

'I can play them all!'



How effective will Valachi be as witness?

By Harry Ferguson
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI) — No criminal case can ever be much better than the credibility of the witnesses for the prosecution. If a jury distrusts a witness or decides he is lying under oath, the cause is lost almost automatically.

That fact stamps a big question mark across the name of Joseph Valachi, the low-echelon gangster who has thrown himself on the mercy of the federal government and promised to tell all he knows about organized crime. His first public appearance will take place shortly before the Senate racket committee. Later he probably will be taken before grand juries in an attempt to get indictments against major gangsters.

Nobody is quite sure what kind of witness Valachi will make.

"He has his ups and downs," said a spokesman for the Department of Justice. "One day he will be calm and tell a rational, connected story. The next day he will not be so good. You have to remember that the man is badly scared."

Could Stir Suspicion

Valachi is an uneducated man. He speaks in a guttural voice that may not be clearly understood in the far reaches of hearing rooms and grand jury chambers. If he gets excited and confused on the witness stand — and there is a fair chance he will at some stage of his testimony — he is going to stir suspicions among the listeners as to the validity of what he is saying.

It would be misleading to judge the impact of Valachi's testimony on the basis of what is publicly known about the story he is telling. Valachi talked off and on for almost a year while under maximum security guard at Fort Monmouth, N.J. It may be that the Justice Department has some dynamite that will give the underworld a bad jar, but if so it is being kept secret.

This is what is publicly known about Valachi's prolonged "singing session": he has outlined the organization of what he calls Cosa Nostra ("our business" or "our thing") a loose confederation of gangs in at least eight cities. Each of these is called "a family," he says, controlled by a boss. There are lieutenants under the boss and each is in charge of a "crew." Valachi says he joined the organization in 1930 and took a blood oath (his finger was pricked) to die rather than betray it.

Names Top Brass

He supplied some of the argot of the underworld. When a gangster is ordered to kill somebody, it is called a "contract." You get a contract when you are ordered to "hit" a man. Orders to "hit" are almost always issued by the boss, and Valachi said the bosses included: Vito Genovese, New York (although there apparently are five "families" in New York); Sam Giancana, Chicago; Joseph Zerilli, Detroit; Sebastiano Laitocca, Pittsburgh; Angelo Bruno, Philadelphia; Stefano Magaddino, Buffalo; Raymond Patriarca, New England; John J. Scallish, Cleveland.

Much of this information was not exactly flash news to police and other law enforcement officers in those cities. The problem has been, not to identify the gang leaders, but to get something on them that will stand up in court. Valachi, for instance, has talked freely about some 30 murders, but as a New York prosecutor put it: "Our office can act only on evidence, and Valachi's statements are pure hearsay."

What the Justice Department hopes is that Valachi can come up with some information about the middle and lower-echelon members of the crime organization. One source said he already had done so and federal agents now are busy questioning those persons in an attempt to obtain corroboration of Valachi's stories and build a solid structure of evidence.

The man's hole card in the underworld was his friendship with Vito Genovese, a New York "boss" about whom considerable mis-information has circulated in the last month. He has been depicted as the supreme commander of the American gangs, a sort of Oriental potentate tossing occasional scraps of favors to his underlings and issuing "contracts" sometimes in a whimsical manner.

Shared Same Cell

Genovese is currently serving a 15-year prison term for statutory violation and at one time was Valachi's cell mate in Atlanta penitentiary. A piece of fiction that refuses to die is that Genovese still controls the underworld by sending a steady stream of orders from his cell. The Justice Department pointed out that, considering the close scrutiny given to a prisoner's mail and visitors, Genovese would have to be doing it by mental telepathy. This reporter can state unequivocally that he does not have a private telephone in his cell.

(Tomorrow—Evolution of the gangster from Capone to Cosa Nostra.)

Teevee's search for ways seems to have been a most unsuccessful one

"We are looking for ways to win back some of the intellectuals to TV... We are going to seek more program balance. And we are going to strive for quality in whatever we do."

The speaker was Thomas W. Moore, interviewed last April, a few days after he was named president of the ABC-TV network, a position he had held without the title for the previous year.

Now that the programs for the new television season are pretty well locked in, we can get some idea of what Moore meant when he described ABC's "boldest, most direct challenge for leadership ever made in our medium." The network's programming has been drastically revised, certainly, but the biggest single news item is that the "Voice of Firestone" program will be replaced on Sunday evenings by the first big-money quiz show since the cheating scandals of 1959. It's called "100 Grand" after its maximum prize, and it pits amateur experts against professionals, and it sounds about as intellectual as "The \$64,000 Question."

For the past five years or so ABC-TV's effort to gain a larger share of television audiences and revenues has resulted in a gradual downgrading of program quality on all three major networks. Recent scrutiny of programming by the Federal Communications Commission — and the frequent criticism of former Commissioner Newton N. Minow — did to some extent result in a greater emphasis on news and public service shows. But drama and entertainment showed little qualitative improvement.

Now ABC is pitching out the programs with which it has been perhaps most closely identified — "The Untouchables," "Hawaii Five-O," and "Naked City." But it is

Nature's finding a way

A leaf-devouring moth is working on an estimated six to seven million acres of sagebrush rangeland in interior Oregon, including parts of the High Desert Country.

The moth has been identified as *Agroga websteri* Clarke. It rolls a few leaves into a ball to serve as a home, then feeds on leaves along the stems. The process covers the sagebrush with fine, silky webs which account for the creature's common name, webworm. Working with this web spinner is an unidentified moth.

Bureau of Land Management officials, state game officers, the U.S. Forest Service and ranchers are concerned. Some are hopeful that the sage-killing moths will clear land, making it possible for forage to grow. Others are fearful that the defoliation of both the big and small sage will destroy a source of feed in a winter of deep snow.

Also, it is noted that in northern California a few years back, the webworm destroyed thousands of acres of bitterbrush, a valuable deer feed.

While various agencies ponder range management plans, Nature, in its quiet but effective way, ap-

parently has decided that for all concerned, control of the web spinners is essential.

Already appearing on the scene, in areas where thousands of acres of sage have been defoliated by the insects, is a small wasp, which is parasitizing the webworms. This means that the little wasps are puncturing the webworms, planting their eggs, and going their way.

Next season, experts say, there will be about 50 per cent fewer webworms. By the following year, there may be none.

Through the cons, Nature has been effectively using this same system of check and balance. It is part of Nature's management plan.

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Quotable quotes

Don't get the regular hoses. They'll just stand there and look at you and take a bath. Get the high-powered ones, they'll knock a man 60 feet. — Eugene (Bull) Connor, former police commissioner of Birmingham, Ala., advising Little Rock segregationists on selection of hoses to break up civil rights demonstrations.

Capital Report

Extension of Jones Act exemption for lumber shippers appears in jeopardy

By Robert A. Smith
Bulletin Correspondent

WASHINGTON — With the October deadline approaching for expiration of the exemption from the Jones act for Northwest lumber shipments to Puerto Rico, Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, D-Wash., has introduced legislation to continue this exemption in the future.

The original exemption bill, sponsored by Sen. Maurice B. Neuberger, D-Ore., and enacted by Congress last year, permits American lumber companies to use foreign vessels to ship cargo lumber to Puerto Rico, contrary to the Jones act which bans use of foreign ships for commerce between various American ports. In approving the bill, Congress however put this exemption on a trial basis for a year — and unless it is extended it will expire October 31.

Since Puerto Rico was once a good market for American lumber, but in recent years became a monopoly market for Canada because British Columbia mills used cheaper foreign ships, U.S. companies have been trying to regain a foothold there.

Sen. Magnuson reported that over 5 million bd. ft. of Northwest lumber has been shipped to Puerto Rico since last fall as a result, with more in prospect.

"Some progress has been made in this direction," said Magnuson, "but the firm grip of the Canadian sawmills on the vast Atlantic Coast and Puerto Rican market has only been scratched."

Sen. Neuberger isn't content simply to extend the Puerto Rican exemption. She regards that as only a first step toward giving Northwest lumber shippers competitive equality in all the big Atlantic Coast ports which are more important markets than Puerto Rico.

Last March Mrs. Neuberger introduced a bill that would not only extend the Puerto Rican exemption but broaden it to cover any American ports or terminal areas. She said this would open the way to using cheaper ships, if American ships are not competitive, that would cut the cost of getting green lumber to Atlantic Coast ports by from \$10 to \$30 a thousand bd. ft.

Ever since 1930 Canada has been supplying more lumber than have West Coast American mills for the Atlantic Coast markets. The domestic lumber industry blames this on the higher cost of domestic ships which the Jones act requires them to use. They want the Jones act repealed outright, but it has many defenders in Congress who claim its repeal would destroy the American merchant marine.

The Kennedy administration has endorsed the idea of exempting lumber from the Jones act restriction whenever the secretary

of Commerce finds that it is hurting domestic industry to insist on using domestic ships. But Southern lumbermen have protested this move because they regard Northwest lumbermen as their competitors, and they fear any easing of the Jones act would hurt their eastern markets for Southern pine.

Magnuson's Senate Commerce Committee is the focal point of all this. To placate Southern senators, Magnuson permitted hearings on the issue in the South this past spring. Sen. Strom Thurmond, D-S.C., conducted them and gathered abundant testimony which indicated the South would fight any new legislation to help the Northwest.

There have been no hearings on the new Neuberger bill but the subject has been covered from a lumber standpoint in last year's lumber hearings in the West and in Washington. The latest figures indicate the trend toward increasing Canadian sales continues to the detriment of Northwest mills. For the first six months of this year B.C. mills supplied 538 million bd. ft. and West Coast American mills supplied 252 million bd. ft. for the Atlantic Coast market.

Sen. Magnuson's sponsorship of the Puerto Rican extension bill suggests he believes that's all he can get through Congress this year.

Reporter finds new prosperity among Spanish

By Phil Newsom
UPI Staff Writer

MADRID, Spain (UPI)—On a day early this month, a trim white yacht dropped anchor in the northern Spanish port of La Coruna.

Aboard was Generalissimo Francisco Franco, who was interrupting a fishing vacation to hold his last cabinet meeting of the summer. Most important of the domestic issues to be discussed was Spain's new \$6 million development program which is to go into effect next Jan. 1.

And for the next 48 flag-decked hours, La Coruna became in effect the working capital of Spain. By tradition established under the regency of Queen Maria Cristina, the Spanish government in the summer months moves to San Sebastian, near the Pyrenees, only 35 miles from Biarritz, across the border with France.

Between San Sebastian and La Coruna the mountains hug the coastline and for 500 miles a narrow highway twists and turns its way through and over them, providing at once scenes of awesome beauty and the equally breathtaking prospect of a 1,000-foot plunge into nothingness in the case of driver error or mechanical failure.

Claims Road Worst

In San Sebastian, a cabinet minister threw up his hands in mock horror when he learned that Carlos Mendo, chief UPI correspondent for Spain, and I planned to drive it for the cabinet meeting.

"It is one of the worst roads in Spain," he said, "but at least you will see why we need a development plan."

The road may not be the worst in Spain, but it must rate high among them. Huge trucks vie with speeding small passenger cars, and both must contend with the ever-present burros. And beyond this is the foot traffic, women headed for the nearest village, carrying upon their heads objects varying from metal containers of milk to heavy bundles of fire wood.

Symbols of Growth

Along the way are symbols both of Spain's new and growing prosperity as well as problems it still faces.

There is Bilbao, ranking with Barcelona as one of Spain's principal industrial cities, called the Pittsburgh of Spain. In Bilbao, Santander, Oviedo and even in the meaneast village new construction work seems unending.

This also is the region of the Asturian coal mines where today the government regards with a tolerant eye a strike by 16,000 miners even though strikes in Spain are outlawed. The seams of brown coal are running out and many of the mines are uneconomical.

The government is considering a plan of nationalization whereby some of these pits might be closed and the miners either be transferred to other diggings or retrained for other jobs.

Here also are the Galician farmers, a taciturn folk unlike the talkative friendliness of the south. They live as their fathers before them on small, uneconomic plots of not much more than an acre, planting their patches of corn high up the steep mountain sides.

For them also the government is seeking a solution.

ASKS CHECK ON SHIPS

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A Florida congressman believes the United States should keep under constant surveillance Russian fishing vessels operating in American waters.

Rep. Paul Rogers, D-Fla., said Tuesday the Soviet trawlers "certainly are not fishing."

My Nickel's Worth

The Bulletin welcomes contributions to this column from its readers. Letters must contain the correct name and address of the sender, which may be withheld at the newspaper's discretion. Letters may be edited to conform to the directives of taste and style.

Writer apologizes for critical letter

To the Editor: As a member of the Sisters Board of Directors, I would like to apologize for the letter by Pete Leithauer in the August 29th edition of The Bulletin. It was uncalled for.

The Bend Board of Directors was approached by the Sisters Board in this matter of school mergers. Mr. Leithauer could have found this out had he gone to the Sisters Board instead of going to Redmond and Madras for his information. He could have also found out that in the past five years we have considered many solutions towards solving our tax problems and maintaining our high school, which included meeting with the School Board at Camp Sherman and finding out it is legally impossible to join the Redmond Union High District as they are functioning at this time.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Alma B. Phillips
Board of Directors
Sisters School Dist. No. 6
Sisters, Oregon,
Sept. 9, 1963

Car wash successful, Pep Club reports

The BSH Pep Club wishes to express its thanks, for the participation shown our car wash September 7.

The outcome was greater than ever before, with a total intake of \$125.

We want to extend our special thanks to those who cooperated with us by making their facilities available.

Sincerely yours,
Sandi Olson, Secretary
Bend, Oregon,
Sept. 9, 1963

Barbs

Vacation flirtations can really lead to something if the good wife hears about them.

Any father can get the program he wants on television after the kids have gone to bed, if it suits his wife.

The boxer who looks the dullest in training is not always the one polished off in the ring.

Not taking care of your car can lead to having it hauled over to a garage to have it overhauled.

TESTIMONIAL FAILS

CARLISLE, England (UPI) — Mrs. Isobel Schofield was fined \$8.20 Tuesday despite an impassioned defense by her lawyer, who asked leniency on the grounds that "even her husband says she is a careful driver."

Washington Merry-go-round

JFK's State Department lends a helping hand

By Jack Anderson

WASHINGTON — President Kennedy may not know it, but his State Department has been going out of its way to boost the international operations of the companies owned by the administration's most effective critic — Gov. Nelson Rockefeller.

Time after time, the State Department has reached out a helping and vigorous hand to help Standard Oil of New Jersey, the No. 1 oil company; also Standard of California, another big Rockefeller money-maker, and Socony. These three, together with Gulf, Texas, Shell and British Petroleum are known inside the industry as the "Seven Sisters."

When big oil can't get what it wants in foreign countries, the State Department tries to get it for them. While the State Department is supposed to protect American interests abroad, it is charged not to help one company, or a group of companies as against others. And independent oil companies have been getting the hairy end of the lollipop as compared with the Rockefeller interests and some of the other seven sisters.

The Rockefeller family contribute around \$200,000 to the Republican party every election, while Gov. Rockefeller has been Kennedy's most effective critic regarding Cuba and failure to "get the country moving again." The Mellon family, who control Gulf, contribute around \$100,000 in election years to the Republicans.

Here is part of the State Department record, which only the diplomats know about of aiding the Rockefeller interests:

Box Score of Favoritism

Undersecretary of State George Ball, whose law firm has oil ties, fired off several confidential cables to the American embassy in Leopoldville, instructing them to help Standard of New Jersey get a license to build a refinery in the Congo.

The frantic cables were touched off by a decision of the Congolese cabinet to grant the license to ENI, the Italian firm. But the full weight of the U.S. government was more pressure than the Congolese could bear. They cancelled ENI.

In Korea, a foreign aid mission, instructed to survey the feasibility of a new refinery, was headed by William Van Dusen, a retired Standard executive working for the State Department. He arrived with three Standard

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Dreaming

ACROSS
1 Is inattentive
2 Langour
3 Drowse
4 Contrast (Gr.)
5 Mistake
6 Place of delight
7 Charge
8 At this time
9 Book size
10 Russia (ab.)
11 Vase
12 Pony
13 Day dream
14 Not yet up
15 Fish
16 Silkworm
17 League
18 Ridiculous
19 Squirrel fur
20 Depart
21 Harrowlike formation (mil.)
22 Malevolent
23 Dance step
24 Big horn animal
25 Canadian linear measure
26 Lamey earth
27 Flower talker
28 Neglect
29 Strike
30 Mantle
31 Fish dinner
32 Attempt
33 Bat (var.)

DOWN
1 American verb
2 S-shaped molding
3 Beetle (var.)
4 Scored
5 English post
6 Sarcasm (dial.)
7 Odious

8 Hydrocarbon
9 Rapute
10 Guano
11 Within (comb. form)
12 Nautical (ab.)
13 Asiatic
14 Yawn
15 Male nickname
16 Trim
17 Destruction
18 Erect
19 Flower
20 Ireland
21 Evening
22 High
23 Evenings

37 Theatre district
38 Tough
39 Source
40 Book of Bible
41 Branch (rare)
42 Branch (rare)
43 Cricket (dial.)
44 Enough
45 Biblical
46 Mountain
47 Waste
48 allowance
49 Atmosphere

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38
39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47
48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57

THE BULLETIN

Wednesday, September 11, 1963
An Independent Newspaper
Robert W. Chandler
Glenn Cushman, Gen. Manager
Phil F. Brogan, Associate Editor
Loren E. Dyer, Mech. Supr.
Jack McDermott, Adv. Manager
Dal Uselman, Circ. Manager
William A. Yates, Managing Ed.
Published daily except Sundays and certain holidays by The Salem Bulletin, Inc.