in for questioning several days ago, his attitude was evasive, and he denied close acquaintanceship with any of the three men, although all were arrested at his home on Pemberton road.

Yesterday the three were definitely "his boys." He protested that it was an infraction of their constitutional rights to hold them in jail without placing a charge against them and allowing them to make bond. He said further that the jail is very hot and uncomfortable, and that Mirabella is sick. Mr. Reams, however, was adamant in his refusal to consider the proposal.

MOCERI RITES ARE ELABORATE

1933
nd, Silver Casket Mark Funeral of Licavoli's Father-in-Law.

Yonnie Licavoli, in a curtailed routine, attended the elaborate funeral of his father-in-law, Joe Mocerri, in Detroit Saturday. There was a 12-piece band at the funeral rites, a 15-foot high funeral block line of eight-cylinder and six-cylinder cars and a color guard from the societies of Madonna, Grazzle and San Pietro. There was a police escort for the hearse and its silver casket and a field of detectives.

Yonnie, who is reported to have paid all funeral expenses, made one significant statement to newspaper reporters as he emerged from the church where a requiem was being sung.

"I don't know anything about Kennedy's death," he smiled. "I was at the wake Friday night."

He attended the obsequies of his wife and sister, Mrs. Cammarata.

Massie, well known Detroit actress, was there too. He philosophized in this tone:

"On that car comes up," he referring to the death car which Kennedy's assassins rode, "that car comes up, your up—that's all."

Mocerri came from Terrasini, Italy, that was 47 years ago. He then he settled down in Zanesville, Ohio. He went into the fruit business. He was a honest man, he loved his family and he loved his family. And he had his money.

He had eight children. Three of them were daughters. Five of them were sons. One was Gracie, who married a tailor; and Mamie, who married a tailor; and Frances and Ann her very good friends (her), who married Licavoli in 1932.

was sent to the factory yesterday by police in an effort to locate the original owner. The numbers were disfigured, but were brought out in the Detroit examination.

According to Stein's attorney, John Cochrane, the .38 caliber gun was bet in place of money in a gambling game by Stein and was

lost. The winner, Mr. Cochrane said, refused to let Stein buy it back and the pawn shop clerk lost trace of it after that.

Stein Afraid
Police reported that Stein is familiar with the person or persons in possession of the gun before the murder, but fears harm if he reveals their identity. Stein's attorneys sought his release from the Safety building on bond, but were refused by Prosecutor Reams.

Attorney Harry Leavy appeared at the courthouse Thursday and asked Prosecutor Reams particulars about the case. He said he was not engaged to defend any of the men being held for questioning, but was acting upon his own impulse.

Counsel for Licavoli
Mr. Levy was recently engaged by Licavoli to defend him in his trial for conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act in federal court. Mr. Levy has also defended Yonnie on numerous occasions in police court.

Miss Audrey Ralls, beauty contest winner, was still at liberty Thursday without bond following her release Wednesday by Common Pleas Judge Scott Stahl after a habeas corpus hearing brought about by her attorney, Dan McCullough.

Miss Ralls was being held as a witness, having been a companion with Kennedy when he was shot while walking on Edgewater drive and 140th street, Point Place, last Friday night.

SEEK NEW DATA IN KENNEDY CASE

Prosecutor Begins Search for Eye-Witnesses; 25 Guns Seized for Tests

A further search for eye-witnesses to the slaying of Jack Kennedy, youthful bootlegger, a week ago in Point Place, was made Monday by members of Prosecutor Frazier Reams' staff.

Meanwhile, police took 25 guns from the Monroe street pawnshop, where Samuel Stein, charged with the slaying, formerly worked, and were prepared to take them to Detroit Tuesday to have them compared by ballistic experts with bullets taken from the bodies of gang murder victims here.

Police also are attempting to connect a forced entrance into the pawnshop early Monday with the investigation. The front door window was broken but Louis Igdaloff, proprietor, said nothing was missing.

Reams on Bank Case
Prosecutor Reams Monday resumed the trial of Stacey L. McNary, president of the defunct Security-Home bank. Unless some clew or evidence is unearthed by police or the sheriff, the prosecutor's office intended to continue the murder investigation slowly and thoroughly. Stein has been indicted and cannot make bond.

Mrs. Ralph Carsello Sunday brought a spaghetti and chicken dinner to her husband, Joe (Wop) English and John Mirabella, suspects held incommunicado at county jail.

Mirabella Rheumatic
Dr. George Gerkin, jail physician, was called Sunday to attend Mirabella. It was said his ailment is rheumatism.

Attorney John Cochrane, representing Sam Stein, announced Saturday his client had identified the person to whom he says he sold the gun used in Kennedy's murder. Prosecutor Reams refused to substantiate this statement. Mr. Cochrane started on his vacation and his co-counsel, Harold S. Green, was left to advise with Stein.

LICAVOLI FAILS TO FREE PALS

Reams Not Moved by Alibi Pleas; Bond Refused Three

The vehement pleas of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, reputed ace Toledo gangster and convicted federal liquor law violator, yesterday failed to move County Prosecutor Frazier Reams to consider fixing bond for three alleged Licavoli henchmen who are held in connection with the murder last week of Jack Kennedy.

Yonnie himself headed a band of five men who voluntarily appeared before Prosecutor Reams yesterday in an attempt to establish an alibi for John Mirabella, who was the only one of the three purported Licavoli aids who thus far had not been provided with a good reason why he could not have been one of the gunmen who shot Kennedy to death in Point Place.

Peeling Potatoes
The others were: Dr. Myron King, dentist; John Ludinich, restaurateur; Louis F. Heydenreich, his chief cook, and Earl Sidles, night watchman at a malleable plant, all of whom are from Zanesville.

Mirabelle — purported gunman and liquor ring member—they asserted, was peeling potatoes as a helper in Ludinich's kitchen from noon the previous day until 3 a. m. the morning Kennedy was slain, ostensibly because he sought to oppose organized gangland in Toledo. Not only did he peel potatoes but he washed dishes as well, the quartet of Zanesville residents averred.

Details Vary
The statements of the four men, who were questioned separately by Mr. Reams, substantiated in the main the story told by Mirabella when arrested with Joe (Wop) English and Ralph Carsello in Licavoli's Pemberton road home after the murder, but varied widely in details. Carsello and English previously had asserted they were

REAMS BLASTS SUSPECT'S ALIBI

Declares "Wop" English Was Not in Detroit at Murder Hour

The alibi of Joseph (Wop) English, furnished by his gang chief, Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, in connection with the murder of Jack Kennedy, young Toledo beer dealer, was broken by Prosecutor Frazier Reams in Detroit Tuesday.

"I learned definitely that English was not in Detroit at the time of the killing," Mr. Reams said Wednesday.

"He did attend the funeral of Leo Mocerri, Licavoli's father-in-law, Saturday, however."

Kennedy was shot in Point Place by three men at 9 p. m. Friday, July 7.

The prosecutor said his investigation had not been completed on Ralph Carsello, who is held at the county jail with English and John Mirabella as suspects.

Licavoli, who attended the three-day wake for his father-in-law, had told the prosecutor and Sheriff David Krieger that Carsello and English were with him in Detroit the night of the murder.

The prosecutor said he expects to call Miss Audrey Ralls, 20, who was with Kennedy when he was shot, within a day or so to view "some suspects." He did not say what suspects.

Miss Ralls is in hiding on order of Dan McCullough, her attorney, who has promised to produce her for questioning at any time.

Sheriff Krieger and Detective Earl McBride were told by Lieut. E. O. Stephens, head of the police ballistics bureau in Detroit, Tuesday, that six guns left there Saturday did not check with bullets used in other gang killings here recently. The six guns were obtained from the Monroe street pawnshop where Sam Stein worked when he lent a .38 Colt to the killers.

Continued on Page 3, Second Column

LICAVOLI CHARITY REVEALED IN SUIT

Three men who were indicted on federal charges of con- sidering to violate the prohibition also were the recipients of Licavoli's charity, a case filed in com- plex court yesterday infers. The suit, filed by the E. W. Scherer Coal Co. to recover \$363.10 to be due on a coal bill, al- so that deliveries were made at Licavoli's request to Ernest LaSalle, 2704 Meadowood drive, Eddie Beck, 3618 Torrance drive, and Russell Syracuse, 2704 Meadowood drive, all of whom were associated with him in federal inquiry. Other deliveries in the petition states, were made to Cossello, 2915 Midwood drive, the Tribby Recreation.

LICAVOLI IS SUED ON OLD FUEL BILL

Scherer Coal Co. Asks \$363.10 For Deliveries in 1932. The E. W. Scherer Coal Co. filed in common pleas court against Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 2733 Pemberton drive, late Thursday for \$363.10 for coal allegedly delivered to him and his friends during the winter of 1932. Deliveries, the suit alleges, were as follows: To the Licavoli home, one ton of coke on Oct. 21, 1932; Ernie Lassele, Central avenue, one ton of coal on Nov. 9, 1932; Cossello, 2915 Midwood ave- nue, one ton of coal on Nov. 30, 1932; Eddie Beck, 3618 Torrance drive, two tons of coal on Dec. 19, 1932; Russell Syracuse, 2704 Meadowood drive, two tons of coal on Dec. 19, 1932; one ton each of coal on Nov. 12, two tons of coal on Nov. 30 and one ton of coke on Dec. 17, 1932; to the Tribby Rec- reation, 15 tons of coal in October,

Licavoli Is Sued for Old Coal Bill

Thomas Licavoli, 2735 Pemberton drive, was sued in common pleas court for \$363.10 by the E. W. Scherer Coal Co. for coal delivered last year to Licavoli and sev- eral persons identified with him in news. The names of those to whom coal was delivered were included in a bill attached to the petition. They are Ernie LaSalle, Central avenue; A. Cossello, 2915 Midwood avenue; Eddie Beck, 3618 Torrance drive; Russell Syracuse, 2704 Meadowood drive, and the Tribby Rec- reation.

LICAVOLI MEN GIVEN RELEASE

Prosecutor Assents to Freedom for English, Mirabella and Ralph Carsello. Prosecutor Frazier Reams yester- day assented to the release of John Mirabella, Ralph Carsello and Joe English from the county jail where they have been held without arraignment of charges, since the murder of Jack Kennedy in Point Place. The men were released without arraignment on the promise of their attorney, Cecil Stickney and Anthony Barons, that they would produce testimony when ever the state needs it. The two attorneys first sought to free the men on writs of habeas corpus, which they asked Judge Roy Stuart to issue.

Kennedy Killers Will Be Named

Names of the killers of Jackie Kennedy in Point Place July 7 will be disclosed Tuesday or Wednesday, said Monday. The prosecutor's office has infor- mation which indicates that the killers were St. Louis gunmen, he said, and that four or five men were part in the assassination. Mr. Rhinefort was in communi- cation with Cecil Stickney and Anthony Barons, representing Ralph (Wop) English, Ralph Carsello and John Mirabella, members of the Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli gang, Monday. The three, who were released from jail Saturday, were asked to appear at the prosecutor's office during the after- noon to be questioned about the

LICAVOLI AIDS FACE NEW QUIZ

English, Mirabella Attorneys Expected To Produce Pair in Kennedy Case

The prosecutor's office expects at- torneys for Joseph "Wop" English and John Mirabella to produce them Tuesday for further questioning in the murder of Jack Kennedy, young bootlegger, two weeks ago. The attorneys were asked Monday to bring their clients in but failed to do so. Cecil Stickney, one of the attorneys, said that he had given no professional promise the men would appear, but merely had said the clients had told him they would appear. The men were released Friday on what the prosecutor said was the professional promise of Mr. Stickney they would appear at any time for questioning. Joel Rhinefort, first assistant prosecutor, promised Monday that the names of the killers would be revealed early this week and ex- plained they were members of a St. Louis gang.

KENNEDY CASE ARRESTS NEAR

Assistant Prosecutor Anticipates Apprehension of St. Louis Men in Murder Probe

The solution of the mystery of the murder of Jack Kennedy in Point Place, July 7, appeared yester- day to be drawing near with the announcement by Joel Rhinefort, assistant prosecuting attorney, that the arrest of several St. Louis gangsters is anticipated today or tomorrow in connection with the crime. Ralph Carsello, John Mirabella and Joe (Wop) English who were released last week from the county jail where they had been held for questioning concerning the murder, are expected to appear in the prosecutor's office this morning with their attorney, Cecil Stick- ney, for further examination, Rhinefort said.

GIRL RECALLED IN KENNEDY CASE

Miss Ralls Appears in Reams' Office; Licavoli Aids at Questioning

Audrey Ralls, 20-year-old com- panion of Jack Kennedy when he was murdered nearly three weeks ago by rival gangsters, appeared at the office of Prosecutor Frazier Reams for further questioning Wednesday morning. Attorneys for Samuel Stein, in- dicted in the murder for his posses- sion of one of the murder guns be- fore the crime, also were in the prosecutor's office. Meanwhile the prosecutor awaited arrival of Joseph (Wop) English, John Mirabella and Ralph Carsello, three henchmen of Thomas Licavoli arrested as suspects and released on their own recognizance. At that time Cecil Stickney was their attorney, and told the prose- cutor they had promised him they would appear for questioning when wanted.

LICAVOLI TRIO AGAIN WANTED BY AUTHORITIES

Police Chief and Mayor Hesitate on 4-Day-Old County Request for Help

Four days ago Prosecutor Frazier Reams asked the city police department to detach Capt. George Timiney, formerly of the hoodlum squad and the department's star gang- ster chaser, to allow him to work with the county on the capture of three suspects in the murder of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger and enemy of the Licavolis. Friday, his request was un- answered, except vaguely by Chief of Police Dan Wolfe, who said he would have to have more time to consider it, since Timiney heads one shift of detectives and some ar- rangement would have to be made.

Timiney's Record

Prosecutor Reams wants Capt. Timiney for the job of tracking down the slayer because of Capt. Timiney's success with local gang- sters. Three of those sought are Jo "Wop" English, Ralph Carsello and John Mirabella, Licavoli henchmen, all of whom were in jail for the crime once, but later were released on the reported promise of Cecil Stickney, their attorney, to produce them for questioning. Attorney Stickney has been pro- duced the men, altho asked on sev- eral occasions to bring them in, and the question again has been referred to police. Called by The News-Bee, Chief Wolfe denied any part in the de- cision in the assigning of Timiney.

Higher-Ups To Decide

"That's carried higher up," he said. "The safety director and the mayor are in conference on it now, I guess. We'll probably know to- day."

"Would the detachment of Timiney from the police depart- ment for a short time seriously dis- rupt the working of the depart- ment?" the chief was asked. "Well it would leave one shift without a head," he countered. "But isn't it the practice in such cases to assign another detective to head the shift and call him as acting captain, and hasn't that been done before?"

No Serious Obstacle

"Yes, I guess we could do that all right." The mayor was called. "I don't know quite what it is all about," he said. "I was going to see the prosecutor today and find out what he wants." "He merely wants Capt. Timiney to be detached from the police de- partment long enough for him to work on the Kennedy murder case. Under those circumstances would you say your decision would be favorable?"

And Now He'll Confer

"Well, I don't know just what the conditions are. I have to be at that deposition thing at 1:30 p. m. today and, whenever I'm thru with that, I'll go see the prosecutor and see what he wants. Then I'll confer with the safety director and the chief." "If there are no complications ex- cept that Timiney is to be released for a short while would you say you would allow it?" "Well, I don't know the rules and regulations. I couldn't say." Capt. Timiney began his career against the Licavoli when Jim Licavoli was arrested in a night club here and held for a Detroit murder. Extradition was not allowed, and he was released.

The Trouble Starts

Shortly thereafter Timiney picked him up at the ball park, brought him to the Safety building—and kept his plans quiet. One day, by prearrangement with Detroit police, Jim was loaded into a patrol wagon, taken to the very edge of the Ohio-Michigan bound- ary and dumped into the waiting handcuffs of Michigan authorities. It was Timiney who found the Licavoli still, a huge affair, on Spelbusch avenue, near Cherry street, and caused it to be raided. That cost the gang an estimated \$100,000. Timiney also found the gang's liquor ageing plant on Canton ave- nue and a raid there caused the gang a loss of several thousand gal- lons of liquor. Timiney ran the gang out of control of the Show Boat night club, on Superior street, after they walked in on the owners.

Timiney ran the gang out of the Golden Rose club at Point Place and caused them the loss of hun- dreds of dollars they had spent for expensive draperies.

GUNMAN FACES INDICTMENT IN KENNEDY CASE

Prosecutor Again Moves Swiftly, Linking New Mur- der With Gangs Here

James Licavoli, Detroit leader of the Licavoli racketeering interests and gunman for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, Toledo chief, was arrested Tuesday night by Detroit police and is held for Prosecutor Frazier Reams. With Tony Ahate and Gust Chazero, Licavoli was picked up on a downtown street by the Detroit drug squad. Licavoli also is held for the Detroit homicide squad. This fortuitous turn in the in- vestigation of the Licavoli racketeering activities here was welcomed by Prosecutor Reams, who may ask the Lucas county grand jury immedi- ately for a first degree murder in- dictment against him for the mur- der of Jack Kennedy, bootlegger, whose gang death inspired Reams' sweeping investigation.

Questioning Seen

It is practically certain that Reams will send County Detective James O'Reilly and Detective Cap- tain George Timiney to Detroit Wednesday to question Licavoli or arrange for his possible extradition here. James Licavoli once was run out of Toledo by Capt. Timiney.

Before Licavoli's arrest, the prose- cutor had planned to spend the day with his aids checking depositions taken from persons interested in rackets and persons who gathered information for him.

His inquiry into gangdom was stimulated by the gangsters them- selves, who, in face of the inquiry, had the impudence to murder over the week-end another of their mem- bers.

Killing Part of Probe

Quintillo Pochini, formerly of De- troit and recently engaged in the alcohol racket in Toledo, is the latest of a long list of gangsters who met death violently in and near Toledo—murders which stirred the prosecutor to his unprecedented action against all racketeers. Altho Pochini's death seems in no way to be connected with the ac- tivities of the gang of Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, against whom the prosecutor's activity is especially avid, Reams nevertheless will in- vestigate this killing as part of his sweeping inquiry. Pochini's body, found late Monday in the city dump at Monroe, Mich., was identified positively early Wednes- day.

Grand Jury Action Halted

Laden with statements from scores of persons involved in slot machine, liquor and racketeering, and also from persons in no way connected but who had come upon useful in- formation, the prosecutor and his staff expected Wednesday to delve into the manuscripts and will not, unless their plans are altered, give the grand jury any evidence. The jury will be in session Wednesday and Thursday, but the prosecutor does not expect to appear with any racketeering evidence this week.

However, he will continue to ques- tion parking lot owners about defi- nite information in his possession that some of them are paying as much as five cents a car for "pro- tection" from racketeers who first intimidated them a year ago by defacing parked cars with razors and acids.

The prosecutor also will question several restaurant owners who have been reported to have been ap- proached by racketeers who de- manded money, "now that the slot machine racket is gone."

Another lead was obtained late Tuesday when repairmen dug another bullet out of the body of the Pack- ard roadster owned by Jack Ken- nedy, bootlegger, whose murder is

Please Turn to Page 2, Column 1.

PARKING LOT RACKET PROBE IS CONTINUED

Bullet Found in Kennedy Auto Examined; Search Spreads for Licavoli Hoodlums

Continued From Page 1.

attributed to the Licavolis. The bul- let was fired, as were others, the night that Kennedy beat up John Mirabella. Kennedy then told police that the hoodlums in "Little Cicero" fired at him after he beat Mirabella, and that he crouched behind his car to avoid the bullets. "Little Cicero" is the district near Monroe and Michigan streets.

The bullet is a .32 caliber and it is being checked in Detroit. The prosecutor is interested in checking the bullet against revolvers and automatic pistols confiscated from pawnshops, racketeers, etc.

James Ross, "Little Cicero" barber who has shaved the Licavoli hood- lums since they have been in town, was questioned late Tuesday. Mr. Ross said Mirabella roomed at his house during one six weeks period. Ross convinced Mr. Bunge that he knew nothing of the activities of the hoodlums nor of their whereabouts.

Search for Gangsters

Meantime a nation-wide search is being made by department of justice agents, it was rumored, for Yonnie Licavoli, John Mirabella, Wop Eng- lish, Ralph Carsello and several other gangsters wanted as material witnesses in the Kennedy murder.

The absence of these hoodlums and others proves the effectiveness of the investigation. They all have taken to cover to avoid the rough questioning of the mysterious Clarke brothers and the persistent quizzing of the prosecutor's staff.

Mr. Reams admitted that the smaller of the Clarke brothers of Detroit had been in the city Tues- day, conferred with him, and de- parted again on a secret mission. He declined to tell the subject of the conference.

Mr. Reams Tuesday was promised the whole-hearted cooperation of several clubs in his drive to gain the slot machine, major source of revenue for gangdom. Others will be forced to co-operate, Mr. Reams promised.

Punch Boards Seized

Eleven punch boards were seized by the police gambling squad Tues- day night as they continued to search business places for gambling devices. Seventy places were visited Tuesday night. Detectives James Tafelski and Chris Brennan of the police hood- lum squad picked up two slot ma- chines Tuesday one from 1928 Air Line avenue and the other from 8048 Escott street.

Judgment Against Licavoli Granted

Judge Scott Stahl Saturday granted a default judgment of \$377.62 for the E. W. Scherer Coal Co. against Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, 2733 Pemberton drive. The bill was for coal delivered last winter to Licavoli and several of his friends, including Ernie La- salle, Central avenue; Eddie Beck, 3618 Torrance drive; Russell Syra- cuse, 2704 Meadowood drive; A. Cossello, 2915 Midwood avenue, and the Tribby Recreation. The judgment was granted be- cause of Licavoli's failure to make answer to the coal company's peti- tion.

'ULL PENALTY IS DEMANDED

FOR LICAVOLI

U. S. Will Ask Maximum Sentence for Gangster Saturday

By DONALD POND.

The government will urge the maximum penalty of two years in a federal penitentiary and a \$10,000 fine for Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli when the gangster, convicted Wednesday as head of a giant liquor conspiracy, comes before Federal Judge George F. Hahn Saturday for sentence.

This was learned from an authoritative source Thursday, the Lee N. Murkin, the government prosecutor who convicted Licavoli after more than two years of operations here, refused to confirm the report. Mr. Murkin is said to feel that Licavoli is a public enemy and should be punished as such.

Protection Brought Conviction.

At the same time, it was revealed Mr. Murkin launched the investigation which resulted in Licavoli's conviction after his office had received reports a federal dry agent, since dismissed from the service, and other officers of the law were receiving "protection" money from Yonnie's organization.

The jury, which convicted Yonnie after more than 13 hours' deliberation while one juror, Minor Butler, of West Central avenue, stood out for the gangster's acquittal, freed George Percoff of all blame on the liquor charges. Mr. Percoff is head of the General Importing Co., 513 Monroe street, which the government said was used as a Licavoli headquarters.

On \$10,000 Bond.

Licavoli plans an immediate appeal and he probably will be released on bond while that appeal is pending. He spent four hours in the courtroom of United States Marshal George Weeks after his conviction at 3 p. m. Wednesday. The delay was caused by a hitch in arrangements to post a \$10,000 property

Yonnie, dressed in a dark brown suit, the fourth he appeared in during the trial, took the verdict calmly. He had nothing to say to the first. Defense Attorney Harry Key's announcement of an appeal being the only comment from the defense. Mr. Percoff, on the other hand, wept for joy and swung the hands of reporters who asked comment from him. His attorney, Grant Denman, expressed joy at Mr. Percoff's "deserved acquittal."

Jury Discusses Case.

Members of the jury were interviewed not to talk about the case at first, but Mr. Butler admitted he was the single juror who stuck out for acquittal. He remained obstinate on the first five counts in the indictment, on each of which the count was 11 to 1 for conviction, but finally gave in on the conspiracy charge, the only one of which Licavoli was convicted.

Counts one to five charged possession and manufacture of alcoholic beverages; the maintenance of a common nuisance in the still at 1413 Holmes street, East Toledo; possession of property, designed for the manufacture of liquor and the fermentation of mash at the same address. The sixth charge alleged a violation of the internal revenue laws.

The conspiracy charge accused Licavoli and his eight co-defendants of conspiring between June 21, 1931, and Feb. 10, 1932, to date of a federal raid on the still, to violate the national prohibition laws at the Eldon Rose Supper club in Point Place, at the Show Boat, at various downtown headquarters and at the still.

Yonnie Talks.

Elwood Meyer, 15 Wintthrop street, foreman of the jury, said that, while Percoff's case was disposed of before 4 p. m. Tuesday, at least 10 ballots were necessary on each of the six counts against Yonnie.

Yonnie loosened up conversationally while he waited for his bond in the company of Attorney Levy and Johnny Costello, Monroe, Mich., said to be an important gang figure in this part of America. Costello has been with Licavoli thru much of the trial.

Only one thing really annoyed the convicted man and that was a suit brought against him as he awaited the verdict by a Monroe tailor.

"Why," he protested, "I've still got the stuff he sold me lying around the house—unwashed! He sells me clothes I can't even wear and then expects me to pay for them! I don't mind paying honest bills and I do my them."

Yonnie Licavoli Broke and Facing Federal Rap; City Has No Public Enemy No. 1, Says Timiney

Gang Organization That Threatened To Levy Tribute on Legitimate Business Men Dissolved

MAY 1 1 1933

By JOE COLLIER.

The conviction of Yonnie Licavoli of liquor law violations by the federal government and his sentence to prison mean for Toledo the eviction of the only gang in the area potentially harmful to the citizens. For Toledo merchants it means the riddance of any possibility they will pay tribute to outlaws.

This is the opinion of Capt. George Timiney of the police hoodlum squad.

"The Licavoli gang," he said, "was the only gang in this area that had a semblance of organization, one that would have been able to levy tribute on legitimate businesses."

"There is no doubt that the Licavolis had their eyes on the legitimate business. But publicity over the failure of the Show Boat, on which they muscled in, and the dry cleaning bombings, of which they were accused in the popular mind, made them timid about carrying out plans we are sure they had for taking tribute from the cleaners and, possibly soon after that, from small restaurant owners."

"The Licavoli gang came here from Detroit early in 1931 and hooked up with a couple of Toledo's small time racket hangers-on who knew the city."

"They first levied a tribute on

gamblers, using the Toledo men to give them the information.

"With that for a stake, together with what they were able to get from their associates in Detroit and Cleveland, where John Angersolla is the boss, they started an extensive alcohol business."

"They figured this way. They would manufacture alcohol from corn sugar and undersell competition in their territory which extended from Sandusky, probably, to somewhere in Indiana."

"So they built the still on Spielbusch avenue, and operated it three or possibly four months, when we raided. That still cost them at least \$100,000, that and their trucks and warehouse."

"If they had been able to continue in operation of that still they would be worth \$350,000 today. I don't suppose they made what it cost. They could have turned out 5000 to 10,000 gallons of alcohol a



Capt. George Timiney.

week, and alcohol was \$6 a gallon wholesale in those days.

"Then, we are certain, they tried to exact tribute from the cleaners. They would have got away with it, too, if the Perrysburg bombing had not happened."

"We are certain, also, that they tried to exact a levy on a certain

Police Persistence Separated Chief From His Cash

restaurant. The owner never would admit it to me. He was scared and he still is.

"They muscled in on the Show Boat and the Golden Rose club and were closed up. That cost money. Jimmie Licavoli was wanted in Detroit for the murder of Henry Tupancy and that cost them, we hear \$6000, but I'd say more likely \$15,000."

"Then Yonnie fled, a fugitive from federal indictments and that must have cost \$2000 or \$3000."

"Now, practically broke, with business ruined by notoriety and the cunning of the federal operatives who showed what amounted to genius at getting their evidence, the gang is without its leader."

"Moreover, Licavoli's most trusted lieutenants can't step in. Ralph Carrello is sentenced. Russell Syracuse is a fugitive. John Mirabella or Ernest LaSalle might step in, but it's not likely."

"And now, since I know of no other big time gang in the area, I believe Toledo's underworld is peopled with small time bootleggers, gunman with no one to hire them, and hangers-on."

"In fact, Toledo seems to be without a No. 1 public enemy."

HAHN TO RULE ON NEW TRIAL PLEA TUESDAY

Men Who Pleaded Guilty Are Given Terms of 4, 6 and 8 Months; 1 Granted Stay.

Five members of the Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli gang, who pleaded guilty to charges in the liquor indictment under which their chief was convicted Wednesday, were given prison sentences by Judge George P. Hahn in federal court Saturday.

The judge announced that he will rule on a motion for a new trial for Licavoli, filed by Attorney Harry Levy Saturday, at 9:30 A. M. Tuesday and that, if he overrules it, will sentence Licavoli at that time.

The gangsters and their sentences: Howard Lane, alias Bud Gardner, eight months; Harry Silvenino, six months; Sam Brown, four months; Russell Palmer, four months; and Ed Beck, eight months. Lane was granted a stay of execution for 30 days.

Recommended by Murlin

All of the sentences were recommended by Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney, who explained to the court that the men were not principals in the case but merely hirelings employed by Licavoli to do manual labor. He named the principals in the liquor conspiracy of the gang as Licavoli, Russell Syracuse, who jumped his bond, and Ernest LaSalle, who never was apprehended.

In his motion for a new trial, Attorney Levy contended that the court erred in overruling a motion to quash the indictment and in overruling a demurrer against the indictment.

He stated also that the court erred in refusing the defendant the right to inspect minutes of the grand jury and in admitting testimony of Myrtle Dunn, maid at the Argonne hotel, who told of receiving \$2 tin for cleaning the head-

quarters of Licavoli, whom she described as the boss of the gang. The court erred also, the motion asserts, in admitting a large number of exhibits presented by the prosecution. It is contended further that the verdict of guilty returned on the sixth count of the indictment, which charged conspiracy, was not supported by the evidence.

Others Sentenced

The verdict of guilty on the sixth count, the motion contends, was contrary to instructions on the law given by the court and contrary to the evidence presented. Mr. Levy charged also that the court erred in refusing to instruct the jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

Others receiving sentences Saturday for violation of prohibition laws were Earl Langenderfer, Toledo, 30 days; William N. Russell, Toledo, 30 days and a \$100 fine; Florain Diemer, New Bavaria, four months; Albert Zenz, Lima, 60 days and a \$100 fine; Roy O. Cole, Lima, seven months; Julius Halmis, Minster, five months, and Herman

Continued on Page Three, 4th Col.

Continued From First Page

H. Mullenkamp, Fort Recovery, 90 days and a \$100 fine.

Frank G. Hall, Toledo, was given 18 months for violating narcotic laws. William Flynn, Lima, received a term of one year in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., for demanding \$500 from a Lima business man in a threatening letter.

Needed Tax Money

Frank Drusnick, Whitehouse, O., charged with a prohibition law violation, informed the court through his wife, who acted as interpreter, that he was forced into bootlegging because he needed money to pay his taxes. The case was passed for future action. James Sierens, charged with a dry law violation, entered a plea of not guilty. His trial was set for Tuesday.

Francis J. Smith, Toledo, charged with a moral law violation, was given a seven months' sentence. William Hatcher, who still has five months to serve in Leavenworth on a forgery charge, was given an additional sentence of 15 months for forgery. Glenn N. Hottelton, Toledo, and Louis K. Laska, who passed counterfeit \$5 bills, were given sentences of five months each. Harold Gallan, Toledo, was given 18 months for passing counterfeit \$1 bills and James L. Murphy, Toledo, received a like sentence for counterfeiting nickels.

Continued on Page Three, 1st Col.

LICAVOLI DUE FOR SENTENCE

Judge Hahn Expected To Overrule Motion for New Trial

MAY 15 1933

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, convicted by the federal government as a liquor law violator, will be sentenced in federal court Tuesday morning.

The only obstacle between Licavoli and sentencing Tuesday is the remote possibility that Judge George P. Hahn will grant the motion for a new trial filed Saturday.

Yonnie, who probably will appeal, is liable to a sentence of two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. Lee N. Murlin, government prosecutor who convicted Licavoli on a conspiracy charge, will ask the maximum sentence, he has intimated.

Five of Yonnie's henchmen, who pleaded guilty, were sentenced from four to eight months Saturday morning on recommendations of Mr. Murlin, who described them as "Licavoli's day laborers." They are: Bud Gardner and Eddie Beck, eight months each; Harry Silvenino, six months; Sam Brown and Russell Palmer, four months each. Licavoli's chief lieutenants, Russell Syracuse and Ernest LaSalle, are fugitives from justice, their bonds forfeited. Toledo police also want LaSalle on a murder warrant.

LICAVOLI IS GIVEN 2 YEARS IN PRISON AND FINE OF \$5,000

Plea for New Trial Denied; Case to Be Appealed; Gang Chief Will Be Sent to Leavenworth.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, gang leader convicted last Wednesday of conspiracy to violate prohibition laws, was sentenced to serve two years in prison at Leavenworth, Kan., and to pay a fine of \$5,000 by Federal Judge George P. Hahn Tuesday. A motion for a new trial was overruled.

The prison sentence is the maximum under the law as Licavoli was found guilty of only one of the six counts in

Continued From First Page

the indictment naming him and members of his gang. This was the conspiracy count. The maximum fine possible was \$10,000. The case will be appealed.

Licavoli appeared in court wearing a double-breasted brown suit, the fifth he has worn since the trial started two weeks ago. Judge Hahn asked that Licavoli come forward.

Goes Up to Bench

The prisoner hesitated and then, accompanied by his attorneys, Harry Levy and John Hackett, walked to the bench where he stood with his hands clasped behind him and teetering back and forth on his feet.

"We regret very much that the jury did not find the defendant guilty on all counts of the indictment," Lee N. Murlin, assistant U. S. district attorney who prosecuted the case, said. "The vote of the jury was 11 to one for conviction on the other five counts. We recommend a maximum sentence of two years at Leavenworth."

Mr. Murlin called the court's attention to the fact that Licavoli had been a fugitive and that the government had been placed at great expense in searching for him. In addition, he continued, there was a plea in abatement filed with the court of appeals and other actions which increased costs of the case. Mr. Murlin suggested that all of the costs of the trial be assessed against Licavoli instead of the five men indicted with him who pleaded guilty. He also recommended a substantial fine.

Denies He Was Fugitive

Judge Hahn said the court would not be justified in penalizing the defendant for appealing the case. Attorney Hackett told the court that Licavoli had not been a fugitive and was not charged with being one. His client surrendered as

Continued on Page Three, 1st Col.

Linked With Night Clubs

The case against Licavoli, who came here from Detroit two years ago and now occupies a home at 2733 Pemberton drive, Old Orchard, was based on his connection with the operation of the Golden Rose and Show Boat clubs, and the seizure of a huge illicit distillery at 1413 Holmes street.

The government contended that after raids had hampered Licavoli's scheme to sell liquor through the night clubs, he increased his organization and went into the wholesale and retail liquor business.

Government witnesses described various headquarters maintained by the gang, linked Licavoli with the five who had pleaded guilty, and showed how Licavoli had approved credit for those who operated the distillery and purchased corn sugar used in the making of alcohol.

LICAVOLI FREED ON HEAVY BOND

Convicted Liquor King Held in Marshal's Office 6 Hours.

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, liquor king of Toledo, was held in the United States marshal's office for six and one-half hours Tuesday while his henchmen scoured the city seeking property owners to guarantee his \$12,000 bond.

He finally was released at 4:45 P. M. after nine persons who swore their joint worth is \$90,000, and who own property listed for taxation at \$28,500, had guaranteed his appearance when he is called upon to serve his two-year sentence in Leavenworth prison and pay his \$5,000 fine.

His attorneys have 90 days in which to file a bill of exceptions in the district court of appeals. He will remain at liberty until this is filed, and it is probable that a stay of execution will be granted until the higher court acts upon the case.

Higher Bond Fixed

The bond fixed by Federal Judge George P. Hahn after Licavoli was sentenced Tuesday morning was \$2,000 higher than his former bond, and the gang leader was hard pressed to meet it.

In the afternoon, while "Whitey" Besase directed the search for more bondsmen, Licavoli talked with those who already had arrived, and with his friend, John Costello, Monroe, Mich. At 3 P. M., Harry Silvenino and Edward Beck, two of the five henchmen who pleaded guilty to liquor conspiracy charges on which Licavoli was tried, were brought over from the county jail, Silvenino to talk to Licavoli and Costello, and Beck to see his wife and baby.

Attorneys Harry Levy and John Hackett then conferred with court officials, who agreed to accept the signers already present, inasmuch as their joint worth was seven times the amount of the bond, and their real estate at tax valuation figure was more than twice as much.

Other Bondsmen

It was agreed that signers hav-

ing property valued at \$8,000 would be brought in Wednesday for additional security.

The bondsmen, their real estate tax valuation and their total worth: Angelo Torti, laborer, 629 Tecumseh street, \$5,000, \$9,000; Angeline Ceravolo, 614 Avondale avenue, \$1,000, \$1,000; Antonia Licata, 443 Woodland avenue, \$2,500, \$30,000; Pauline Besase, 233 Pinewood avenue, \$3,000, \$5,000; Ernesto Partintoso, linen merchant, 442 Woodland avenue, \$5,000, \$15,000; Anise Fryman, manufacturer, 616 Fourth street, \$5,000, \$15,000; Louis H. House, merchant, 408 Platt street, \$2,500, \$5,000; Peter and Lena Carollo, fruit dealer, 529 Lucas street, \$5,500, \$10,000.

Another bondsman, George Colpy, junk dealer, 131 South Hawley street, who had real estate valued at \$5,000 and said he was worth \$20,000, was rejected because he is on another bond.

After the bondsmen had signed, Licavoli thanked them and said he hoped he could help them some day.

LICAVOLI GETS BOND IN NICK

Cools Heels Until Two Minutes Before Court Closes; Thanks Guarantors

By DONALD POND

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, sentenced Tuesday to serve two years in a federal penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5,000, was free in \$12,000 bond Wednesday while his attorneys prepared to push his appeal to higher federal courts.

Yonnie barely avoided spending Tuesday night in jail.

Yonnie Nervous

Notice had been served on Yonnie and his counsel that the clerk's office would not stay open after 4:30 p. m. Yonnie was sentenced shortly after 9:30 a. m. and Kenneth V. Wilson, chief deputy clerk, reasoned that seven hours was sufficient time for anybody to make bail.

At 4:25 the last guarantor arrived. It had been decided by then to let Yonnie go on a total of \$23,300 if he would guarantee to post a \$5,000 bond Wednesday.

Those who signed the bond, the tax value set on the real estate

each offered and the personal worth each swore to follow:

- List Bondsmen**
 Angelo Torti, 629 Tecumseh street, \$5,000, \$9,000; Angeline Ceravolo, 641 Avondale avenue, \$1,000, \$1,000; Mrs. Pauline Besase, 2333 Pinewood avenue, \$2,000, \$5,000; George Colpy, 131 S. Hawley street, \$5,000, \$20,000; Ernesto Partintoso, 442 Woodland avenue, \$5,000, \$15,000; Anise Fryman, 616 Fourth street, \$5,000, \$15,000; Peter and Lena Carollo, 529 Lucas street, \$5,500, \$10,000; Antonia Licata, 443 Woodland avenue, \$2,500, \$30,000; Louis H. House, 408 Platt street, \$2,500, \$5,000.
 The sworn worth of the signers is \$110,000.

File For Appeal

While the guarantors were signing Yonnie's bond Mr. Hackett and Mr. Levy filed their petition for appeal and their assignment of errors. The assignment listed the same alleged errors in the conduct of the case cited in the motion for a new trial which Federal Judge George P. Hahn had overruled before he passed sentence. The appeal will raise the costs of the case to an estimated \$350.

LICAVOLI BOND SHORT, CLAIM

Property Valuation Less Than Required, Says Deputy

Thomas (Yonnie) Licavoli, who was released Tuesday under \$12,000 bond following his sentence in federal court on liquor conspiracy charges, yesterday was technically in default of \$7,700 of the amount required for the bond, federal officials said.

Kenneth V. Wilson, chief deputy clerk of the court, attempted to reach by telephone Attorneys Harry Levy and John Hackett to remind them of their promise to have another signer appear today to make up the balance required.

It was explained at the courthouse that the law requires security worth three times the amount of the bond. Determination of the value of the property offered as security is left to the discretion of the clerk. The usual procedure, when deeds to property are of-

fered, is to double the tax valuation.

Total \$28,500

In Licavoli's case, however, the tax valuation was used to determine the value, and it was found yesterday that the total tax valuation of the property offered by eight signers for Licavoli Tuesday was \$28,500, or \$7,700 short of the required \$36,000.

If the additional security is not offered today, it was indicated, instructions will be sought from Judge George P. Hahn.

The total valuation of the property offered by Licavoli's signers, at their valuation, was \$90,000.

All Responsible

The signers are jointly and individually responsible for approximately \$17,250, including the \$12,000 bond, the \$5,000 fine imposed by the court on Licavoli, and about \$250 for court costs.

Licavoli was released on the bond pending an appeal to the United States circuit court in Cincinnati. He was found guilty on the conspiracy charge by a jury May 10 and was sentenced to two years in Leavenworth prison, in addition to the \$5,000 fine.