

The Underworld Canary—II

Joseph Valachi May Not Be Clearly Understood in Grand Jury Chambers

By HARRY FERGUSON WASHINGTON (UPI) — No criminal case can ever be much better than the credibility of the witness 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 racketeering committee. 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."

Valachi is an uneducated man. He speaks in a gutteral 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.

(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; Sebastian LaRocca, Pittsburgh; Raymond Maddino, Buffalo; Stefano Patriarca, New England; John J. Scalish, 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: "Overt acts can act only on evidence, and Valachi's statements are a 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 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. Genovese is currently serving a 15-year prison term for narcotics 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. Genovese did not dominate the underworld, but he was an important figure and Valachi stayed on his payroll for years. Then he got scared and turned stool-pigeon. Needless to say the he got scared and turned stool pigeon. Needless to say the he got scared and turned stool pigeon. Needless to say the he got scared and turned stool pigeon.

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"He's a real trouble-maker — my wife is always answering his Classified Ads!"



STUDENT DISAPPOINTED—Marymount College student Pat Broderick of Scarsdale, N.Y., looks disappointed as she lugs unpacked garments from the liner SS America at New York. The vessel's sailing was cancelled because of a dispute with a union over alleged racial bias against the ship's first engineer, Louis Neurohr. (UPI)



RECEIVES PATENT RIGHTS — Clarence Hanke, 36, of Okawville, Ill., all of his life a victim of spastic paralysis, saw one of his dreams come true when he received U.S. patent rights on a body exerciser he built. Hanke, who completed the exerciser three years ago and uses it daily, has so improved his condition that he has been granted a license to drive his own car. The exerciser is padded like a bicycle, for conditioning leg muscles, and incorporates an arm bar for shoulder and arm workouts. (UPI)



DEFECTOR RETURNS—Scott L. Rush, 31-year-old Korean prisoner of war and his Chinese wife and child are shown as they arrived at Los Angeles en route to visit his mother in Phoenix, Ariz. Rush, who spent 10 years behind the Bamboo curtain when he defected and refused repatriation when the Korean war ended, told a story of difficult living conditions in Red China. (UPI)



SLATED FOR COLLEGE—Princess Christina of Sweden is presented with a bouquet of flowers by Kersten Jonsson, Miss Sweden of 1963, at Idlewild Airport in New York. The Swedish ambassador to the United States, Gunnar Jarring, center, looks on. The princess will begin her freshman year at Radcliff college. (UPI)



Small Worlds Around Us By LYNN M. WATKINS (Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1963)

Pigeons Are Relatives To Extinct Dodo Birds It's much too late, by about 300 years, to bring out anything new regarding habits or characteristics of the dodo bird, but there are some cousins of those old birds still around and in goodly numbers. These relatives do not look at all like their long ago ancestors, but the relationship has been pretty well established.

The common pigeon that claims kinship with the long dead dodo birds has outlived its illustrious ancestors and is very much alive, and in many places disgustingly numerous. No living man has ever seen a real, live dodo bird. In fact, we use the expression "as dead as a dodo" to imply anything that is "long gone."

But today's pigeons and doves are of a very similar family. Of course the word "pigeon" is just another way of saying "dove," as they are all more or less alike and of the same family. Passenger Pigeon Another member of the family was the passenger pigeon. The last one passed from this earthly scene in 1916. It died in a Cincinnati zoo, outliving its relative, the dodo, by about 250 years. Many reports have come in from various sections since 1916 of sighting of one or more passenger pigeons, but no single specimen has ever been found. There is little hope that a single individual is alive on this earth today.

carried pleas for help, just because of the bird's love for the home roost. Regardless of the perils and hardships encountered along the way, the passenger pigeons played an important part in both world wars.

The pigeons are about the only birds known to science that drink by immersing their bills into the water up to their nostril openings, until their thirst is satisfied. Most birds take a mouthful of water, throw the head back, and swallow.

Ordinarily the pigeons mate for life and both partners assist in incubation and the feeding of the young. Usually two eggs are laid, but several broods a year are raised. Pigeon Milk The old joke about pigeon milk is actually not so far fetched as is so often supposed. The young are really fed on this substance. The food, after being digested by the parent bird, is then made available to the little one. The white liquid is about the consistency of milk and is in no way a solid food. The name "pigeon milk" is actually a confusing fact.

There are hundreds of varieties of pigeons distributed over much of the world. Many are peculiar in habits and plumage. The tumbler is one of the most bizarre of the family. It tumbles over and over in the air and performs many other acrobatic tricks. The puffer puffs out its throat until it resembles a toy balloon. The many varieties of fantail pigeons duplicate the feat so dramatically accomplished by the peacock.

Varieties of pigeons probably have justification in being relatives of the long dead dodo bird. Their unusual behavior could explain part of it.

fall before the Supreme Court. The legend that he still dictates the affairs of the underworld probably got started because members of his New York "family" are waiting to see whether the boss can win his way back into circulation. Next: Walk into the gangster from Capone to Cosa Nostra.

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NOTICE OF HEARING ON FINAL ACCOUNT IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR JACKSON COUNTY PROBATE DEPARTMENT

LEGAL NOTICES NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT Notice is hereby given that Jennie May Hostetter, executrix of the estate of Annala Welch, deceased, No. 1432, has filed the final account and the Circuit Court of Oregon for Jackson County has fixed Monday, September 30, 1963, at 10:00 a.m. at the Jackson County Courthouse in Medford, Oregon, for hearing of objections to and settlement thereof.

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