

A No, that was earlier, when I was employed by the Department of Agriculture.

Q And it was while you were in the Department of Agriculture that you met this George Crossley? A That's correct.

Q Will you tell the jury the extent of your contact with George Crossley? A I think I first saw him either in December, 1934, or in January, 1935, at my office in the Senate Office Building, when I was on loan to the Senate Munitions Committee as their Legal Assistant.

I saw him certainly three or four or five times, while I was still with the Munitions Committee. He represented himself to me as a free-lance writer, interested in the Munitions Committee, in finding all that he could about the material that had been put into the record, having a description of the significance of it as we saw it; the kind of questions that the press and writers frequently asked us at that time.

Q About how many people did you come in contact with while you were on that job - how frequently did you have visitors on that job? A Continuously. The day-to-day press people, feature writers, some of the commentators, students who were doing theses, and two men I remember who were jointly writing a book.

Q Was there anything in particular, in Crossley's approach, that would cause you to remember him so clearly?

A No. I think I would remember some of the others fairly clearly, and the people who came to see me, because they were interested in the particular cases that I had been handling.

Q Continue about Crossley, and your contact with him. A Some time in the Spring of 1935, he told me that he intended to spend several months in Washington.

Q Up to that period of time, how often did you see him? A I think I had seen him three or four or five times, in my office or at lunch nearby, and the subject of conversation had been the Munitions Investigation and the cases I had handled.

We may have talked about some other subjects generally, but that was the reason for his calling on me.

Q Did you meet him accidentally at lunch, or did you talk of going to lunch with him? A It was the latter.

Q So that we have three or four or maybe five visits to you? A That's correct.

Q Then what happened? A In the Spring of 1935 he told me that he planned to spend several months in Washington, completing his research and writing about the Munitions Committee.

According to my understanding, he had only come down for a day or two at a time, previously. He said he

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wanted a place to stay while he was in Washington, and I told him I had or I would soon have a place available, because I had taken a house in Georgetown, and I had the apartment.

Q Where was the apartment? A 2831 28th Street N. W., Washington.

Q And the house? A The house was at 2905 P Street, also N. W., and I offered to let Mr. Crossley have the apartment at the cost to me. Its rental was sixty dollars a month at the time.

Q Up to that time, had you met the members of his family? A I had not.

Q Had you had any conversation with him about the size of his family? A That I am not sure of, in terms of actual date. I think at the time he said he was coming down, I think he said he wanted to bring his family with him.

Q He was on an exploratory search for a place to live, and his family had not yet come? A That's correct.

Q So that you entered into an agreement with him to let him have your apartment on 28th Street for some period of time? A That's correct.

Q At that time your lease had about how long to run? A My lease ran until July 1st, and I think I

moved to the P Street house about the middle of April, so that would be about ten weeks.

Q Roughly, two and a half months? A That's correct.

Q But you had a definite agreement with him, that he was to pay the rent? A That's right.

Q Was he to pay it to you or to the landlord? A To me. This was a sub-lease.

Q You never entered into any formal agreement? A No, it was an oral arrangement.

Q But you yourself were under a written lease? A Yes.

Q Up to that time had Mr. Gossley borrowed any money from you? A I am not sure exactly when the small loans were made. I think it was before that, they began, and I think they must have continued some time after that, too.

Q Up to that time, about how many times would you say he had borrowed money from you? A Up to that particular time, I am afraid I can't break down the number of times. I think the total number of times was four or five, totalling four or five dollars each time - somewhere up to twenty-five or thirty, or maybe thirty-five dollars total.

Q Incidentally, you say those loans were never

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repaid? A They were not.

Q Was the rent ever paid by Crossley? A They were not.

Q Of course, for the record here, Crossley is now known to you as Whittaker Chambers? A That's correct.

Q Did you know when Chambers actually moved into the apartment? A I am not absolutely sure of the date, as of now. I think it was very shortly after we moved out.

Q When you moved out, was the apartment left unfurnished? A No, we left it considerably furnished. I think we took our own lamps and things of that sort, but the house we took on P Street was itself a furnished house.

Q When did you find out that Chambers had left the apartment? A I again don't recall. I assumed he was there right straight along.

Q Did you go back and get the furniture out of that apartment at some time afterwards? A We certainly must have; I don't remember when we did.

Q I take it you did go back and pick up the furniture? A Oh, certainly; he must have notified me when he left, or I must have gotten the furniture at least at the end of the lease.

Q Let's see if I can piece this together. You

met Crossley in the summer of 1934, is that right?

A No, I don't think I met him before December, 1934, or January, 1935.

Q All right, make it late 1934. And you rented your house to him when? A The apartment - some time in the Spring of 1935.

Q So that you had known him about six months at that time? A Four or five months, anyway.

Q And you knew him well enough to give him a small hand-out, so to speak, and to let him use your house and furniture, under a purely oral agreement? A That's correct.

Q Were there any others whom you knew and whom you treated similarly, in a matter of small loans?

A I don't recall having loaned small amounts to any other newspapermen. I had lent, about two years before, a total of perhaps as much as a couple of hundred dollars, which was repaid, to a man who at that time was very hard up, and later became the Chief of the Catalogue Division in the Library of Congress; and I have from time to time made loans and assisted other people.

Q So that your treatment of Crossley was what you would normally do? A I think, Mr. Whearty, that the occasion didn't arise, before or after, of a writer, a particular kind of person that Mr. Crossley was, asking me for loans.

Q Do you have a particular sympathy for writers?

A No, That is what I am saying, that I haven't.

Q And that is the first time that happened. Now, up to the time that you rented your apartment to Crossley, had he visited you at your home and met your family?

A I don't think so.

Q When did he first visit your home, as best you can remember? A I think the first time he came was just before he was to move into the apartment, when he said with his wife and child, and he had come to Washington to move into the apartment but they needed some of their equipment or furniture or other things that they were bringing, which hadn't arrived, and we offered to let them come into our house on P Street for a couple of days while their equipment, or whatever it was, was arriving.

Q Was that the first you met Mrs. Chambers?

A Yes, That was the first I met Mrs. Chambers.

Q And your family at that time consisted of yourself, your wife, and your step-son? A That's correct.

Q There was no extra payment for that use of your house at that time? A No, that was simply a courtesy to a sub-tenant at the outset of the lease, under circumstances that seemed to us very plausible.

Q Now, up to the time that you rented your apartment to the Crossleys, had you attended social functions

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at which he was present? A Not to my recollection. I don't recall ever having seen him at a social function.

Q After that time did you attend social functions with him? A Not that I recall.

Q Did you have any parties or social functions at your house, at which he was present? A No, I did not invite him to any social functions.

Q Did you have any friends who were known to be mutual friends? A No, I don't recall anyone that I knew who also knew him.

BY MR. DONEGAN:

Q Mr. Hiss, did you know anybody by the name of Wadleigh? A Yes, Julian Wadleigh, I do know.

Q When did you first meet him? A I think I first met him when I went into the State Department.

Q Can you give an approximate date? A I think it must have been the Fall of 1936, because Mr. Wadleigh was working on Trade Agreements.

Q What was his position in the State Department? A I don't remember his title. He was in the Trade Agreements Division, and I think he was an economist by profession.

Q As far as physical location is concerned, did he work in the same building? A Yes, he worked in the same building.



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Q And did he work in the same section? A The Trade Agreements Division was an office of forty-five, fifty or sixty people, and Mr. Sayre's office was a small office in terms of personnel, and Mr. Sayre supervised the Trade Agreements Division, so I had numerous contacts with the people in the Trade Agreements Division.

Q Did you have social contacts with Mr. Wadleigh?

A Very few, if any.

Q Well, did he ever come to your home? A I don't think Mr. Wadleigh ever did come there.

Q Were you or your wife at his home? A I don't think I ever went to his home. In much later years, we went to a house in Virginia, and I think Mr. Wadleigh either lived nearby, as I then discovered, or may actually have lived in the same building.

(CONTINUED BY LB)

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BY MR. WHEARTY:

Q Was that your own house in Virginia? A No.

Q Whose house? A I do not remember whether I can remember the name right offhand. The circumstances were that an acquaintance of ours from the eastern shore of Maryland, who was a practical nurse, was staying with a family -- I think I will be able to remember the name, because I haven't thought of this in some time -- taking care of their youngster. He went up with my youngster who is now seven -- this must have been the last four or five years, to spend the day, a Saturday or Sunday, the two children playing together, and I think Julian Wedleigh I then learned was living in the same house with the family with whom our friend was serving as a practical nurse. I cannot be able to recall the name of the family.

BY MR. DONAGAN:

Q You say the eastern shore? A Yes, the eastern shore of Maryland.

Q Can you be more specific as to the location?

A Chestertown, Maryland, is part of the eastern shore with which I am particularly familiar. My stepson went to a boy's camp there in the '30's, and we have kept closely in touch with the people who ran that camp on a farm ever since. Either a friend or relative of theirs who spends a good deal of time with them was the practical nurse whom I am talking about, whose name was Agnes. I think it is Agnes Kraus.

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Q Cross? A No. I think it is Kraus. I may have mis-remembered the name, but I am sure the first name was Agnes.

Q When did you last see her or when did you last hear from her? A Sometime while we were still in Washington, not more than a couple of years ago.

Q A couple of years ago? A That is correct. Not more than that.

Q Do you know her address or where she can be located? A I know she can be located through Mr. and Mrs. J. Kellogg Smith, Chestertown, Maryland. That's the name of the friends who ran the boys' camp, and I visited them this past Thanksgiving. I knew them very well.

Q You say--at that time were you in contact with this individual known to you as George Crossley or Chiswick Chambers? A No. You mean as she was --

Q You were visiting in Chestertown. A I am sorry. I am afraid we are getting mixed up, Mr. Conegan.

Q In other words, about what time was it that you made this visit out there to these friends that Wadleigh lived near by? A That was sometime in the late four or five years.

Q Oh, it was four or five years ago? A Yes. But I have known Miss Kraus, if I have her name right, from back in the '30's right straight on through.

Q As far as Chestertown is concerned, you have no

knowledge that Miss Krebs has any other connections with Westertown except -- A She is a friend of the Kellogg Switts and owns a small cottage on their place at which she spends some of her vacations.

Q Over how long a period of time were you acquainted with Mr. Wadleigh? A From 1936 to date.

Q When did you last see him? A If Julian was present on the day when we went out and spent the day at the house where I think he was living, that was the last time; I should think.

Q What day was that? A A couple of years ago.

Q Have you had any conversations with him since then? A No, I have not seen Julian recently.

Q Was he working in the State Department when you terminated your employment in the State Department? A I think Julian was on overseas service when I left. I am not sure and I did not see very much of him after I left Mr. Sayre's office.

Q Did you know him before you went to the State Department? A No, I did not.

Q Was your acquaintanceship based on your association in the State Department? A Entirely.

Q Can you recall any occasions -- I asked you the question before as to your social contacts and you said you could not recall, but I'd like again to ask you the question -- can you recall any instances where he visited your house?

A Mr. Wadleigh?

Q Yes. A No, I do not have any recollection.

Q Do you know, Mr. Hiss, whether Mrs. Hiss knows him?

A I do not know, except for that one occasion.

Q Did she know Mrs. Wadleigh back in those days?

A No, and I do not think I have ever met Mrs. Wadleigh. I do not think so.

Q Do you know whether Mr. Wadleigh knew Mr. Chambers?

A No, I certainly do not.

BY MR. WHEARTY:

Q Or Mr. Crossley? A That's right.

BY MR. DONOGAN:

Q When we are speaking of Chambers and Crossley in here, we are speaking of the same individual. A That's understood. Mr. Donagan, may I correct the records to the name of the practical nurse?

Q Yes. A I am quite sure now it is Agnes Kraft, and whether that's Kraft or Craft, I am not sure. I couldn't remember her name. I hadn't thought of her name in several years. Agnes Kraft. Q You mind just correcting the records?

BY MR. WHEARTY:

Q I want to ask you this, Mr. Hiss. Was your relationship with Wadleigh a personal friendship or was it a business friendship, an office friendship? A It was an office friendship.

Q Were there others in the State Department with whom you were likewise, or particularly, more friendly? - More friendly than with Julian Radleigh?

Q Yes. I mean, in the same category? A Yes. I do not class Julian as one of my closest friends in the Department. I'd say in the Trade Agreements Division there were half a dozen others whom I knew a great deal better than Julian, and knew socially.

Q Could you identify them by name, if you recall? A I'd say Charles Darlington, Bill Fowler -- William Fowler -- and John Lickey, who was my immediate predecessor who came down for consultation on the legal aspects of trade agreement quite frequently, and was a close personal friend. Jacques Reinstein, Marc Catudal, Lyon Edminster and perhaps three or four others. These were the people in the Trade Agreements Division that I saw most regularly and had lunch with, and a number of them I saw also socially as well as during business hours.

Q I want to drop that for a minute and ask you something about Crossley. Did you know Crossley in the brief period that he was employed by the Railroad Retirement Board? A I did not.

Q Did he ever tell you he was so employed? A He did not.

Q Do you happen to know where the Railroad Retirement Board was with respect to your office? A I understand that

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they had quarters, or some of their staff did, in an old auditorium, a reconditioned auditorium, which is two or three blocks west of the State Department. There's a square between the old Interior Building and the new Interior Building, and the auditorium I am referring to is immediately adjacent to that square on the west.

Q On the south side of the street? A No, I think it is on the west side of the square.

Q Mr. Hiss, I think we better suspend this examination at this point for a few minutes, and it may stretch out, and if it does, we'll let you know. If you do not mind, we'd like to suspend it now. A You would like me to leave?

Q Yes. We'll continue your testimony in a little while.

(WITNESS EXCUSED)