

### House Investigators Told Of Justice 'Whitewash'

WASHINGTON (AP)—House investigators were told Tuesday a top Justice Department official approved a grand jury report vindicating the way tax matter were handled in St. Louis in 1951.

Several indictments eventually were returned.

Investigators also heard testimony that leading Justice officials advised a St. Louis government attorney to avoid presenting tax cases to the same grand jury unless asked to do so by the Treasury Department.

One official said the Justice Department didn't "want to be embarrassed" by a jury probe into tax cases, the evidence showed.

These developments came as a House Judiciary subcommittee studied the St. Louis scandals

which led to conviction of James P. Finnegan, former collector of internal revenue, on charges of misconduct in office last March 15. His case is on appeal.

Robert A. Collier, subcommittee counsel, said Ellis N. Slack, now an acting assistant attorney general, approved the first report of the grand jury, vindicating Finnegan's administration.

Slack, who was present at Tuesday's open hearing, said this was incorrect.

"The report was read to me," he told a reporter, "but I had no authority to approve it."

District Judge George H. Moore told the grand jurors to try again. Then they returned indictments against Finnegan and others.

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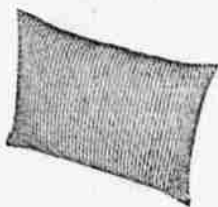
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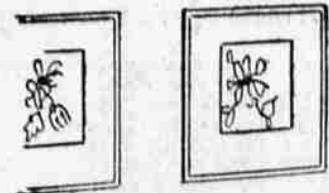
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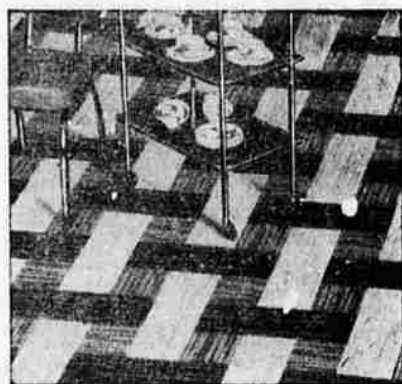


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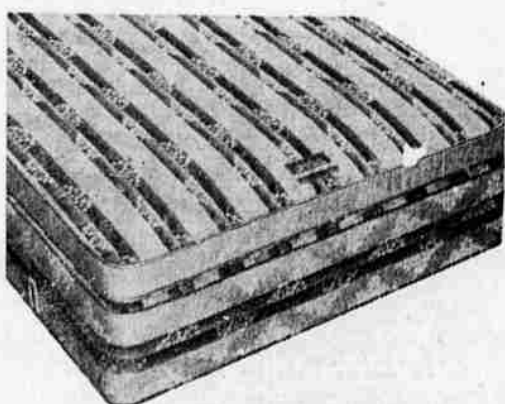
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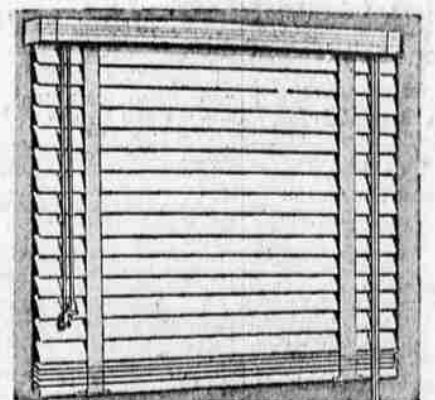
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