Roe Rose To Top Then Lost On Wheel Of Fortune

Roe Told Probers Of Million Take

CHICAGO — During the crime investigations of Senator Kefauver's Committee, Theodore Roe produced records showing a net income one year of 1,120,000 from the Idaho-Maine policy wheel.

He freely admitted to the probers that operating a policy wheel was his business, and that at one time he had been associated with the famed Jones brothers in the business.

However, Roe refused to say whether or not he paid policemen so that he could operate his trade freely. He stated that his organization's large expense accounts for various things.

Hire 300 to 400 Writers

Queried further about his organization, Roe told the committee that he had about 300 to 400 policy writers in Chicago.

On the matter of police, Roe stated that the police chief in the district was a Captain Bluestt, but that he had not paid him any money at any time.

"How much do your men pay him?" he was asked.

"I couldn't answer because I don't know."

Arrested Several Times

After stating that Captain Bluett had never arrested him, he was asked, "Have you ever been arrested?"

A — Oh, yes.

Q—Have you ever been convicted?

A — Well, I can't recall that. You see, policy raids were small raids and I was a guilty one.

Q — Is it just a matter of routine?

A — No, because one case I was in there, we fought that case a long time and I am trying to refresh my memory as to whether we got a fine or beat the case.

Q — What is the average fine you pay out for your employees, what they are arrested?

Fines Run From $25 To $200

A — Well, they run from $25 to $200 and costs.

Q — None of them are ever sentenced to jail are they?

A —Well, I had one indicted and got two years, but I beat that case in the Supreme Court.

Q — That is the only one that ever received a sentence?

A —No, way back, I recall one went to jail one or two; I think; but I beat that in Appellate Court.

Took Over Far Janes

One of the questions of the Jones brothers, Edward, George and Mack, Roe explained that he had been associated with them in the policy business for a number of years and he had taken over the operation for them when they fled to Mexico

Q — What were they doing in Mexico?

A — Since he was kidnapped here I think he has been afraid to stay here.

Q — Who was kidnaped?

A — Ed Jones was kidnaped here.

The investigating committee was then told that police records indicate that a $10,000 ransom was paid for Ed Jones's release and that the three brothers and their mother, Mrs. Harriett Jones went to Mexico leaving Roe to carry on in their behalf.

Gross and net earnings of the policy organization known as the Jones Brothers and the Idaho and Maine wheel are listed in the Kefauver committee report as follows:

	Gross	Net
'38 Jones Brothers	$	$ 400,362
'39 Jones Brothers	547,658	546,649
'41 Jones Brothers	1,151,861	872,759
'42 Jones Brothers	54,207	39,469
'42 Idaho and Maine	344,319	266,881
'43 Idaho and Maine	822,880	715,026
'44 Jones Brothers	172,989	115,275
'44 Idaho and Maine	19,948	12,475
'45 Idaho and Maine	931,867	698,000
'45 Idaho and Maine	1,122,011	972,729
'46 Idaho and Maine	1,308,184	1,120,413
'47 Idaho and Maine	1,083,349	851,978
'48 Idaho and Maine	1,309,380	907,564
'49 Idaho and Maine	1,013,734	687,011
'50 Idaho and Maine	714,440	532,449

NEWS FROM HOME

TENN. N.C. ALA. S.C.

ON TWO - WEEK TRIP

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Holmes and son, Roland, of Detroit are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Cureton of 2220 Booker Ave, for two weeks.

PASTOR'S BIRTHDAY

ROANOKE, Va. — The Rev. E. L. James, pastor of First Baptist Church, was honored on his 75th birthday with a party given by church members and community leaders.

NEW DENTIST

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Dr. James Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Brown, who graduated from the dental college at Howard University, has passed the Dental State Board and is now associated with Dr. J. T. Massey of 436 King st.

MAKE OVERNIGHT STOP

RALEIGH, N.C. — While en route to their home in Washington from Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Perpail and Mr. and Mrs. Nash were the overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Yarborough of E. Edenton st.

TRAINING AT FORT DIX

GOLDSBORO, N.C. — Pvt. Emmett Morris Swinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Swinson, 702 E. Elm st., is taking his basic Army training at Fort Dix, N.J. He is a member of Company F, 47th Battery, Ninth Infantry Division. He is the husband of Mrs. Helen Swinson.

VISIT THEIR FATHER

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and son, Hudson Jr., of Philadelphia are the guests of their father, Irby Lindsey of St. Liberty st., while on a vacation.

BEGINS DENTAL PRACTICE

ROANOKE, Va. — Dr. John H. Cundiff, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Cundiff, 321 Wilmer Ave., recently opened his dental offices at the Clayton Clinic here. Dr. Cundiff was graduated from Howard University School of Dentistry in 1951.

JUNE WEDDING TOLD

ROCKY MOUNT, N.C. — Announcement has been made of the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth McIver in Milwaukee, Wis. in June. He is a native of Rocky Mount while she is from Atlanta. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar W. Ivory and attended Spelman College and Boston University's School of Social Work.

OFF TO GERMANY

CHARLESTON, SC — Mrs. Altha Amos embarked for Germany last week from New York. She will join her husband, Major Robert F. Amos who is serving with the occupation forces in West Germany

Pastor Flays Mayor, Council Of Chicago

CHICAGO (NNPA) — Provoked by the ambush murder of Theodore Roe, 53, the Rev. Archibald J. Carey, alderman and pastor of Quinn Chapel AME Church, last Friday told Mayor Martin B. Kennelly and the city council that they are "a shameful lot."

You are rapidly becoming regarded throughout the world "as the most callous and godless group of people in public office," the minister added.

The Rev. Mr. Carey, in a 10-minute speech, delivered one of the most blistering attacks levelled at the city administration from the council floor in years.

After the city council meeting was adjourned, Carey told reporters that he "saw red" when the council was apparently set to adjourn without mentioning Roe's murder.

Carey, a top orator, referred to both the Roe killing and the murder last Feb. 6 of Charles Gross, white, then acting Stat Ward Republican committeeman. "It is a shame on us," Carey said, "to go to other cities and be asked, 'What's new in crime in Chicago?' —'I think that we who are officials of the city—you, Mr. Mayor, and the council—are a shameful lot to allow a murder to happen on Kedzie Ave. six months ago and another on Michigan Ave. Monday night without doing anything about it," he declared.

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Widow Just Escaped Fate That Stalked Roe's Trail

BOTH KNEW DEATH WAS NEAR:

CHICAGO — Mrs. Carrie Roe, widow of the slain policy lord, has stated that she would have He said he didn't want me to go along because he was a marked man. He explained that he didn't want anything to happen to me."

At the inquest, Mrs. Roe told investigators:

"He never was in fear of his life. He was a brave man, who defied the syndicate. If he hadn't he would be alive today."

The widow told police that her husband had been marked for death since June 18, 1951 when he shot and killed a white mobster who attempted to kidnap him.

Since Theodore Roe pumped bullets into Lenard (Fat Lenny) Caifano, his would - be abductor, Mrs. Roe said she lived in dread knowing that her husband's life was in constant peril.

The partly - blinded wife, in mourning in her meticulously decorated apartment, had collapsed after identifying her husband's body at the morgue. She told police and newsmen that she had repeatedly asked Roe to hire bodyguards against the vengeance they both felt was near at hand.

Resigned To Fate

"But he told me," said Mrs. Roe, "No use having one bodyguard, or five. If they're going to kill me, they'll kill me, with or without bodyguards. When your time comes, you're going to go—that's all there is to it."

Much of the property Roe owned was in his wife's name. She, however, announced her intentions of giving up the shares she held in Chicago's policy wheels, saying that she wanted no more to do with the gambling game.

Roe's Widow

Mrs. Carrie Roe, partially blind policy king's widow in Chicago policy baron, narrowly escaped his fate when she prevented to go out with him on the night he was murdered. Roe refused to let her accompany him, saying that he was a marked man.

Roe shot along with her husband, had he permitted her to go with him on the night white hoods blasted him down with shotguns.

Telling of her narrow brush with the death that snuffed out the life of Theodore Roe, she said: "I wanted to go out somewhere,

Roe's Days Were Numbered, Chicago Crime Expert Says

CHICAGO — Southside policy king Theodore Roe's slaying by white mobsters should not have come as surprise to anyone—his days were numbered.

Thus commented Virgil W. Peterson, operating director, Chicago Crime Commission. This crime expert saw Roe's death as revenge exacted for his having killed Leonard (Fat Lenny) Caifano, leader of the syndicate's 'Young Bloods' gang in June, 1951.

The syndicate, said Peterson, has been trying to seize complete control of the multi-million dollar policy rings for years.

L.A. Gets Tan School Exec.

Teacher First On Education Board

LOS ANGELES, Cal. — Supervisor Leonard J. Roach made appointed Mrs. Aaron H. Douglas, Los Angeles schoolteacher to the L.A. County Board of Education, making her the first colored person to be named to this most important policy-making body.

Mrs. Douglas fills the unexpired term of William A. Sheldon, a Roach reappointee, who died last week after serving only one month of his new term on the board.

A native of Texas, Mrs. Douglas taught at Lyley and Prairie view State College, and is a product of th Univr ities of Cincinnati, Minnesota and Southern California. She was a Laura J. Spellman fellowship student.

Postal Supervisor's Wife

The possessor of a lifetime California teaching credential, Mrs. Douglas is the wife of Aaron H. Douglas, recently promoted as superintendent in one of the local post office branches after 25 years of srvice. Th reside at 2101 S. Harvard Blvd.

Mrs. Douglas will sit on the five-member board until 1954. She is a member of the NAACP and Holman Methodist Church.

Mr. Roach was also responsible for the appointment of Dr. Omer B. Barker as resident physician in internal medicine at General hospital, he is the first colored physician from the west coast to be so admitted.

Campaign In 2nd Phase

CORONA, N.Y. — The campaign of Dr. Frederick L. Bell, candidate for state assemblyman in the Fifth Assembly District, Queens, went into its second phase as his supporters sought to get 3,000 signatures on petitions enabling him on the ballot as an independent candidate.

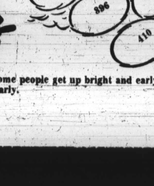
The Non-partisan Committee for Minority Representation in the Fifth distrinct has already secured signatures to place Dr. Bell's name as the ballot for the Democratic primary election

'Fast With A Buck' Roe Never Bragged Of His Wealth

CHICAGO — Theodore Roe, slain millionaire policy baron, was known as a man who never brag gged about his wealth, did not drink, but loved to play cards and bet on horses.

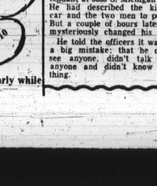
He had Cadillacs, numerous real estate holdings, a luxurious apartment, and was known as a "fast man with a buck," giving out lavish tips. At the race track he seldom made a bet of less than $100 across the board and he was seldom lucky.

Although he lived dangerously, Roe was extremely gentle in manner.



Dr. Buzzard says: Some people get up bright and early while others just get up early.

End Of Road For Policy King



Police Lieutenant John Golden bows down at the home of the murdered Roe, Chicago Southside policy king, who was slain by mobs. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at President Hospital

Roe Refused To Pay White Hoods $11,000

Jones Brothers Paid $13,000 On $24,000 Asked; Probe On

CHICAGO — Two days before he was cut down by shotgun blasts from two white hoods, Theodore Roe is reported to have refused to pay $11,000 to gangsters in an extortion plot.

One eyewitness to the demand told officers that Roe and some friends were in a tavern on 43rd St. between Indiana and Michigan ave. when a car with four men in it pulled up, and one man got out, called Roe out and demanded, "Where's that $11,000?"

"I wouldn't give you guys a dime," Roe retorted, and walked back into the tavern.

Jones Paid $13,000

The witness explained that recently the Fitchetti brothers sent word to the Jones brothers, Roe and Edward, former partners of Roe in the million dollar policy business, demanding $24,000.

On July 31, Ed Jones sent them $13,000 with a note to get the remaining $11,000 from Ted Roe. This is the sum that Roe refused to pay.

The Jones brothers are said to have been friendly toward the Fitchetti brothers, Joseph and Rocco,

Roe's Home Fabulous

Decorator's Fee Was $50,000

CHICAGO — Slain digit baron Theodore Roe's apartment where he lived with his mother and sister in mourning was and is a fabulous dream dwelling.

The wealthy policy baron had it redecorated by a Chicago designer at a cost of more than $50,000.

In the living room, stands a breathtaking piano and television set six feet high. A push of a button turns it to face any corner of the room.

The room's huge fireplace is made wholly of mirrors and the floors are covered with heavily tufted carpets.

Rose Bedroom

A rose theme colors the master bedroom; with roses in the rugs, wallpaper and bed coverings. Furniture of pink roses hang over the twin beds.

In the mirrored powder room are shelves lined with intricately cut-glass bottles containing rare imported perfumes.

Wine Cooler

In the kitchen, along with the latest appliances, is a cooler filled with French champagne and rare liquors.

Each room has a telephone to match the color scheme. The bedroom is pink, the guestrooms in ivory and deep brown in the dining room.

A peephole in the front door enables the person inside to see outside without being observed.

Woman, 111, Dies In Concord, N.C.

CONCORD, N.C. — The oldest citizen of this community, Mrs. Jane Howie, 111, died last week and funeral services were held Sunday at Rock Hill AME Zion Church.

Daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Spears, Mrs. Howie was born in 1841. Married to Amos Howie, she became the mother of 11 children, six of whom are living.

Among her survivors are Mrs Ella Rosemond and Jessie Howie of Concord; Tom, Osbin and George Howie of Winston - Salem and Mrs. Mary B. Gaines of NYC; 22 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Ga. Worker Killed In Cave-In, 2 Hurt

AUGUSTA, Ga.—One workman was killed and two others injured Aug. 5, in a sewer construction cave-in near here. All three men were buried beneath about eight feet of sticky earth.

The dead man was listed as Jesse Jones. Billy Brazzie, another construction worker, was rescued after several hours and his screams were heard by passers. The third man, George Walker, escaped with only a wrenched knee.

The three men were working in a ditch 23 feet deep laying pipe, when suddenly the sides caved in trapping them underground.

'Thanks, Old Boy,' Thief Tells Jeweler

DETROIT—Joseph Thomas, 30, walked into a downtown jeweler's, asked to be shown some rings, placed two in his pocket, "thank" clerk "thanks old boy" and ran out of the store.

He was captured after a two-block chase. The rings, valued at $3,430, were recovered. When arraigned before Recorders Judge Paul E. Krause, Thomas pleaded guilty.

He faces a possible 14-year-sentence.

The man refused to let the court appoint a lawyer for his defense. Saying "I am my own good would a lawyer do?"

He awaits sentence in Wayne County jail.

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Fear Of Gangster Reprisals Causes Witness To Clam Up

CHICAGO — After news got around that the Roe killing was the workings of a powerful ring of white hoods, witnesses who had talked to police, quickly changed their stories to, "I didn't see a thing and I don't know anything."

Chief among these was Joseph Turner, Illinois state attendant at 5269 S. Michigan Ave. He had described the killers' car and the two men to police. But a couple of hours later, he mysteriously changed his tune.

He told the officers it was all a big mistake; that he didn't see anyone, didn't talk with anyone and didn't know anything.

He's Surprised

Lone Wolf's Luck Ran Out

Roe's Story Began On Farm Ended On Cold Morgue Slab

CHICAGO — Ted Roe began life in a tenant farmer's shack in Gallion, La., rose to become a Windy City policy baron, and as the wheel of fortune took a final spin, he ended up a bullet-ridden corpse.

And in the 54 years of his life between the cradle and the grave was always a lone wolf who never gave in to Chicago's crime networks.

As luck smiled on him, he became sharer in a policy racket that netted an estimated $150 million.

Small Change Fortune

His wealth was built up on the countless small change that thousands of Chicagoans, rich and poor, poured into his policy game in efforts to better their own fortunes.

He shared this fabulous wealth with his partly blind wife Carrie upon whom he spent thousands of dollars to keep her happy and secure.

And to keep him happy, until the shotguns of white hoods cut him down, Carrie kept from her husband a secret that only she and their doctor knew.

Dying Of Cancer

Ted Roe—was nearing death — not from gangsters' guns — but from stomach cancer.

He never knew!

One of four children, the racket baron is survived by a brother, Will, and a sister, Mrs. Birdie Lewis, both of Detroit.

He received scant schooling. Leaving the farm at 14, he left Little, Rock, Ark. he met Carrie Givens whom he married. This was 29 years ago.

He picked up a little skill as a tailor. He worked in an automobile factory in Detroit and came to Chicago in 1929.

Met Ed Jones

His luck changed for the good when he met Edward Jones, who then operated a tailor shop at Indiana Ave. near 42rd St., and later with his brothers George and McKissick, formed the biggest and Jones B rothers triumvirate that ruled Southside policy operations.

The tailoring business, it is rumored, was rough going at that time, and there was no way of a poor man's getting ahead of the digits and policy wheels.

So the Jones's stopped playing and started their own policy wheel which soon began to flourish.

Became Assistant

The Jones family named their friend Roe to supervise one of their wheels, the Harlem-Bronzville Grande, and he became their chief lieutenant.

Later, after McKissick Jones's death in an auto accident, Roe was cut in on a percentage basis.

He reached his full power after Edward Jones went to jail on an income tax indictment. Though they still refused him a complete share of the profits, Roe became known as the "Jones boys man."

Then rival gamblers had Ed Jones released. Roe paid them the $100,000 ransom they demanded for Jones's safe return and was made a partner, given a one-fifth share of the profits and really began to amass his fortune.

In June 1951, Leonard Caifano was shot by Roe as the white mobster and his gang tried to kidnap him. Roe was cleared of murder, the judge ruling the shooting "justifiable homicide."

But now the time was running out. The white syndicate was putting more and more pressure upon him to sell out.

Caifano's mobster friends had revenge in their hearts. All this put feat into Roe.

He never gave in, never took the beating that the country as the Jones brothers had failed to do. Moving a lone wolf, Roe's final reward came as he walked toward his parked car last Tuesday night into a hail of bullets.

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