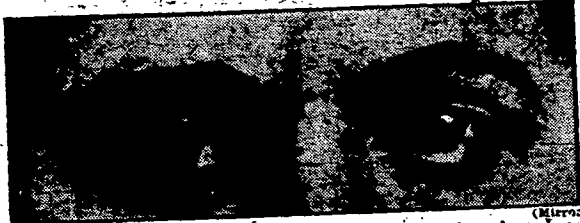


Reward for Lepke

As the Federal Government yesterday opened its greatest nation-wide crime drive by swearing in the special Grand Jury that will begin taking evidence in New York City today, the Board of Estimate increased to \$25,000 the reward for the capture of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, the swarthy fugitive racketeer who is the kingpin in the investigation.

The Federal Government has a standing offer of \$5,000 for Lepke, which brings to \$30,000 the total that will be paid to anyone bringing him in dead or alive. The Board of Estimate also voted a reward of \$5,000



(Mirror) These are the hunted eyes of Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, for whose capture Federal and City Governments offer \$30,000 reward.



LOUIS "LEPKE" BUCHALTER Rogues gallery photo of the fugitive. Description—41 years; 5 feet, 7 1/4 inches; 174 pounds; medium build; black hair; brown eyes. (Other photo on Page 1)

for the arrest of the four assassins who recently shot down Irving Penn, the Bronx music house publishing executive, presumably under the mistaken impression that he was Philip Orlovsky, a material witness held by District Attorney Dewey for the trial of Lepke if he is ever caught.

Membership of U. S. Crime Jury

Here are the 23 men, most of them important executives, business and professional men who have, retired—who were selected yesterday to sit in New York City as members of the special Federal Grand Jury which will investigate all phases of crime in the United States:

- ROBERT M. GATES, 15 Bernal St., Scarsdale, executive of the Superheater Corporation at 50 E. 42nd St., foreman.
- CLIFFORD H. McCall, 1100 Park Ave., stock broker at 254 Park Ave.
- MATTHEW WHITELAW, 23 E. 74th St., architect at 20 Broad St.
- JAMES ALBERT WOODS, 406 Palman Manor Rd., Pelham Manor, 34 vice-president, Chas. Nitrates Sales, 120 Broadway.
- STANTON J. JOSEPH, 720 West End Ave., salesman, Tooker Lithograph Co., 460 W. 14th St.
- GEORGE E. CHATFIELD, 12 E. 42nd St., real estate, 112 E. 42nd St.
- ALBERT LEDEBERG, 51 Post Rd., retired.
- EDWARD F. SNOW, 171 W. 51st St., accountant at 1787 Amsterdam Ave.
- BENJAMIN BERNSTEIN, 145 W. 86th St., real estate, with offices at 151 E. 23d St.
- FREDERICK A. WILLIAMS, Lake Rd., Manhattan, Cannon Mills, 70 Worth St.
- WILLIAM J. ROSSIGNOL, 54 W. 145th St., retired.
- GARRISON NORTON, 2 E. 70th St., certified public accountant at 1 Cedar St.
- FERDINAND MAIER, 672 W. 145th St., real estate, 76 Riverside Dr.
- FREDERICK A. DECKER, 559 W. 136th St., electrical and mechanical engineer.
- CHARLES M. VAN KLEECK, 10 Mitchell Pl., retired.
- ALBERT D. SMITH, 61 W. 72nd St., retired.
- SAMUEL REICE, 3569 Broadway, retired.
- HENRY L. DAVIS, 3595 Baiting Ave., retired.
- FRANK H. JANKE, 84 Washington Ave., Suffern, N. Y., executive, American Brake Shoe and Foundry Co., at 230 Park Ave.
- CLARENCE W. FREEMAN, 40 E. 66th St., insurance broker at 110 Fulton St.
- HART A. WILKES, 101 W. 41st St., manager.
- SIDNEY WORME, 120 Beaufort Pl., New Rochelle, merchant at 150 Madison Ave.
- FRANCIS CHRIST, 356 Riverside Dr.

Dewey, on learning that the Board of Estimate had increased its reward for Lepke's capture from \$5,000 to \$25,000, issued the following statement pledging protection to anyone who helps bring Lepke to earth:

"Twenty-five thousand dollars will now be paid by the City of New York for information leading to the capture of 'Lepke' Buchalter."

"My office and that of Capt. Conrad Rothengast are open 24 hours a day."

Protection Pledged

"The person who gives the information leading to the arrest of Lepke will be fully protected. His or her identity will never be revealed. The information will be received in absolute confidence."

Earlier in the day Dewey had caused an 7-State alarm to be sent out for the arrest of Ildore Zengereich, described as the "bag man" who made the collections for the Lepke-Gurrah combination of racketeers in the garment and bakery rackets.

The special Federal grand jury picked yesterday was chosen for its extraordinary task from a panel of 50.

No effort was made to examine witnesses, the initial efforts of the newly selected jury being devoted to organization. The first of those who have been summoned from all parts of the country to appear before the jury will be heard this morning, it was said.

United States Attorney Cahill will be in general charge of the crime drive. Wherever evidence is uncovered by the Grand Jury in New York City or violations in other States, the information will be forwarded to the proper authorities for what the Government

NEW YORK DIVISION.

Sept. 4

Two Witnesses Face U. S. Jury In Lepke Hunt

Reported To Be Relatives of
Racketeer; Special Care
Taken to Guard Secrecy

The Federal Grand Jury impaneled on Monday for an investigation of the criminal elements of the nation and those that harbor them, with special attention to be centered on a hunt for Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, fugitive industrial racketeering chief, began its activities yesterday with the hearing of two witnesses.

These were an elderly gray-haired woman and a portly middle-aged man whose identities were not made known but who were reported to be relatives of the fugitive gangster. Their examination by Jerome Doyle, Assistant United States Attorney, was preceded by a short address to the jury by Mr. Doyle on the scope and nature of the government's inquiry.

Elaborate precautions have been taken by John T. Cahill, United States Attorney directing the government's inquiry, to protect witnesses and guard the secrecy of the investigation. All witnesses, it was discovered yesterday, are to be taken through a basement entrance at the northeast corner of the Federal Building in Foley Square, and are to be rushed by special elevator to the sixth-floor offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A secret corridor leads from the F. B. I. office to the grand jury chambers on the same floor.

J. Edgar Hoover to Confer

At the conclusion of the first day's session, Mr. Cahill would say only that the grand jury would resume its investigation at 2 p. m. today. P. E. Foxworth, local head of the F. B. I. who is co-operating with the United States Attorney's office, said that J. Edgar Hoover, national director of

Issuing New Reward Offer for Lepke, Dead or Alive



Associated Press
Inspector Joseph Donovan (left), in charge of criminal identification, and Fifth Deputy Police Commissioner Martin Mooney, in charge of the police printing plant, looking over the first of the new posters run off yesterday offering a reward of \$25,000 for Louis (Lepke) Buchalter "dead or alive"

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

DATE. AUG 8 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

the F. B. I., probably would be in town today to confer on plans for pressing the crime inquiry.

The city's drive on "Lepke" and his associates was taken up by the Police Department yesterday when the printing of 1,000,000 circulars was begun, offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to Lepke's capture, voted on Monday by the Board of Estimate.

The department printing presses turned out about 25,000 of the circulars during the day under the direction of Inspector Joseph Donovan, and will continue to grind them out daily until the job is finished.

These circulars, in addition to the offer of the reward, assures all informants of the utmost secrecy and protection and gives a full description of the hunted man.

Text of Circular

The full circular reads:
"\$25,000 Reward.
"Dead or Alive.

"Twenty-five thousand dollars will be paid by the City of New York for information leading to the capture of Lepke Buchalter, aliases Louis Buchalter, Louis Buckhouse, Louis Kavar, Louis Kauvar, Louis Cohen, Louis Saffar, Louis Brodsky.
"Wanted for conspiracy and extortion.

"The person or persons who give information leading to the arrest of 'Lepke' will be fully protected, his or her identity will never be revealed. The information will be received in absolute confidence.

"Description: Age, forty-two years; white, Jewish; height, 5 feet 5 1/2 inches; weight, 170 pounds; build, medium; black hair; brown eyes; complexion, dark; married, one son, Harold, age about eighteen years.

"Peculiarities: Eyes, piercing and shifting; nose, large, somewhat blunt at nostrils; ears, prominent and close to head; mouth, large, slight dimple left side; right-handed; suffering from kidney ailment.

"Frequents baseball games.

"Is wealthy; has connection with all important mobs in the United States. Involved in racketeering in unions, and, for industry, uses strong-arm methods. Influential.

"This department holds indictment warrant charging conspiracy and extortion, issued by the Supreme Court, Extraordinary, Special and Trial Terms, New York County.

"Kindly search your prison rec-

ords, as this man may be serving a prison sentence for some minor offense.

"If located, arrest and hold as fugitive, and advise the Detective Division, Police Department, New York City, by wire.

"Information may be communicated in person or by telephone or by telegraph, collect, to the undersigned, or may be forwarded direct to the Detective Division, Police Department, New York City.

"LEWIS J. VALENTINE,
"Police Commissioner.

"Telephone—SPRING 7-3100, SPRING 7-2722, SPRING 7-1366, or CANAL 2-2000."

The announcement of the city's reward has brought a flood of tips to the Police Department. Capt. Conrad Rothensack, in charge of the office created for the Lepke hunt at headquarters, said that more than 300 letters had arrived within twenty-four hours after the announcement of the increased reward. Most of these, he said, were obviously from cranks and professed to locate Lepke all over the country.

"There is always the chance, however," said the captain, "that one of these 'tips' will really give us some important clew, and we are, therefore, going to look into every one of them."

F. B. I. HEAD TO SEE CAHILL ON LEPKE

2 Grand Jury Witnesses in Inquiry Are Heavily Guarded

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was due in New York today to confer with United States Attorney John T. Cahill and P. E. Foxworth, local FBI chief, on the Government's hunt for Louis (Lepke) Buchhalter.

Meanwhile, a special Grand Jury empaneled Monday by Cahill had launched the nation-wide crime probe inspired by Lepke's two-year flight from prosecution as an industrial terrorist and extortion racketeer.

Two witnesses — a gray-haired woman and a middle-aged man — were escorted into the Grand Jury room yesterday with great secrecy and under heavy guard, and not a word could be had from Federal authorities as to their identities or the nature of their testimony.

Wanted: Dead or Alive

Cahill would say only that the Grand Jury was reconvening at 2 P. M. today to resume its investigation.

Simultaneously, word that the Board of Estimate had granted District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's request for a \$25,000 price on Lepke's head was spread throughout the country by means of 25,000 "Wanted: Dead or Alive" circulars rolled off the presses yesterday for the Police Department.

They constituted the first batch of a total of 1,000,000 such circulars, eventually to be distributed.

The announcement of the additional reward—a \$5,000 offer by the Government—was posted long ago, but it brought an immediate flood of tips

to the Detective Division. Just Captain Conrad Rothengast, head of the Police Department's "Get-Lepke" squad, said most of them were obviously phoney.

Not one is being overlooked, he emphasized, however, for "there's always the chance that one of these 'tips' will really give us an important clue."

Clipping from
NEW YORK POST

DATE: AUG. 8 1935

FILED IN NEW YORK
FILE

subA sed 4

Lepke Posters To Cover Nation

Police have mobilized the nation to bring in Louis (Lepke) Buchalter—thief, racketeer and murderer.

Presses began to roll early yesterday, turning out circulars to advertise the \$25,000 reward posted Monday by the City Council for Lepke's capture, dead or alive. Federal authorities are offering \$5,000, bringing the total to \$30,000.

One million circulars will be printed and distributed to every police department, railroad station, steamship line, airport and bus terminal and even to the Worlds Fair.

Thus the thick, cunning face of Lepke will stare from the walls of every public gathering spot in America.

There he is: "Eyes, piercing and shifty; nose, large, somewhat blunt at nostrils; ears, prominent and close to head; mouth, large, slight dimple at left side; right-handed; suffering from kidney ailment."

His fingerprints as well as his picture are reproduced on the circular.

Police expect thousands of calls from citizens who will think they've found Lepke. Each will be investigated.

While this super-manhunt was being launched, the special Federal Grand Jury, aided by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the F. B. I., began investigating the "underground railway" by means of which Lepke has evaded capture for two years.

The jury's purpose is to uncover and indict persons who harbor and other wise aid criminals.

All of yesterday's witnesses were hurried secretly into the Grand Jury room, in F. B. I. headquarters, and spirited out by other doors. Among them were several assistant U. S. Attorneys, and one elderly couple.

Besides the \$25,000 reward voted for the arrest of Lepke, the Board of Estimate voted \$500 reward for the four gunmen who assassinated Irving Penn in the Bronx, mistaking him for a Dewey witness against Lepke.

Put Lepke's 'Mug' in Circulation



At police headquarters Inspector Joseph A. Donovan (left) in charge of Criminal Identification Bureau, and Fifth Deputy Commissioner Martin Meany examine a Lepke circular as it comes from press. (Other photos on Pages 1 and 2.)

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS.

DATE, AUG 5 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

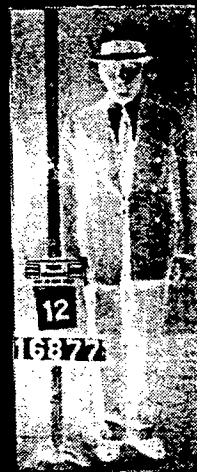
SABA Sect 4

DETECTIVE DIVISION
CIRCULAR NO. 11
AUGUST 8, 1939

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

CLASSIFICATION

\$25,000 REWARD DEAD OR ALIVE



DESCRIPTION—Age, 42 years; white, Jewish; height, 5 feet, 5 1/2 inches; weight, 170 pounds; build, medium; black hair; brown eyes; complexion dark; married, one son Harold, age about 15 years.

PECULIARITIES—Eyes, piercing and shifty; nose, large, somewhat blunt at nostrils; ears, prominent and close to head; mouth, large, slight dimple left side; right-handed; suffering from kidney ailment.

Frequent baseball games.

Is wealthy, has connections with all important mobs in the United States. Involved in racketeering in Unions and Bus Industry, uses strong-arm methods. Infuriated.

The Department holds indictment warrants charging Conspiracy and Extortion, issued by the Supreme Court, Extraordinary, Special and Trial Terms, New York County.

Kindly search your Person Records as this man may be serving a Prison sentence for some minor offense.

If located, arrest and hold as a fugitive and advise the THE DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY, by wire.

Information may be communicated in Person or by Telephone or Telegraph, Collect to the undersigned, or may be forwarded direct to the DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY.

LEWIS J. VALENTINE, Police Commissioner

TELEPHONE Spring 7-3100, Spring 7-2722, Spring 7-1126 or Canal 6-2600

Dear Lepke:

Thousands of young policemen carry this "Dead or Alive" poster in their pockets this morning. Any one of them would be proud to get you, and the reward. The poster says you are a baseball fan. If you are you must know that you've struck out... with the bases loaded. Come in, Lepke, before they carry you in.

Sub A Sect. 4.

Lepke 'Clues' Swamp Police As Jury Meets

By WARREN HALL

Lepke is taking the baths in Colorado Springs . . . Lepke, wearing dark glasses and a beard and walking with a slight limp, is living in a furnished room on the East Side and only comes out after dark . . . Lepke went to Russia on a fake passport and is now in Lubianka Prison . . . Lepke has a cabin in the Catskills, but be careful, because the only entrance is covered by a hidden machine gun.

More than 300 people who knew exactly where the nation's top-ranking public enemy could be found confided his whereabouts to the police yesterday and sat back to await the arrival of a check for \$25,000. Or \$30,000, if the Government kicked in with its share.

Capt. Conrad Rothengast, in charge of the special "Get Lepke" squad of the New York police, said

there didn't seem to be a clue in the hundreds of tips. But nevertheless the flood of mail that poured into his office during the first twenty-four hours after the reward was increased for Lepke Buchalter was carefully read and sorted.

"We're going to investigate every bit of information we receive, no matter how fantastic it may sound," Rothengast said. "Most of the mail we got today seemed to be from cranks, but we can't be sure. And we're taking no chances."

Capt. Rothengast's new office, next to that of Assistant Chief Inspector John J. Ryan, resembled the headquarters of an army in the field. A constant stream of detectives flowed in and out to receive assignments, report on investigations or interview informants.

Over it all was a veil of secrecy equalled only by attempts to cover up a simultaneous burst of activity in the Government's anti-Lepke camp. So anxious was United States Attorney John T. Cahill to conceal the operations of his new Lepke Grand Jury that he insisted he didn't even know where it was meeting.



Know Him?
It's worth \$30,000 to you.
See page 24.
Jury Meets in Secret.

Reporters finally discovered that the jurors had convened in a sixth floor courtroom of the Federal Courthouse, to which it was possible to bring witnesses through a private passageway from the offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the same floor.

A gray-haired woman and a portly middle-aged man were waiting in an anteroom to testify, but Cahill's assistants declined to reveal the identities.

After listening to a brief address by Assistant U. S. Attorney Jerome Doyle, a former G-Man, the jury began its monumental task of studying 500,000 pages of FBI notes on the national crime trail and its "underground railway" designed to aid such fugitives as Lepke the Leopard.

Look for Surrender.

So concentrated was the drive to capture the racketeer that authorities would not be surprised if he realized the futility of his flight and surrendered rather than face the prospect of a none-too-gentle capture.

Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI, was hopeful of receiving a reply to the promise made through The News yesterday, of safe conduct for Lepke if he agreed to himself up.

Meanwhile the police, with motion picture and still cameras recording the event for posterity, began printing the 1,000,000 new circulars announcing the \$25,000 reward.

The circulars, which provide that information will be received in "absolute confidence," contain fingerprints, pictures and a description of the fugitive. FBI officers, who will receive the every part of the country, are advised to search their prison records in the belief that Lepke is serving a sentence somewhere for a minor offense.

Prospective captors were advised that Lepke was wealthy and influential, that he had connected with all important mobs in the country and that he was a center of baseball games.

Lepke Safe Pledged

By authorization of the Federal Government, through Edgar Hoover, The News is enabled to assure Louis (Lepke) Buchalter of safe conduct if he wish to surrender and accept Federal charges. If Buchalter or his intermediary will contact The News, Murray Hill 2-1117 or the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York City, at telephone 2-3520, or in Washington, D. C. at National 7117, arrangements will be made for his surrender with complete safety.

The News will make no charge for the reward offered.

sub A Sect 4

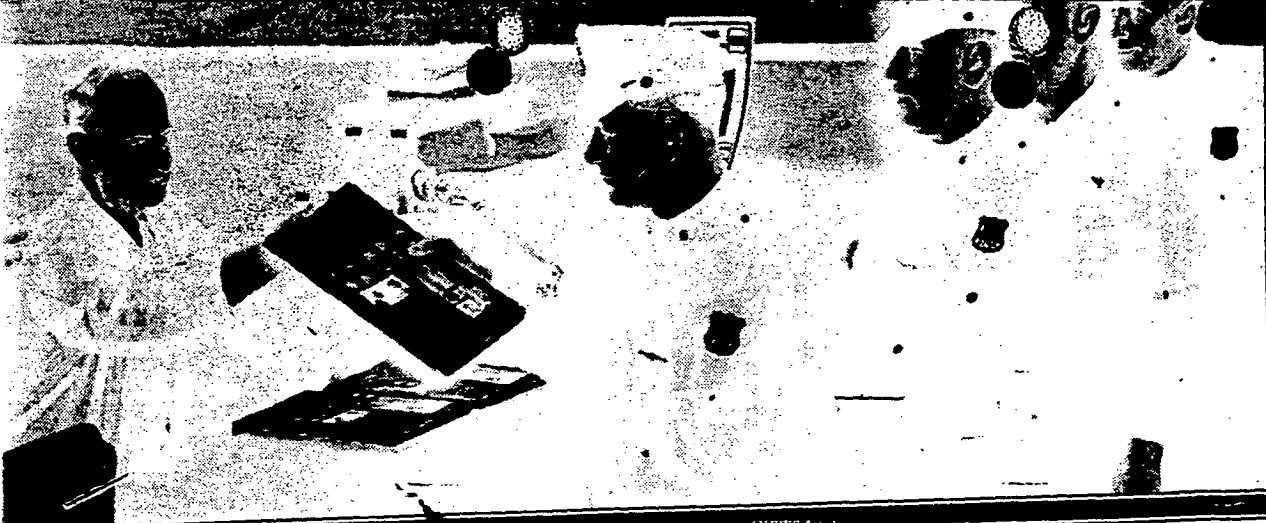
CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS,

DATE, AUG 8 1939
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

AND SEEK

—is no game when it played by Public Enemy Louis (Lepke) Buchalter and New York Police Department. Foto left, cop receive copies of new circular offering \$25,000 for Lepke dead or alive from Lieut. Thomas Gillen at Police Headquarters. The circular reproduced on this page—lower left. Since its issuance hundreds n. g. "tips" have come headquarters.

—Story on page



(NEWS foto)

DETECTIVE DIVISION
CIRCULAR NO. 11
AUGUST 8, 1939

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

CLASSIFICATION

\$25,000 REWARD DEAD OR ALIVE

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS will be paid by the City of New York for information leading to the capture of "LEPKE" BUCHALTER, aliases LOUIS BUCHALTER, LOUIS BUCKHOUSE, LOUIS KAWAR, LOUIS KAUVAR, LOUIS COHEN, LOUIS SAFFER, LOUIS BRODSKY.

WANTED FOR CONSPIRACY AND EXTORTION

The Person or Persons who give information leading to the arrest of "LEPKE" will be fully protected, his or her identity will never be revealed. The information will be received in absolute confidence.

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



DESCRIPTION—Age, 42 years; white; Jewish; height, 5 feet, 5 1/2 inches; weight, 170 pounds; build, medium; black hair; brown eyes; complexion dark; married, one son Harold, age about 18 years.

PECULIARITIES—Eyes, piercing and shifting; nose, large, somewhat blunt at nostrils; ears, prominent and close to head; mouth, large, slight dimple left side; right-handed; suffering from kidney ailment.

Frequents baseball games.

Is wealthy; has connections with all important mobs in the United States. Involved in racketeering in Unions and Fur Industry, uses strong-arm methods. Influential.

This Department holds indictment warrant charging Conspiracy and Extortion, issued by the Supreme Court, Extraordinary Special and Trial Terms, New York County.

Kindly search your Prison Records as this man may be serving a Prison sentence for some minor offense.

If located, arrest and hold as a fugitive and advise the THE DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY, by wire.

Information may be communicated in Person or by Telephone or Telegraph, Collect to the undersigned, or may be forwarded direct to the DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY



(NEWS foto)

1,000,000 of the Lepke circulars are being turned out at Headquarters. Inspector Donovan (left) and Deputy Commissioner Meaney examine them fresh off the press.

sub A Sect 4

Lepke Sank Fortune In Big Dope Ring

Aside from Extortions, Leopard
Faces 164 Years in Prison

By GEORGE CARROLL.

What did Lepke the Leopard do with all that money he made? He didn't drink it up, nor throw it away on high-life pals. He isn't a maniac at a gambling table, nor has he ever kept a racing stable in oats and hay.

Well, the Leopard was a great investor. And, according to ten indictments that stand against him on the docket of United States Court, he invested part of his money in financing the international smuggling of narcotics.

This alone would make him a prize catch just for one branch of Federal law enforcement, the Bureau of Narcotics, headed locally by Major Garland Williams.

You could forget all the extortions laid at the Leopard's door, his racketeering rule with its train of murders and maimings; you could forget District Attorney Tom Dewey and all the mass of charges he has against this old graduate of Sing Sing.

Do all that, and Louis Buchalter still would remain "wanted" in letters a foot high.

The dope indictments carry a maximum penalty of 164 years in prison!

From the Government's viewpoint, this phase of the life and works of Lepke the Leopard begins on the afternoon of Feb. 25, 1935 when something happened at 2919 Sevmour ave.

Explosion Blew Away Illusions!

The house looks just like ten thousand other houses in The Bronx. Lying in it at the time was Capt. Pietro Quinto with his wife and family. The captain is a doctor of chemistry from Bologna University. He had served in the Italian army.

Neighbors knew him as a tall, olive-complexioned man of culture and quality. He bowed from the waist to Bronx housewives who secretly wished their husbands might acquire similar charm and polish instead of going around in their suspenders. Ah, those Continentals...

There was much sympathy, consequently, at least among the captain's feminine neighbors, when an explosion and fire occurred at the Quintos that February afternoon. The captain was badly hurt; in fact his hands were burned so badly that he wore gloves after they healed.

Confiscated \$117,600 Worth of Morphine

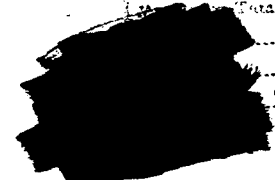
It was an awful disillusionment for the Seymour ave. housewives when the true story of the explosion got around. Captain Quinto belonged to a dope ring.

He utilized his home as a synthesizing laboratory for bootleg narcotics. That particular afternoon his old Bologna training had failed him somehow or other, and his mixing pots had blown apart.

In the wreckage, Major Williams' agents gathered up 1,100 ounces of morphine worth, at current underworld prices, \$117,600. Captain Quinto said he had been hired by two men to process dope at a salary of \$50 a week. He added that the two men had been murdered subsequently.

The authorities were inclined to think the captain had put his salary a little low. In his safe deposit vault at the National City bank they found \$37,000 worth of

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....



b7c

60-1501-A

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL -
AMERICAN.

DATE. AUG 8 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

Sub A Sect 4

gals, pleaded with the Government to let him go back to Italy. He said he would join Il Duce's forces, then engaged in civilizing the Ethiopians.

The Government gave Captain Quinto eight years in Federal penitentiary.

It was many, many months before Major Williams discovered that the Leopard had a paw in the case. Yet, figuratively speaking, his trail led right from the debris in Quinto's laboratory.

The Government spent all its energy to unearth full details about the syndicate for which Captain Quinto worked. It was close to two years later before Assistant U. S. Attorney Martin came up with all the answers—leastwise, he hoped they were all the answers.

On Nov. 30, 1937, he announced the indictment of 30 persons in a \$1,500,000 heroin smuggling conspiracy.

Lepke Indicted As Dope Smuggler

The big name of all the accused smugglers was that of Lepke the Leopard. Prosecutor Martin said he had evidence the Leopard had financed two shipments of heroin from Shanghai, the last one no longer ago than February, 1937.

It is more understandable now why, in July, 1937, Lepke skipped his \$10,000 bail and failed to appear for an anti-trust trial, a case similar to one he already had beaten and which, at most, carried a 4-year penalty.

Without doubt he knew the

Government was ready to track down with the narcotic case.

It was one thing for the Leopard's tail to be caught in a crack (he had pulled it out before) but quite another to plump on all fours into a deadfall, with escape extremely unlikely.

So the Leopard took to the jungle where he's been lost ever since.

Twenty alleged members of the syndicate were under arrest when Martin announced the indictment, among them two U. S. Customs inspectors, a customs guard and a former customs roundsman.

For bribes of \$1,000, the customs people were accused of winking at the importation of heroin over New York City piers.

State Dept. Outwits 'International Menace'

One of the principals in the ring turned out to be Yasha Katzenberg, who was branded "an international menace" by the League of Nations committee on narcotic smuggling. Yasha, a fugitive like Lepke, pleaded guilty and was given 10 years after a neat maneuver by the State Department effected his extradition from Greece.

He had bootlegged here during the dry era, and turned to dope after repeal. Scouting what might be in store for him after the explosion at Captain Quinto's, he fled his home at 10 Park View ter., The Bronx, in 1936, and started a fruit business in Rumania.

Rumania has no extradition treaty with the United States, but the State Department persuaded the Rumanian Government to deport him to Greece, which does have a treaty with Washington (the case of the late Samuel Insull is a case in point). From Greece, Yasha was shipped home to face the music.

On sentence day Prosecutor Martin told Judge Goddard that four of Katzenberg's lieutenants had been murdered over a five-year period.

Indirectly, Martin accused Katzenberg of eliminating his own chief-of-staff, Sammy Lee.

Lee was shot to death in Manhattan on Oct. 21, 1934. On that date Katzenberg had appeared at the Northeastern Penitentiary and requested his name and address with a request to visit a prisoner.

the prison was prearranged and was in the nature of an alibi," declared Martin.

Another principal, Jake Lvovsky, alias Jack Goode, a pick-pocket in earlier days, pleaded guilty and drew a seven-year term. Samuel Gross, alias Johnnie Gordon, another ring leader, also pleaded guilty.

These and lesser fry remain as potential witnesses against Lepke the Leopard whenever the authorities lay hands on him.

Katzenberg and droll, moon-faced Bert Erickson, international adventurer and member of the ring, proved major Government witnesses at the recent trial of Tough Johnny Torrio, the teacher of Al Capone, who didn't pay his income taxes. Torrio pleaded guilty in the middle of his case.

Tale of Derring-do Enlivens Dry Record

Under the scornful cross-examination of Max D. Steuer, Erickson related his biography, a tale of derring-do that is hard to snatch in the dry files of Federal Court.

Impassive, as motionless as though he were chained to the witness chair, he sat by the hour relating his career as a Rum Row radio operator, smuggler of guns in Central America and in-again-out-again occupant of Mexican jails with walls and doors like paper.

The incredible Erickson dispensed thrills and belly laughs alike and the courtroom loved it.

In the end, he declared the Federal Government had promised to send him back to China, whence he came voluntarily to answer his indictment.

From the standpoint of entertainment, it is to be hoped the Government has postponed Erickson's return to China and that, if and when the Leopard is caught, the sparks of Rum Row and the dope trade will be put on the stand once more.

His tales, even twice told, rate top billing at any rascal's trial.

(Tomorrow's instalment details a murder just around the corner from Police Commissioner Valentine's home in Brooklyn—and shows how it fits into the story of "Lepke, Leopard of the Rackets.")

CAN YOU AID LAW IN FINDING HIM?

DETECTIVE DIVISION
CIRCULAR NO. 11
AUGUST 8, 1939

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

CLASSIFICATION

\$25,000 REWARD DEAD OR ALIVE



DESCRIPTION — Age, 42 years; white; Jewish; height, 5 feet, 5½ inches; weight, 170 pounds; build, medium; black hair; brown eyes; complexion dark; married, one son Harold, age about 18 years.

PECULARITIES — Eyes, piercing and shifting; nose, large, somewhat blunt at nostrils; ears, prominent and close to head; mouth, large, slight dimple left side; right-handed; suffering from kidney ailment.

Frequents baseball games.

Is wealthy; has connections with all important mobs in the United States. Involved in racketeering in Unions and Fur Industry, uses strong-arm methods. Influential.

This Department holds indictment warrant charging Conspiracy and Extortion, issued by the Supreme Court, Extraordinary Special and Trial Terms, New York County.

Kindly search your Prison Records as this man may be serving a Prison sentence for some minor offense.

If located, arrest and hold as a fugitive and advise the THE DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY, by wire.

Information may be communicated in Person or by Telephone or Telegraph, Collect to the undersigned, or may be forwarded direct to the DETECTIVE DIVISION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY.



LEWIS J. VALENTINE, Police Commissioner

TELEPHONE: SPring 7-3100, SPring 7-272, SPring 7-1366 or Canal 6-200

Dead or alive, "Leopard" Lepke is. The Federal Government adds \$5,000 worth \$25,000 to the Police Department, making a total reward of \$30,000.

60-1501-A
Spd. 4

Surrender Of Lepke Awaited

Dewey to Quiz
2 Brothers Who
Predicted Slayings

While reports increased that Louis (Lepke) Buchalter is about to surrender, District Attorney Dewey turned his attention to two Brooklyn brothers, who were able to predict two Lepke-ordered murders a week or more in advance.

The brothers have announced their willingness, the New York Journal and American learned, to give all their information to Dewey, not only about the murders, but also of the alliance between Lepke and Brooklyn mobsters headed by the notorious Joe Adonis.

HOLDS OWN LIFE DEAR.

The reports of the imminent surrender of The Leopard were taken seriously by authorities and were supported by sound logic.

Although Lepke has always held the lives of others cheap, he places no such bargain price on his own skin. And, with a \$30,000 dead-or-alive reward posted for him, the chances are more than good that if he gambles on capture, rather than surrender, he will be killed.

Furthermore, he has become so "hot" that the underworld has turned against him, and he has enemies there, where he had protectors before. Finally, the gradual cutting off of his revenue and the search being pressed by the special "Lepke Squad" of police and G-men, make it improbable that he can hide out much longer. This is why authorities are treat-

ing seriously the reports that The Leopard is ready to surrender to a detective he knows. The detective is connected with the office of Assistant Chief Inspector John J. Ryan.

Announcement of the reward brought an immediate flood of "clues" to the Police Department.

Capt. Conrad Rothengast, in charge of the Lepke hunt, said more than 300 letters were received in 24 hours. Although most of them obviously came from cranks, none is being overlooked.

PREDICTION REALIZED.

The two Brooklyn brothers who have emerged in the Lepke case as forecasters of murder are to be questioned by Dewey's assistants within the next few days.

As first evidence of their somewhat spectacular prognostications, the brothers let it be known among friends in the middle of April that The Leopard had ordered an execution.

On April 26, Abraham "Whitey" Friedman, once a member of the Kid Dropper gang and later operating with the Lepke garment mob, was shot and killed as he was walking a few doors from his home at 22 E. 96th st., Brooklyn.

Friedman had been indicted in 1937 as one of the members of the mob controlled by Lepke and his partner, Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro. He had been released in \$15,000 bail. It was believed the reason for Friedman's murder was that he had "talked," or that Lepke had thought he had "talked."

"GUESSED" RIGHT AGAIN.

Then in the next month, the brothers came up with another prediction of murder.

About a week later, Morris Diamond, an official of a Brooklyn trucking union, was ambushed and slain.

The two brothers, who have given Special Assistant Attorney-General John Harlan Amen in Brooklyn valuable information in his investigation into official corruption, are now under police guard.

One of the brothers was a lieutenant to Joe Adonis, the Brooklyn racket chief, and acted as a kind of liaison between Adonis and Lepke.

A Price on His Head

\$30,000 for Lepke

The City and the Government are offering \$30,000 reward for the capture of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, "dead or alive."

Have you any information that might lead to the hiding place of the nation's No. 1 fugitive? If you have, telephone City Editor, New York Journal and American, DRy-sock 4-8800. You will be fully protected.

This is Lepke:

Age, 42; height, 5 feet, 5 inches; weight, 170 pound black hair, brown eyes, dark complexion; large nose, large mouth, dimple on left side. He is a baseball fan.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Lawler	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Seave	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL -
AMERICAN.

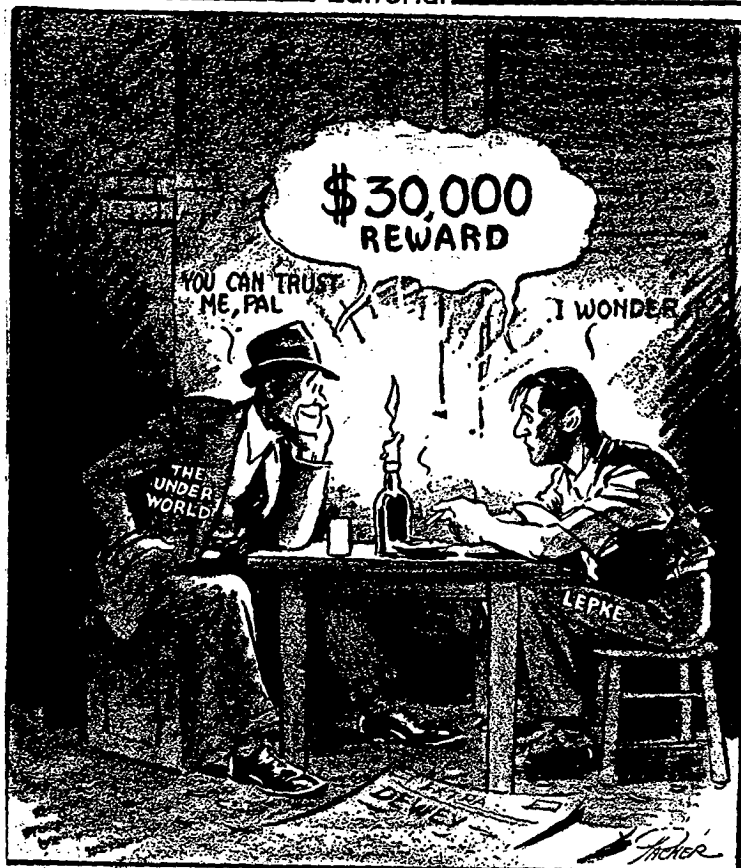
DATE. AUG 8 1938

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

60-1501A sect 4

'Set a Thief to Cat a Thief'

Editorial



- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

LEPKE "LITTLE LOUIE" BUCHALTER is now what is known as a "hot article". There is a price of \$30,000 on his head. Not since the bloodhounds were turned loose after Hauptmann has such a hunt been staged by the Law for a fugitive from justice. When a man becomes a "hot article" in the Underworld, every hoodlum who was once a Pal becomes a potential Informer. That \$30,000 plus the promise of police protection to the man who "turns in" Lepke, will haunt in many waking and few sleeping hours that Lepke has left to live in hiding.

A BETTER SYSTEM OF REWARDS was invented in Texas to wipe out bank robbers: A flat reward was offered for the capture and return of every bank robber who was brought in DEAD; no reward if brought in alive. In Texas, bank-robbing stopped.

That system is a little rough; the system now squeezing in on Lepke is more subtle, but probably just as effective. Somewhere, there is somebody who knows where Lepke is hiding, somebody who could use \$30,000.

There is only one pagan god, only one code of morals, only one measure of honesty among the men whom Lepke has gathered around him, since he and his now-jailed partner Gurrah Jake Shapiro used to bash the faces of pushcart peddlers to extort "protection." That god, that measure of honesty is MONEY.

It was the itchy-fingered worship of money that made Louis Buchalter become the only one of 11 children in his immigrant family to turn out as a Public Enemy, the last and the biggest.

It was love of money that kept Lepke from learning that "Crime Doesn't Pay" after 14 brushes with the law.

And to get money, Lepke hired men who loved money as much as he did. They were his "pals." And now, \$30,000 is a lot of money. And that's the price that's been tagged on Louis Buchalter, alias Louis Buckhouse, Louis Kavar, Louis Cohen, and "Lepke."

CLIPPING FROM

NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR

DATE. AUG 8 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

60-1501

sub A sect 4

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

DEWEY HINTS "BREAK" IN LEPKE HUNT

Indicating that he expects an early "break" in the hunt for Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, District Attorney Dewey today cancelled plans to visit his home town, Oswego, Mich., next Monday.

Scratches for Rockingham Park and other tracks printed every day in Journal-American 10:30 a. m. and later editions.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL -
AMERICAN.

DATE. AUG 8 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
60-1501
sub A Sect. 4

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

\$30,000 for Lepke

City and Federal rewards for information leading to the capture, dead or alive, of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter now come to a total of \$30,000 since the Board of Estimate raised the city's offer to \$25,000.

That is a lot of money for government to give away for the capture of a racketeer—enough to pay a year's home relief for twenty-four families or to support 6,000 refugee children abroad or to build ten small suburban homes.

The \$30,000 is being offered in an attempt to persuade some one of the many persons who must know Lepke's whereabouts to tell the police despite the fear of gangster reprisals. The reward is offered to make it seem worth the chance.

In this case the reward should produce results. Any one who gives a clue to Lepke's hideout can be sure of full protection from United States Attorney Cahill or District Attorney Dewey. They will keep the name of the informant secret.

The very fact that fear of reprisals from the Lepke mob exists justifies the offering of so large a reward. The Lepke mob, by committing a series of murders of potential witnesses against its chief, put the racketeer's weapon of terrorism to the test against the weapons of civilized government. The government has a right to use its full arsenal.

Clipping from
NEW YORK POST

DATE: **AUG 8 1939**

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK
DIVISION.

-60-1501A Sect 4

Left, former Judge Manton, who released Lepke on bail, after which he vanished.



How Lepke Took Over An Industry

The third of a series of articles.

By JACK FOSTER, World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Lepke and Gurrah, so far as we can discover, entered the field of industrial racketeering 18 years ago. They were in their middle 20s then. All the while they had been stealing packages, clubbing pushcart men—small-fry stuff—they had been keeping their eyes open for bigger ventures, and in 1921 they saw their opportunity in the leather workers industry.

In 1911 the leather workers of New York organized themselves in a union that grew rapidly in strength. It became the envy of a certain mob of strong-arm men who were beginning to realize the possibilities of a new form of extortion. One afternoon in 1914, when the union was holding an election in the Hippodrome, a gang of these thugs, armed with iron pipes, swarmed in and demanded that the officers they designated be chosen.

They demanded that each member of the union pay them 10 cents a week for "protection." The union capitulated. There was nothing else to do. They knew that if they refused their brains would be beaten out.

By 1921 the union had grown to 24,000 members. Then it was that Lepke decided to move in. He took over the racket by installing his own officers in the union. Through agents he demanded—and received—25 cents weekly from each union member, and from his employer he exacted 10 cents for each employee.

Big Boost.

Despite this the leather workers' industry grew, and in 1924 Lepke felt himself in a position to demand \$1 from employers for each employee.

"How can we account in our books for such large sums?" employers asked Lepke's agents.

"Put it down to salary raises," Lepke's agents replied. "The employees won't dare squeal."

But that was not enough. Again agents came from Lepke and demanded that the employer contribute an additional \$25 semi-annually from each employee and charge this up to bonuses.

dragging in almost three million dollars annually from the leather workers' industry, if all their demands were met in full.

But the depression came, followed by the regulations of the NRA, and the industry found that with the enormity of the gangster demands it simply could not get along prosperously in New York. Leather manufacturers began leaving town, going to Bridgeport, Conn., and small Pennsylvania cities. Now there are left only a fraction of the thousands once employed in this skilled craft.

That, declares the business man who tells the story, shows what one ruthless racketeer can do to an industry.

With experience gained among the leather workers, Lepke meanwhile was branching out, and his power soon was felt in the fur dressing industry. Through Sam Mittelman he controlled the Protective Fur Dressers Corp., covering cheap furs, and through Abraham Beckerman he controlled the Fur Dressers' Factor Corp., covering fancy furs.

Had a Salary.

These organizations, vitalized by Lepke's strong-arm horde of 200 or more thugs, were to substitute the fur industry to maintain prices at an agreed level—to squeeze out all those who would not play ball. Lepke was to be paid a stipulated sum—in the case of the factors \$50,000, of which only one-half was actually collected—in addition to anything else he could shake down on the side.

Lepke promptly set to work to eliminate all competition, to terrorize any dealer who dared oppose the authority of the protective organizations. In New York there was the large firm of Brickner & Bernfeld, which had been sending its furs for dressing to the United Fur Breeders of Bethlehem; not a member of the Protective Corp.

As a result, one afternoon while Mr. Brickner was driving with his daughter, a thug sped by in another car and threw acid in their faces. Shortly after this Mittelman came to him and said:

"You better give us all the work, and there won't be any trouble. Be smart. Give us the work and it won't happen again."

night he was struck on the head by an unidentified person with an iron pipe, and a little later a gallon of acid was thrown in his face. The resulting burn was so serious that one eye had to be removed.

In Gloversville, N. Y., at the same time, Samuel Nissenbaum was operating the Acme Fur Tanning Co., which was not a member of Mittelman's Protective. He continued to accept furs for dressing from various dealers in New York. As a result, a bomb exploded in his shop, causing \$3,000 damage.

One Dealer.

Meanwhile, J. E. Joseph, a dealer at 337 Seventh Ave., also refused to send his furs to the Protective, and one day he received an anonymous telephone call.

"Joseph, you take care or you'll have trouble," the voice said. "After that," Mr. Joseph said, "I locked my doors and windows. But on Mother's Day when I was sitting near my house, a young fellow comes up, and I think he has presents my children bought for their mother. Instead, he throws acid in my face. I was blinded, but I still could see him jump in a car and speed away."

At the same time that he was terrorizing recalcitrant dealers, Lepke began to bear down on the unions—particularly the so-called Left Wing Union, the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union. It was noticeably true that those firms that opposed him for the most part employed members of the Left Wing Union, and this infuriated him.

So Mittelman was dispatched to Irving Potash and Samuel Burt, representing the Left Wing Union. They met in a Chinese restaurant early in April, 1933, and Mr. Potash in discussing their conversation later said:

Not Playing.

"Mr. Mittelman in a sort of—well, trying to be clever, referred to the murder of Mr. Langer. [Morris Langer, union manager, fatally injured by the explosion of a bomb under the hood of his automobile. He said to me: 'Wasn't it unfortunate that killing of Langer?'] He said, 'Don't you think we ought to avoid any repetition of such a thing?' I said, 'When we were in the past...

presence of the others, he said: 'Potash, you know with whom we are dealing and with whom we are dealing...'

"I knew, but I wanted to be clear. I said, 'What do you mean?' He said, 'You know that in this association is Lepke and... and these people are not... I think he said at that time playing with toys' or something of this sort, and again referred to Langer."

Mittelman then asked Mr. Burt and Mr. Burt if they would "meet the boys." Mr. Burt said: "Well, of course, I will have up various disputes with them, but I think the workers and the employers."

To this Mittelman quickly responded: "Not that. These boys take of their own disputes and their disputes in a different manner. Whereupon Mr. Potash and Mr. Burt refused to have anything to do with them."

The result was that on April 19, 1933, a gang of twelve or more, armed with iron pipes smashed a meeting of the union at 28th St., killed two, injured several, and left the place a wreck. They gathered at a suite in the Hotel— which was in the rear of the place of Lepke and Gurrah— had proceeded along two down Seventh and Eighth Sts. to the union headquarters. It is a secret that followed was one of bloodiest in years.

By this time the government had begun an intensive inquiry into fur racket activities of the John Harlan Amen, special agent to the Attorney General. Said, Moses M. Lewis, a Federal Bureau of Investigation agent, began to accumulate that resulted in indictments out of violations of the laws.

Teeth and Law.

They were tried by Judge John C. Knox, guilty, given two years in penitentiary and fined \$10,000 in imposing the sentence. Knox said: "I've been on the job for 17 years. I've heard many lawlessness, and my kindness have become calloused. I'm full of mayhem; battery and acid throwing in the shocked and angered industry was ruled by the teeth and the claw."

Attorneys for Lepke announced that they would appeal the verdicts, but Judge Knox refused to grant them bail pending hearings. He declared that since he had been able to get a mere "slap on the wrist" with the penalty to pay for the multitude of crimes. However, less than a week ago, 1933 Federal...

appeals heard their case. Lepke's attorney requested that the order releasing them be set aside and their bonds at \$10,000 each be spread.

Within an hour the bond was reduced to \$20,000 in 2% per cent bonds—and Lepke and Gurrah were free.

Both Vanish.

The appeal of the verdict was reversed and the order was affirmed. Lepke and Gurrah were taken to the County Jail, of them; Lepke, however, was considered and is serving the term of other indictments pending the trial of Lepke, when he will be charged with other indictments.

The weakness of Mr. Amen was that Lepke was the fact that Lepke was the elusive power in the industry. Since the aid of the FBI, he has been called from Washington Hotel to the Hotel... at last the...

Mr. Amen—one of Lepke's agents—had repeatedly said that he had had an inkling of the fur racket. He was confronted by the fact that one midnight by Lepke's agents he had been asked to say, "O.K. He gave a complete statement. The whole story of Lepke's control of one of the largest industries has waited at the Federal Bureau of Investigation already for some time. Lepke's agents and forfeit their property as a suggestion that Lepke's Federal Attorney eventually will demand that Lepke be captured.

Lepke's agents and forfeit their property as a suggestion that Lepke's Federal Attorney eventually will demand that Lepke be captured.

Lepke's agents and forfeit their property as a suggestion that Lepke's Federal Attorney eventually will demand that Lepke be captured.

Lepke's agents and forfeit their property as a suggestion that Lepke's Federal Attorney eventually will demand that Lepke be captured.

60-1501A
sect 4

THE MIAMI DAILY NEWS

August 8, 1939

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. Nathan ✓
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
 Mr. Clegg ✓
 Mr. Glavin ✓
 Mr. Ladd ✓
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy ✓
 Miss Gandy ✓

FEDERAL CRIME PROBE STARTS

Sagas Of 1,000 Criminals
 Will Be Presented
 New York Jury

(Special to the Miami Daily News)

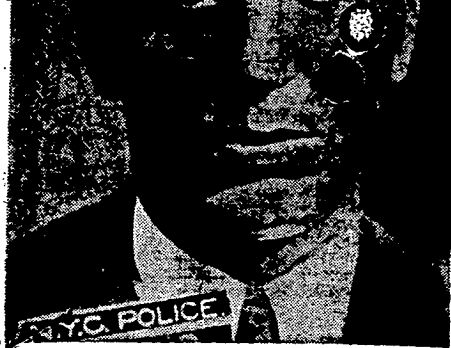
NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—Matias F. Correa, chief assistant to U. S. Attorney John T. Cahill, and Jerome Doyle and William Young, assistant U. S. attorneys, will begin here this afternoon in the federal courthouse to spread before a federal grand jury the sagas of a thousand criminals in all quarters of the country in the nationwide investigation, centered here, of a crime and racket syndicate.

The jury, which was drawn yesterday afternoon from a panel of 50, was sworn in by Federal Judge Edward Conger. It is expected to sit every afternoon for the next 90 days, the time period set by federal law for a grand jury.

In presenting the evidence which will be drawn from the nearly half-million pages of a report which took the federal bureau of investigation almost two years to prepare, Correa and his assistants will place special emphasis on obtaining indictments of those who have for the last two years harbored Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, considered to be a "million dollar fugitive," and other racketeers who are in hiding.

It is expected the grand jury will not hand down any indictments for at least two weeks.

60-1501 A
 sect. 4



Lepke Plays The Ruthless Business Man

From behind the scenes in the underworld Louis Buchalter, alias Lepke, is waging war on business of the law, a war costing vast sums of money. Fighting to retain his control of rackets, he is at the same time charged with carrying on a campaign to kill witnesses against his organization. In a series of articles, of which the following is the second, Staff Writer Jack Foster tells the gang chief's career and the search now under way for the million-dollar fugitive.

By JACK FOSTER, World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Louis Buchalter—Lepke of the underworld—has become America's richest, most powerful, most thoroughly despised criminal because of the cold and calculating method of his dealings.

He never has ordered a murder merely because of anger. Unless a death has meant the removal of competition and, therefore, greater profits for him, Lepke has not been interested. Money is his god, and the men who have stood in the way of his grabbing more of it are the men who, by his business logic, eventually must die.

It is as simple as all that. While the Monk Eastmans and the Peg Leg Lonergans of the past gloried in their murders, Lepke has shunned all public show, taking his satisfaction out of the knowledge that with each new assault, clubbing or acid-throwing his might as a man of affairs has been extended.

Dixie Davis, in his Collier's articles, declares that Dutch Schultz on reading Ludwig's Life of Napoleon decided that he was a sort of Little Corporal himself. Lepke has no such delusions. He knows that those who are bitten by the glory-bug always end up very dead. He considers himself a hard, shrewd dealer in the products of crime—and nothing more.

As a result, the underworld mob head him in unspeakable awe. A few days ago a stool pigeon, in answering a policeman's questions, said of him:

"Lepke is smart. If he had gone straight he would have made a wonderful Secretary of Labor."

Proxy Gunners.

There is no recent record of his having carried a gun himself. He shoots by proxy now. According to the story you hear when cops start firing at headquarters, the last time he possibly it was his partner Gurrak—who was near the scene of a crime was when their old pal, Curley Holla, departed this life.

Curley, according to the story, had been sent by Lepke in 1931 to Europe with a large sum to buy narcotics. He spent only a fraction of this sum on the drugs and had pocketed the rest. When he returned he let the word get out that there were narcotics aboard, and these were seized, it being Curley's hope that the seizure would cover up his faithlessness. But Lepke read about the seizure in the papers, noted that the estimated value was far less than the sum he had given Curley, and he had one of his thugs bring him into his presence.

Louis (Lepke) Buchalter as the police camera caught him during one of his many early brushes with the law.



The Belmont Ave. market in Brownsville where Lepke and Jake won their racketeering spurs by preying on the m...



Gurrak-Jake Schapiro.



Joe Adonis.

down Curley's throat. Now Curley, it is believed, lies in a cement block under the murky waters of the East River... another man who dared oppose the domination of the biggest businessman of the underworld.

How Lepke's power has grown since the days of his childhood! He was born 42 years ago in Essex St., one of 11 children. His mother had had four children by a previous marriage and his father had had four, too, and so there was not always a great deal to eat.

His father had sold lumber in Russia, and coming to this country in the 1890s because of the pogroms, had entered upon an industrious, productive, worthwhile business career. All of the children, with the exception of Lepke and one other, have pursued respectable lives, some of them distinguishing themselves in the professions. But within Lepke, it seems, was born a certain urge that demanded expression in original activities.

The Others, Too.

It was the same with other mobsters of the early part of the century whom he was to succeed. Monk Eastman—born Edward Osterman—was the son of a respectable restaurant owner in Williamsburg who set him up in a pet store, but he became one of the most vicious thugs of the generation. Big Jack Zelig came from kind and gentle people, but he sold death for anything from \$10 to \$100. The humiliated parents of murderous Little Augie had this alone engraved on his gravestone:

Jacob Orgen, Age 25 Years.

Little Augie was, actually 33. But eight years before, at the time he first became a known criminal, his father had disowned him.

Evil was born in their hearts. The laxness of New York law enforcement at that time gave them the opportunity to apply their criminal instincts to actual deeds of destruction.

Returning to go to high school, Lepke joined up with his pal in the neighborhood, Jacob Schapiro, whose mother declares he was born in

was born in Russia. Together they would cross the Williamsburg Bridge and torment the pushcart peddlers in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn.

That's where Schapiro got his nickname, Gurrak. The immigrant pushcart peddlers would plead with him, "Gurrakere Jake," meaning "Get out of here, Jake." Whereupon Jake would smash one of them in the face, turn over his part and give his place to another peddler from whom Lepke had received tribute.

How Lepke.

They were in their early teens then—gaining experience, learning how far they could go, making underworld acquaintances that would help them in their rise to power. It was at that time, police believe, that they first met Joe Adonis, who was to become with them in a quarter century one of the Big Six of crime and who, it is said, has aided Lepke in his present flight from justice.

The nickname, Lepke, by the way, is a misspelled variation of the Jewish word for Louis—Label. As a youngster, his parents called him Labeleh, meaning little Louis. But as he grew older, they called him Lepke. When a newspaperman first used the latter name he made it Lepke, and Lepke it has been ever since.

By the time he was 18 Lepke, with his devoted partner, Gurrak, had given up the comparatively unremunerative business of beating up pushcart men, and like Jack Diamond, had become a package thief. He would knock packages from wagons on the East Side and sell the contents to fences. In September of 1915 he was arrested for the first time for assault growing out of these activities, but the case was dismissed.

This was the beginning of a long series of thirteen arrests that preceded his federal indictments. In only three cases—once in Bridgeport, Conn., and twice before Judge Nott in General Sessions Court—he was found guilty and given sentences. Seven times he was discharged by magistrates in Manhattan. These brushes with the law made Lepke canny; taught him that if

crimes while he remained in from the scene, impressed him with the necessity of organizing himself as a great corporation of crime. He had decided by 1920—when he was barely 21—that he would become the city's greatest underworld power.

Goes After Money.

All that was needed, he decided, was to be smart, methodical, ruthless—and to accumulate money. Plenty of money! With money he could defy anybody or anything—the law, the underworld, the government itself.

He began by studying the gangster technique of the past. They were too gaudy, too spectacular, too obviously designed to bring personal glory. They always ended in destruction, and Lepke wanted to avoid destruction, for Lepke is a most gangster, a most careful death.

There was Monk Eastman, for example. With a derby on one eye, a cat on either side of his whiskers, he was a terror in the Five Points world in his blasphemous manner. It happened to him? He was murdered on the street. He had already been humiliated and to pursue an honest living.

There was Kid Drogger, lieutenant. Strong as a bull, overpowering in his handling of men, ruthless and dominating, he held the territory from the Point to Chinatown in his grip. It happened to him? He was murdered down following a term in the penitentiary.

Bewery in Lepke.

There was Jack Zelig, Lepke's partner. Jack Zelig was a Trakner, a speaking man, and openly bragging about his exploits, he held the territory in constant terror. And what happened here? They got into a quarrel with a rival gang and before they were dead.

No, Louis Buchalter would not make the same mistake as these others. He would operate as far from the headlines as possible, would stay on the fringe of rackets and when the spotlight came he would move out of it.

There was tremendous activity after the war and came increased labor unions would take advantage of it. Lepke would control business by and influence labor by force and violence. Monk Eastman taught him an inkling of this when he came back as 1911, when he founded the rackets on the East River. He acted as a

murdered, and later about employers.

But, whereas Monk Eastman got a few hundreds from pickers, Lepke would get in big time industry. America, which sucked into the war, was ripe. America, which became the Rockefeller Rackets.

Other Racketeers.

He began by muscling leather business (which was described tomorrow) and by but fellers to the garment, by businesses. All the time, he was keeping his other racketeers who were alike, likewise, to operate in industrial fields. He sneaked his paths in such a way a racketeer, yet he never failed to take advantage of their bloody deaths.

In 1923 Kid Drogger was killed by him. Recently he was killed as he was being taken from the Essex Street Co. Lepke sent regrets. But he began to take over the run of the kid's gang and to reorganize the big-time base.

In 1927 Little Augie was killed by Jack Diamond, who was founded as they were walking on the street. Police said it was the reorganized element of the Drogger gang. Lepke was wanted. The headquarters, dressed as innocent as pilgrim Little Augie? Of course he was his friends. They were all at the time of the murder. And so Lepke and the others were discharged because of their connections.

As to Supremacy.

From then on their rise to the undisputed supremacy was rapid. The Kid and Little Augie were gone, they soon became the industrial racketeer. Lepke knew that no gangster was as strong as he and no employer as powerful as he. Lepke would control the deaths or imprisonment of mobsters as Dutch Schultz, Coffoon, Vannie Higgins, Jimmond, Johnny Torrio, Clarence and others merely as a means of influence, for they were the important figures in the control of their rackets. In 1931 when they dispensed the important Curley-Lepke figure in a crime, and Gurrak was his

0-1501-A
sect 4

Pick Gang Probe Jury

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Law
- Mr. Niel
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Starn
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Law
- Mr. Niel
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Starn
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy

Giving Up Of Lepke Hinted

Witnesses Flock Here for Inquiry

For today's installment of "Lepke, the Leopard of the Rackets," see Page 12.

Carefully guarded from gang bullets by a special detail of G-men, witnesses were gathered here from points throughout the nation today as Federal authorities opened their spectacular offensive against organized crime.

Reports were current that racketeer Louis (Lepke) Buchalter might voluntarily end the two-year flight, which led to the Federal probe, as the entire resources of the FBI and the city were put on his trail with these developments:

Selection of the Special Grand Jury which will investigate crime from coast to coast was begun in the Foley Square Federal Building from a 50-man hand-picked panel.

The Board of Estimate prepared to boost the reward for fugitive Lepke from \$5,000 to \$25,000 "dead or alive."

55 POLICE ON JOB.

A squad of 55 detectives and patrolmen under Capt. Conrad Rothengast went on the Lepke assignment — 30 patrolmen in plainclothes guarding witnesses and 25 detectives hunting the fugitive mobster.

District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's County Grand Jury continued its efforts to cut off the revenue financing Lepke's flight by questioning officials of garment and bakery firms reportedly still paying gang tribute. While the Federal anti-crime

60-15017
sect. 4

CLIPPING FROM NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL - AMERICAN.

DATE. AUG 7 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

—was expected to unearth doctors, lawyers, business men and fellow racketeers who have aided Lepke to escape justice, U. S. Attorney John T. Cahill stressed: "It will be broader than any one case or criminal."

ROUNDUP TO START.

From the mouths of scores of witnesses and from 500,000 pages of crime data carefully compiled by the G-men since 1937, the grand jury will strike at the harbors of such criminals as Lepke.

Doctors who perform plastic surgery on the faces of fleeing racketeers; the doctors who have treated Lepke for a serious kidney ailment, and business men who have supplied him with funds, though reluctantly, all face indictment.

Such lawyers as J. Richard (Dixie) Davis—the "Kid Mouth-piece" for the late Dutch Schultz—also will be the subject of inquiry.

CAPONE STATEMENT.

Statements by Davis and by Al Capone will be disclosed to the Federal Grand Jury.

Lepke's former gang partner, Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro, now in Atlanta, may be brought to New York as a witness, Federal authorities admitted.

Aiding Cahill in the sweeping inquiry are Assistant U. S. Attorneys

Jerome Doyle, William Young and Matthies Correa.

With special powers conferred by Attorney-General Frank Murphy, the investigation will be centered in a courtroom in the Federal Building rather than one of the smaller rooms regularly used for Grand Juries, it was learned.

This step was taken because the Grand Jury will sit for long hours in its intensive inquiry and the courtrooms are better ventilated than the Grand Jury rooms for hot weather, a Federal official explained.

GATHER WITNESSES.

Witnesses in Cleveland, San Francisco, Chicago and other cities are being rounded up to testify to the "working agreement" between various underworld mobs under which such fugitives as Lepke are able to secure refuge, money and medical attention.

Lepke disappeared in July, 1937, after he had been freed in \$10,000 bail by former U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Martin T. Manton pending decision on his appeal from a Federal conviction as an anti-trust law violator.

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

[Handwritten signature]

Special U. S. Jury Gets Crime Data

New York, Aug. 6 (AP).—Crime data from Federal agents in many parts of the country, including all available information on the most hunted man in America, Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, poured into New York tonight in what may develop into a record assault on the Nation's criminal syndicates.

*60-15017A
sect. 4*

Politicians, Business Men To E

Jury to Get Many Names Here Monday

G-Men Aim to Destroy 'Underground Road' Helping Criminals

Evidence naming politicians, doctors, lawyers and business men, as well as petty crooks, among those who have harbored the fugitive Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, Public Enemy No. 1, is expected to be submitted to the special federal grand jury which Monday begins an investigation, nation-wide in scope, of the harboring of criminals.

The inquiry will center at first on Lepke's case because of his great notoriety, but the inquisitors' goal will be the destruction of the "underground railroad" by which hunted criminals are able to evade the law and, as in Lepke's case, continue their criminal operations.

Hunted Two Years.

Lepke, hunted by state and federal agencies since he jumped bail July 7, 1937, is alleged to have continued to direct his vast racketeering interests from hiding and to be waging "a war of extermination" against former members of the gang and some represent members to silence potential witnesses against him.

The federal investigation, based on some 500,000 words of evidence and reports gathered by G-men in a two-year secret inquiry into the problem of harboring criminals in the United States, was announced by United States Attorney John T. Cahill.

Though the inquiry will center here, evidence involving persons in other parts of the country, especially such favored resorts of big-time crooks as Miami and Hot Springs will be sent to the proper prosecutors for action.

Will Help Them.

The federal authorities in this district will give all secret aid possible to the prosecutors in other cities to take action on the evidence furnished them, but their negligence will be publicized if they don't, it was said.

Mr. Cahill had no comment to make on reports that his office would seek the indictment, arrest and prosecution of every person who evidence indicates aided Lepke or his henchmen in his two-year flight from the law. Federal agents are said to have gathered evidence that Lepke criss-crossed the United States in his flight, apparently receiving aid wherever he went. This was interpreted as just another indication that Lepke heads a crime syndicate with agents throughout the country.

Dewey Pushes Drive.

Meanwhile District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey pressed his drive to dry up Lepke's financial and legal resources by attempting to persuade bonding companies that prisoners and material witnesses in the Lepke investigation were bad risks. Two of the companies which have furnished bail for such men reported afterward that, while they would not cancel present bonds, they would write future bonds in the Lepke case on only a full cash basis.

Mr. Dewey's efforts to have the Board of Estimate raise the reward for Lepke to \$25,000 received support from Borough President James J. Lyons of the Bronx.

Mr. Lyons said that he also would ask the Board of Estimate to post a separate reward of \$10,000 for the gunmen who murdered Irving Penn, music company executive, in the Bronx. Officials are convinced that Mr. Penn was slain by Lepke's gunmen by mistake for Philip Orlovsky, a garment racket witness who lived in the same house.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

Clipping from
NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM
DATE: AUG 3 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....

193

BT

F. B. I. Hunts Lepke in New York Area

City to Boost Reward for Him To \$25,000

The nation's resurgent, spectacular war on crime is centered here today.

While the U. S. Attorney John T. Cahill began spreading before a special Grand Jury the sagas of a thousand criminals in all quarters of the country, New York's Board of Estimate was expected to approve

The first of a series of articles on Louis (Lepke) Buchalter's exploits and the hunt for him appears on Page 11.

an additional \$25,000 reward for the capture of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, fugitive kingpin racketeer.

At the same time federal agents under the direction of J. Edgar Hoover, concentrated their efforts to turn up Lepke here.

There appeared to be little likelihood of any slip-up in boosting the reward for Lepke's arrest.

\$35,000 Offered.

The \$25,000 boost will bring the ante on Lepke to \$35,000—dead or alive. Both the city and federal governments have already put up \$5,000 each.

The special federal Grand Jury was drawn this morning from a panel of fifty and immediately set about hearing testimony from the several score witnesses.

Mathias F. Correa, chief assistant to Mr. Cahill, and Jerome Doyle and William Young, assistant United States Attorneys, presented additional material from the nearly half million pages of a report which took the Federal Bureau of Investigation nearly two years to prepare.

Doctors Warned.

Special emphasis will be placed on securing indictments of those who have for the past two years harbored Lepke, considered the "million-dollar fugitive," and other racketeers who are on the lam.

The government has made it clear that doctors who treat Lepke for his illnesses—and he is known to be suffering from kidney and rheumatic troubles—may face long penitentiary terms.

All authorities denied rumors yesterday that Lepke had been captured.



Here is a hitherto unpublished picture of Louis Lepke Buchalter, whose criminal empire is to be studied by new Federal Grand Jury today.

60-1501A
sect. 4

Clipping from
NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM

DATE: AUG 7 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

'Who's Who' of Crime Given Jury as U. S. Opens Biggest Drive

**Buchalter First on List
In War to Break Up Whole
Underworld System**

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.—The Nation's greatest assault on organized crime, delving into underworld terrorism in half a dozen major cities, opened today with the presentation of a 500,000-word "encyclopedia of crime" before a special Federal grand jury.

Thirty patrolmen were assigned to guard witnesses in the sweeping investigation.

Dominated by the shadowy figure of Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, 42, beady-eyed Manhattan racketeer and will-o'-the-wisp target of an intensive "dead or alive" manhunt, the inquiry was described by Attorney General Frank Murphy as the outgrowth of secret, concerted action by Federal agents for several months.

Simultaneous offensives, Mr. Murphy said, will be launched in Chicago, New Orleans, Boston and other key centers, perhaps including Miami, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

"One of the major objectives will be to get at corruption and crime in politics," the Attorney General added.

Buchalter Case First.

Although United States Attorney John T. Cahill, directing the Nation-wide anti-crime war through a central "clearing house" here, said the inquiry was "broader than any case or criminal," it was known the grand jury would quickly direct its attention to the Buchalter case.

A fugitive for two years, sought both in this country and abroad at a cost of \$250,000 a year, "Lepke" is wanted as the alleged master mind in narcotics operations, in various industrial rackets and in a series of mouth-silencing murders of witnesses against him.

Only two weeks ago, a law-abiding music publishing official who lived quietly in the Bronx with his wife and two children, was mowed down by gunmen as he walked to the subway—apparently in mistake for a witness against "Lepke." District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey has blamed four other murders on Buchalter's "war of extermination" against witnesses.

Harboring to Be Attacked.

Federal authorities said their far-flung search for the former racket overload indicated he had been protected by a criminal underground railway—such as was used in spiriting runaway slaves out of the South in the Civil War—which enabled him to find shelter almost anywhere.

"This investigation particularly strikes at harboring criminals," Mr. Cahill remarked, "because that is the basis of the criminal system. Organized crime cannot endure when it is deprived of its implements."

The Federal prosecutor said witnesses from the Southwest, Middle West and Pacific Coast would be called before the grand jury to give direct evidence in support of the voluminous "crime encyclopedia" compiled by G-men, which reportedly chronicles an astonishing series of murders, kidnappings, underworld hideaways and secret "crime trust"

agreements for the division of territories and racket loot.

Federal agents said the record comprises a "Crime Who's Who," with names, dates and complete information on rackets and gangsters in every State.

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Lawler.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Sears.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....

b7c

60-15017
sect. 4

Hunt Lepke's 'Crime Angel'

The most hunted man in America, Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, took second place yesterday as G-Men and District Attorney Dewey's detectives swerved their manhunt toward establishment of the identity of "the man upstairs" in the nationwide crime syndicate of which Lepke is but a cog.

An "angel of crime" who has money, power and respectability as his surface protections, is believed to be, in the theatrical sense, the "angel" who has guided the racketeers for years.

"Find the man who arranged bail for Lepke and Gurrah (Jacob Shapiro) and you will find Lepke," was the order as the operatives of the two law enforcement agencies started a nutcracker drive they hope will crack down on the No. 1 Public Enemy and his shadowy overlord and as a special Federal Grand Jury was being convened here today to study racketeering in all its forms.

Dewey Pleaded

Lepke and Gurrah, partners in racketeering since the early days, were released in bail by former Federal Circuit Judge Martin T. Manton over the protests of Prosecutor Dewey and Brooklyn's special prosecutor, Assistant Attorney General Amen. Dewey personally pleaded with Judge Manton not to release the thugs. Bail was provided and both fled, Gurrah subsequently surrendering and taking a sentence in the Federal Prison at Atlanta.

It was emphatically pointed out that the man sought — the poster of the bond — is not a bondsman nor a lawyer.

Also being sought yesterday, not

as a suspect but for information only, was a wealthy dress manufacturer who for four years paid the Lepke-Gurrah combine \$25,000 a year for protection and for part of the time lived in the same apartment house with Lepke in Central Park W.

A former high Federal judicial officer is said to have obtained a \$25,000 loan from him.

Gurrah is being brought back from Atlanta to testify before the Federal Grand Jury which meets this morning. Contrary to reports, however, he is doing no talking at this time. Whether he will when he is taken before the jury is a matter of doubt. Many men have died for talking.

Not Forgotten

Lepke is not a forgotten man, however. At the printing department of the New York Police Department preparations have been made to turn out one million circulars offering rewards for his arrest as soon as the Board of Estimate in meeting today will have approved in whole or in part District Attorney Dewey's request for appropriation upward of \$30,000.

The Lindbergh kidnaping refused the printing of only 20,000 circulars.

It is not disclosed whether Prosecutor Dewey's "dead or

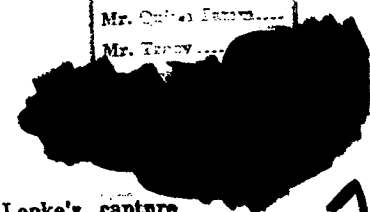
alive" offer for Lepke's capture will be included in the announcement.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Board of Investigation, was reported to be at the Federal Building yesterday, but this could not be ascertained. Questioners were barred from the upper floors of the building where the FBI offices are situated.

Crime data poured into the building from all parts of the country for use of the special Grand Jury in the preparation of an encyclopedia of crime and criminals. The records will be made available to all communities.

While there is a decided race of between the Dewey and Hoover outfits to be the first to nab Lepke and his "boss" the two agencies are working hand in glove.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy



57

T

60-1501-A
sect. 4

DATE

How the Fur Union Smashed Lepke-Gurrah Gangland Grip in the Industry

By Esther Cantor

The man who put the finger on Jacob "Gurrah" Shapiro, partner of No. 1 racketeer Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, yesterday described how his union broke the back of the industrial gangsters in the fur industry.

Irving Potash, manager of the Furriers Joint Council, whose testimony put Gurrah behind closed bars, related how the fur workers employed by the open shoppers while law-enforcement agencies ignored the murders, sluggings and illegal trade combinations.

It was in federal court in October, 1936, that Potash testified on the link between the Lepke-Gurrah gang. The union leader was to meet the head of the bosses' association, a Samul Mittleman. Mittleman appeared with Gurrah. When Potash declared that he would "have nothing to do" with Gurrah, the racketeer warned him:

"Potash, you will have to deal with me, whether you like it or not."

But the left wing fur union officials not only didn't deal with the Lepke-Gurrah gang but broke their attempts to gain a hold on the industry!

Potash, continuing his testimony, described a conversation with employers following the brutal murder of Morris Langer, union official. The bosses told him:

"You know that in back of this association are Gurrah and Lepke and they're not playing with toys." The furriers taught the racketeers that their union and decent working conditions also aren't toys.

The story assumes added importance as the nation-wide hunt for Lepke is on, while government witnesses are murdered, and some racketeers continue to flourish under the eyes of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey.

The indictment of Lepke and Gurrah by the federal government reads like the indictment against these racketeers by the fur workers themselves, before they could force the law-enforcement agencies to step in.

The indictment pending against them by Dewey's office, still trying to catch up with the "elusive" Lepke took a valuable lead from the charges made by the fur workers in their successful fight against the racketeers.

RACKETEER PAL

Gurrah, back in the early '20s, had been a partner of "Little Augie." The partner-to-be of Lepke had gone far from the days down on the East Side when he was muscling into the racket by offering "protection" to poor peddlers.

The peddlers who refused to pay for "protection" would be forced to leave the streets. Jacob Shapiro's favorite order to the poor men was "get out of here." When slurred sounded like "gurrah a here," from which he obtained his name.

With Little Augie, he moved into the painters racket, mapping out "spheres of influence" and "protective zones" for willing bosses who paid through the nose in order to break all attempts at unionization.

Pickers who attempted to march before "protected" shops were beaten up. Strikers were terrorized. Wages were low. Meanwhile, Little Augie was killed and there are those who say it was an "inside" job to permit Gurrah to become undisputed boss.

Gurrah, the strong-arm man, found a good partner in Lepke, the "brains" of the racket. Lepke had a quick rise in gangland. They formed a "trust," amalgamating a number of rackets.

They were to find good pickings which were soon to run into the millions from the city's garment industry.

The fur industry was a particularly juicy morsel they sought to control. From 1925 to 1928, Lepke-Gurrah gangsters battled with fur workers in an effort to gain control of the industry.

The fur union, however, disregarded the "protected" shops and struck whenever union conditions were being ignored. Pickers were being slugged, strikers beaten, appeals to law-enforcement agencies went ignored, but the fur workers continued to battle the gangsters.

Potash told of the "war helmet" demonstration staged by the workers during the 1927 fur strike. The union workers had succeeded in having locked up a whole car of gorillas who cruised the fur district armed with iron bars.

The racketeers would hide in hallways to blackjack pickets. Workers were in hospitals. But complaints to the district attorney's office and police were ignored.

To protect the skulls of the workers from the constantly descending iron bars wielded by gangsters, immune from arrest, the picket wore war helmets.

In 1928, Gurrah came into the union headquarters, issuing a personal warning to Potash "to lay off the protected shops." The racketeer was thrown out of the union offices bodily.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

The bold union tactics finally forced Lepke and Gurrah to look for other methods to control the fur industry. It was bruited about at the time that they quit open acts of violence also as a face-saving gesture, fearful that the successful licks imposed by the fur workers would provide fruitful lessons to other garment workers suffering under the plague of the boss-racketeer combination.

But with the continued division among the workers, the two were back again, branching out to establish a monopoly in the fur industry.

There were daily fights in the fur market between the workers and the racketeers. Lepke and Gurrah established an elaborate machinery for price fixing, keeping the union out, and making millions by offering bosses, anxious to pay starvation wages, "protection."

They saw their meat in the fur dressing industry.

Morris Langer, union leader, was then conducting an organizing drive against these sweat shop conditions. A strike was in progress against the Hollander firm, which only recently capitulated to the union.

A striker, Natalie Bollero, 24 years old, was murdered. The law-enforcement agencies did nothing. Langer refused to give up to the racketeers. The strike continued.

MURDER UNION LEADER

Langer was bombed, killed on March 22. His murderer has never been apprehended.

A month later, the union office was raided, by gangsters with guns, iron bars, and other implements used by the obviously protected racketeers, who themselves were past masters of the art of giving "protection" against union conditions.

Two persons were killed, including Harry Goldfied, a union member. About 50 persons were wounded.

Ben Gold, now president of the International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO, told an



IRVING POTASH

appeal to the public, exposing the racketeers and their backers and revealing the cynical disregard of the police.

"Lepke and Gurrah are leaders of a gang of cut throats, boot-leggers, opium smugglers, murderers and thieves," Gold charged in 1933.

Gold's explanation then of the aims of the racketeers was similar to that made by the federal government in its case against Lepke and Gurrah.

"The aims of the racket," he said, "were:

"1—To force all bosses to become members and pay dues to the Fur Factors Dressing Corp., controlled by the racketeers.

"2—The racketeers were to prevent new shops from coming into existence.

"3—To drive out of business a number of firms who refused to join the racket.

"4—The dealers of the racket decided on how many 'units' every shop was permitted to make. Of course, the leaders of the racket were assigned to more work, which meant more profits for themselves. The unimportant bosses, the rank and filers, had to be content with less business. They had no other way. They knew what rebellion against their racketeer leaders would mean."

GOLD EXPOSES RACKETEERS

Gold described the various methods for driving the firms out of business or forcing them into the racket.

"They destroyed shops, threw bombs, took workers out on 'strike,' threw acid in the faces of their competitors and used other such 'civilized' methods.

"It all depended on how serious the breach was, which one or another manufacturer committed against the racket."

The union leader described how the workers suffered under the racketeer domination. Lepke and Gurrah spread out to take over the Protective Fur Rabbit Dressing Association, which would mean that they would be able to entrench their brutal power and spread their control over the entire fur trade, becoming the rulers over the workers.

But here, Gold continued, "the murderers and racketeers encountered unforeseen difficulties."

the fur workers, under left wing leadership.

At the trial, the charges made earlier by the union leaders were confirmed. The racketeers tried to force Langer to call strikes in three union plants in Gloversville, so that the Lepke-Gurrah "protection" could be offered. Langer refused.

Langer was murdered.

Unable to break the union or the will of the workers to maintain decent working conditions, the employers resorted to more open use of Lepke and Gurrah, telling the union officials flatly that the racketeers represented the bosses.

Potash, going to meet an employer for a conference, was confronted with Gurrah and told that Gurrah represented the employers.

Potash refused to discuss union conditions with Gurrah.

The fur union office was raided.

At the trial, the government was able to show that the raid was planned by the Lepke-Gurrah gang, but it has never been followed up.

Potash pointed out yesterday that while the then Police Commissioner Mulrooney was describing fur union leader Jack Schneider as active in "industrial racketeering," Schneider was fighting the Lepke-Gurrah gang, the industrial racketeers who flourished under Mulrooney. Mulrooney's "description" was recently revived by Deputy's office in the trial of Schneider for alleged coercion.

GOLD ISSUES CHALLENGE

From 1927 to 1934, the fur district was like a "battlefield," Potash said. "Scores of strikers were in the hospital, but only workers and union leaders were arrested.

After the raid, Gold issued his public challenge to the authorities giving names, activities, dates and descriptions of how the racket worked.

As a result, the federal government stepped in and indicted the racketeers and racketeering employers.

But the indictment came after the union itself had licked the racketeers. "Before the authorities stepped in, we licked the Lepke-Gurrah gang physically and prac-

60-1501-A
sect.

many drove them out of the fur district," Potash said.

In the fight against them and their employer-allies, he continued, the union succeeded in organizing the dressing and dyeing industry, gaining improved conditions for the workers.

When the trial came in 1938, the fear instilled by the racketeers created a cynical attitude. Everyone was saying that the two would go scot free, that no one would dare to identify them.

POTASH PUTS GURRAH ON SPOT

But Potash put the finger on Gurrah, revealing his connections with the bosses racketeering association. So did Sam Burt, manager of the Joint Board of Fur Dressers and Dyers.

It was Potash's testimony, substantiated by Burt, which sent Gurrah to jail. Both Lepke and Gurrah were convicted. But the trial was only on federal offenses. The murders, racketeering combinations in the city alone, the violence committed during the period, had to be dealt with locally.

Meanwhile, both were free on bail, pending appeals, in sharp contrast to the stubborn opposition of Dewey's office to place bail for Schneider, convicted of a minor offense on trumped-up charges.

The two industrial racketeers slipped through the fingers of the police, but they didn't slip through the fingers of the fur workers. Lepke's conviction was reversed, he disappeared as Dewey was looking for him.

It was ex-federal Judge Manton, recently found guilty of taking bribes, who permitted them to escape by giving these notorious gangsters ridiculously low bail pending appeal.

Gurrah finally gave himself up but Lepke is still at large, and is said to be conducting his racketeering empire under the nose of prosecuting authorities. But, thanks to the union not in the fur industry.

The fur workers forthright attack on the racketeers, licking them before any government agency bothered to step in, Potash declared, is the real answer to recent attempts to link unions with racketeering.

DATE

AUG 2 - 1939

'The Leopard' Fleeing from 119-Yr. Term

Murder, Dope and Extortion His 'Genius,' Study of Life Discolours

By GEORGE CARROLL.

Who is Lepke, America's No. 1 Racketeer?

To save his uncaught skin, men are being murdered on the streets of New York. Yet to the public, he has been only a name; for that matter, maybe a myth.

Once he and Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro, his blustering, lead-mouthed partner, ruled the garment field, New York's biggest industry, by terror, each extorting an estimated \$2,000,000 yearly.

For two years now Lepke (Louis Buchalter) has been a fugitive from extortion, drug and anti-trust indictments that carry a total penalty of 119 years. Gurrah gave up and is serving a 5-year term.

LIFE OF LEPKE BARED.

With hitherto unpublished data from the files of the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, the New York Journal and American today begins publication of the first fully rounded story of Lepke, his life and works.

The portrait that emerges from all this mass of information and from independent data gathered by New York Journal and American reporters is that of:

LEPKE, LEOPARD OF THE RACKETS.

(In habit the leopard is ferocious, bloodthirsty and cunning. It obtains its prey either by springing upon it from ambush (frequently the bough of a tree) or by stealthy stalk. It will eat any animal it can overcome, being especially fond of dogs. Encyclopaedia Britannica.)

LIVED AMONG MURDERS.

Lepke the Leopard has lived much of his 42 years amongst murders.

He and Gurrah were arrested far back on Oct. 15, 1927, in the slaughter of Jacob (Little Augie) Orgen, one of New York's first celebrated industrial racketeers. They beat the rap and took over Little Augie's unlawful business.

From then on Lepke rose to become kingpin in his sector of the criminal realm, supposedly enduring Gurrah for what he was worth, and because he had a genuine liking for him.

Murder has even doubled back on murder, for among the four witnesses or potential witnesses against Lepke who have been slain in the past two years was Louis Cohen, who eradicated the notorious Nathan (Kid Dropper) Kaplan in 1923, served his prison sentence and was himself exterminated last Jan. 28 down on the same Lower East Side where Lepke first won his renown.

INGS FROM AMBUS
Leopard springs fro
ish!—Where he presently
none knows. But men who
turn him in drop regular
now in Brooklyn, another
Bronx, another somewhere
The Lower East Side of
hattan where Lepke was be
tains the earliest recollect
him as a lad of 12 p
oranges, bananas and
from a push cart.
An innocent enough a
crafty tradesman he was th
though today the people wh
of his childhood pale a tri
hesitate when they speak o
Delancey, Henry and Madis
NAMES ARE FEARED.

For in the years that have
inspired mere mention of the
"Lepke and Gurrah" dem
the great garment industry, from
big-time manufacturer to lowly
union stitcher.

Mention of those names meant:
"Pay up or else—"

Neither the FBI, District Attor-
ney Dewey nor the police profess
to know much about Lepke's ante-
cedents. One story has it that his
father settled in Colorado, came to
New York City before Lepke was
born. That's only a story.

But police know Lepke was born
in a tenement at 88 Essex st. The
building is razed now and in its
place is being built a market
center.

His earliest criminal record,
Sep. 2, 1915, states he was living

at 63 Henry st. when he was ar-
rested as a juvenile delinquent.
The details of that earliest fall
from grace are so unimportant
they do not even appear in police
records. He got off, as he has
done so many times since, for he
has been arrested 18 times but
served time only thrice.

The Workers Education Center
of Henry Street Settlement now
occupies the 5-story red brick
tenement at the address whence
the Leopard started his life of
crime. The Settlement endeavors
to steer another generation of
East Side youngsters from his
footsteps.

"All we know about Lepke is
what we read in the papers,"
they say there now at No. 263.

SERVED 2 TERMS.

For a while after his first of-
fense, the young Leopard lived in
Brooklyn. But 1921 found him
back on the Lower East Side again
at 82 Madison st. He had been
to Sing Sing twice in the inter-
vening time.

The Madison st. address is a
stone's throw from the old red
Tammany clubhouse of the first
A. D., near where many a skull
was cracked in bygone battles of
the ballot.

But what sort of individual
this Lepke the Leopard was who
climbed the throne of racketeering
by law of fangs and claws

60-1501-A
- Sect. 4

\$35,000

Reward Offered for Clues to Lepke

If you possess any information concerning the whereabouts of Louis Buchalter (Lepke, the Leopard of the Rackets), telephone any of the following numbers:

New York City Police Headquarters, SPring 7-3100.
Federal Bureau of Investigation, REctor 2-3520.
District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, CANal 6-5700.
City Editor, New York Journal and American, DRy Dock 4-8000.

Your information will be treated confidentially, and after Monday, rewards totaling \$35,000 will be paid for Buchalter's capture—dead or alive. The City Editor of this newspaper will see that any information concerning this man is relayed to the proper authorities.

of intimates. It wasn't a nice one. Lepke was like that.

DEVOTION TO STEP-SON.

Lepke's devotion to his step-son (the youth has attended select military schools, travels and lacks not for money) is reminiscent of the love another famous New York racketeer bore for a son of his own—Waxey Gordon, the beer baron, now winding up an 11-year income tax sentence to the Federal Penitentiary or, possibly, already paroled.

One of the great human interest stories of the Prohibition Era was enacted in an uptown funeral parlor the afternoon that the beer baron, vortex of so many murderous booze wars, came from prison to weep at the coffin of his son, Teddy, 19, killed in an automobile accident.

KEPT LOOT OUT OF BANKS.

The brand of industrial extortion which bears the Lepke-Gurrah trademark is credited with yielding each \$2,000,000 yearly.

But no evidence has been uncovered by Dewey that the pair trusted their loot to banks.

"How did Lepke keep his money?" the FBI official who has made a particular study of the case was asked.

"That is something we would rather not answer," he said, with a marked reticence in marked contrast to his generosity with personal details about Public Enemy No. 1.

Thus it is anyone's guess as to whether J. Edgar Hoover's G-Men have unearthed bank or brokerage accounts that belong to the Leopard.

LEPKE OWN BANKER.

Dewey's investigators lean to the theory he served as his own banker after the manner of Dutch Schultz. He once displayed

of his hideaway apartment, and explained:

"This is where I keep my key."

... either Hoover's or Dewey's agents have dug up anyone who has seen Lepke with some such strongbox, they are keeping it as secret as the Leopard keeps his current hiding place.

CLUES TO HIDEAWAY.

Should a man set out to win the "dead or alive" award on Lepke's head where should he look?

There are a few authoritative hints which may be offered here:

The Leopard restricts himself to kosher food. He might be that melancholy fellow with the long nose and somber eyes at a table in your favorite kosher restaurant.

The Leopard is a lover of the legitimate theatre, not musical comedies but the high brow shows. Perhaps in the darkened seat next you—

PRACTICES GOLF SHOTS.

The Leopard and his intimates went in for golf, but usually only to the extent of driving practice, letting the caddies retrieve their shots and obtain the real exercise. Perhaps that gentleman over on the practice tee—

The Leopard loves the race track and betting on the ponies, but the chances are 1000-to-1 against your seeing him at Saratoga this week or at any other tracks this side of the Mississippi. Too dangerous.

A PINOCHE FIEHD.

Pinochle is Lepke's vice. For years he has played it hour after hour with his cronies. Like Dutch Schultz again.

The Dutchman sat up whole days and nights at pinochle with a pair of his fellow lamsters when for nearly two years, the town was being turned upside down for him—and Dutch was secreted in an apartment at Riverside dr. and 89th st.

When, and if, the Leopard is snared, will it develop that he, too, chose New York, with its seven-odd million people, as the safest jungle in which to hide out?

Do old pinochle players play another game the same?

(Follow this fascinating story in tomorrow's New York Journal and American—the story of "LEPKE, THE LEOPARD OF THE RACKETS.")

FBI TALKS LEOPARD.

"He gives his orders quietly, they forgets about them. But God help the gent who doesn't carry out those orders!" says a ranking FBI official who has closely studied Lepke, the man, for the sole purpose of ambushing the ambusher.

In two sentences, you have a penetrating insight into the methods of No. 46043 in the Rogues Gallery of the New York City Police and No. 21156 in the Gallery of the FBI.

That's the hard side.

Then one learns the apple of the Leopard's eye is his adopted son, Harold, now 18, the age when his foster father got off on the wrong foot in the Fall of 1915.

MARRIED A WIDOW.

That's the soft side.

The Leopard has no children of his own. His wife, Betty, was a widow, shifting for herself and her boy, Harold, when Lepke married her. Mrs. Buchalter is a stoutish matron who has a novelty shop on Madison ave.

Recently, according to G-Men, she called upon a surgeon to improve her contour. The Leopard, they said, had had an affectionate nickname for Betty Buchalter which he used to call her to

60-1501-A sect 4

LEPKE SEARCH STARTS DRIVE ON CRIMINALS

Underworld Warned to Turn Racketeer Over to FBI

By EARL SPARLING

A national roundup of every person suspected of harboring criminals will be started next week in the Federal hunt to find Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, it was learned today at United States Attorney John T. Cahill's office.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has turned over eighty-six volumes of information on such persons, each volume containing some 2,000 pages.

A special Grand Jury has been meeting in the Federal Building for the last two weeks and will reconvene Monday to begin taking evidence against such persons.

Warning to Underworld

The move was interpreted as a drastic warning that unless Lepke, most wanted gangster in the country, is turned in, many others will find themselves in trouble.

Simultaneously with the news from the Federal Building District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey served warning on bonding companies that it would no longer be healthy to furnish bail for members of the Lepke mob. He called the Lepke mobsters a "bad risk."

No bond will be accepted without full cash collateral, he announced.

The FBI has been working on the vast compilation of suspected persons since July, 1937. The list contains not only known criminals but doctors, lawyers, business men, etc.

The roundup, starting here, will spread to the rest of the nation. Cahill will be aided here by two special assistants sworn in for the task—William M. Young, brought from the Federal Narcotics Bureau, and Jerome Doyle, former G-man. Doyle worked on the John Dillan-

ger and Baby Face Nelson cases and has intimate knowledge of the crime system in the Mid West and on the West Coast.

United States Attorney General Frank Murphy conferred with Cahill in launching the Government's newest and most implemented drive against crime.

Myron Guerney, FBI inspector who is co-ordinating the national search for Lepke, is in New York and has had almost daily conversations with Cahill.

3 Lepke Indictments

Lepke, missing for the last two years, is under three indictments and is wanted by District Attorney Dewey just as badly as by the Federal Government.

The G-men have proof, it was indicated, that the harboring of criminals is an organized and nationwide business.

Their exhaustive compilation of information was personally turned over to Cahill last night by Hoover.

The Government will seek indictments not only on straight harboring, but on such sidelines as channels for sending money to criminals in hiding. That was stated today to be a Federal crime.

The investigators will also invoke a Federal law, passed after the Lindbergh kidnaping, which makes it a Federal crime for a criminal to cross a State line.

Dewey Confirms With Firms

Dewey made his announcement at a meeting with representatives of four big casualty companies, the Peerless, United States Fidelity and Guarantee, Continental Casualty and National Surety.

Robert Nugent, head of the bail bond department of the Peerless Company, said after the meeting: "I can tell you that for myself I would not feel like writing bonds for any one connected with the Lepke case, unless they furnished full collateral."

His company has bonds on two, (David Horn (\$35,000) and Paul Berger (\$15,000). Asked if these bonds would be canceled, he said, "No, both are under police guard and are carrying on businesses in New York."

It was Nugent's company that held the bag for \$20,000 when Leon Scharf and his wife, important witnesses, disappeared. Both are believed to have been murdered.

In all seven material witnesses are out on bail.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

60-1501-A

New York Post

60-1501-A
Sect. 4

expects will be swift follow up action.

Three assistant U. S. attorneys, Mathis Correa, Jerome Doyle and William Young, will present evidence to the grand jury and question witnesses.

The special grand jury will inquire particularly into the manner in which Lepke has avoided capture since he jumped his \$10,000 bail bond two years ago. A report that an underworld organization exists for the protection of criminals fleeing from one jurisdiction to another will be carefully investigated.

Fugitive Ailing

Lepke is known to be ill of a kidney ailment—how ill is and has been for some time a subject of speculation—and the Federal authorities are said to have learned that he received shelter and medical treatment in at least six States.

Physicians and attorneys he may have consulted in his flight will be subpoenaed, it was said. The Government has made it clear that it intends to seek punishment of all persons who have harbored Lepke under sections of the Lindbergh Law which were invoked in the John Dillinger and Bremer kidnap cases.

The determination of the city authorities to aid to the fullest extent possible in the search for Lepke was evidenced by the prompt action of the Board of Estimate, which met for the first time at the Summer City Hall at the Worlds Fair with Mayor LaGuardia presiding.

The Mayor in casting his vote for the increased reward expressed himself as anxious to see Lepke caught quickly.

The 8-State alarm sent out for

Zennereich, the bag-man, carried his description.

This told that he has heavy dark features, with thick lips, and that he generally scowls when he talks. He is 41, is 5 ft., 11 inches tall, weighs 200 pounds, and walks with a swagger. He married the widow of Hyman Holtz described by Dewey's office as a former partner in the Lepke-Gurrah combination.

Dewey's office revealed yesterday that Zennereich is one of five men who were indicted with the 16 others previously named with Lepke, but whose names were not made public until yesterday.

detectives know where the honeymooning couple went after their secretive marriage a short time before noon Sunday in the office of Attorney Ralph A. Geffen in Nyack.

As to why the ceremony was arranged by Geffen and performed in his office... "that was a friendly gesture to someone in Dewey's office... don't ask for names."

Your Uncle Nick Kenny, airwave director par excellence, writes for his radio fans in the Daily Mirror.

Forced Furriers to Yield

Recalcitrant Gives In After Losing an Eye

By GEORGE CARROLL.

Lye in the eye got results for Lepke and Gurrah, pals of Sing Sing days, when they sank their hooks into the \$85,000,000 fancy fur dressing industry.

In at least one instance, they achieved a slight paraphrase of the old law: "An Eye for an Eye" and switched it to read:

"An Eye for \$200,000."

Their acid-throwers did it for them.

Not until his right eyeball was burned out with acid, emptied over him as he stepped into his automobile, did old Julius Bernfeld accept "protection" from Louis (Lepke the Leopard) Buchalter, the nation's No. 1 Fugitive, and Jacob (Gurrah Jake) Shapiro, now in the government's Atlanta Penitentiary.

The "protection"—he fought it off courageously until he lost half his sight—cost Bernfeld's firm around \$200,000 annually.

Records of United States Court recount the losing struggle which the fur house of Brickner & Bernfeld, 337 Seventh ave., waged against the Leopard and Gurrah Jake.

But Brickner & Bernfeld didn't give graciously, didn't join the gangsters' organization until the acid baths started coming a trifle too regularly, with a slugging thrown in for good measure.

"You can't scare us," old Julius insisted at each visit from Sam Mittelman, president of the racket-fronting Protective Fur Dressers Corp. and catspaw for the Leopard and Gurrah.

Words failing to impress old Julius, it was decided by the rulers of the F. D. C. to prod him up.

Protects Daughter From Acid Bath

As Bernfeld, driving with his daughter on Fifth ave., halted for a red light, a gangster stepped from the curb and hurled a bottle of acid into the machine. The old furrier flung his arm about his daughter. Their bodies and clothing were splashed with the stuff, yet not seriously.

Brickner & Bernfeld were scared but they didn't surrender.

A few weeks later as Bernfeld was walking in West End ave. an attacker crowned him with a length of lead pipe. The old furrier wound up in Roosevelt Hospital, where they sewed his wound with nine stitches.

The clincher came about a month after the last half of the firm left the hospital with his patched scalp.

Full into his face, an acid-thrower flung a couple of quarts of fiery, corrosive stuff. Choking, howling with agony, old man Bernfeld thought his end had come. It very nearly had.

Bernfeld Loses Eye, Scarred for Life

Back to the hospital they took him. He didn't die. But the sight of his right eye was gone and his face was scarred permanently.

Brickner & Bernfeld signed up with the F. D. P. C., Lepke & Gurrah's Crime, Inc.

Joseph Storff, credit manager for Brickner & Bernfeld, enlightened Judge Knox and the jurors further:

"After Mr. Bernfeld was blinded we sent the Fur Dress-



LOUIS LEPKE
A Partner in "Crime, Inc."

ers Protective Corporation over 1,000,000 skins a month.

"We could have had this work done just as well or better elsewhere at 5 cents a skin. Now we had to pay 7 cents and up. For just one month alone, this cost us \$20,000 extra."

Acid Treatment For Union Officials

Recalcitrant union officials likewise suffered the acid treatment. In a memorandum from the bench, Judge Knox highlighted the case of one such official, Harry Goodman, whose hospital bills totaled \$8,500.

In refusing to reduce to probation 10-month jail terms against three unionist co-defendants of Lepke and Gurrah—Pietro Lucchi, Morris Reiss and Isaac Hertzberg—the court observed:

"To be sure, there is no evidence that Lucchi, Reiss or Hertzberg personally assaulted anyone.

"But let it be remembered, that, subsequent to the date when sulphuric acid was sprayed on Goodman and he had been hospitalized for weeks at an expense of \$8,500, when his spirit was broken and he was unable longer to endure the constant thought of further physical harm, these defendants sat in a union court at the Plymouth Hotel and before that court stood Goodman.

"Bandaged, disfigured, trembling and afraid, he made compliance with the decree then and there pronounced against him.

"These defendants should now yield themselves to the execution of the law they defied. Let each defendant surrender himself to the custody of the marshal for execution of their respective sentences."

Newark Furrier

Paid \$15,000 a Year

When the fear of the Leopard and Gurrah Jake really was instilled in a man, it was no hang-over. It wouldn't fade. Take the case of Philip Singer, president of a big Newark fur house, who testified he paid an initiation fee of \$1,500 and \$15,000 a year to the F. D. P. C.

"What for?" demanded John Harlan Amen, Special Prosecutor.

"For stabilization in the industry," rejoined Singer.

Amen tried to get the witness to be a little more definite about "stabilization" but Singer hemmed and hawed, ducked and evaded until Judge Knox cried out in exasperation:

"Quit your dodging and fooling around and answer these questions!"

Yet the authority of United States Court proved less compelling than fear of modified murder and mayhem.

Official of Firm Stabbed in Back, Then He Pays

cutor got much more out of the witness, Singer.

Irving Potash, assistant manager of the Left Wing Needle Trades Workers Union, provided an illuminating sketch of Lepke-Gurrah methods. This is the union, it will be remembered, whose top official, Morris Langer, was assassinated by a bomb.

'Mr. Gurrah IS The Association'

Subsequently, Potash recounted, he was summoned to a Seventh ave. hotel in September, 1932, to treat with Sam Mittelman, president of the F. D. P. C. Here is his recital of the meeting:

"I was surprised to see another man with Sam Mittelman. It was Mr. Gurrah. I said to Mittelman: 'I came to see you and I won't have any dealings with anybody else.'

"Then Mr. Gurrah spoke up. He said to me: 'Potash you will have to deal with me whether you like it or not!'

"Mittelman said: 'Yes, Mr. Gurrah IS the association.'

"After we talked a while, Mittelman, trying to be clever, referred to the murder of Mr. Langer. He said to me: 'Wasn't it unfortunate, that killing of Langer?' Of course I said it was unfortunate and then Mittelman, he says to me:

"Don't you think we ought to avoid any repetition of this sort of difficulty?"

"I was very clear in the manner that he insinuated just what he meant!"

Oscar Yeager, of Yeager, Siegel & Co., fur dressers, was asked what happened when he declined to play ball with Crime, Inc.

'Stabbed in Back,' Recalcitrant Says

"I was stabbed in the back; my hand was almost cut off. I spent 20 days in the hospital," Yeager testified.

Before the Federal Grand Jury Max Kudler, former clerk at the Allied Muskrat Dressers' Association, identified a photograph of the Leopard as that of the gentleman who had a hot session one day with an official of the association.

Lepke was told to stand so Kudler could make the identification for the benefit of the jury.

"Now that I've seen the man I see that I made a mistake. It isn't the same fellow," mumbled Kudler.

In the jury's absence Judge Knox rejected a motion to dismiss the charges against the Leopard and gave his opinion of Kudler's right-about-face.

"The witness is evidently lying; I'll let the case go to the jury," the court said.

The defense proffered no evidence whatsoever. The jury found both Lepke and Gurrah guilty. The U. S. Circuit Court, then presided over by Judge Martin T. Manton, reversed Lepke's conviction. Gurrah is serving out his sentence. Lepke was released on bail, skipped, is a fugitive now.

(Tomorrow's instalment of "Lepke, Leopard of the Rackets," takes up the drug smuggling charges which led to his indictment by the Federal Government, another account the Leopard must settle when and

DIVISION.

Sept. 6

**Jury Launches
U. S. Crime Drive**
Special Panel Sworn in N.Y.
Sifts Case of Lepke,
Fugitive Racketeer

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (U.P.).
The Federal Government formally
opened its greatest crime war to-
day with the swearing in of a
special grand jury which will act
on 500,000 pages of evidence gath-
ered by G-men during the past two
years.

First case considered in the
star chamber session was that of
the fugitive Louis "Lepke" Buchal-
ter, \$1,000,000 industrial racketeer
and suspected narcotics "king."
The swarthy gang chief is accused
of trying to kill all possible wit-
nesses against him—five already
are dead—and his case was con-
sidered most urgent.

In tracking down Lepke, the
Government has made it clear
that it will ask the indict-
ment of all who have harbored or
otherwise aided him in his flight,
even physicians who might treat
him for the kidney and rheumatic
ailments from which he suffers.

The city's board of estimate to-
day raised the price on Lepke's
head from \$5,000 to \$25,000. A
\$5,000 reward also has been of-
fered by the Federal Government.
The board also offered a \$5,000
reward for the arrest of the slay-
ers of Isadore Penn, who appar-
ently was mistaken by the killers
for an associate of Lepke.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

[Handwritten signature]

33-1574

5 Gangsters Help Hunt for Lepke

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Gandy.....

62-15717

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL -
AMERICAN.

DATE. **AUG 8 1939**

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

Sect. 4

Dewey Gets Inside Story Of Lepke

Fugitive's Chance of Dodging Trap Appears Slim

Five men who are accusing Louis (Lepke) Buchalter of crimes from murder down today brought nearer the capture or surrender of the country's No. 1 fugitive.

All five underworld figures who knew The Leopard well, are telling virtually everything they know to District Attorney Dewey, the New York Journal and American Times.

With a \$50,000 price on his head, his avenues of revenue being blocked, his one-time associates talking to save themselves and the G-Men seeking his trail, Lepke's chances of dodging the net appeared slim.

SEE SURRENDER LIKELY.

In fact, the drive against crime has taken on such proportions that authorities would not be surprised if Lepke gave himself up within a few days. Reports continue to circulate that he will do just this rather than face a capture that might not be too gentle.

The five who have turned against him are:

- Morris Goldis.
- William (Wolfie) Goldis.
- Max Silverman.
- Abe Cohen.
- "Big Harry" Schoenhaus.

DEWEY'S CHIEF WEAPONS.

They are the principal weapons being used by District Attorney Dewey in the race by city, county and government authorities to bring in The Leopard.

Dewey does not have a clear field, however. The Special Federal Grand Jury, empowered to make a nationwide survey of crime, meets today to begin hearing witnesses and some 500,000 pages of evidence compiled by the G-men. Special details of police have

been assigned to the "get-Lepke" drive and today they were broadcasting 1,000,000 posters announcing the city's increase from \$5,000 to \$25,000 as a reward for the racketeer's capture. The government already has offered \$5,000.

ZENNREICH SOUGHT.

To further bolster his case, Dewey also is seeking Isidore Zennreich, called the "bag man" for Lepke and who is under indictment with the five who are now talking.

Zennreich, authorities believe, might be induced to talk as well if an eight-State alarm results in his capture.

Of the five, William Goldis, Silverman and Cohen are at "Dewey's Academy," the Bronx Detention Prison, 161st st. and Third ave., where witnesses lead a comparatively comfortable existence, if they are in talkative moods.

GOLDIS RECUPERATING.

Morris Goldis is recuperating from an emergency operation at Bellevue Hospital. Schoenhaus, one of the State witnesses against James J. Hines, is at liberty, but under police guard.

One man, Samuel Schorr, has refused to turn informant against Lepke. Schorr is in the W. 53d

st. jail where conditions are considerably less pleasant than in the 161st st. prison.

The Goldis brothers offered last year to plead guilty to manslaughter in the killing, Sept. 13, 1934, of William Snyder, president of Local 138 of the Flour and Bakery Drivers' Union. The killing took place at a conference in an Ave. A restaurant.

LEPKE ORDERED SLAYING.

For that crime, Max Silverman and Sam Schorr were indicted with the Goldis brothers. At the time of the Snyder murder, Lepke and his partner, Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro, were members of the conference. Morris Goldis has told Dewey's investigators that the murder was ordered by Lepke because Snyder would not "deliver" his local to the racket syndicate.

From Abraham (Abe) Cohen, a lawyer convicted by Dewey in 1937 as one of the ringleaders of the \$2,000,000 restaurant racket headed by the late Dutch Schultz, the District Attorney has been getting a wealth of information of Lepke's State and nation-wide connections with racketeering.

Cohen, who was sentenced 60 to 20 years in prison, has the reputation of knowing more about the inter-relation of rackets and Lepke's leadership in them than any other man in the country.

- BFC**
- Mr. Coffey
 - Mr. Egan
 - Mr. Glavin
 - Mr. Crowl
 - Mr. Hagg
 - Mr. Law
 - Mr. Nichols
 - Mr. Rosen
 - Mr. Sears
 - Mr. Quinn Tamm
 - Mr. Tracy
 - Miss Gandy



LOUIS (LEPKE) BUCHALTER

\$30,000 'Price' Put on Head of Fugitive Lepke

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—(AP)—Somewhere in hiding Tuesday is a middle-aged man with a \$30,000 price on his head.

He is Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, 42, a stocky, swarthy, big-nosed gangster—newest wearer of the ever-shifting title, "Public Enemy No. 1."

J. Edgar Hoover, G-man chief whose men have hunted Lepke for two years, will pay \$5,000 for him.

District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey—thanks to action Monday by the City Board of Estimate—has raised new York's ante to \$25,000.

Both Hoover and Dewey have promised to keep secret the name of the person who "puts the finger" on Lepke, and the reward will be paid whether the fugitive racketeer, held responsible by Dewey for the slaying of five former associates since he jumped \$10,000 bail, is captured dead or alive.

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL

August 8, 1939

In the hope of obtaining a lead to Lepke's whereabouts, Dewey ordered an eight-state alarm for Isidore Zennreich, 41, a partner of Lepke and Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro in the days when they dominated the baking and garment industry rackets here.

The search for Lepke was just one angle of an assault against a national "confederacy of crime" undertaken by a federal grand jury impaneled Monday by United States Attorney John T. Cahill. To begin immediate consideration of an 86-volume "Encyclopedia of Crime" prepared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Hoover, FBI chief, is taking personal command of the investigative end of the "anti-crime" drive.

60-1501A
Sec. 4 IV

NATIONWIDE DRIVE ON CRIME IS PUT UNDER WAY HERE

New Federal Grand Jury Starts Work and \$25,000 Is on Lepke's Head.

The countrywide drive against crime and criminals began in earnest today, the last of the preliminaries having been disposed of with the impaneling of a Federal crime Grand Jury and the posting by the city of a \$25,000 bounty on Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, the nation's No. 1 fugitive, who brought the campaign to a head.

The twenty-three men selected to serve on the Federal investigating body before Judge Edward A. Conger, organized yesterday and stood ready to tackle the vast record of crime prepared for them when they convene at 2 P. M. today.

Unhampered by city, county or State lines, this Grand Jury will be able to hear witnesses from all over the nation during its ninety-day session. While its activities are being carried on under great secrecy it was understood that subpoenas have been issued requiring the appearance before it within the next few days of witnesses from as far off as Cleveland, Miami and Los Angeles.

Hoover Here to Help

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is here to take personal charge of the work the FBI is doing to assist United States Attorney John T. Cahill and the Grand Jury.

District Attorney Dewey, who has intensified his search for the missing Lepke, made this statement after the Board of Estimate complied unanimously to his request that the reward for the racketeer be increased:

"Twenty-five thousand dollars will now be paid by the City of New York for information leading to the capture of Lepke.

"My office and that of Capt. Conrad Rothengast are open twenty-four hours a day. The person who gives the information leading to Lepke's arrest will be fully protected, his identity will never be revealed, and information will be received with absolute confidence."

The board at the same time approved a reward of \$5,000 for the capture of the slayers of Irving Penn, music firm executive presumably mistaken for a former Lepke associate.

Mr. Dewey disclosed yesterday that at his request the police had sent out an eight-State alarm for Ludore Zennreich, one-time Lepke partner indicted with him in 1937 of charges in connection with the bakery racket.

CLIPPING FROM
JULY 11 1935

FILED
AUG 1 1935

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: LOUIS "LEPKE" BUCHALTER

60-1501 SUB A SECTION 13

Mal Harney, Treasure

By Harry Gabbett
Staff Reporter

The Treasury Department will retire one of its storied T-men this month, with the "T" in this case standing for tops.

He is Malachi L. Harney, 58, of 4325 Verplanck st. n.w., and only two decades ago the news of his retirement might well have inspired a lot of unholy rejoicing in some vicious circles.

Among some of the calmest murderers of a not-so-bygone era, mere mention of Mal Harney's name provoked cases of incurable jitters. Among policemen the world over, he has been revered as "a cop's cop."

Conversely, however, and somewhat ironically, the well-behaved workaday world — so much the more liveable for his efforts — almost knows him not. He flourished in an age which rewarded anonymity with longevity.

Behind him are 36 years of fantastic Federal policeman-ship, the last 20 or so in administrative posts which led to the one he now leaves with as little fanfare as he gained them — technical assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement.

Into retirement he takes the hard-to-get-at accounts of key parts he has played in the denouements of a dozen underworld dynasties, including the incredibly infamous, Brooklyn-based, manslaughtering syndicate — Murder, Inc.

Far too many people still recall with an involuntary shudder the name of the late Louis (Lepke) Buchalter. Yet, far too many others are too young to know profitably of the ruin he brought, or the heroics his ruthless underworld reign inspired in those charged with the maintenance of human order in the city.

Retired in New York on March 4, after eight years in the Brooklyn candy



Staff Photo
MALACHI L. HARNEY
... plans retirement

Directly or indirectly, however, authorities had implicated him in at least 30 other slayings — cold-blooded killings carried out at cut rates for those who had simply wished the victims out of the way.

He was wanted for murder, extortion and a whole series of violations lumped under the general heading of racketeering. In the course of the two years he was in "hiding," police officials sworn to bring him in were bought off and paid for their silence on his whereabouts — the while Lepke henchmen ranged abroad on the grim business of eradicating every last man who could possibly testify against him.

In his own boasting words, he "never left Manhattan."

In the modest recollection of Mal Harney, "Lepke made only one mistake." He aroused the official interest of the Treasury Department in his activities.

Harney was in narcotics at the time, he recalled, tackling anything or anybody that came his jurisdictional way in that insidious traffic.

"Actually," he remembered, "Lepke's decision to cut himself in on the international narcotics traffic was a casual

one, made almost in jest. It was an insignificant, passing interest but it sufficed to arouse ours in him — and one thing sort of led to another and all of them led us to Lepke."

The next thing the bewildered gang overlord knew, he was serving a 14-year term for violation of the Federal Narcotics laws and a dozen legal mouthpieces were shouting into rain-barrels all the way up to the United States Supreme Court in vain efforts to effect his release.

Eventually, New York had so ordered its own house that it was able to petition President Roosevelt for another chance at the fish it had been unable to land. Lepke was a sitting duck. The hot seat at Sing Sing cooled off only rarely as a steady procession of Murder, Inc., principals slumped, staggered, or were carried into its high voltage arms.

Lepke himself went quietly — the last of three to pay with

their lives for the candy store-keeper's murder.

Even had the switch been defective, or a political lightning bolt laid low his executioners at the last moment, Lepke sat a doomed man in that chair — still liable for the rest of the 14 years prison time he owed Mal Harney and his T-men.

It is possible that Lepke died unable to put his finger on the man who fingered him — on the man from whose lips today drop easily such half-forgotten names as Harry (Happy) Malone, Harry (Pittsburgh Phil) Strauss, Frank (The Dasher) Abbadando, Martin (Bugsy) Goldstein, Max (The Jerk) Golob, Louis (No Relation) Capone, Emanuel (Mendy) Weiss, and Abe (Kid Twist) Reles.

Harney himself makes sparse use of the so-called vertical pronoun "I." His accounts of his exploits as a top-echelon T-man call consistently for the use of "we" and "our" — a tribute to the singleness of purpose with which he worked.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Boardman _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Parsons _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Sizoo _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Gandy _____

of Duluth, Harney took a degree in education from the University of Minnesota. A turn at teaching everything from physics to physical education in high schools of the vicinity, was interrupted by a tour of World War I duty with the Marine Corps.

He entered the Treasury enforcement field, he said, "because I felt like so many others who came out of World War I that the peacetime world held little enough action for a man who craved it — and I wanted to be where that little action was."

His rise through the ranks was rapid and he has been serving in administrative capacities since 1936. His last turn as a "cop on the beat" was a typical one. He went out to St. Paul a few years ago to "help out" with a case involving the slaying of a T-man.

He leaves the service with two enforcement gods still shining brightly in his lexicon of flesh-and-blood policemen.

They are Narcotics Commissioner Harry Anslinger and the late Elmer T. Irey, chief of the Treasury Department's Intelligence Division. He considers them "two of the completest policemen of our generation."

His own plans for the future are facetiously "indefinite."

"Whenever things are left up to your wife," he explains, "it's always safe to call them 'indefinite.'"

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE
SUNDAY, 1/1/56

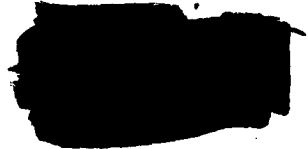
160-1501-A
NOT RECORDED
140 DEC 12 1957

F472
2 DEC 13 1957

60-1501-7 file
Louis Buchalter

1 sub A sect. 13

File



b7c

LEPKE TO BE RESENTENCED

He and Two Others to Be Condemned Again on July 20

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
ROSSINING, July 3—Orders have been issued, it was learned today, directing that Emanuel Weiss, 36 years old, and Louis Capone, 46, Sing Sing deathhouse prisoners, and Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, 45, a Federal prisoner in Manhattan, be produced before the State Court of Appeals in Albany on Tuesday morning, July 20, to be resentedenced to death.

The three, convicted of the murder of Joseph Rosen, a shopkeeper, in Brooklyn, have lost appeals to the United States Supreme Court. Warden Robert J. Kirby of Sing Sing is directed to produce Weiss and Capone and Warden Edward Thompson of the Federal House of Detention in Manhattan, to bring Buchalter to court.

It is twenty-eight years since a condemned prisoner had to be taken out of the deathhouse for resentence. Charles Stielow, in 1915, had that experience, but his sentence eventually was commuted to life imprisonment, and later he was pardoned.

Buchalter, a prisoner in Federal custody because of a narcotics law violation, has not yet been placed in the deathhouse.

INDEXED
D-75

60-1501-A
1 - NOT RECORDED

This is a clipping from page 13 of the New York Times for

July 4, 1943
Clipped at the Seat of Government.

173
14 JUL 14 1943

subA Sect. 13

'Gurrah' Shapiro Dies at 50 In Sing Sing; Was a 'Lifer'

Continued from Page 3

arrested as a suspect in the killing of August (Little Augie) Pisano and Jack (Legs) Diamond, but was released each time for lack of evidence.

He had long been a sufferer from a heart ailment. At the time of his last sentence, he was so overwrought that he swallowed seven "booster" pills before declaring he was just being persecuted, "because I'm a big shot." He is survived by his wife, Anne, of 1415 E. 45th St., Brooklyn.

A native of Minsk, Russia, Shapiro's age was always uncertain, various records indicating he was born in 1895, 1896 and 1899. His own opinion was that he was born in 1897. He came to the United States in 1907.

His nickname, "Gurrah!" was a contraction of a favorite phrase he picked up as he started to win his living by violence and threats of violence. It was his way of saying, "Get out of here!"

His police record dated from 1915.

Fat and lazy, but violent, Shapiro had a variety of "fronts," but all were operated in the same way—extorting money from other businesses in the same line by threatening to kill their proprietors, beat them up, throw acid on their stock, bomb their premises or stir up fake "labor trouble."

After starting in on pushcart peddlers in his youth, he met Lepke. Together they used such methods successfully in slot machines, restaurants, furs, clothing and narcotics.

Shapiro skipped bail of \$10,000 in 1938 following his conviction on a Federal charge of trust law violation, and consorted with such glamorized gangs as those of "Pretty Boy" Floyd and Alvin Karpis in the Midwest, until he decided, "I'm tired of having the G-men so close to me," and surrendered.

During his entire career, Shapiro was arrested 17 times, but only imprisoned three times.

- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

July

'Gurrah' Shapiro Dies While Doing Life Term

A life term turned out to be three years and one month, as Jacob "Gurrah" Shapiro, once rated New York's Public Enemy No. 1, died in Sing Sing Prison hospital at 4 a. m. yesterday, a victim of heart disease, at the age of 50.

Though his name was always linked with that of his racketeer sidekick, Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, Shapiro was a lonesome leftover of the "racket" days in New York when he entered Sing Sing May 9, 1944, to serve a sentence of 15 years to life. "Lepke" had been executed two months earlier for a killing in Brooklyn. Shapiro pleaded guilty to one count of an indictment accusing him of extorting \$500,000 from

employers and unions in the garment trucking industry. Earlier, with Buchalter, he had served a Federal term for a \$1,000,000-a-year racket in the fur industry. Though he was referred to by the Department of Justice at one time as "the most vicious killer in New York," Shapiro had never been convicted on a murder charge. He had, however, been

Continued on Page 3

VICTIM OF HEART DISEASE



Jacob (Gurrah) Shapiro Ends life term in three years.

b7c
1-1

G. I. R. 5

EX-15

RECORDED

160-1501-A
NOT RECORDED
42 JUN 25 1947

57

JUN 28 1947

JUN 10 1947

New York Daily Mirror
Page 3

Sub A sect. 13

File [redacted]

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Mohr.....
- Mr. Pennington.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....

SUIT FOR \$3,000,000 CHARGES FUR PLOT

**'Outside' Lining Contractors
Accuse Union Council and
Manufacturers' Group**

tors and to designate the manu-
facturers who may continue in
business. He declared that the
union "has embarked upon a com-
prehensive plan for the socializa-
tion of the fur industry, a plan
that is being carried out by force,
violence, strikes, boycotts and nu-
merous other methods."

After the cutting of a fur gar-
ment by the manufacturer, the
lining and finishing is done by
persons known in the trade as
"closers." The finishing may be
done either by an "inside" con-
tractor, who is brought into the
manufacturer's plant, or by "out-
side" contractors like the plain-
tiffs. The complaint says that 75
per cent of the finishing is done
by "outside" contractors.

The conspiracy to put the "out-
side" contractors out of business,
according to the complaint, began
on Jan. 1, 1942.

The plaintiffs contend that they
have been willing to employ union
workers under conditions negoti-
ated with the Furriers Council
but the council has threatened its
affiliated locals with fines and
expulsion if their members work
for the "outside" contractors.

Besides the \$3,000,000 damages,
the suit asks for a temporary in-
junction enjoining the defendants
from interfering with the plain-
tiffs in the marketing of their
services, and for an order striking
out of union contracts provisions
prohibiting manufacturers from
employing "outside" contractors.

A conspiracy by fur manufac-
turers and unionized fur workers
to put out of business "outside"
fur lining contractors was charged
in a suit seeking \$3,000,000 dam-
ages that was filed in Federal
Court yesterday by the American
Fur Liners Contractors Associa-
tion, Inc., an organization of fif-
teen fur-lining contractors.

Names as defendants in the suit
were the Furriers Joint Council of
New York, a delegated body repre-
senting seven Congress of Indust-
rial Organizations locals, and the
Associated Fur Coat and Trim-
ming Manufacturers Association,
comprised of 700 individuals and
concerns that make 75 per cent of
the fur coats and fur garments in
the United States.

The action charges that the con-
spiracy is in violation of the Sher-
man Anti-Trust Act, is aimed at
destroying the property rights of
the plaintiff companies and has
adversely affected the public inter-
est by increasing the prices of fur
garments and reducing production.

The conspiracy has been carried
out, it is charged, by threats to the
plaintiffs of "physical violence and
destruction of their business un-
less they discontinue offering their
services to manufacturers of fur
garments." The defendants, it is
alleged, have directed manufactur-
ers under penalty of heavy fines to
refrain from using the services of
the plaintiffs.

The suit sets forth that the
Furriers Council, which controls
98 per cent of the fur workers in
the New York area, has refused
to permit its members to work
for the plaintiff contractors.

Plan to Socialize Industry Alleged

Samuel Mezansky, one of the
attorneys for the plaintiffs, said
that the United States Supreme
Court had held in two recent cases
that the Sherman Act was applic-
able to a conspiracy between a
labor union and a business group.

"The suit poses the question,"
he said, "whether a labor union
acting with a business group may
determine who may or may not
continue in business."

Mr. Mezansky said that the
union for years had attempted to
eliminate the fur lining contrac-

Not A
Business
Case.

[redacted]
b7c

[redacted]
b7c

G.I.R. 5

INDEXED

60-1501-A

NOT RECORDED
76 JUN 20 1947

EX-22

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y. Times

DATED JUN 11 1947

FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

The Fur Industry
Anti-Trust Laws

58 JUN 25 1947

sub. A sect. B

Brooklyn Slaying Bares Fight for Murder, Inc., Rule

Smoldering rivalry over control of the remnants of Murder, Inc., flared into the open early yesterday with a hail of bullets that ended the life of Jack (The Ox) Finkel, victim of Brooklyn's first gangland killing since the lush days of Lepke Buchalter's slay-for-pay syndicate.

Shortly after the pudgy body of Finkel pitched into a gutter outside the Embassy Rest, a night club at 1650 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, police arrested Louis (Babe) Silvers, former preliminary prizefighter, whom they described as self-appointed successor to Lepke in Brooklyn's Brownsville section.

Booked at the Vanderveer Park police station on a homicide charge, Silvers was to be arraigned today in Brooklyn Felony Court along with Lila Harris, 20, of 276 Troy Ave., Brooklyn, who was with Silvers when he was arrested and was held as a material witness.

Can't Talk in Lineup.

In the lineup this morning Silvers was unable to respond coherently to a query by Acting Capt. Edward Dillon if he had made a statement to the district attorney, explaining by signs that something had happened to his voice.

"Well, let us know by some means," Capt. Dillon said. Silvers nodded assent.

Police said they learned that Finkel, 45, bookmaker and ex-convict, had quarreled with Silvers in the restaurant shortly before the shooting. Four cartridges from a 32-caliber automatic were found near the body and close to his hand was a loaded 38-caliber pistol, believed to belong to Finkel.

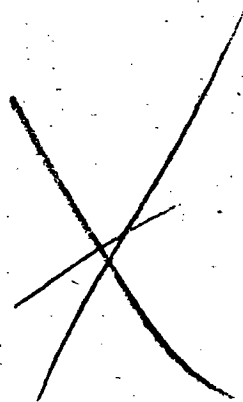
Silvers, who gave his age as 29 and his address as 50 Lefferts Ave., Brooklyn, was arrested in Beth-El Hospital, where, accompanied by Miss Harris, he had applied for treatment of lacerations over the right eye and in the scalp. Police quoted Miss Harris as saying she had met Silvers on a date.

Parked Car Found.

Capt. John C. McGowan of the Brooklyn Homicide Squad, said an automobile belonging to Silvers' wife was parked across the street from the night club and that the ignition keys were in Miss Harris' purse.

Capt. McGowan expressed the belief that Finkel, whose police record dates back to 1921, got into trouble over bookmaking activities with the gang seeking to take over Lepke's old domain. Silvers has a record of six arrests and served a term in Elmira Reformatory in 1932 for felonious assault, police said. He is a brother of Joseph Silvers, killed in a gang shooting in 1929.

*File in
60-1501*



- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Mumford.....
- Mr. Starks.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....

b7c

INDEXED 160-1501-A
NOT RECORDED
87 JUN 21 1944

EX-35

CLIPPING FROM THE
NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM
DATE JUN 12 1944
FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

55 JUN 29 1944

and a topcoat. The killer got in the back seat and Walter pointed the car for 28th Street. His nerves were now twanging like harp strings. He knew 18,000 city cops had memorized the wanted man's face. He was afraid some stool pigeon might have tipped off Dewey's men and that the story of the year would be snatched away from him.

As they rounded a corner, Walter heard what he thought was a tremendous crash of glass. Lepke had thrown away the dark glasses he had used for disguise. But to the jumpy columnist it sounded like a truck going through a store window.

At 28th Street, Winchell pulled up behind the parked FBI car. Hoover was sitting alone in the back seat. Walter led Lepke over. "Get in, Mr. Buchalter," said the G-man, who never addresses a criminal by his nickname. "Where are your high and mighty friends now?"

"I'm beginning to wonder," muttered Lepke, as the driver turned south toward Foley Square and FBI headquarters.

At 13th Street, Hoover nudged Winchell and said, "Get out of the car."

"What do you mean, get out?" snapped the columnist, not getting it. "I thought this was my . . ."

"Right," said the G-man. "If the newspaper guys around headquarters see me with you and Lepke they'll beat you to your own story."

"Thanks, John," said Walter, and got out.

The columnist found himself in a deserted business section. He ran for blocks before he found an open bar with a phone booth. Finally he got his night city editor on the wire.

"This is Winchell," he panted. "Here's your page one story. Lepke has surrendered! I just turned him over to John Edgar Hoover!"

"Take it easy, Walter," said the man at the desk. "Your yarn isn't making the front page tonight. Stalin just signed a pact with Adolf Hitler."

(Copyright, 1947, by Billy Rose)

- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Starke _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

file
6-14
BTC
duh

Pitching Horseshoes

By Billy Rose

In the summer of '39, the law was staging its biggest man hunt since the Lindbergh case. It was looking for Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, Enemy No. 1, who had been hiding out for two years. The State of New York had pinned a \$25,000 price tag on him. On-his-way-up prosecutor Tom Dewey wanted Lepke for extortion and 80 murders. John Edgar Hoover wanted him just as badly, though only for narcotic and income-tax shenanigans.



Assorted bloodhounds were breathing hard on gangland's dirty necks. High-ranking hoods finally told Lepke he'd have to do something to bring the heat down to room temperature.

The fugitive figured it would be better to face the milder Federal rap. Besides, John Edgar wasn't hankering to try on the Governor's hat for size.

One night, a member of the black-fingernail set sidled up to Walter Winchell. "I hear tell," he said a little too casually, "that Lepke might turn himself in to your friend Hoover, if he knew for sure he wouldn't get roughed up. Especially if there was a delivery boy around he could trust."

The newspaperman inhaled the heady aroma of a page-one scoop. "Well, I'm a pretty trustworthy fellow," said Walter.

For the next three weeks, a different go-between made contact with the columnist every night. Walter, who knew everybody, had never seen any of these side-talking ambassadors before. Sometimes they'd pop out of doorways. Sometimes they'd get him on one of the pay phones at the Stork Club. Most of these powwows were conducted between 4:00 and 6:00 in the morning. Winchell

these fragments of talk to Hoover, who had moved into the Waldorf to be on tap.

After three weeks of this, Hoover got impatient. One night he told Winchell, "If Lepke doesn't surrender in the next 24 hours, I'm going to give my men orders to shoot him on sight."

That did it. Next morning, Winchell got a phone message. "Take your wife's car, the one with the fog lights, and be at Proctor's Theatre in Yonkers at 7:00 tonight." Walter's wife, June, the only person he had confided in, was terrified. She had visions of her husband in a machine-gun crossfire. That afternoon she scattered carpet tacks on the drive, hoping Walter would get a flat when he backed the car out of the garage.

But the tacks didn't take. At a few minutes to seven, Winchell stopped for a traffic light outside Yonkers. A car eased up alongside his. A man slipped out of it and climbed in next to the columnist. "Drive back to town," he said. "Don't be nervous. We only brought you up here to see if there were any cops tailing you."

Back in Manhattan, his passenger told Winchell to park. "Telephone Mr. Hoover," he said. "He's in Room _____ at the Waldorf. Tell him to be at 28th Street and Fifth Avenue, southeast side, between 10:10 and 10:20."

After the phone call, Walter and the intermediary cruised around to kill time. At 10:00, the man said, "Stop. Let me out here. You go to Madison Square Park and stop at 24th Street. And do me a favor. Give this rabbit's foot to Lepke. Tell him it's from me."

As Walter drove up to the bit of greenery which is Madison Square Park, he saw the light burning on top of the Metropolitan Life Insurance building. "Hope my premiums are up to date," he mumbled. As he leaned forward to snap off the ignition, someone said, "Hello, Walter."

It was Lepke. He had grown a Groucho Marx mustache, mint julep sideburns, and was wearing dark glasses.

6/12/47

sub A sect. 13

File [redacted] b7c

Terrorism Laid To Fur Unions

Memories of the days when Louis (Lepke) Buchalter and (Gurrah) Shapiro ran roughshod over the garment district, terrorizing especially the fur industry, blended yesterday with action by a group of contractors who charged in a \$3,000,000 damage suit filed by Attorney Samuel Mezansky, that a union council and a manufacturers' agency threatened them with physical violence and destruction of their business in a conspiracy.

The suit, also asking an injunction, was filed in Federal Court by the American Fur Liners Contractors Ass'n, set up by 15 fur-lining contractors. The defendants are the Furriers Joint Council of N. Y., representing seven CIO locals, and the Associated Fur Coat and Trimming Manufacturers Ass'n.

Back in the 1920s and 1930s, the Buchalter-Shapiro Murder, Inc., warred on fur dealers who refused to join "protective" agencies. These were threatened, beaten and even blinded in one case. Buchalter died in the electric chair. Shapiro died this week of a heart ailment in Sing Sing.

The fur-lining contractors charged the conspiracy was carried out by threats of "physical violence and destruction of their business unless they discontinue offering services to manufacturers of fur garments." They alleged the Furriers Council refused to permit its members to work for the fur-lining contractors. The latter said the plot began in 1942; that they have been willing to employ union workers, but that the Furriers Council, threatened its locals with fines and expulsion of members if they worked for them.

Mezansky said the union for years attempted to eliminate the contractors and designate which manufacturers might continue in business. He said this plan "is being carried out by force, violence, strikes, boycotts and numerous other methods."

The Fur Industry
Anti-Trust Laws

60 JUL 3 - 1947

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. [redacted]

b7c

1-3-47
1-12

E.I.R.-5

160-1501-A
NOT RECORDED
75 JUN 27 1947

INDEXED
105

EX-6

CLIPPING FROM THE
N. Y. Mirror
DATED JUN 12 1947
FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

Sub A Sect. 13