

Costello Helped Pick Mayor of New York, Crime Probers Told

By Albert Parks and Arthur Everett
NEW YORK, March 12-(AP)—A Brooklyn republican told senate crime probers today he believed that gambler Frank Costello's backing was needed in 1949 to pick a democratic candidate for mayor.

The testimony came from Charles Lipsky, who said he dabbled in democratic politics because the republican party had no chance of electing a mayor.

The senate crime committee has named Costello as head of a national crime syndicate. Costello has denied it.

"Did you believe it was necessary to get Costello backing in the selection of a candidate?" Lipsky was asked.

"I did that," the witness replied. "That's why I went to him."

The democratic majority plum was dangling at the time because Mayor William O'Dwyer had said he would not run again. He changed his mind, however, and was reelected. A few months later he resigned to become ambassador to Mexico.

Lipsky said Irving Sherman, whom he called a pal of Costello's, had "done so much for Mayor O'Dwyer."

Funds for O'Dwyer
The witness said he learned that Sherman raised funds for O'Dwyer's 1945 campaign and that O'Dwyer was "eternally grateful."

Other highlights in the day's session included:
Testimony by a Long Island trotting track official that he paid Costello \$60,000 over four years to ride the track of bookmakers.

Bookie Frank Erickson and Underworld Character Joe Adonis refused to answer most of the committee's questions. They said their answers might incriminate them. The committee voted to ask the senate to cite Erickson for contempt for his refusal. He is now serving two years for bookmaking.

Lipsky said he was O'Dwyer's emissary in 1946 to try to get

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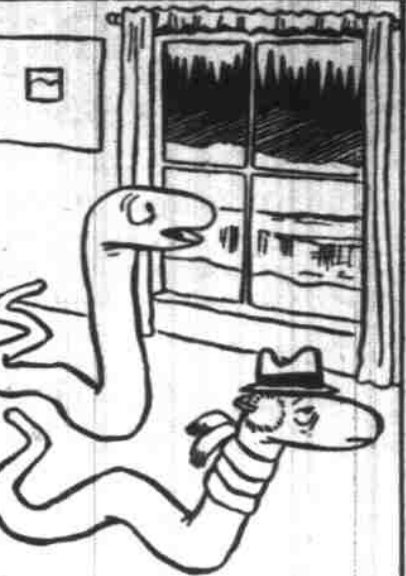
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Animal Crackers By WARREN GOODRICH



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DUN BY HAYDEN-KENNEDY SYNDICATE, INC.

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War Materiel, Mail Aboard Stricken Ship

LIHUE, KAUAI, Hawaiian Islands, March 12-(AP)—A spokesman for the crew of the freighter Andrea F. Luckenbach, which ran aground northeast of here last night, said today some \$15,000, 000 worth of war materiel and possibly 5,000 bags of mail for Korea were aboard the ship.

(Castle & Cooke, Ltd., Honolulu agents, and the coast guard in Honolulu said they had no reliable estimate of the contents or value of the cargo.)

Mitchell Henson, 22, of Savannah, Ga., able seaman designated by the crew as spokesman, told a reporter here the Luckenbach carried tanks, plane wings and engines and combat rations for transport from Yokohama to the Korean war front. He said the cargo was in the flooded holds of the ship.

A coast guard spokesman said an attempt would be made to pump out the grounded freighter and salvage the cargo to Honolulu. He said 460 tons of deck cargo would have to be thrown overboard because "speed is of the essence."

(The weather bureau in Honolulu issued storm warnings for the Kauai area today, adding urgency to the planned salvage operations.)

Henson, on behalf of the crew, expressed high praise for acting Captain Frederick P. Dietrich of Seattle, Wash., the chief mate who took command of the Luckenbach when its original skipper was reported ill and taken ashore at Honolulu earlier yesterday.

Henson said Dietrich did "a magnificent job in trying to save the ship, passengers, crew and cargo."

(Captain Cornelius Holtman, the ship's master, told a reporter from his sickbed in a Honolulu hospital: "The first I learned of the disaster was when I opened the paper today. It's a bad time to be in the hospital.")

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Open-Toed Shoe Provides Clue to Hospital Runaway

Police had one good clue Monday for spotting an escapee from the Oregon state hospital.

Hospital authorities reported Monday morning that Raleigh Piper, 40, had been missing from the institution since 8:30 a.m. He was described as 6-foot-2-inches tall, 160 pounds, brown hair and eyes. He was wearing blue overalls, a blue shirt and the toe of one shoe had been cut away, authorities said.

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