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—Charlie Burns

(Continued from Page 1)

ing the release from the penitentiary of Mr. Burns.

Herbert Myerberg, attorney for Mr. Burns said at AFRO presstime, he was "still working on the situation as to the correct legal procedure . ."

* * *

MR. BURNS is currently serving a two-year sentence, as a result of the raid and his conviction on a lottery charge.

On Wednesday, Mr. Burns was brought before the Grand Jury on a writ of habeas corpus and under the watchful eye of penitentiary guards. He was closeted with the Grand Jurors, Mr. Grady and Assistant State's Attorneys John C. Weiss and John A. O'Connor Jr., for an hour and 50 minutes.

This is a record time appearance before the Grand Jury so far in this probe.

Other of the 30-odd witnesses which have previously appeared in Phase One of the probe, which concerned morals charges against two top officials of the Rackets Division, and in Phase Two, which concerns the Auchentoroly Terrace raid, were before the Grand Jury from about three to some 20 minutes.

Following Mr. Burns to the Grand Jury chambers Wednesday were Mrs. Etta Mae Johnson, 1800 block Pressman St.; Henry G. Parks Jr., 800 block Madison Ave., and Mrs. Juanita D. Jones, 3400 block Auchentoroly Terrace.

Also summoned for an appearance was Mrs. Barbara Jean Scott, whose address was listed on the summons as 1023 N. Stricker St. However, the summons was returned with the notation that 1023 N. Stricker St. was a vacant house.

All of these persons were arrested with Mr. Burns during the May 1 raid, and were subsequently dismissed of any lottery connections at a later hearing in Northern Police Court.

* * *

MR. BURNS was first befofe the Grand Jury. His friends in the outer chamber remarked that he looked haggard, and appeared to have lost about 20 pounds in weight.

When he came from the Grand Jury room, Mr. Burns appeared to be in big spirits. He shook hands with Mr. Parks, greeted some other friends cheerfully, and leaned over to kiss a stylishly well-dressed woman friend.

"Hello, baby," he said, completing the greeting.

After a few minutes, a prison guard came up and snapped handcuffs on Mr. Burns.

"This is what gets me," Mr. Burns said to a couple of friends.

"Well," the guard said good-naturedly, "it's prison regulations, you know."

* * *

AFTER MR. Burns was led away — back to the penitentiary, the Grand Jury recessed until 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Parks and Mrs. Jones were called in this order before the Grand Jury during the afternoon.

Following their appearances, each was taken to the State's Attorney offices where Capt. A. F. Nelligan, commanding officer of the Police Department's Crime Laboratory, took a specimen of their handwriting.

Capt. Nelligan had with him a brief case, believed to contain the evidences of lottery operations allegedly seized by the police officers during the raid on Mr. Burns' apartment.

Samples of the handwriting of each of the three persons was taken, it is believed, to determine whether any one of them matched writings on the materials alleged to have been seized during this May 1 raid.

Mrs. Johnson was in a car with Mr. Taylor riding slowly past the home of Mr. Burns at the time of the raid, she said, when police stopped the car and arrested her and Mr. Taylor.

On Tuesday, the Grand Jury heard from three witnesses who had appeared on behalf of Mr. Taylor to substantiate his story of being in his car at the time of the raid, and not inside the Burns' apartment as raiding officers had contended.

* * *

THE THREE witnesses are Luther Johnson, 1000 N. Mount St.; the Rev. Clifford Cooper, 2200 block Ruskin Ave., and Alfred Green, 2200 block N. Fulton Ave.

"I give a world of thanks to my three witnesses," Mr. Taylor said feverently Thursday, while waiting himself to appear before the Grand Jury. "I certainly thank them for not being afraid to see that justice was done properly.

"I am grateful, too, for all the work that has been done in my behalf by my attorney (Maurice T. Siegel), and the State's Attorney's office, and those people who believed in me.

"This has been an awful strain on me and my family financially.

"But, I feel that this will open the eyes of a lot of people who have had some question. Now, they know that a man, once convicted, does have some rights and protection by the State."

Mr. Taylor said he had a lottery conviction in 1954, and received a nine-month sentence.

* * *

IS MR. TAYLOR bitter about the whole thing? Does he have any plans for a false arrest suit?

"No, I am not bitter," Mr. Taylor replied. "I feel as though my freedom and the work that has been done has been justified by the State. And I see no reason to press it any further."

Mr. Taylor lit his stump of a cigar for about the tenth time in as many minutes and said slowly:

"I'm going to continue my produce business (he has a produce stall in the New Lafayette Market) and try to forget about all of this. I have just talked with my wife, and she is very, very happy."

* * *

IN TELLING of the circumstances surrounding his arrest on May 1, Mr. Taylor said he had been to a shopping center in the area, and was driving past Mr. Burns' home with his two-year-old daughter and a woman companion in the car with him.

He said he slowed the car to see what was going on, and two officers made him slip the car completely, and took the three of them inside Mr. Burns' apartment.

He said they were searched, found to have nothing on them that could connect them with lottery, and then held from about 9 p.m. to shortly after midnight.

"The officers that testified at my trial," Mr. Taylor said, "were not the same ones who had taken me from my car."

Meanwhile, close observers of the probe are expecting that action might be taken against some members of the Rackets Division participating in the May 1 Auchentoroly Terrace raid.

Mr. Grady said Thursday that he had no plans to summons any further witnesses in the Burns case.

This would indicate that the matter is closed from an investigation angle.

* * *

WHATEVER OTHER action will come, if this assumption is correct, from the Grand Jury, Mr. Grady's office, and/or Mr. Burns' attorney.

Inspector Clarence O. Forrester and Acting Capt. Hyman Goldstein, former top Rackets Division officers who led the May 1 Auchentoroly raid, have already been suspended, and have been recently presented by the Grand Jury on charges of malfeasance in office, and of maintaining a disorderly house.

Another officer in the Rackets Division raid, Sgt. Charles Gross, has since committed suicide.

Two other officers on the raid, Acting Sgts. Charles E. Richter and Herbert Meekins, were placed on leave last Friday by Police Commissioner James M. Hepbron.

Commissioner Hepbron stated at the time that the two police officers had voluntarily appeared before the Grand Jury, and that "in light of the information which these men gave the Police Commissioner, it was decided that the two men should remain on leave until the Grand Jury has considered their testimony."

* * *

COMMISSIONER Hepbron announced on Monday that Capt. Clarence E. German, former commanding officer of the Northern District, would head the Rackets Division.

Capt. German assumes the duties formerly handled by the suspended Inspector Forrester.

He is faced with the job of rebuilding the Rackets Division, which has now lost, under suspension or leaves and an official suicide, five police officers including a policewoman.

Prior to the appointment of Capt. German, Sgt. Edgar Kirby, who has appeared frequently before the Grand Jury during the probe, has led the Rackets Squad on various raids.

CHANGE IN FACES — The enforcement unit of the Rackets Squad got a new boss on Monday when Commissioner James M. Hepbron (left) appointed Capt. Clarence E. German to head the unit. The former commander of the squad, Insp. Clarence O. Forrester, is under suspension and has been presented by the grand jury.

PHILIP TAYLOR, an important Grand Jury witness, appeared at the Courthouse on Wednesday smoking a cigar and sporting high topped shoes.

—Death-bed will

(Continued from Page 1)

Court ruled is not a legal heir.

THUS THE following will receive $354.03 each, less $3.54 tax:

Mrs. Sykes, and her brothers, Charles, Arthur and Benjamin Burman, already mentioned above; and the following other sisters and brothers:

Mrs. Helen Lozro, Oakland, Calif.,

Miss Margaret Burman, 811 N. Stricker St.,

Walter Burman, whose address was given as the Md. Penitentiary;

And a grandson, Perry G. Burman.

The estate was administered by the son, Charles, and the daughter, Mrs. Sykes, and G. W. F. McMechen, attorney.

Grand Jury witness was Mrs. Etta Mae Johnson, 1803 Pressman St., who wore costume of autumn brown.

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Ike seeks best for commission

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — President Eisenhower is seeking for the Civil Rights Commission persons of national reputation representing the whole range of opinion on civil rights, including the views of white southerners who are unalterably opposed to Federal action in this field.

He is having difficulty finding the types of persons he would like to name to the commission, created by the Civil Rights Act of 1956, Mr. Eisenhower told his press conference Wednesday.

The question of the qualifications of persons for appointment to the commission came up when a reporter reminded the President that there were reports that the White House had under consideration Adlai Stevenson and former Gov. Allan Shivers of Texas.

* * *

IN REPLY, Mr. Eisenhower did not confirm or deny that either one of these men was under consideration for appointment.

Earlier in the conference, replying to another question, Mr. Eisenhower said he believed the appointment of the commission "can have a very ameliorating effect on these aroused feelings, prejudices, passions, and we want to get the very best . . .and that is the reason it has taken some time."

In other statements dealing with civil rights, Mr. Eisenhower said:

* * *

THERE IS NO hitch in arranging an appointment with Rep. A. Clayton Powell, New York Democrat.

A group of southern Republican Congressmen also want to see him to express their views on the Little Rock situation, but these appointments have got to be arranged so that something useful may be accomplished.

He "devoutly" hopes and prays that Federal troops may safely be removed from Little Rock soon.

College student gets life term

By SCOTT HENDERSON

BOYDTON, Va. — Deliberating only 45 minutes, an all-male jury, Tuesday afternoon, returned a verdict of first degree murder against a Virginia State College junior accused of killing his 70-year-old cousin for $500.

The jury recommended life in prison, a suggestion which immediately was followed by Presiding Circuit Court Judge Gus E. Mitchell. The conviction climaxed a two-day trial, which began Monday morning.

J. Y. Hutchinson, defense attorney, noted an appeal.

* * *

THE DEFENDANT, Carl A. Hayes, who had been a student at Virginia State since September, 1955, steadfastly denied he was guilty of the June 2 shooting of the elderly man, Whaley Shelton.

Testifying in his own defense, he told the court and jury his relative was killed by an unknown assailant.

Admitting that he buried the man's body about 2 a.m. after finding it in the barn, he said he did this because he was afraid he would be accused of the killing.

THE YOUTH pointed out that "I was the last person seen with him."

States Attorney M. C. Dortch rejected this version, describing the college youth as a "menance to society."

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