

# Costello's Tax Returns to Face New Examination

**By Rex Chaney**  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, March 21 (UP)—The tax returns of Frank Costello, who is so bashful about his wealth, Joe Adonis and about 2,500 other racketeers were under investigation today by federal agents.

The names of Costello, Adonis, Micky Cohen and Frank Erickson were among 126 disclosed by house of representatives investigators on a "master list" of racketeers, gamblers and underworld characters.

The returns of the 126 are being given the closest scrutiny by the bureau of internal revenue for violations of the income tax laws.

George J. Schoeneman, bureau commissioner, said "full scale investigations" are being made of the tax returns of some 1,700 underworld personages, and preliminary inquiries are being made into about 800 others.

**List Submitted**

Schoeneman submitted the hitherto secret list of 126 to a house ways and means sub-committee. He observed that it shows what the bureau is doing to keep racketeers honest in making out their tax returns.

The bureau had been criticized by the senate's special crime investigating committee, headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver, D., Tenn., for failing to make what he considered a "real effort" to collect all of the taxes that the underworld figures owe.

Costello refused at New York to tell the committee what his wealth is. He refused on constitutional grounds, and did not indicate it was because the internal revenue bureau is scanning his tax returns.

Schoeneman said that in the last 4½ years the bureau has made 1,671 investigations of racketeers and other hoodlums and has recommended tax assessments against them totalling \$129,000,000.

**Some Convictions**

"During the past 4½ years, 248 racketeers and other hoodlums have been criminally prosecuted, convictions having been obtained in all but a minor percentage of the cases which have come to trial," he said.

Rep. Cecil R. King, D., Calif., said the sub-committee, of which he is chairman, is interested in getting the information on racketeers, but that it is equally interested in checking into all phases of the revenue bureau's tax collection operations.

He invited taxpayers who have specific complaints, or who feel that they have knowledge of tax fraud, to come forward and appear before the sub-committee.



**SECRET CONFERENCE**—Frank Costello (left) and his attorney, George Wolf, hold hands over microphones so they won't be overheard as they go into a huddle over some of the Senate crime committee's questions. The committee sweated from Costello, alleged head of one of two nationwide crime syndicates, the admission that part of his operating capital comprised \$40,000 to \$50,000 in cash in his city apartment and \$90,000 to \$100,000 in a bank account.

# Parents to Give Away Their Baby

San Francisco, March 21 (UP)—A young couple offered their two-week-old baby for adoption today, explaining they did not love him.

"We can't give him the things a baby should have," said Mrs. Maria Knudson, 20.

"And a baby without love... well, it's better for someone else to have him."

Her husband, Jack, 21, an army corporal, said, "We just don't feel anything for him."

The Knudsons live in a one-room apartment that serves as nursery, bedroom and kitchen. Knudson is stationed at the San Francisco Presidio.

Their blue-eyed baby, Jack Jr., was born two weeks ago at the army's Letterman general hospital.

**Given Good Care**

"We're going down to the welfare department today to see about the adoption," said Mrs. Knudson.

Despite the fact both parents said they have no love for the baby, they are taking good care of him.

A policeman sent to investigate the situation found Knudson heating a bottle in a pan of water. But Knudson complained the baby "sure cries a lot—every night from 2 to 6."

"It's not that he's hungry," said Mrs. Knudson. "He sleeps all day and then wants to play all night."

Knudson said he was an adopted child himself.

# Used Car Dealer Facing Charges

Los Angeles, March 21 (UP)—Used car dealer Albert Rontell was charged today with violation of federal price control laws for allegedly selling an auto at nearly \$950 above the list price.

The criminal complaint, issued yesterday by U. S. attorney Ernest A. Tolin, was believed the first brought against a used car dealer for alleged price control violation.

James E. Harrington, chief enforcement attorney for price stabilization in the Los Angeles area, referred the case to Tolin. He said Rontell sold a used Cadillac with a list price of \$3660.25 for \$4597.92.

U. S. commissioner Howard V. Calverley issued a warrant for Rontell's arrest and ordered bail set at \$1000. If convicted, violators of the price control law face a year in federal prison and a \$10,000 fine.

# Robber Sentenced

Seattle, Wash., March 21 (UP)—Morris J. McDonald, 23, who admitted robbing a bank to get money to pay a \$2,000 gambling debt, was sentenced to 15 years in a federal prison yesterday by U. S. district judge Leon R. Yankwich.

McDonald, shot in the hip when captured at Ontario, Ore., appeared in court on crutches. He robbed the Magnolia state bank here of \$13,307 last November.

# New Penicillin Type Perfected

**By Paul F. Ellis**  
(United Press Science Editor)

Kalamazoo, Mich., March 21 (UP)—A new penicillin has become available for the public.

It has about the same range of activity against germs as that of the old drug. But it causes no allergic reactions, side reactions that have made some "penicillin cures" almost as bad as the disease for which they were taken.

The penicillin used today by American doctors in treating bacterial infections and types of venereal disease is known as penicillin G.

The new product, as produced for general clinical use by scientists at the Upjohn company, is known as penicillin O. The "O" was tacked on to the name because the penicillin has somewhat of an onion flavor.

**New Agent Used**

The onion flavor results from the use of a new precursor, or agent, that stimulates the production of the mold drug in culture. While penicillin has been synthesized, the American drug manufacturers have found that it can be made in natural form faster and cheaper than by a synthetic process.

The scientists at Upjohn worked as a team with other midwestern experts in developing penicillin O, but have gone many steps further and now have the drug on an "assembly line" basis. It will be somewhat higher in price than penicillin G, until production is stepped up.

It is now estimated that of those persons who are given the G-type of penicillin there are about 20 per cent who have side reactions, allergic reactions such as hives, rash, a breaking out on the skin. In some cases the reactions have been so bad that use of the drug had to be abandoned. The reactions in many cases interfered with the treatment of pneumonia, and more serious diseases such as syphilis.

# Dying Patients Should be Told, Doctor Advises

San Francisco, March 21 (UP)—A patient facing death from an incurable disease should be told frankly by his doctor that there is no hope, a noted physician says.

Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota's Mayo foundation, said the cold practice of lying to the patient "rarely works well."

"The patient is no fool—the news always somehow reaches him," Alvarez told the American academy of general practice yesterday. "Then if the doctor does not talk frankly, the patient is left with a great feeling of loneliness and isolation."

"In hundreds of cases I have talked frankly with dying patients and have thereby gained their gratitude, friendship and devotion."

**Warns of Obesity**

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Dr. Clifford F. Gastineau of the Mayo clinic said "fat and complacent people are walking to their graves ahead of their normal time." He said for every pound of excess weight between the ages of 45 and 55, there is "roughly a one per cent increase in the mortality rate."

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After the navy receives the official report from the Hawaii armed services police it will determine what charges to file against Burt.

Burt has never been allowed to tell his story for publication. However, armed forces police said he slapped Maj. Gen. David M. Schlatter, 49, commanding general of the research and development branch of the air force the morning of March 17.

According to the report, Schlatter hailed Burt in the street and suggested the sailor "join my outfit." Both men were dressed in civilian clothes.

Burt said he thought he had been approached by a communist agent. After slapping the general "15 or 20 times" he hailed a taxi cab and took Schlatter to police headquarters. There the general was able to prove his identity.

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