

Is Mafia To Be Brought To Justice?

By United Press International
Is the Mafia at last to be brought to justice? Is its own code of silence to the death, "omerta," to be the means of crushing the sinister brotherhood of Sicilian origin?

There is no longer any doubt that the Mafia exists. It has had its stealthy hand on organized crime in the United States since the days before Al Capone. When prohibition's lush profits were cut off, it moved into the narcotics traffic, prostitution, gambling — and now labor racketeering.

The law has been poking at the edges of this shadowy blood fraternity for years.

Dewey Getting Warm
Then Prosecutor Thomas E. Dewey was getting warm when he busted the multi-million dollar prostitution and white slavery racket and sent Charles (Lucky) Luciano to jail.

The shocking exposure of Murder, Inc., would have been even more shocking had it been revealed the hired killers were the enforcement arm created by three "Dons" of the Mafia.

Sen. Estes Kefauver had one of the Mafia kingpins, Frank Costello, on the spot before a national television audience in 1950 and Sen. John McClellan brought more of the brothers before his committee last year.

But the federal government made the grand haul last week when it indicted 63 men as conspirators or co-conspirators to obstruct justice. In keeping with "omerta," they had lied or refused to tell about their famous meeting on Nov. 14, 1957, at the Apalachin, N.Y., home of Joseph Barbara.

Italian Names
It was no coincidence that every single one of the 63 who gathered at Barbara's home bore names of Italian descent.

Nor that most of them had long criminal records.

For this was another of the grand meetings of the Mafia. But this time they made what was for this secret society the astounding mistake of congregating in a tiny community instead of melting into some metropolis like New York, Chicago, Miami or Los Angeles as they had in the past.

Nor was it an accident that agents of the Federal Narcotics Bureau were assigned to round them up.

Head of the narcotics bureau is Harry J. Anslinger. He is one of the nation's few top law enforcement officials who for years had never displayed the slightest doubt about the Mafia's existence. He has been tracking it since 1930.

The Mafia has been laughed off as the stuff of sensationalized crime fiction is made of, complete with trappings of the "Black Hand." Officials have been reluctant to single it out lest it stigmatize millions of decent Italo-Americans.

Exposure May Destroy
But now the Mafia is out in the open and the very light of exposure may be a means of destroying it. It will not be easy for the Mafia preys on man's human weakness — drug addiction, prostitution, counterfeiting, bootlegging, organized gambling, loan sharking and extortion.

Frederic Sondern Jr., in his book, "Brotherhood of Evil: The Mafia," has bared the whole story of the society and named its leaders after long research and conversations with American and European police.

There is the list of the grand "Dons" — Lucky Luciano, Vito Genovese, Frank Costello, Joe Adonis, John Ormento, Joseph Profaci, Joseph Magliocco and, before their murders, Albert Anastasia, Frank Scalise and Eugenio Giannini.

The Mafia goes back more than 200 years to the island of Sicily off Italy's coast. Sicily was occupied by the French and, in a death struggle against the foreign oppressors, the Sicilians founded a blood society that fought with terror and secrecy.

When the French left, the Mafia found it had the means of extortion and profitable crime among its own people.

Members Migrated
With the mass migration of Italians and other Europeans to the new world at the turn of the century came members of the Mafia. Among the bewildered and ignorant immigrants, they soon were operating as they had in Sicily.

Benito Mussolini sent another wave to America in 1935 when he made a violent attempt to wipe out the Mafia.

Its members have remained of Sicilian heritage, intermarried and suspicious of outsiders. They can be warm, hospitable hosts to their friends, usually unostentatious and, on the surface, good family men with a plentitude of children. They are bound to a loyalty to the Mafia above all else.

Sondern writes:
"To understand the Mafia, one must realize that this

unique society of lawbreakers is not a rigid, monolithic organization. There is no president, no formal roster; there is no initiation or oath. They are unnecessary. A Mafioso selects one or more of his sons, or perhaps a favorite nephew, trains and guides him in the traditional philosophy and methods, introduces him to the right people and another Mafioso is gradually created."

Their women, as well as the men, adhere to the code of "omerta."

Deals With Others
The Mafia limits its fraternity to the blood brothers—but it deals with and through others. Meyer Lansky, the New York gambler, was picked to exploit the wide open gambling in Cuba before the Batista regime fell.

Jimmy Hoffa of the Teamsters Union found it necessary to deal with Johnny Dio in his organizational drive in New York. Louis (Lepke) Buchalter was an ally as dictator of the garment center rackets. Abe (Kid Twist) Reles was picked as head of Murder, Inc.

But when the Mafia met at Apalachin, only the brothers were there.

Khrushchev Offers Hand of Friendship To Russian Writers

Moscow (UPI)—Premier Nikita Khrushchev has offered an olive branch to Soviet authors who have been criticized in the past for unorthodox writing.

The Soviet Premier did not mention the name of Boris Pasternak, who has been in disgrace since his novel "Dr. Zhivago" won the Nobel prize last year, during his conciliatory and significant speech to the Soviet writers congress.

(However, observers in London speculated that Pasternak might also be "rehabilitated." Pasternak was drummed out of the Soviet writers union and invited to leave the country as a result of the storm arising over his novel.)

Writers 'Rehabilitated'
Khrushchev attended the opening session of the congress Monday when three former leading Soviet writers were "rehabilitated." They included Novelist Ilya Ehrenburg, Novelist Konstantin Simonov and Poetess Margarita Alliger.

(Khrushchev himself had denounced Miss Alliger two years ago for deviating from

the party line on literature. Ehrenburg fell from grace for his post-Stalin novel "The Thaw" which allegedly sparked revival of free literary criticism. Simonov "retired" after the magazine he edited published sections of the novel "Not By Bread Alone.")

Khrushchev took up the case of Vladimir Dudintev, whose novel "Not By Bread Alone" has been published in the West and denounced in the Soviet Union, where it has also been printed.

"I read this book and I must say that there are certain pages which deserve attention," the Soviet Premier said. "(First Deputy Premier Anastas) Mikoyan, who read this book, told me to read it."

Generalized Too Much
Khrushchev said Mikoyan told him that there were certain passages in the book which the author literally took from Khrushchev.

"Yes," he said, "Dudintev has skillfully noted certain negative phenomena, but he exaggerated them and generalized too much. But I have already said and I still think

NW, California Power Inter-Tie Will Be Studied

Seattle (UPI)—A study of a possible power inter-tie between the northwest and California will be launched immediately, Bonneville Power Administrator William A. Pearl said Monday.

Pearl spoke to the Northwest Public Power association meeting here.

He said BPA in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation would make the study to determine desirability and feasibility of a high voltage interconnection for disposal of secondary energy between federal systems in the two areas.

Report to Congress
Pearl said the study would be completed in compliance with a resolution passed May 19 by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs committee. Conclusions will be reported to Congress not later than July 15 of this year.

The Senate resolution, Pearl said, calls for the study to be made in consultation with governors of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. Also represented will be the Federal Power Commission, Northwest Power Pool designees and organization of public and private utilities in California.

Pearl was optimistic about the northwest's power outlook.

Commencement Set Tonight in Phoenix

Phoenix — Commencement exercises at Phoenix High school will be held tonight at 8 o'clock at the gymnasium. Dr. G. Burton Wood, professor of agriculture economics of Oregon State college, will be principal speaker.

Sunday baccalaureate service was held for the 35 high school graduates. It was held at the First Presbyterian church.

that Dudintev was never an enemy, was never opposed to the Soviet system."

He added that he would like to meet Dudintev except that whenever he was ready to receive him he had to talk to some ambassador or other. "Not By Bread Alone" was published in Russia three years ago. It is critical of Soviet bureaucracy and dealt with the frustrating experience of an inventor in trying to get his invention accepted.

The official criticism was that the characters were "all negative."

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Pearl S. — I love to play bridge — and he won't learn. Harold S. — Cardplaying is an obsession.

Pearl S. — My husband and I have been married a year and are quite happy except for one problem. It may sound silly, but it has been causing a lot of trouble.

It is simply that I love to play bridge and Harold refuses to learn. Bridge is one of my great relaxations. I would rather spend an evening over the card table than any other recreational activity. I begged Harold to learn, but he thinks it's a waste of time and says he was never good at card games anyway.

I gave up the game for a while, but now some of my

old friends have been calling me to make a fourth. One of the men is a bachelor I used to go out with before I was married. The game often breaks up pretty late and this man takes me home. I always want to invite him in for coffee, but my husband is so rude and resentful, it's awful.

Harold S. — I told Pearl that I wouldn't mind if she played cards with a group of women, but she says she doesn't enjoy that as much. To me this means only one thing — that she enjoys the company of this particular man. She has admitted that they were serious at one time.

It annoys me the way this man or Pearl's married friends call and ask for her as though she were a single woman. They never think of inviting me just to sort of hang around. I am left alone all evening.

To me cardplaying is just an obsession and people should try to cure themselves of it. There are much better things to enjoy — like reading or listening to music. When I try to get Pearl to do a little of that, she just starts to yawn. But she says she'd like to play cards every night of the week.

The Council. — Many married couples have widely different interests, yet this never becomes a cause of dissension between them.

Pearl and Harold seem to use their interests to hurt one another and drive a wedge in their relationship. They make a point of insulting one another by expressing disdain for the other's interests.

Pearl knows that Harold will be left out of her cardplaying evenings, yet she expresses the desire to play every night of the week. Harold is completely unreasonable when he complains of being left alone, yet refuses to make an effort to find some interest in Pearl's activities. He makes the assumption that his highbrow interests are far better, but we believe that if he enjoyed them with real enthusiasm he would be less resentful of his wife's interests.

Harold's jealousy of the other man appears to be part

of this whole picture. He feels somewhat cast off and neglected by Pearl and the reasons for this undoubtedly go deeper than her cardplaying.

Pearl's rather overinflated interest in cardplaying suggests that she feels she is missing something that would give her life a little more meaning and excitement.

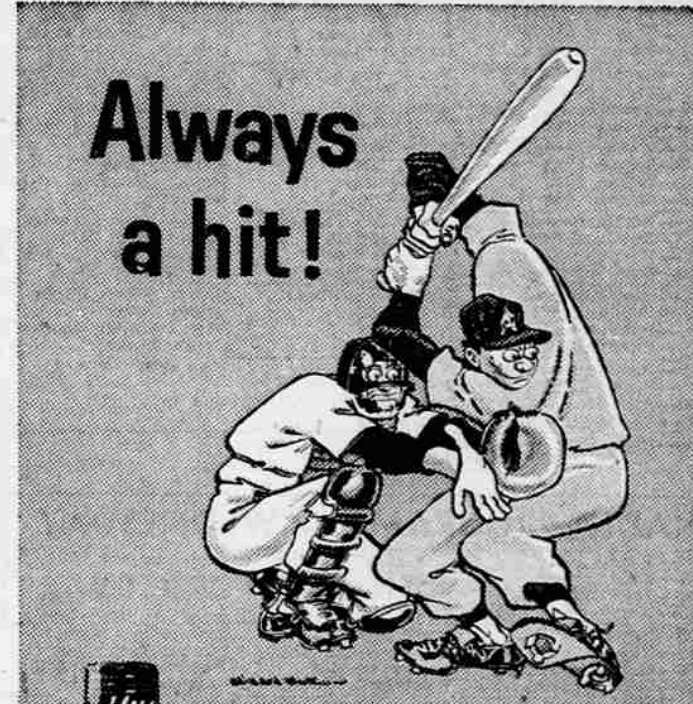
The answer here cannot be concerned with playing or not playing cards. Pearl and Harold must seek and find a warmer, more meaningful life together and the card problem will disappear — whether or not Pearl continues with the game.

Is cardplaying an obsession? Only when it consists

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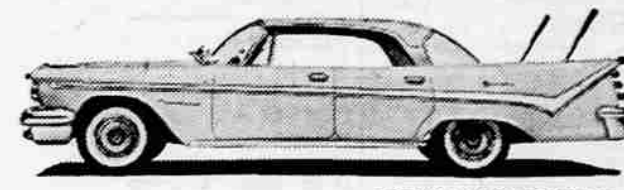
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