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XIX

East St. Louis Riot Investigation

Monday, Nov 12 - 1917

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1917.

The Committee met at 10.30 o'clock a.m., Honorable Ben Johnson (Chairman), presiding.

STATEMENT OF FRANK I. MARKS,

108 Collinsville Ave. East St. Louis, Ill.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson: Please give the stenographer your full name and address.

Mr. Marks: Frank I. Marks, 108 Collinsville Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois.

Mr. Johnson: Mr. Marks, during the last few years have you been security on any bail bonds?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Here in East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: I wish, in your own way, you would state to what extent you have been surety on those bail bonds, and if you had any agreement with the officials, relative to your suretyship on those bonds, we would be glad to have you state the whole thing.

Mr. Marks: Now the way I got into that business, I am a pawnbroker in this city - have been for fifteen years and in the general merchandise business. A great many of my clients, people that do business with me, are negroes, and when they would get into trouble once in a while they would call ^{upon} for me for assistance to get

them out of trouble. They would get me to go on the bonds and I would sign their bond. It was understood by the Justice that in case there was a default on those bonds - the bonds were generally for misdemeanors - \$50. bonds - in case there was a forfeiture on that \$50. bond, I was to pay the minimum fine and costs, \$6.85 in those cases, if the parties didn't show up. They plead guilty as a rule, and they always give them the lowest fine, \$5.00 in those misdemeanor cases, *and costs* \$1.85, and it was always done that way as far as I know.

Mr. Johnson: When did this arrangement of which you speak commence with the officials?

Mr. Marks: Well, I don't know. It was an unwritten law among them and had been followed up by former justices. When it commenced I don't know, but it has been done from time immemorial.

Mr. Johnson: With what officials did you have an arrangement of the sort of which you have spoken?

Mr. Marks: It was an understood thing. I wasn't the only one. It was the custom prevailing here at the time that all the bondsmen would pay in case of forfeiture in those misdemeanors the smallest fine the prisoner could pay on a plea of guilty.

Mr. Johnson: The bonds were never forfeited?

Mr. Marks: The bonds were never forfeited.

Mr. Johnson: You say that as surety on the bail bond you would not be compelled to pay the forfeited

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bonds, but instead you would pay the minimum fine?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Johnson: Would that carry with it the payment of costs?

Mr. Marks: Always. It would be \$6.85.

Mr. Johnson: Fine and costs?

Mr. Marks: Yes. In former times the costs would be \$4.85 but a few years ago they reduced the cost to \$1.85.

Mr. Johnson: What became of the fine collected in the case?

Mr. Marks: That I don't know. Up to when Mr. Bekate was made City Attorney under Chamberlain's administration, he used to check up those justices every day, but in former times I don't think they did it. When the costs used to be \$4.85, the secretary of the chief used to check up those justices every day.

Mr. Johnson: Name the officials with whom you had that sort of transaction.

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Mr. Marks: Well, all of the justices here in town. It is the custom yet. That custom hasn't been changed. All the present justices, and those that have been for years here - it has always been the custom and I have never known anybody to pay a forfeiture. All they expected was to pay the smallest fine in that case. Nobody that I know of has ever paid a forfeiture. It wasn't expected of them, either by the City Attorney or the justices; and these justices

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will testify to that.

Mr. Johnson: In your judgment, does any city official profit by that manner of doing business?

Mr. Marks: Not that I know of. I have never known them to.

Mr. Johnson: Does he lose money by it?

Mr. Marks: I don't think he does.

Mr. Johnson: If the bail bond was forfeited, he wouldn't collect the costs, would he?

Mr. Marks: Why certainly, he collects the fine and costs. Otherwise he would have to pay the \$50.

Mr. Johnson: I say, if the bond was forfeited and you had to pay that, then the officials wouldn't collect their costs?

Mr. Marks: Yes, but they don't forfeit the bond.

Mr. Johnson: Now I say, they don't, but if they were to? The only way for them to get the costs, is not to forfeit the bail bond but let the smallest fine go and collect the costs?

Mr. Marks: Yes, I understand you now.

Mr. Johnson: So by that process they make money for themselves and lose money for the City?

Mr. Marks: Why, exactly.

Mr. Johnson: Because they fail to collect the larger amount, which is a bail bond.

Mr. Marks: Exactly. That is right.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know anything about the granting of an electric franchise here?

Mr. Marks: About eight or nine years ago the light

franchise ~~franchise~~ here in town, that was owned by the street car company, was about to expire and a man by the name of Dr. McBrien, who was the City Health physician and a son-in-law of Mayor Cook; and Will Hauss a hardwareman in this city, organized a new light company and they went around with a petition to get subscribers for people to use their light. I was one of them that signed their petition. I was promised that I would get light for one-half what the prevailing cost was at that time. The Arcade Building was one of their other customers, and I think Will Hauss was the first. I don't know of them getting any more customers.

They bought an old dismantled factory where they used to make wheels, a block and a half from the Arcade Building, located, I think on the L & N Tracks there. They put in an engine and probably spent about \$5,000 or \$10,000 there, and they did furnish light to the Arcade Building. Of course I never got any light. They never put the service in my store. My store is located across the street from the Arcade Building.

Shortly after that they sold their franchise through a St. Louis promoter.

Mr. Johnson: That was his name.

Mr. Marks: I think it is Epstein, to the best of my knowledge, at that time connected with the *Imperial* Interior Light & Power Company of St. Louis, which was afterwards absorbed by the Union Light and Power Company of St. Louis, to the Clarke Brothers, as we

understood for \$750,000. Now there was a rumor at that time that all they got out of it was \$50,000.

Mr. Johnson: That is all who got out of it?

Mr. Marks: McBrien and Huss, that engineered the deal with this St. Louis ~~xxxx~~ promoter, that all he paid to them was \$50,000, that was the rumor at that time. That was after the thing was put over, and that Epstein or whatever his name was - that St. Louis promoter, connected with the old Imperial Light Company ~~of St. Louis~~, sold the franchise to Clarke Brothers in Philadelphia, for \$750,000. They tied us up for fifty years. We are paying 10 cents a kilowatt for light at the present time. That is the highest, 10 cents, and it gets down as low as 4 cents but you have got to use a whole lot before it gets to the 4 cent limit. A householder would never reach the 4 cent limit. Of course I do once in a while in my store. I pay \$17, or \$18 or \$20 a month for light there, and sometimes reach the 4 cent limit. They have a graduated scale but as a rule the householder would never reach that limit, because they wouldn't burn that much light. They pay 10 cents a kilowatt and the light is very poor. The street car company gets power from Keokuk, and oftentimes we have trouble. If there is any break on the line between here and Keokuk Iowa, we are without light and it has occurred several times on Saturday night, just when we were in the

height of business. They would shut off the light and we were in the dark - just paralyzed - couldn't do anything.

Mr. Raker: Was it understood, the general rumor, that the City Council received -

Mr. Marks: (Interposing) Well, it was understood in those days the council wasn't passing anything unless they got something. But the rumor at that time was that they were pikers and didn't get much out of it - very cheap. They didn't realize the value of what they were putting over.

Mr. Raker: Being pikers, being cheap, they ain't have to pay so much for the councilmen?

Mr. Marks: Yes. They got it very cheap, and they afterwards turned out to be cheap to the ones they sold to Epstein of St. Louis, because he is the one that got the big money and didn't do anything for it. Most the work was done here in town. It was easy enough for them to get the franchise to sell it to this St. Louis fellow, ~~xxxx~~ and he had the big easy job and made the most money out of it.

Mr. Raker: And the citizens of East St. Louis are paying for it?

Mr. Marks: Yes, they will pay for it for 41 years yet.

Mr. Raker: They had a cheap council?

Mr. Marks: Yes, I think it was pretty cheap there when they would sell it out for such a little amount of money, - a franchise worth \$1,000,000. And Dr.

McBrien boasted afterwards of what he had put over.

Mr. Johnson: Who did?

Mr. Marks: Dr. McBrien.

Mr. Johnson: What was his official position?

Mr. Marks: Health Commissioner under Mayor Cook
and son-in-law of Mayor Cook.

Mr. Baker: A resident of East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: Yes. He hasn't been for years. He
moved away to Chautauque, Illinois. I saw him
there three or four years ago. He has been very sick.
104 He is in Jerseyville now. He left here shortly after
his father-in-law got out of office.

Mr. Foss: When do you say this was?

Mr. Marks: I think about nine years ago. It
was during Cook's last term.

Mr. Baker: Now the man or woman that was arrested
for most any kind of offense, appeared before the
justice and this bond was given?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: And then on the day set, they didn't
appear?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: They might be right in East St. Louis
and right in business just the same?

Mr. Marks: Just the same.

Mr. Baker: It wasn't a case of them leaving the
town?

Mr. Marks: No.

Mr. Baker: Or of going away. It was just simply

a question of them not appearing at that time?

Mr. Marks: Why, exactly.

Mr. Baker: Then the bond was not forfeited, and the minimum fine was assessed, of \$6.00.

Mr. Marks: \$5.00 and costs. And the justice generally had the bondsman sign the defendant's name "per so and so as attorney." For instance, John Smith was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. They turn around on the back of the complaint, where the fine was \$5.00 and costs, and I sign "John Smith, per Frank I. Marks."

Mr. Johnson: And what would that accomplish?

Mr. Marks: Well, I don't know what it would accomplish. That is what they would ~~ix~~ compel me to do.

Mr. Johnson: They would have you to do that when you didn't have any authority from John Smith to sign his name?

Mr. Marks: I would not.

Mr. Baker: That would accomplish two purposes.

Mr. Johnson: Then you weren't an attorney at law?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Johnson: And you had no power, no authority to sign his name as an attorney in fact?

Mr. Marks: None whatever.

Mr. Baker: This then would accomplish two purposes: It would prevent the actual conviction of the defendant.

Mr. Marks: I believe so.

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Mr. Reker: And still leave him in his ^{sed launto} own home and place of business, whatever he was doing, just the same?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Reker: And further it would collect costs and a fine of \$5.00.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Reker: Now I understand you to say that one of the justices in the year, accumulated over and above his salary some \$25,000?

Mr. Marks: He had no salary. He accumulated it in his fees - William Bell, who committed suicide several years ago - that he had made during his term of office, \$25,000.

Mr. Reker: Now what about the chief of police and the night chief moving these cases from the various justices unless they played in with the chief of police?

Mr. Marks: Well, there were five justices here the same as we have now, - there were six, but only two got the business during the four years I speak of, William Bell, and Justice Brady, our present justice, that is Brady got the business got *if* he was sober. The assistant chief would go over there every day - the secretary of the chief of police would go over there ~~xx~~ every day and check him up and every conviction, the costs were \$4.85. The justice, I understand, retained \$3.00 of that, and \$1.85 was turned over to the secretary of the chief. The justice kept \$3.00 out of the \$4.85 for himself and \$1.85 was turned over to the secretary of

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the chief.

Mr. Baker: And if they found him any^{ways} negligent in his accounting, then what?

Mr. Marks: He was blacklisted. They put him on the blacklist for the time being and would take it over to the other justice, if he wouldn't deal square with *them*.

Mr. Johnson: Deal square or deal crooked?

Mr. Marks: Deal square, because they called that cheating.

Mr. Johnson: They called it "holding out" on them?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; exactly. It would be a pretty hard matter to do that, because they kept track of every case. The secretary goes to the police blotter every morning and takes down a list of arrests, and the justice and the charge that is against each one. He knows exactly. But he might cheat in this way: He might say, "this fellow wasn't fined." That would be about the only way he could cheat. He might say, "I didn't fine this fellow."

Mr. Johnson: If he didn't fine them, they would quit taking his business, wouldn't they?

Mr. Marks: Why, sure.

Mr. Rike: Then, as a matter of fact, the way to get the money was to take the business, fix a time for the defendant to appear, and then for the defendant not to appear, which would accomplish, I as I have

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said, the two purposes, namely, one of conviction and collection of the money - and third, which I didn't state, the bondsmen wouldn't have to pay on the bond, except this nominal amount that he voluntarily paid.

Mr. Marks: Yes.

M. Baker: That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Marks: Yes. I wish to state in connection with this, that 90% of the bonds taken in those cases, were not worth the paper they were written on, because the police took the bonds upon blank bonds. They would have a bunch of them signed by the justice. I understand that a bond in order to be a valid bond, must be signed in the presence of the justice; he must take cognizance of it. If not, it is not valid. 90% of them never saw the justice at all.

Mr. Johnson: They just took over a lot of signed blanks to the police office?

Mr. Marks: Exactly, and the bond was taken by the police.

Mr. Ross: Filled in by the police? The names were filled in by the police?

Mr. Marks: Yes, and the justice never saw the persons at all when the bonds were taken.

Mr. Baker: Then there must have been further, Mr. Marks - and I see you see the situation clearly - there must have been ^{this} ~~his~~ understanding between somebody, that when the police arrested this man and took

him there - any man - the defendant was not to return?

Mr. Marks: No, it was not necessary. I don't think it was the understanding at all. If the defendant didn't return the bondsmen would have to pay that fine there instead of the bond. It would be the bondsmen that would be the loser.

106 Mr. Raker: Well, you might run across some of these parties that were arrested that didn't have any more sense than to come back the next morning when the justice told them to, and therefore they would be in there for the trial of the case. But if they understood in advance that they weren't to come back, that would relieve the situation, wouldn't it?

Mr. Marks: Yes, but I don't think any of them ever had that understanding.

Mr. Raker: Not with you?

Mr. Marks: Not with any of them. I think they were always told to appear, because if they didn't appear, how would they get that fine? It had to come out of the bondsman's pocket. And as a rule every man was guilty - that is, in the eyes of the police and justice. If he wasn't he wouldn't be picked up. And I guess 90% of them were.

Mr. Raker: That practice you think, has been continued right along?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir. When Raker was elected Mayor ~~XXXXXXXX~~, through the city attorney he gave

instructions that the police were not to take any bonds. He compelled the justices to stay at their stations as late as one or two o'clock in the morning to take bonds for the persons brought in; and they done that during his term of office, but immediately after he went out of office, it went back to the old system.

Mr. Johnson: When he went out, who came in?

Mr. Marks: Mollman. That is his first term. It went back to the old system then, and the business was taken away during Chamberlain's time - five justices had the business. When Mollman went into power the business was taken away from the other justices, who were against him in the election, who were for Chamberlain, and it was given to Justice Driscoll - no, Driscoll wanted it all. He was elected police magistrate and he thought he ought to have all the business, but the other justices made a kick and it was divided between both of them.

Mr. Johnson: Between who?

Mr. Marks: Between the two justices.

Mr. Johnson: What two?

Mr. Marks: That was for Mollman; and the other three justices didn't get any business at all - that is no police business.

Mr. Johnson: That were the names of the two for Mollman?

Mr. Marks: Justice Driscoll and Townsend.

Mr. Johnson: That was in Mollman's first term?

Mr. Marks: Yes. They was for Mollman and they are the only two justices that got the business; and the other three didn't get any police business at all.

Mr. Baker: What became of Brady? How did he happen to drop out?

Mr. Marks: Oh, Brady was just elected justice under Mollman. He had been justice for years, many years ago. Brady was a clerk over in the police station.

Mr. Baker: So Brady got back?

Mr. Marks: Yes.

Mr. Baker: Well, is that the same Brady that appeared before the Committee here about three weeks ago?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir. He served here, I think, eight years ago. He served one or two terms, I forget which. That was when Cook was Mayor.

Mr. Baker: Was he for Mollman?

Mr. Marks: No, he wasn't. He was elected with Mollman last Spring. There were five justices and one for each magistrate, and they were all Mollman men. The Mollman ticket went in because they would get the business. There is a new justice every week. They rotate the business.

Mr. Baker: There is an understanding that they rotate. They don't divide it up as the cases come in?

Mr. Marks: No, each one has a week.

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Mr. Raker: And with five of them, each one is supposed to handle business enough in one week to tide him over the other five?

Mr. Marks: There are six of them, one for each magistrate and five justices. Under the law I believe the police magistrate is supposed to handle those cases - handle all police business, but it has never been the custom here. Driscoll did hold out for it for a long time, but the Mayor was determined to divide it up between the two that was for him, and the other three were left out.

Mr. Cooper: How long ago was this electric franchise secured here for \$50,000?

Mr. Marks: About nine or ten years ago.

Mr. Cooper: Was it a matter of common report here that money was paid for that franchise?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: How much?

Mr. Marks: Well, the rumor was \$50,000 that they sold it for. They sold it to this St. Louis promoter.

Mr. Cooper: Whose name was Epstein?

Mr. Marks: I think that was his name. He is ^{Imperial} ~~old~~ connected with the old ~~XXXXXX~~ Light Company. A. C. Epstein was his name. He was connected with the old Imperial Light Company of St. Louis which also is now out of existence.

Mr. Cooper: Who were the men that actually got the franchise from the city council here?

Mr. Marks: Well, Dr. McBrien, was one of them. He was health commissioner and a son-in-law of Mayor Cook.

Mr. Cooper: He was the son-in-law of whom?

Mr. Marks: Mayor Cook. It was passed under Cook's administration.

Mr. Cooper: That's one. Now who else?

Mr. Marks: Will Hauss.

Mr. Cooper: Who was he?

Mr. Marks: He is a hardware merchant here in town. I don't know what he had to do with getting it through the council. I do know that he was the one that asked me to sign the petition as a customer of the company.

Mr. Johnson: Was that signing a petition or subscribing for light?

Mr. Marks: Subscribing for light, and I did sign it.

Mr. Cooper: Who was the other, do you remember?

Mr. Marks: I don't remember.

Mr. Cooper: Were there three of them?

Mr. Marks: I think there were three, I don't remember the third one, if there was.

Mr. Cooper: The son-in-law of the mayor then, and two other men, got this franchise from the city council?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: And sold it to a St. Louis promoter for \$50,000 in money?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And the St. Louis promoter sold it for what?

Mr. Marks: The rumor was at that time he got \$750,000. He sold it to Clarke Brothers in Philadelphia, owners of the street railway here.

Mr. Cooper: Owners of your street railway here?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir. They own the suburban railway.

Mr. Cooper: And that company now owns this electric plant?

Mr. Marks: It is operated as a separate company, called the East St. Louis Light and Power Company, but is owned by the St. Louis Street Car Company. They have offices together and the same people run it, and they furnish the same power that runs the street cars company and runs the lights. The power is furnished by the St. Louis-~~Co~~ookuk Light & Power Company. And I think Sweeney,-- if I am not mistaken - Sweeney was at that time connected with it. He has put over a good many deals here in town. I haven't seen him lately. He is a promoter and comes around the council a good deal. I think he was one of them at the time.

Mr. Cooper: It was McBrien, Will Hauss, and Sweeney?

Mr. Marks: Eugene Sweeney. That is all that fellow ever did, was to promote.

Mr. Cooper: He was a professional promoter?

Mr. Marks: A professional promoter. That is all he has ever done. But since we have got a Public Utilities Committee here in this state he has gone out of business, I think, so far as East St. Louis is concerned.

Mr. Cooper: And they got a fifty year franchise?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: The people of this city had nothing to say, did they, as to whether the granting of that franchise should be permitted?

Mr. Marks: Nothing at all.

Mr. Cooper: It never was submitted to them at all?

Mr. Marks: Never at all. They didn't know anything about it until it was put over, until some of the papers commented on the affair afterwards.

Mr. Cooper: I asked you that question to call attention to the kind of power that could be exercised and the kind of wrong that could be inflicted by this ability of a few people in a town to sell or to grant any such franchise as that. The people were absolutely helpless, weren't they?

Mr. Marks: They were.

Mr. Cooper: And that is saddled on to them for fifty years?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; we are paying for it today. We are paying 10 cents a kilowatt for light where it ought to have been 5 cents,

Mr. Cooper: Do you think that in any municipality,

a common council, that is a board of aldermen - should have the power to grant a franchise of that great property value, without confirmation by the vote of the people afterwards, to see whether they want it?

Mr. Marks: I do not. I think that every body ought to vote who is interested and who are going to use it.

Mr. Cooper: Its provisions ought to be made public, ought they not?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: The people - all the taxpayers - ought to have a right to know every letter that is in it, with a sufficient time to study it, and then vote whether - they want that franchise to be granted or not?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: That is the way it is in a good many municipalities now and it ought to be in East St. Louis, oughtn't it?

Mr. Marks: It will be under our new form of government here.

Mr. Reker: I overlooked one matter. Now in giving these bonds, of course it had to be arranged so that you wouldn't lose anything.

Mr. Marks: Well, I would if the party didn't show up there. I would have to pay that fine and costs. Of course I wouldn't have to pay the bond. I would be out \$6.85.

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Mr. Reker: That is all.

Mr. Marks: I would like to make a suggestion to this Committee. Now after listening to all the evidence that you gentlemen have had before you, there is no question in your minds, but what there was a great reign of terror here long prior to the riots. People were held up on the highways; houses were burglarized; a great many crimes were committed, and invariably every one of those men that committed those crimes ^{were} armed with revolvers and other deadly weapons. Now I think, in my humble judgment, if Congress would enact a law forbidding the sale of revolvers or other deadly weapons to any person, that a great deal of this crime, this highway robbery, this burglary and others would be done away with. ~~Make~~ Make it a Federal offense for any ^{individual} person ~~either~~ to have a revolver ^{either} on his person or in his home, and to have the Government, have the national, state and city government issue them to commissioned officers who have authority to carry them.

Mr. Reker: Do you think Congress can assume the police powers of the State?

Mr. Marks: Well, I don't know.

Mr. Reker: Well, I shouldn't think you would make such a statement if you ~~didn't~~ did know.

Mr. Marks: I was just offering that suggestion.

Mr. Reker: Well, that suggestion wouldn't be worth a continental.

Mr. Marks: Well, I didn't know that.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Witness, I want to ask you a question about the granting of that franchise, which you say was procured for \$50,000 and ran for fifty years. Did you ever hear it talked about here- talked about in this city generally among the citizens - that \$14,000 was used for fourteen aldermen, and that the \$14,000 was put in the safe?

Mr. Marks: I believe I did at that time. It was common talk at that time.

Mr. Cooper: Common talk that in order to get that franchise - how many aldermen were there at that time?

Mr. Marks: Fourteen wards at that time, and I think we have got eight now.

Mr. Cooper: They didn't miss anybody? Each one of them got \$1,000?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And one of the aldermen died, didn't he, Cullen?

Mr. Marks: I believe he did.

Mr. Cooper: Well, that \$14,000 was then split up among the thirteen, wasn't it, and his widow sued to get his share?

Mr. Marks: Exactly. I remember it.

Mr. Cooper: It belonged to the estate?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: So it was shown to the people of this community, wasn't it, by Mrs. Cullen's suit,

that her husband, deceased, was one of the fourteen who was to have his share, equal share of the \$14,000 put into the safe for these fourteen aldermen?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: And that the thirteen who survived him hadn't any right to ^{pocket} ~~part~~ of his share?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: She evidently thought there ought to be honor among thieves. (Laughter).

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: Let me ask you this question. You received a fee for going on these bonds?

Mr. Marks: I did sometimes; and some times I didn't. There are a great many of those bonds signed for people who did business with me there, and I didn't charge them anything at all.

Mr. Foster: You signed bonds, not expecting to pay them?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: Whether the man was here or not?

Mr. Marks: Those municipal bonds.

Mr. Foster: So that you were a party to the violation of the law in reference to the bonds, before the justice of the peace?

Mr. Marks: I didn't look at it in that way. I didn't think I was violating the law.

Mr. Foster: Why weren't you? Didn't you sign them with the intention of standing good for this man

who was charged with the crime on the bond?

Mr. Marks: To the amount of the smallest fine and costs.

Mr. Foster: Well, you signed it and had an arrangement and were a party to it, didn't you, and you went into this for the purpose of getting money out of it?

Mr. Marks: Some times I did and some times I didn't .

Mr. Foster: But that was your idea, wasn't it?

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Mr. Marks: Well, no, not when I signed the bond for nothing.

Mr. Foster: Oh, I know, but that wasn't your business, was it? You were a professional bondsman?

Mr. Marks: I was for a while. I signed a lot of bonds for a while, but I had other business.

Mr. Foster: And you got money for it, either through your business or the fees that you directly received from the men whose bond you signed?

Mr. Marks: I did, yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: ~~XXX~~ So that you were a party to the crime of signing bonds in which you expected the prisoner to go?

Mr. Marks: Well, I wish to say, Doctor, that we didn't look upon it as a crime. We thought as it was the prevailing custom, it was legal.

Mr. Foster: You just took it for granted that everybody else would be willing to do the same thing for what little they could get out of it?

Mr. Marks: They had been doing it.

Mr. Foster: And you did the same thing?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: And you were a party to it?

Mr. Marks: I guess I am.

Mr. Foster: I think so.

Mr. Johnson: You described it as being so general that it was the unwritten law here?

Mr. Marks: It was the system, exactly. That is the best way to term it.

Mr. Foster: So that you fell into the system and went right along to violate the law?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: Well, an honest confession, they say, is good for the soul, and I hope it will help you. (laughter)

Mr. Marks: I wish to state this occurred under Lambert's administration - probably the Committee would be interested in this. The third door from my place was at that time one of the worst dives in East St. Louis. It was run by a man by the name of Dick Cantillon. He ran a poker and crap game upstairs. He had been a gambler all his life time, and he had a cabaret downstairs and he had a garden back of this place there. Now during the summer time St. Louis prostitutes used to come over here and there would be singing of lewd songs all night long, of the worst character. When the weather was hot, when we couldn't sleep in back, I live over my

store and there is no ventilation, and we would go out on the back porch to sleep, and I have got a boy fifteen years old - in his third year in high school - and I went to the proprietor and I asked him if he couldn't cut out this *Singing* after twelve o'clock at night. Well, he said, if he did it would kill his business. So I went over and made a complaint to the chief of police.

Mr. Johnson: What was his name?

Mr. Marks: His name was Sam Overmeyer. "Well," Sam says, "I'll see about it." And he didn't appear to do anything. Then I went and saw Mr. Lambert, our Mayor, who is a personal friend of mine, whom I had been instrumental in getting into office. After I told him what had occurred, why he says, "If I was you, Marks, I would move away from there. That is a bad place to raise a family. Why don't you move uptown?" I says, "Charley, are you kidding me?" "No, if I was you, I would move away from there." I says, "I am not going to move, and I am going to move those women." I went to the sheriff and I got that cabaret business stopped there after twelve o'clock at night. Of course I didn't aim to close the place up. I didn't want to interfere with the men's business there, but they had to cut out ^{*singing*} ~~them~~ songs and getting out there after twelve o'clock at night.

Mr. Johnson: It was considered against public policy to close up or move a house ^{*or place*} of prostitution?

Mr. Marks: Exactly, under that administration. The place finally afterwards was burned down. The man was arrested for arson, indicted and died in an insane asylum in St. Louis. They had found barrels of gasoline and different things there, and if that place had ever been touched off right, I probably wouldn't be here to-day, because I would have been blown out of creation - that very same place, and the man afterwards died in Alexian Brothers Hospital in St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson: He was insane at the time he died?

Mr. Marks: He was indicted with a woman, a mistress of his, and while that place was burning he telephoned to his woman - he was at one hotel in St. O Louis, and his mistress was in another - whether the thing was a success. He asked her over the telephone whether the thing was touched off right.

Mr. Foster: May I ask a question if you are through, Mr. Chairman? You run a pawnshop, you say?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Do you receive different articles and make a cash loan on them?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Among that is jewelry?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: /n^d firearms?

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Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Pistols?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Shotguns and rifles?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Have you in the last few months had a good many of those in your shop?

Mr. Marks: Revolvers?

Mr. Foster: Yes.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: And rifles?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir. I have a lot of them on hand now.

Mr. Foster: You bought them since the riot?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: Before the riot?

Mr. Marks: Before the riot. They had been left over. These negroes that pawned them there have left town.

Mr. Foster: They pawned them before the riot?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: So that you have got those on hand?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Did you sell many rifles before the riot?

Mr. Marks: Well, not any more much. I was looking on my records the other day, and ~~there were~~ we sell about 200 revolvers a year. The state law *here* compels every dealer in firearms to keep a record.

He must take the number of the weapon, the name of the purchaser, the address of the purchaser, the age of the purchaser, for what purpose purchased, ^a the description of the weapon, the date of the sale, and the amount obtained for it.

Mr. Foster: That is the State law?

Mr. Marks: That is the State law.

Mr. Foster: Does that refer to pawnbrokers?

Mr. Marks: "Every dealer, regardless of who he is, that sells firearms. He must keep such a record.

Mr. Foster: Each hardware man?

Mr. Marks: Exactly. That just applies to revolvers; not to shotguns. That is the State law.

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Mr. Foster: How did you sell, during the riot - or just before - did you sell firearms?

Mr. Marks: We did, yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Did you sell them during the riot?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: When did you quit selling them?

Mr. Marks: On the 29th of May, the secretary of the chief, Mr. ~~XXXXXX~~^{Mc}Lean, came over and said, "the Mayor has ordered you to stop selling revolvers and ammunition to anybody."

Mr. Foster: That was before the 28th or after?

Mr. Marks: After. This was the 29th of May. we got that order.

Mr. Foster: On the 29th. So that you didn't have it up to the 28th?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: Did you sell many pistols and rifles before the 28th?

Mr. Marks: Not any more than any other time.

Mr. Foster: Did you sell any on the 29th?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: None at all?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: You didn't happen to have a customer?

Mr. Marks: I had them all locked up.

Mr. Foster: You didn't get this notice until the 29th?

Mr. Marks: We locked them up on the 28th, because I anticipated a riot. I saw the way things was going and I locked them all up in the safe.

Mr. Foster: But you had sold them before that?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: To anybody who would come and pay the price?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Yet you think that Congress ought to pass a law and the State ought to pass a law -

Mr. Marks: (Interposing) No, not the state. It wouldn't do any good because they would go over in St. Louis and buy them unless it was done nationally, unless it was done all over the United States it wouldn't do any good, because that wouldn't stop them.

Mr. Foster: Did you have these pistols in your windows - show windows?

Mr. Marks: Prior to the first riot, yes. We

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displayed them there.

Mr. Foster: So that they might be enticing to a man who wanted a pistol?

Mr. Marks: We display them as well as all other wares.

Mr. Foster: So that it would be enticing to a man to come in and buy a pistol?

Mr. Marks: Not any more than any other merchandise.

Mr. Foster: But you did display them just the same as you would a diamond or anything else?

Mr. Marks: Exactly, just the same.

Mr. Foster: You did that to entice people to come in and buy them?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: To buy a pistol in East St. Louis; yet you know all these holdups were going on, didn't you?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir: They were displayed in different hardware stores the same as we displayed them.

Mr. Foster: I am not talking about them. I am talking about your shop. So that you endeavored to make sales whenever you could?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: Yet you knew all these holdups were going on in East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: I was aware of it. I was the victim of one myself - that is, I wasn't the victim of a holdup

but they got into my place the year prior and got away with a thousand dollars worth of stuff.

Mr. Foster: They got pistols mostly,?

Mr. Marks: Some pistols. They carried out four suitcases full of stuff and we have never been able to recover it.

Mr. Foster: Well, that was unfortunate. But still you were anxious to sell pistols in East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; at the same time I would like to see a law forbidding the sale of them, although I would lose \$500 a year by it. I would like to see the law enacted.

Mr. Foster: Still you were not willing to inaugurate such a system yourself in your own shop, to stop selling them?

Mr. Marks: Doctor, there is a man next door to me, and it wouldn't do no good so far as the public is concerned, because my neighbor next door would sell them. That wouldn't stop him. He would tell me I was a fool.

Mr. Foster: Still you are willing to do that.

Mr. Marks: I am a victim of a system.

Mr. Foster: Well, I am glad of your confession.

Mr. Foss: Is there any city ordinance on the subject?

Mr. Marks: None at all.

Mr. Foss: No ordinance against carrying concealed weapons?

Mr. Marks: Yes, there is, both city and State

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ordinances against carrying concealed weapons. The minimum fine is \$25. and the maximum \$200., but there is no city ordinance. It is always dealt with under the State law. I don't think the city has an ordinance against ~~xxxxxxx~~ carrying firearms, but the State has. But I have never known anybody to pay \$200. for carrying one. Across the river, in the State of Missouri, it is a felony to carry a revolver, and there have been very few convictions for carrying revolvers there.

Mr. Boss: That is by city ordinance, or by state law?

Mr. Marks: State law. It is a felony in Missouri to carry firearms.

Mr. Cooper: Concealed?

Mr. Marks: Concealed. But there are very few convictions and the papers have commented on it from time to time that convictions are so rare.

Mr. Cooper: I have asked you about Mrs. Cullen's suit to recover the \$1,000 which she alleges was her husband's share of the \$14,000 paid for the fourteen aldermen. That was the result of that suit, do you remember?

Mr. Marks: I don't know how it did come out. It has been quite a while ago, and I have lost all track of it.

Mr. Cooper: That is all.

Mr. Baker: You say you know of no conviction for carrying concealed weapons here in East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: Well, I never knew anybody to pay over \$25. I have known them to change the charge several times from carrying concealed weapons to disorderly conduct. I happened to be interested in a case one time in Judge Townsend's court, where Doc Bundy went up and spoke to the justice and the charge was changed against three or four colored people - I don't remember just how many there were - and I understand they paid a fine for disorderly conduct, which is \$5.00.

Mr. Baker: After having arrested them and finding concealed weapons on them, and so charged, when they got up to the justice, he dis issued the charge?

Mr. Marks: The justice changed the complaint.

Mr. Baker: They just scratch out the complaint?

Mr. Marks: Pardon at that time was Assistant States Attorney - or he would make a new complaint of disorderly conduct.

Mr. Baker: And some times they would just simply scratch out the charge of carrying concealed weapons and write in "disorderly conduct?"

Mr. Marks: Yes, the Assistant States Attorney would amend the complaint. I have known Pardon to do that three or four times when he was Assistant States Attorney, and just make it disorderly conduct. He did it several times for Matt Hayes, a colored fellow in town who was a street car conductor under-

Mollman's administration.

Mr. Baker: You're pretty well acquainted in East St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: I am.

Mr. Baker: What do you know about this saloon down here where a man pays one license and has a double saloon?

Mr. Marks: That is Marres Bar on the corner of Main and Broadway. He has a bar in the rear, and a side entrance for colored people.

Mr. Baker: A front entrance for whites.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: And one license?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Who owns that property?

Mr. Marks: I think it belongs to Mr. Maurice Joyce, if I am not mistaken. I know he owns property near there.

Mr. Baker: Who runs the saloon?

Mr. Marks: Marre. Whether it is owned by the father, who owns a saloon in St. Louis, I don't know. The son is there all the time.

Mr. Baker: But Maurice Joyce owns the property?

Mr. Marks: He was born in the property, so I am told.

Mr. Baker: And hasn't there been some trouble over this man running this double saloon with one license, and they would always squelch it?

Mr. Marks: Well, I don't know as to that.

I have heard some complaint on that.

Mr. Baker: Well, you have heard complaints, but there has been nothing done?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir. I always did understand that he run a very nice place-an orderly place there. He never had any trouble. It was a real nice place.

Mr. Baker: One license, and two bars; and entrance for the white at one end, and an entrance on the other end for the colored people.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: That makes a real pleasant place to meet and have a social chat and attend to ~~xxxx~~ business?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Now you said you knew that this riot was coming on May 18th?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; I knew that night - I anticipated there was going to be some trouble because I picked up the Journal and to the best of my knowledge it said there was going to be an anti-race meeting at the City Hall that night. I remarked to my clerk that there was going to be trouble. I said, "the best thing to do is to put those guns away." And they did attack my place that night about eleven o'clock. About half past eleven that night the mob of 500 tried to get in but I beat them to it.

I went over to the station there and all I found over there was the night chief and the clerk and he said he couldn't do anything for me. So when I

got over there three soldiers were in front of my place, and the chief of police and some plain clothes men was next door in a pawnshop next door. They didn't get in there, but they did go up to the corner above and ^{got in a pawn shop and} got ten or fifteen guns.

Mr. Baker: Were they white men?

Mr. Marks: Yes.

Mr. Baker: When was this?

Mr. Marks: The night of the 28th.

Mr. Baker: Right following the adjournment of that meeting?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: You say you beat them. How did you beat them?

Mr. Marks: Well, I run ahead. I was with that mob the whole ~~at~~ evening, because I thought there was going to be trouble. But what I would say here would be merely a repetition of what you have heard a hundred times. I was with them all the evening to see what they were going to do. I thought may be they would get into my place. Now the way they come to go for those pawnshops was this: One of them made the remark when on the corner of Collinville and Broadway, "let's go down to the Library Flats and get the niggers." The other fellow says, "if you go down there you will get killed. They are all armed. Lets first go to the pawnshop and get revolvers." Then they made a break for the pawnshop,

I went ahead and ~~run~~ over to the police station and notified the police. I wasn't afraid of them getting the guns, because I had them all locked away, but as they had broke in they would have gotten other things - which they did do on the day of the second riot. They got into another pawnshop and carried off \$400. worth of jewelry. That same mob tried to get into my shop but I was in there and had the door locked.

Mr. Baker: They did get into other pawnshops and got sixteen or seventeen guns.

Mr. Marks: They got into the pawnshop ~~run~~ by Max Sosinsky.

Mr. Baker: Did they ever return the revolvers to him?

Mr. Marks: Not that I know of. He has got in a claim to the city for them.

Mr. Baker: Who is this fellows that says, "lets go down to the pawnshops and get guns."

Mr. Marks: I don't know. I never saw him before. Of course if they had knowed he they wouldn't have made that remark.

Mr. Baker: Well, how far is your place of business from the Headquarters of the chief of police. ?

Mr. Marks: It is 250 feet, if you go through the Arcade Building. There is an entrance right through the Arcade, where you go from Collinsville avenue through to Main Street.

Mr. Baker: How far was this place from the

police station?

Mr. Marks: Four blocks down on the other side of the street.

Mr. Baker: There were these people now when they hollered "lets go down to the Library Flats?"

Mr. Marks: At the corner of Collinsville and Broadway. That is just a block and a half from my place of business.

Mr. Baker: And a short distance from the police station?

Mr. Marks: About the same distance; about two blocks from the police station.

Mr. Baker: This then was being done, and this talking was occurring right practically in front and along where the police station was? This talk about getting guns?

Mr. Marks: Oh, no; they were down on Broadway, *Collinsville* ⁴ *Broadway*. They were operating down there.

Mr. Baker: And you stayed up that night pretty late, did you, the 26th?

Mr. Marks: I went to bed at four o'clock in the morning, when everything was all quieted down.

Mr. Baker: Then it commenced again on the 29th?

Mr. Marks: No, it was quiet on the 29th. The first riot had ended then. There was nothing the next day.

Mr. Baker: Where were you on the 2nd of July?

Mr. Marks: I was here on the 2nd. I was in

bed share myself. I had an accident on the 1st which came near killing me and my whole family. I laid at that time in Westminster Hospital. Then I got up on Monday morning ^{and saw} in the Republic where Coppedge had been killed, I said to the doctor, "this is no place for me, because I will go nutty if I stay here. There is going to be something doing in East St. Louis. They are liable to burn down the town." So I telephoned for a taxi there and I got over here about ten o'clock in the morning with my arm in a sling.

Mr. Baker: And you went to your place of business?

116 Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; I went to my place of business and kept open until four o'clock. I had no more than closed up when the mob came and tried to break in, and I stood them off with a shotgun. I was inside and I told them that if anybody broke open that glass door I would shoot them. ~~They came in and shot into the store~~ *They went easy and* They went easy and went into the next place that was open there, Ackerman's place, the *second door* from mine, and got away with \$400. worth of jewelry.

Mr. Baker: You didn't get out of the store to see what was going on?

Mr. Marks: No, I stayed right there and had the door locked, and my clerk was just getting ready to go home. He lives in St. Louis, and I said,

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"there is no use of your staying here. You had better go home." I was in misery with my arm; my boy was lying at the point of death over in St. Louis, and I says, "I'll go upstairs and lay down. I am feeling very bad." Just then the mob come back and tried to break into my place, but they didn't get in.

Mr. Foster: I want to ask you this question. In reference to this bar that has been talked about as being two bars run under one license, one for the colored people and one for the white people; is that in two different rooms, or in the same room with a partition?

Mr. Marks: The same room, with a partition; one long store with a partition.

Mr. Foster: Just one bar with a partition?

Mr. Marks: That is all. It is not a separate place.

Mr. Foster: It is not a separate place, is it at all?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: So that really the man who takes out the license, take out a license for one bar, for the whole room?

Mr. Marks: They are conducted like bars are in the south. I have traveled all over the south, and that is the way they are conducted in the south.

Mr. Foster: There are not any of them in the south now.

Mr. Marks: There was years ago when I traveled through the south.

Mr. Foster: So that man, whoever it is, don't really run two bars, does he?

Mr. Marks: No, sir; I wouldn't call it two bars. It is just a partition like this room, partitioned off. You can stand in this negro bar there and you have got an observation view of the whole saloon.

Mr. Foster: That is all.

Mr. Baker: How he has two separate bars?

Mr. Marks: Well, he has got two separate bartenders. He has got a separate register.

Mr. Baker: There is a board partition?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: How high is it?

Mr. Marks: Well, I don't remember whether it goes to the ceiling or not. I wouldn't say.

Mr. Baker: But there is a door leading between the two places?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: And in the one side is a bar with a colored bartender?

Mr. Marks: Well, when I was there it was a white bartender.

Mr. Baker: A white bartender in both places?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: A white bartender for the white men and a white bartender for the black men?

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Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Baker: ~~XXXX~~ With a partition between and a door?

Mr. Marks: I don't know whether there is a door there, ~~too~~. I wouldn't say there is a door. So far as I can remember there is a partition, probably ~~up~~ to here, probably six or eight foot of space left to go from this one place to the other.

Mr. Baker: As a matter of fact, there are two separate bars?

117 Mr. Marks: Yes; there are two separate bars there.

Mr. Baker: Two separate bartenders?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Two separate sets of men for black and white?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Cash registers and all?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: That is ~~run~~ on one license.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: All in one room; and you have seen many bars just like it?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Foster: Nothing unusual in that?

Mr. Marks: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: So you don't consider, so far as you have observed in seeing the bars, you don't think there are two bars there, do you?

Mr. Marks: I consider it one saloon, a separate

place for the whites and blacks.

Mr. Foster: One for the colored people and one for the whites?

Mr. Marks: I will say also that in that other bar they kept cheap whisky, barrel house whisky. There was lots of barrels there where they would sell a cheaper grade of whisky than in this other bar, and there were a lot of white people that would drink with the negroes. I have been in there several times and saw the whites and blacks drinking together there at that bar, but I think there was a cheaper grade of whisky sold in that bar than was at the other place.

Mr. Baker: They keep a sort of a barrel house for the negroes?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Baker: And have a cheap grade of whisky?

Mr. Marks: That is what I would call it.

Mr. Baker: And for the other bar, the white men's bar it is more elevated in appearance and higher class whisky?

Mr. Marks: Exactly.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know whether it is better whisky or in a nicer looking bottle?

Mr. Marks: Well, sir, I haven't drank but two glasses of whisky in all my lifetime. That has been thirty five or forty years ago, so I wouldn't be a judge.

Mr. Cooper: You said something about your having

met with an accident that put you in the hospital.

Was that a hospital in St. Louis?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir; Westminster Hospital.

I had my boy there for about four weeks, lying at the point of death there. A machine tipped over with us.

Mr. Cooper: In an automobile?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: What day was that?

Mr. Marks: The first of July, about four o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. Cooper: And how were you injured?

Mr. Marks: My shoulder was dislocated.

Mr. Cooper: Your left shoulder?

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And you held that man in a sling when you came over on the morning of the 2nd.

Mr. Marks: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then you stayed in your place of business on the 2nd?

Mr. Marks: I did, up to four o'clock but that night I was out ~~to the store~~ watching the fire, because I had one with 150 feet of my store.

Mr. Cooper: And you said if anybody undertook to break open your door, your store door, which was locked, they would get shot?

Mr. Marks: I had a shotgun there. There was nothing in it, but they didn't know it. (Laughter)

Mr. Cooper: That is all.

Mr. Johnson: You my stan' aside.

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STATEMENT OF FERDINAND SCHWARTZ,
25 Logan Street, Bellville, Ill.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson: Give the stenographer your name and place of residence please.

Mr. Schwartz: Ferdinand Schwartz; living at 25 Logan Street, Bellville, Illinois.

Mr. Johnson: What is your business?

Mr. Schwartz: Painter and paper hanger.

Mr. Johnson: Where were you on the night of May 28th, last?

Mr. Schwartz: On the night of May 28th, I was in East St. Louis. I went down to Broadway, to the butcher shop there, conducted by my brother-in-law, bought some meat to take home, and one of the butchers was telling me that they were going to attend a meeting at the City Hall that evening.

Mr. Johnson: What was the butcher's name.

Mr. Schwartz: Bob McDonald. I said, no, I thought I would go right home. "Why," he said, "there is going to be a big war down there. They are going to protest to the Mayor about the influx of the negro." "Well," I says, "I believe I will stay."

It is about fourteen miles from here to my home, a suburb down there. I had lived here ~~times~~ about twenty-eight or thirty years of my life before I moved there, so I stayed to attend the meeting and

heard the speeches.

Mr. Johnson: Who spoke?

Mr. Schwartz: Well, Al Curtis, and Jerre Kne.

There was a newspaper man - he had a peculiar name, I couldn't remember it.

A voice Allegor?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, I believe that was the name. He spoke, and Flannigan, and Mayor Hollman. The speeches that some of them made were pretty good.

Mr. Johnson: Tell what each is, if you can.

Mr. Schwartz: I can remember Flannigan's speech very correctly. He got up there and said that he had some property that he would be wanted to be given, but he wouldn't. He said that if a party came to him in person and asked him how he would prevent negroes from moving in next door - ~~it~~ he came up to Flannigan, Flannigan said, "if that negro didn't get in the front door, he will never get into the house. If he doesn't move his furniture in there he can't live there." And then, "There is no law against mob violence." That kind of stirred it up. It seemed like they were getting itchy around the ~~xxx~~ crowd, and then the Mayor got up and he talked up and down and said: "This is a serious proposition. I never seen nothing like this before. I tell you, gentlemen, I don't know what to do. I will first have to see the Corporation Counsel." Well, that didn't seem to satisfy the crowd of men that was up there for one purpose. He said he would first have

118 to see the Corporation Counsel. So he said he would go back and convene with the regular meeting - the City Council was meeting also. So the crowd got to spilling out, and I cut through the corridor to the Ilmo Hotel to go home. Well, I was standing there waiting for a car by the Ilmo Hotel, and while I was there I seen a negro running down the street. It looked to me like there wasn't anybody after him at all. He was just running down there and stopped right near the front of the bank. Officer Brockman and Al Curtis, that made a speech up there, they grabbed him and the crowd got around him pretty thick, and Brockman told them he was going to take him to the station. I was pretty near there, so I went over to the station. The crowd just moved in a swarm and when they got over there to the station Mollman got up and tried to make a speech, and Dave Walsh got up and tried to make a speech, and you couldn't hear anything for the noise going on. So then somebody suggested that they go down to Broadway and clean Broadway. I says, here is where I am going home. If they are going to do any cleaning I am going home." So I went back over in front of the hotel where I started from and got a car and went home.

After I had gotten home - well, a day or two afterwards, or the next meeting - the printers meet on Monday night, and it was reported there that one of the printers, a member of our local, was arrested and was in jail, so some brother suggested that we see

what he had been arrested for; see what the charge was and see about the trial. So they asked three of us to go down to the police station and see what Horstman was arrested for. That was his name. So Bill Smith - he was a member of the Police Board at that time - volunteered to go with us. So we went down there, and Smith went back to the clerk's part and Walker was acting clerk that night, and he asked him if he knew what Horstman had been arrested for and if he could find out. He wanted to know how long it had been. He didn't know how long ago he had been arrested. So Walker goes through that book, that ledger, and points out the name, "here he is, Horstman, A. H., and everything; arrested for carrying concealed weapons; fined \$100. and costs by Judge Driscoll." We stood there looking down at it and Smith said, "Aint that rather a heavy fine? They ain't been assessing that heavy fines lately, have they?" "No." "But here is a negro that was arrested on the same day and tried before the same judge and fined \$25. Here is another one" - there were about three on the same page that that white man was tried, and Smith got up there and says "that is a nice how 'o you do, for Judge Driscoll or somebody to send the white men for forty two ~~days~~ days in jail - which they gave him, and let these niggers off with \$15. fines. I am going to see about it - see the Mayor - see the judge." "Well, they see the judge, I suppose, but the fellow

stayed in jail and done his little bit up there.

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That was prior to the second riot. Well, on the second riot, on July and, I was working in a house up on - well, it is within about a block from the hospital, the Deaconess Hospital, and I heard the ambulance coming there pretty regularly - coming there right along. I asked the lady there where I was working, there must be something doing downtown, and she says, "yes, I heard there was a riot. The groceryman said there was rioting down there." Then I went to the telephone and telephoned down here to the butcher shop where my sister is employed as cashier, and asked her what was doing down there, that the ambulance was coming out here so regularly, and she said, "they are rioting right in front here." This was about two or three o'clock. Then about four thirty I went down to Broadway there and seen it was all upset, and noised around town - or she told me that the street cars were going to quit running at six o'clock, so I says, "well, I am going home." And I beat it for home. It didn't seem that there was anybody to take hold or try to stop anything going ^{on} here. It seemed like everybody was sitting around watching and looking and hearing and laughing. The police never made no effort. On another occasion there was an officer down here on Missouri and Collinsville Avenue one night when I was coming home from meeting about eleven o'clock, and the officer was standing there and there was a coupe, a horse and wagon,

' no lights on; the horse running loose, and the officer came up and asked ~~us~~ if it belonged to us. We said no, ~~xxx~~ that it didn't and that he ought to take it around to the station. He held the horse for a while and the man came and he cautioned him about it, not having any light on his vehicle at night at eleven o'clock, and the policeman says, "you best it around the back way if you want to go to St. Louis, ~~but~~ ~~never~~, you are going. Best it around the dark streets. So we talked it over and the three of us preferred charges against the policeman for neglect of duty and not picking him up. We went down there and they had the trial. There was Caschel, Watkins and Schein on the police force. The officer was exonerated and made a sergeant afterwards.

Mr. Boss: He was promoted?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir. He was promoted.

That all I did up, I guess, to the affair, - well, there was another case I can remember. I had a friend out here by the name of Jake Steiner, running a saloon. He ran a saloon by there on St. Clair Avenue, and ~~the~~ *his* saloon was closed up and *his* license revoked for keeping open on election day. His was the only one they found open. So I worked out there on his house papering his house, and he was telling me about it. He was going to see Locke *Tarleton* about getting his license back. "Well," I says, "it is going to cost you \$100. to get your license back." He says, "how do you know Bert?" "Well," I says, "Mollman closed

up about 100 or 125 around town. It seems they are all opening up. There is two opened up on State Street yesterday, and I asked Jake Christian a fellow who used to be on the police force, and he said Hollman was making them kick in with \$100. a throw." And I says, "you ^{will} have to kick in with \$100. if you get your license." He says, "I'll keep my saloon closed. I'll not give them fellows nothing." I says, "I bet you don't get the license," and he says, "I wouldn't give \$100. for it." He didn't get the license. I don't know whether the other fellows kicked in, but he didn't. The saloon was opened up afterwards, and Andy Schaefer, is running it now.

Mr. Riker: What became of this \$100. that was kicked in?

Mr. Schwartz: I don't know what became of that. He didn't kick in.

Mr. Riker: I know this one man didn't, but they closed up about 100, and most of them in a short time went back to business, and you ^{understood} that each fellow paid \$100. to get started.

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Riker: But you don't know what became of this \$100.?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir.

Mr. Ross: You don't know that of your own knowledge, I suppose; only it was common talk? Is that it?

Mr. Schwartz: About the kicking in with the \$160?

Mr. Baker: Yes.

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, but he refused. I told him there was no use to see him, but he went down there and had two or three talks with him - with Locke.

Tarleton.

Mr. Baker: Did you understand that they told him that?

Mr. Schwartz: No, I told him what I had heard.

Mr. Cooper: Where did you hear it?

Mr. Schwartz: I heard it on the street car. A former police sergeant, Jake Christian told me.

Mr. Cooper: A former police sergeant by the name of Jake Christian, on a street car in this city, told you that a number of saloons had been closed because the proprietors, had no license?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And he told you that they had paid - those that went back to business - had "kicked in" as he called it, \$100. a piece?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And then they had been allowed to go on with their business?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Well, now did this police sergeant tell you to whom these people paid the money, the \$100. a piece?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: A hundred saloons at \$100. each

would be \$10,000. That is a considerable sum.

Mr. Schwartz: There were over 100 closed up at that time.

Mr. Cooper: Did a hundred open again?

Mr. Schwartz: Well, there is almost a hundred open again.

Mr. Cooper: There were more than 100 closed, and you think there are fully 100 open^{ed} again?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And when you used the expression "kick in", you meant that \$100 was paid to somebody so that the man paying the money might reopen the place that he had no right to open at all?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: The people that took that money weren't practically were blackmailing that fellow ~~xxxx~~ they? They said, "Here you keep shut or pay us \$100. If you pay us \$100, we will let you open regardless of the law." That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Schwartz: That is the way I understand it, yes, Sir.

Mr. Cooper: The law cut no figure in that transaction, did it?

Mr. Schwartz: It don't cut much figure in any of them around here.

Mr. Cooper: It didn't cut any in that case, did it?

Mr. Schwartz: No.

Mr. Cooper: Now, about when was that, that this

police sergeant told you that?

Mr. Schwartz: That must have been - the license was revoked in April, at the April election. That must have been in March - some time in March.

Mr. Cooper: Before the April elections?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir; in February or March.

Mr. Cooper: Of this year?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And this police sergeant said that to you as if he knew what he was talking about, didn't he?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: What was his name?

Mr. Schwartz: Jake Christian.

Mr. Cooper: Did he suggest to whom this \$100. had got to be paid?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And after this police sergeant told you that this \$100. had got to be paid by people that wanted to reopen, you went and told your acquaintance, whose place had been closed up - What was his name?

Mr. Schwartz: Jake Steiner.

Mr. Cooper: What was it you said to him?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, I told him that that would be the only way he could get back.

Mr. Cooper: Did you tell him that Christian had told you this?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir; I told him that Jake Christian had told me that.

Mr. Cooper: He knew that Christian was a police sergeant, did he?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: Was he at that time, a police sergeant?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir; he was a former police sergeant.

Mr. Cooper: How long had he been off the force?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, I don't remember when he got off the force.

Mr. Cooper: Well, you told Steiner, that this former police sergeant, Christian had told you that if Steiner wanted to open that place -

Mr. Schwartz: (Interposing) No, I told him that Christian had told me that these fellows had to donate \$100. to get their license back, and I thought he would have to, and he didn't believe that he would.

Mr. Cooper: You used the expression "kick in"?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know whether that went to the campaign fund? It was just before election.

Mr. Schwartz: No, I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know what \$10,000 like that, or anywhere near that sum, could have been collected for in that way?

Mr. Schwartz: Sir?

Mr. Cooper: Can you think of what about \$10,000 should have been collected for - for what purpose ^{at} that time?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, I should think it was paying

the political debts that they *have had*.

Mr. Foster: I would like to ask you - this Jake Christian who was a police sergeant, did he resign from the force, or were some charges filed against him and he was discharged?

Mr. Schwartz: Well, I can't recall that.

Mr. Foster: What is he doing now?

Mr. Schwartz: He is a baker.

Mr. Foster: And you say that 100 saloons were closed and 100 saloons were reopened. ?

Mr. Schwartz: Well, I didn't see many stay closed. You can look around town and they are about all open again that were closed.

Mr. Foster: All of them?

Mr. Schwartz: Not all. Some of them remained closed - a few.

Mr. Foster: How many saloons are there in East St. Louis?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, a little over 300 I believe.

Mr. Foster: There are no ?

Mr. Schwartz: I believe there is 370.

Mr. Foster: 370 now? Do you know that to be a fact?

Mr. Schwartz: No, a little over 300, I believe.

Mr. Foster: You know that to be a fact?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: And how long have they had 300 saloons here?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, they have had the same amount

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of saloons for the last ten years.

Mr. Foster: And you are sure that there are 300 saloons - at least 300 saloons open in East St. Louis, now?

Mr. Schwartz: Well, taking it from the papers - haven't I ~~xxxx~~ counted them.

Mr. Foster: You don't know that of your own knowledge?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir.

Mr. Foster: You just read that in the papers?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: And they said there were over 300 now?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir; about, I guess.

Mr. Baker: I believe they claim from the records that there were 320.

Mr. Foster: I understood it was testified to that there were 251 saloons in East St. Louis; and that is the reason I asked the question, because I thought the witness knew what there were. He said that these saloons that were closed up have been reopened, practically all of them.

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: And is it your judgment that the saloons paid the \$100. to get an opportunity to reopen?

Mr. Schwartz: I never gave it much thought until that occurrence. Then after he was put out of business I came to that conclusion.

Mr. Foster: After this segment talked to you, you told your friend?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Where did he operate his saloon?

Mr. Schwartz: Up on St. Clair Avenue.

Mr. Foster: On what they call "Whisky Chute"?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Beyond the Black Bridge?

Mr. Schwartz: No, almost opposite the National hotel, right next to the Drivers Bank.

Mr. Baker: Was there any effort of anyone to get out of that meeting over there on the 28th of May?

Mr. Schwartz: No, it didn't seem like there was. I was over on the opposite side towards Third Street, and we took out time, just like going out any other meeting.

Mr. Baker: Before the meeting was through with, did anybody try to get out?

Mr. Schwartz: No.

Mr. Baker: What place was it that evening that you tried to get out and couldn't?

Mr. Schwartz: That I tried to get out?

Mr. Baker: Yes, and they wouldn't let you go out?

Mr. Schwartz: I didn't try to get out in place.

Mr. Baker: Was there any meeting that you tried to get out of just before the riot, one of those riots, and they wouldn't let you out until Flannigan appeared?

Mr. Schwartz: No, sir. Of course there might have been a crowd. I didn't attempt to get out.

Mr. Baker: That is all.

Mr. Foss: Was there a large crowd in the hall

that night?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: All of the seats taken?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: And people standing up?

Mr. Schwartz: They were standing near the door.

There was only one entrance. Now when the crowd went out, did you go out with the crowd?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: Did they scatter?

Mr. Schwartz: They scattered, yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: Was there any considerable number that went one way?

Mr. Schwartz: Why, right down here at the corner, at Collinsville. The great majority of them were coming this way.

Mr. Foss: To take the car, do you think?

Mr. Schwartz: That is the transfer from Bellville, Leith Avenue, Lonsdowne, and stock yards cars, and State Street. They all run out there.

Mr. Baker: There were a number of women there that night too, weren't there?

Mr. Schwartz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: How many were there in the hall that night? Were there a thousand people?

Mr. Schwartz: Easily that.

Mr. Johnson: You may be excused.

STATEMENT OF E. M. SORRELLS,

East St. Louis, Ill.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson: Please give the stenographer your name and residence.

Mr. Sorrells: E. M. Sorrells, East St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson: What is your occupation or business?

Mr. Sorrells: ~~XXXX~~, at the present time, ~~XXXX~~ superintendent of the river navigation department of the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Cooper: How long have you lived in East St. Louis, Mr. Sorrells?

Mr. Sorrells: About nine years.

Mr. Cooper: What has been your occupation during the last eight or nine years - or various occupations?

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Mr. Sorrells: I was employed first as bookkeeper of the East St. Louis & Suburban Railway, then Chief Clerk of the East St. Louis Light and Power Company; Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and in my present position.

Mr. Cooper: How long have you been in your present position with the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Sorrells: Since about May 5th of this year.

Mr. Cooper: Immediately prior to that what was your occupation?

Mr. Sorrells: Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Cooper: There is no salary attached to that, is there?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; \$2,000 a year.

Mr. Cooper: Did you have any other business prior to that, or with that at the same time?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: How long were you secretary of the Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: I should say about eight months.

Mr. Cooper: About eight months immediately prior to your entering the employ of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: What are the duties of the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in this city?

Mr. Sorrells: The betterment of East St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper: Is that the duty of the secretary, or the duties of the Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the duties of that was the duty of the Secretary in connection with the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Cooper: What ^{work did you have} ~~was~~ it ~~for~~ ~~the~~ to do yourself as secretary in that capacity?

Mr. Sorrells: I was handling all matters which might come to the Chamber of Commerce, or ~~the~~ Board of Directors.

Mr. Cooper: Which might have come through. What did come through? What did you do? What did you handle?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh, we were on the lookout for new industries in the city, as I said before, things which would better East St. Louis, or ~~to~~ ^{attempt} to do any with things which would tend to injure East St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper: Well, do you recall anything that you as secretary, did during those eight months in connection with the duties of the Chamber of Commerce, -- the business of the Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, not anything directly, no, sir - specifically. We took up several matters.

Mr. Cooper: You don't know of any duties that you did directly, or specifically, as secretary to better conditions in East St. Louis?

Mr. Sorrells: The files or the records over there, the correspondence will show that. I don't remember all of it.

Mr. Cooper: Were you connected with some shooting club in this city?

Mr. Sorrells: I was secretary, ~~yes~~ yes, sir, of the East St. Louis Rifle Club.

Mr. Cooper: When was that club organized?

Mr. Sorrells: Probably three years ago. I don't remember the date. I was not the first secretary, however.

Mr. Cooper: When were you made secretary of the shooting club?

Mr. Sorrells: About a year ago.

Mr. Cooper: What were your duties as secretary of the shooting club?

Mr. Sorrells: Trying to get new members; also taking care of the records of the club and trying to locate target ranges. Our main trouble ^{that we had} was to secure indoor and outdoor arrangements for our club.

Mr. Cooper: Who was the president of the club?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel.

Mr. Cooper: What is his business now?

Mr. Sorrells: He is connected - he is superintendent of the docks at the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Cooper: When did he enter the employ of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: I should guess about a month and a half ago.

Mr. Cooper: What was his business prior to entering the employ of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: He was engineer - one of the engineers of the city, I believe - of the Park Board.

Mr. Cooper: Now, will you please give the names of some of the members of the shooting club who were members of it when you were secretary, besides the name of Mr. Weinel, who was its president - by the way, what was Mr. Weinel's business while he was acting as president of that shooting club ^{and} prior to his employment by the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: He was working for the Park Board as an engineer, and also for the city.

Mr. Cooper: In what other capacity did he work for the city except for the Park Board?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I don't believe he was working for the Park Board. He was hardly working for the city. I think he left the Park Board and went as an engineer under the City Engineer.

Mr. Cooper: What did he do with the Park Board?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: You don't know what his salary was at that time?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I do not.

Mr. Cooper: In what employment was he engaged when working for the city?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the duties of a civil engineer.

Mr. Cooper: City engineer, is that it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, he wasn't city engineer, but he is a civil engineer - or he does surveying - runs grades, and I suppose all such as that pertaining to this work of civil engineer.

Mr. Cooper: Did he work some for the Levee Board?

Mr. Sorrells: I think so, yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: How much did he work for the Levee Board?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: When did you first get acquainted with Mr. Weinel?

Mr. Sorrells: I have known Mr. Weinel for almost as long as I have been in East St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper: About nine years?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, yes, and indirectly. And then the last three years, or four years, I have known him quite well.

Mr. Cooper: Where did you live before you came here to live nine years ago.

Mr. Sorrells: I lived at Jacksonville, Ill.

Mr. Cooper: How long did you live there?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, off and on, I lived at Jack-

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sonville for almost all my life, in and around Jackson-
sonville.

Mr. Cooper: In what business were you engaged there?

Mr. Sorrells: I was an ~~agent~~ insurance agent.

Mr. Cooper: Now while this shooting club was in existence ^{here} and you were acting as its secretary, did you procure any guns or rifles for that club?

Mr. Sorrells: We had some - the Government sent us some forty rifles and 25,000 rounds of ammunition.

Mr. Cooper: The Government sent you, you say? What Government?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the United States Government.

Mr. Cooper: Now the Government of the United States didn't send them to your club without a request. Who made the request.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I think when the rifle club was organized, Mr. Weinsel and the secretary then, Mr. Oehucke. And after the formalities were gone through with of organizing the club, I suppose they sent the necessary requisition to the Government, and they sent the rifles.

Mr. Cooper: ~~Now~~ Now you say you suppose and you think. Do you know?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the rifles arrived and that is the only way they have been received.

Mr. Cooper: They arrived before you became secretary?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Did you get any more after you became secretary?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: About how many were there?

Mr. Sorrells: About forty rifles.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know definitely the number? You have an inventory of them?

Mr. Sorrells: We have. I can easily furnish that and exactly where all the rifles are too.

Mr. Cooper: What kind of rifles were they?

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Mr. Sorrells: They are made over Krag Jorgensen.

Mr. Cooper: They are a make over Krag Jorgensen rifle. How many rounds of cartridges were sent you?

Mr. Sorrells: Some 25,000.

Mr. Cooper: When did those arrive?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: Give us your best judgment.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, shortly after - several months after the requisition went through. I know there was quite a delay in receiving the rifles after they had been requested from the Government.

Mr. Cooper: You know there was considerable delay after the request was made; then you knew when the request was made. When was the request made?

Mr. Sorrells: Shortly after the organization of the gun club. I knew this indirectly through conversation with Mr. Weinel. I have always been more or less interested in the gun club.

Mr. Cooper: Then Mr. Weinel told you that there

had been a delay in the arrival of the rifles, after the request was made?

Mr. Sorrells: Because the boys were anxious to get hold of the rifles, and kept bothering me. I was then in the East St. Louis and Suburban Railway and I kept asking Mr. Weinel when they were going to come. He said there was some delay.

Mr. Cooper: You were then in the employ of the street railway company and you were anxious to know when these rifles would come. Had the street car company had any strike at that time, or ~~there~~ was there one threatened?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; not that I know of.

Mr. Cooper: How long after that was there a street car strike there?

Mr. Sorrells: All the street car strike that I remember on the East St. Louis and Suburban was some track men that walked out and that was settled in a little while.

Mr. Cooper: When was that?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know. I can't remember.

Mr. Cooper: You can't give the date approximately?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I cannot.

Mr. Cooper: About when do you think it was?

Mr. Sorrells: It might have been two years ago. It might have been three or four, as far as that is concerned.

Mr. Cooper: It was after these rifles had been ordered?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh, yes. The rifles had nothing to do with that whatever.

Mr. Cooper: How long was it? If it was two years ago and the rifles were ordered - the club hasn't been organized but two years and if this strike was about two years ago, it wasn't very far from the time the rifles were ordered, was it, according to your own testimony?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, no. I said that it might be two or three or four years, so far as that is concerned, that this strike occurred.

Mr. Cooper: Well, it might be two, or three or four. Which was it? Which one.

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: How many of those rifles finally got over with the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: I think some thirty two. I think out of the forty or thirty seven rifles we had - I have forgotten now just how many there were - there were thirty seven or forty as I mentioned a moment ago, and some where in the neighborhood of thirty were taken out to the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Cooper: That is three fourths of the rifles the club had were taken to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: All those that were not in the hands of individuals.

Mr. Cooper: You know, do you not, that the United States Government doesn't furnish rifles to corporations?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, these were not furnished to the Corporation.

Mr. Cooper: Who did furnish them to the corporation?

Mr. Sorrells: No one furnished them to the corporation.

Mr. Cooper: How did they get into the possession of the corporation?

Mr. Sorrells: I took them over there.

Mr. Cooper: As secretary of the sporting club?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. We have been for some time - we were on our last legs.

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Mr. Cooper: You say that your principal business was secretary of that sporting club to look around for ranges, ^{targets,} for the use of the club. Were there any ranges or targets over there in the Aluminum Ore Company plant.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, we thought probably we could get them to build us a range, which we did later.

Mr. Cooper: Did you think if you had them over there you might find some targets? Is that it?

Mr. Sorrells: Not in that way.

Mr. Cooper: Well, you know, do you not, that as a matter of law, ^{that} the United States Government wouldn't ~~send~~ send rifles to any corporation that might ask for them.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, that I do not know. I am not posted on that.

Mr. Cooper: Didn't you know that the Aluminum Ore Co. couldn't write to the War Department, of the United States Government and get a consignment of rifles for its private

use -- to use in its plant?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; I didn't.

Mr. Cooper: Well, don't you think it would be a most extraordinary thing if the private corporations or private individuals of this company should send to the United States War Department and get a supply of rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: You are asking me for my personal opinion?

Mr. Cooper: Yes.

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; I think they ought to ~~xxxx~~ at times.

Mr. Cooper: Exactly. And though as secretary of this sporting club, having procured these rifles -- the club had - for the purpose of sport, as the United States Government then supposed, you think that you had a perfect right/to send those rifles over to that private corporation?

Mr. Sorrells: Personally I had a right to store those rifles wherever I pleased as secretary.

Mr. Cooper: How long had they been stored with the sporting club ~~xxxx~~ before you sent them over to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they have been stored with us ever since they had been received.

Mr. Cooper: What do you mean by "us"?

Mr. Sorrells: With the rifle club.

Mr. Cooper: Now where is that rifle club storage place located?

Mr. Sorrells: I would be glad to tell you that

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outside of this inquiry, because some of that is still stored at that place, and it is not a very safe place.

Mr. Cooper: Well, I don't think that the location of the five or six rifles ~~that~~ that are still there ---

Mr. Sorrells: (Interposing) They are not there. It is just ammunition that I have reference to. Not all the ammunition was taken away.

Mr. Cooper: How much was taken away?

Mr. Sorrells: Some ten thousand rounds.

Mr. Cooper: And the rest of the ammunition is left there?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: But you didn't think it was altogether safe for the rifles to be left there?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Cooper: So you took away the rifles and ten thousand rounds of cartridges, and left the rest of the cartridges there?

Mr. Sorrells: I would have taken the other also, and I don't think it is a safe place to have them.

Mr. Cooper: Well, did you get permission of the United States Government?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Cooper: You never have asked permission of the War Department to take those rifles or cartridges over there?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; I never asked them permission where we should store, and they never suggested any place we should store them.

Mr. Cooper: You weren't in the employ of the company at the same time they were stored there, at the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Cooper: How came you, as secretary of a sporting club, to take these rifles and ten thousand rounds of cartridges to a private corporation with which you weren't connected, or by which you were not employed -- not then employed?

Mr. Sorrells: Do you want my reasons for so doing?

Mr. Cooper: Yes sir.

Mr. Sorrells: As I said before -- started to say once before -- the rifle club was on its last legs, and we couldn't build -- we attempted to build a rifle range and we had no money to build it with.

Mr. Cooper: How came you to send them to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: That is what I am leading up to. Mr. Fox was talking to me one day and he said, "we are trying to get some rifles or some guns and ammunition from across the river" -- I don't know from what source -- and I said, "well, what is the use? I ~~will~~^{would} store these rifles and ammunition out at your place." So I stored them there.

Mr. Cooper: Now you took practically all the rifles and ten thousand rounds of cartridges and left fifteen thousand rounds of cartridges in which you think was ^{an} unsafe place.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; I still think it is unsafe.

Mr. Cooper: Well, what did Mr. Fox want the rifles and

ten thousand rounds of cartridges for.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, he wanted these other rifles, I suppose, to protect his plant.

Mr. Cooper: And so you agreed to take ^{the} United States ^{gotten} rifles/ from the United States Government, for one purpose, the purpose purely of a shooting club, and turn them over to a private corporation that couldn't get them from the Government?

Mr. Sorrells: I didn't turn them over to them.

Mr. Cooper: You took them over to there plant?

Mr. Sorrells: I know, but they couldn't get them without my sending them over to them. Had they been turned over to them to use I would have been responsible for that, but they never used them in any form or fashion except for the purpose for which they were sent.

Mr. Cooper: They have never been used, but they were cleaned up, as I understand it.

Mr. Sorrells: I don't think all of them were. I think the majority of them ~~are~~ still packed.

Mr. Cooper: Not all of them were cleaned up, but some of them were?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: Well, who cleaned them?

Mr. Sorrells: Members of the rifle club.

Mr. Cooper: Over there at the plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, there was just probably -- I suggested that they clean enough so that they could get out and practice with them. It was a job I didn't care to do myself.

In fact, I was busy and --

Mr. Cooper: (Interposing) What did you say Mr. Fox wanted the rifles for?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, these rifles he didn't say what he wanted them for.

Mr. Cooper: What did he want rifles for when he first spoke to you about rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: He never stated.

Mr. Cooper: He said he couldn't get them across the river.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, he was going to get them for the protection of his plant in case anyone came out there to destroy his property.

Mr. Cooper: And not being able to get rifles across the river to protect his plant and to protect his property, you agreed to turn over a number of rifles which the club had procured from the United States Government, to enable him to protect his property?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I didn't agree to that. I ~~took~~ them out there.

Mr. Cooper: But you knew for what purpose he wanted the rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: And you made the suggestion to Mr. Fox, after he had made that suggestion?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Fox didn't know that we had any rifles.

Mr. Cooper: One moment -- Mr. Fox suggested to you that he wanted the rifles to protect his plant, and that he had been unable to get them in the City of St. Louis, across the

river?

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Mr. Sorrells: I don't think he said he had been unable to get them. He just mentioned that he was going to secure the rifles.

Mr. Cooper: But one moment ago you said he did say so.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, ^{but} /I don't say he was able to get them. He may have been able to get them.

Mr. Cooper: But you volunteered the statement that Mr. Fox told you he was unable to get them. What did you mean by that statement a moment ago, when you said that Mr. Fox told you ^{that} he had been trying to get arms across the river, and couldn't get them?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I didn't say he couldn't get them. Did I say that?

Mr. Cooper: Yes.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I wish to take that back.

Mr. Cooper: Do you wish to take that back now because you see how strange it was that after he said that to you, and that he wanted arms to protect his plant, you should volunteer to give him United States rifles? Is that the reason you make that retraction?

Mr. Sorrells: No, not at all.

Mr. Cooper: Well, you change your testimony completely after that is pointed out.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I wish to change the testimony on that. So far as that is concerned, had Mr. Fox called on me that his plant should be protected -- had he called on me to get those rifles, I would have gotten them for him or any other plant in the city.

Mr. Cooper: In other words, you would take guns supplied to a sporting club by the United States Government for sporting purposes and turn them over to any private corporation that -- which might ask you for them, although that plant itself wouldn't get them from the United States Government?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know that the plant couldn't get them. That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: Well, it is the law. The Government of the United States ~~does not~~ turn over to private property owners rifles.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, you know the law. I don't know it.

Mr. Cooper: Well, as a matter of fact, according to your own testimony, you turned those rifles over to Mr. Fox, these government rifles, to enable him, should trouble arise, to also protect his property -- the plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, I would have turned them over to him.

Mr. Cooper: Of course that conclusion is inevitable from your statement now. Now what trouble did Mr. Fox talk about? A possible strike?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, if I am not mistaken they had a strike on out there.

Mr. Cooper: ^{And} you turned Government rifles over to Mr. Fox for the purpose of enabling him to defeat the strikers?

Mr. Sorrells: Technically I did not. Morally I did.

Mr. Cooper: Morally -- well, he had the rifles and the cartridges?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Cooper: That is rather practical, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: I turned the rifles over in that way, yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: And after that you were employed -- how long was it after that that you were employed by this company?

Mr. Sorrells: I should judge about a month.

Mr. Cooper: The law was violated by turning United States rifles over to a private corporation, and they had a strike on, and about a month after ~~that~~ you rendered this service to this corporation, you were employed by the corporation and have since remained in its employ. Is that right?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: And the president of that sporting club, which procured those rifles for sporting purposes is in the employ of the same private corporation now.

Mr. Sorrells: He is out there on my recommendation.

Mr. Cooper: Out there on your recommendation?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: What are your ~~boats~~ out there?

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Mr. Sorrells: I have ~~boats~~ of the boats and barges which bring **Ore** from the lower Mississippi up to the plant from Memphis.

Mr. Cooper: You have no other employment now? What is your salary in your present employment?

Mr. Sorrells: I make one hundred and seventy-five dollars a month.

Mr. Cooper: That's all.

Mr. Johnson: Where are those guns now that were taken out to the Aluminum plant?

Mr. Sorrells: They are still in the box out at the

Aluminum Ore Company; in the box in which they were first stored.

Mr. Johnson: There are some, however, that are not out there?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, now I have one out at my house, and I think several other members of the rifle club have them. Those who wanted them, we let them take them to their homes.

Mr. Johnson: Name some of those who have them.

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel has one.

Mr. Johnson: Mr. Weinel works for the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Name another person who has one. You have named two now. You have got one, and Mr. Weinel has one.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I could give you the exact list of where those extra rifles are by making inquiry from our records and Mr. Weinel. I would be glad to furnish that.

Mr. Johnson: Two names is all you can name?

Mr. Sorrells: There are about five or seven rifles out, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Johnson: Search your memory now, and see if you can't tell us where some of them are at least.

Mr. Sorrells: So many of the boys that have rifles bought them; later on secured rifles and turned them back, and I don't remember the names of any -- well, as I say, I can't think of any one that has a rifle outside of Mr. Weinel and myself.

Mr. Johnson: Did you have a pretty good idea at the time you sent these rifles over to the Aluminum Company where the

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others were?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, we got in most all of the rifles. They were coming and going -- that is, a rifle would go out and we would get it back in. There was a few extra rifles, about ten of them that were kept in that way, and we sent them back and forth to the various members of the club.

Mr. Johnson: But I am trying to find out who they are now.

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know now. I could tell you exactly where all the rifles are, as I say, if I could get at the records.

Mr. Johnson: Where are those records?

Mr. Sorrells: They are either out at my house or out at my desk.

Mr. Johnson: Will you get that and come back and report to the names of those persons?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, I will be glad to tell you exactly where the rifles are.

Mr. Johnson: When will you be back with that information? Not where they are now, but where were they at the time you surrendered the other rifles to the Aluminum Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, now I think that all those rifles -- that are still there, 32 -- yes, I will be glad to get you the information and bring it back just where the rifles were.

Mr. Johnson: When will you bring it back?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, inside of a couple of hours.

Mr. Johnson: You have got one of those rifles out at your house?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: How much ammunition have you got out there?

Mr. Sorrells: About six cartridges.

Mr. Johnson: Who do you say has another one of those rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel.

Mr. Johnson: How much ammunition has he?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I don't know.

Mr. Johnson: How much ammunition did you have at your house during the last strike at the Aluminum Company?

130-N Mr. Sorrells: I never had one. I never had a rifle out there.

Mr. Johnson: Where was your rifle at that time?

Mr. Sorrells: In fact, this is the first rifle I have had. The reason I took that rifle out there was so we could practice on the range. And to be frank with you, someone got in and got my chickens, and I thought I would shoot him if he came out there again, and I was going to use a government rifle to do it with -- any rifle I could get hold of.

Mr. Johnson: And the situation was that Mr. Fox was about to get rifles for the Aluminum plant, and you suggested to him that he need not do that; that you would furnish these government rifles, and you did so?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; I told him, why spend money for guns and ammunition when I could place them out there.

Mr. Johnson: How long after the guns arrived here was it before they were turned over to the Aluminum plant?

Mr. Sorrells: I suppose they have been here six months or longer. We have had them stored in this other place then.

Mr. Johnson: How many members of the rifle club did you start off with?

Mr. Sorrells: We had about two hundred members on the roll. About one hundred of them were paid members.

Mr. Johnson: And for those hundred members you got something like forty guns?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, we listed some two hundred. Some two hundred men said they would join, and for every five members we secured a rifle from the government. But since then so many of them failed to pay up their dues that we only have about one hundred active members in the rifle club.

Mr. Johnson: In what way are they active?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they have paid their dues, and that about is/the only way they are active.

Mr. Johnson: They pay their dues, but they don't get hold of the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: They can get hold of the guns.

Mr. Johnson: But they do not?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they don't come out.

Mr. Johnson: They don't get the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: They can get get them, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: But they don't get the guns, do they?

Mr. Sorrells: They make no effort to get them. We have sent out cards after cards, bidding them to practice out there, but they fail to come.

Mr. Johnson: But they don't get the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; because they don't ask for them.

Mr. Johnson: But still they don't get the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: No, of course not.

Mr. Johnson: It took seven questions to get that answer.

Mr. Sorrells: You are clouding the answer.

Mr. Johnson: No, I just asked you the plain question whether or not the members of the gun club get the guns.

Mr. Sorrells: And I would say they do not, but can.

Mr. Johnson: How much are the dues?

Mr. Sorrells: Two dollars a year.

Mr. Johnson: And one hundred of them pay dues?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; they pay dues -- we were so long -- however, I don't believe anyone has paid the second dues. They might, in looking over the records, but we were so long in getting the rifle range and the rifle club together, and there was so little interest in it that we have never asked them for the second dues.

Mr. Johnson: How many paid the first dues, two dollars each?

Mr. Sorrells: Something like a hundred, I ~~just guessed~~ ^{should judge.} They were paid even before I became secretary.

Mr. Johnson: What became of the money?

Mr. Sorrells: It has been used, since for different purposes. We have fitted up a range in the basement of the library building, an indoor range.

Mr. Johnson: What did that cost?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Johnson: Who does?

Mr. Sorrells: Probably Mr. Weinel could tell you the cost of that.

Mr. Johnson: How many members paid their second dues?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Johnson: Who would know?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I could tell by going through the records. The fact of the matter is I have given ~~an~~ ^{very little} attention to the ^{rifle} club work.

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Mr. Johnson: You were the secretary of it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And you gave it but little attention?

Mr. Sorrells: I haven't found time ^{now} to get out and shoot as much as I would like to. I have been out there at the range once.

Mr. Johnson: Who controls the property of the rifle club?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I imagine the president and ~~the~~ secretary have charge.

Mr. Johnson: Do you have your board of directors?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Did the board of directors vote to send these rifles over to the Aluminum Company?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; absolutely not.

Mr. Johnson: You took it upon yourself to do that.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: You were pretty nearly the rifle club, weren't you?

Mr. Sorrells: In that case I was, yes sir. ~~to send the~~
last (laughter).

Mr. Johnson: And having carted yourself into the rifle club, you thought that the best ^{use} that could be made of them was to send them over to the Aluminum Company?

Mr. Sorrells: I sent them over there, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: But it was the best use, in your judgment, that could be made of them, or you wouldn't have sent them there?

Mr. Sorrells: It was the best place to keep them, and is still the best place to keep them, so far as I know, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: One of the packing companies that might be threatened with a strike, would be a good place to keep them?

Mr. Sorrells: If I thought their property was in danger of destruction by mob violent, and that those rifles would be taken out of my possession I would send them there if they asked us.

Mr. Johnson: Notwithstanding the United States Government wouldn't do so?

Mr. Sorrells: If the United States Government tells me not to do that, I will not do it.

Mr. Johnson: Have you advised the United States Government where these rifles are?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Johnson: When are you going to do that?

Mr. Sorrells: They don't ask for advice as to where we keep them.

Mr. Johnson: And you used the expression a few moments ago that the rifle club was "on its last legs" when you took these guns out there?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir, we couldn't get any rifle range, and we had to k some hundred or so dollars out here in building a range.

Mr. Johnson: Where?

Mr. Sorrells: Out in the -- right where the present range is.

Mr. Johnson: I don't know where that is.

Mr. Sorrells: Out about 55th street and -- well, 55th and State streets, we will say.

Mr. Cooper: On the property of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: No, not on the property of the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Cooper: How near it?

Mr. Sorrells: About a mile. In fact, the Aluminum Ore Company built it for us.

Mr. Cooper: The Aluminum Ore Company built the range?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; just as the Park Board had tried to do for us preceding that. The Park Board was glad enough to spend about one hundred dollars out there trying to fix this range in the first place, and they failed to get ^{it} and fix it in a proper way.

Mr. Johnson: And when the rifle club got on its last legs to the extent that you resolved yourself into the rifle club, why didn't you send those guns back to the Government instead of sending them over to the Aluminum Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, there was still a chance that we could get this -- we hated to make a complete failure of this, and thought we would get someone to build us an outdoor rifle range. We thought that by so doing interest would be increased in the rifle club and we would get the boys out.

Mr. Johnson: And you finally got the range built, did you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Where is that?

Mr. Sorrells: That is out at 55th and State. I don't know just what that street is -- the name of that street is. It is two or three blocks over from State.

Mr. Johnson: Is there a range in the Aluminum plant?

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Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: No target or place for target practice in there?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: That particular individual cleaned those guns after they went out there?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I think the man who cleaned one or two of them -- or most of them -- was a young fellow that had been in the army -- came from the army--the editor's son down here, young Roper.

Mr. Johnson: Where is he now?

Mr. Sorrells: I think he has gone to the army -- gone to the camp somewhere.

Mr. Johnson: That was his occupation at the time he cleaned these guns?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, he and two or three others--he might just have taken some common laborers. I don't know, but they cleaned several guns.

Mr. Johnson: I asked you what his occupation was at the time.

Mr. Sorrells: He was in the safety and welfare department of the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Johnson: He was in the employ of the Aluminum Ore Co ?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And in your opinion now it is possible that

he got some of the other employees of the Aluminum Ore Company to help him?

Mr. Sorrells: I suppose he did, yes. He had charge of several men there that could have cleaned them under his instructions. I am not sure about that.

Mr. Johnson: ^{When} do you think the Aluminum Ore Company will be through with these now?

Mr. Sorrells: They are through with them ~~when~~ I take them anywhere else or we have some other place to store them.

Mr. Johnson: ^{and} when ~~are~~ you going to remove them?

Mr. Sorrells: Not until I am directed to.

Mr. Johnson: By whom?

Mr. Sorrells: By the government, or by anyone in authority.

Mr. Johnson: So you propose to make them a permanent investment out at the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: That is a safe place to keep them, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Permanently?

Mr. Sorrells: Until I am otherwise directed.

Mr. Johnson: Or, in other words, you will let them stay there indefinitely until the United States Government calls upon you to surrender them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; or until I am told by the Aluminum Ore Company that I can't store them out there.

Mr. Johnson: You think the Aluminum Ore Company will give you directions to take them out of there?

Mr. Sorrells: They might. I don't know where I ~~will~~ ^{would} place them if they did.

Mr. Johnson: And because you don't know where you would

place them if they did , you don't apprehend ^{that} they will order them out of there in the next few minutes, do you?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I don't suppose so. However, if I wanted to take them out of there, there wouldn't be any serious objection to it.

Mr. Johnson: The cooperation between you and the Aluminum Ore people is in such accord that when you order them out they will not object to it?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't think so, no.

Mr. Johnson: And the cooperation is so mutual and easy of operation that when the slightest intimation comes that they want guns in there, then you bring in the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: If I had guns and they needed them, they would get them.

Mr. Johnson: And there desire expresses the need?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: That's all.

Mr. Cooper: I want to ask a question right now before you get away from it. You said you had great difficulty in getting a range--you couldn't get a range. When was the club organized, about.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I should say about two years ago.

Mr. Cooper: When did you get the range?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, we got the present range--now it wasn't at that time difficult ^{so much} to get a range. We got a range from the park Board, and as I said they built the first range.

Mr. Cooper: Where was that?

Mr. Sorrells: Out at this same place, 55th and State,

133-N as I say--that isn't the exact location. I have forgotten that street out there.

Mr. Cooper: A little while ago you suggested the expression that you couldn't get a range.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I didn't mean to get the land for the range. We could find lots of places to put the range, but it was the cost of building the range. It cost four or five hundred dollars to put up a range, a real range, where you could shoot without killing somebody.

Mr. Cooper: So you organized a sporting club, paid in your dues, and without inquiring into what it would cost to get a range--to make a range or construct a range?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I suppose they did, yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: You organized a sporting club for the purpose of shooting, and of course if it was going to be successful you had to have a range. You did that without inquiring into what it would cost to get a range here? That is what you have just said?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, at first we thought probably-- or at least thought we might get a range over at St. Charles, Missouri. In fact, we wrote the colonel over there asking if we could use their range, and he said we could use it when somebody else wasn't using it, I think on Sundays or something like that. But it is so far over that--I don't doubt but what we could use the government range.

Mr. Cooper: But you didn't want to use that because it was so far over there, and you could only use it on Sundays?

Mr. Sorrells: I didn't care when we used it. I was glad to go there any time.

Mr. Cooper: But most of the members couldn't leave on week days to go and practice; and Sunday was the only day for target practice, and that was too far over, you thought?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then you gave that up and would have them to construct a range, wouldn't you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: You mean to say that you organized a sporting club without finding out what it would cost to construct a range?

Mr. Sorrells: I paid very little attention to the first organization.

Mr. Cooper: Did you organize the sporting club without finding out what it would cost you to get a range?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know whether the others did or not.

Mr. Cooper: You didn't know what it would cost?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I didn't have ^{the least} ~~any~~ idea.

Mr. Cooper: And finally the Aluminum Ore Company got you a range?

Mr. Sorrells: No, the park Board, as I say, in the first place, furnished a range. Then they built a range which caved in, and then later on-- in fact some two or three months ago I put it up to Mr. Fox--I said, "will you build us a range?" And he said, "what do you mean?" I told him that we needed a pit dug, and I would like to make it so that it wouldn't cave in.

Mr. Cooper: That is after the guns were stored out there?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir. And he built us a range.

Mr. Cooper: And when you stored the guns out there Mr.

Fox was president of the chamber of commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: I think so.

Mr. Cooper: Were you its secretary?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: When you stored the guns out in the plant of the Aluminum Company Mr. Fox was president of the chamber of commerce and you were its secretary. Is there a sign out there, near the office of the company, called "target practice"?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: Well, isn't there right in front of your office building on the Aluminum Company grounds, the plant grounds, a sign saying "target practice" that everybody can read?

Mr. Sorrells: If there is I haven't seen it. There might be one. Now they have a gun club out there that is just across from the Aluminum ^{Ore} plant where they shoot clay pigeons.

Mr. Cooper: Who shoots there?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know. I don't even know the name of the gun club. That is a different club.

Mr. Cooper: But you wouldn't have a sign on the grounds of the Aluminum ^{Ore} Company reading, "target practice" for a club to go somewhere and shoot pigeons, would you say?

Mr. Sorrells: I have nothing to do with that, and I don't know anything about that sign that you are speaking about-- absolutely nothing. If I did, I would be glad to tell you. If there is a sign there, I don't know anything about it.

Mr. Cooper: Is there a little round building almost due north from your office building?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, there might be, but I don't know.

I can't see it. I pay very little attention to the main office, because my business doesn't lie there.

Mr. Cooper: Do you have as secretary of that gun club absolute control of those guns out there?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I have had. I don't know if someone would object, whether I would have it or not.

Mr. Cooper: The members of the gun club turned the guns over to you to send out to the plant?

Mr. Sorrells: We never turned the guns over to anyone.

Mr. Cooper: Well, I understand you answered that during my absence.

Mr. Raker: You have already answered a question from ^{one} of the members of the committee that I have marked here, that while you were secretary of the Chamber of Commerce Mr. Fox, the present superintendent and then superintendent of the Aluminum Ore Company was president or chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. That is right, is it?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Fox was president of the new organization a short while. He was never president of the old commercial club.

Mr. Raker: Well, I understand the old commercial club went out of existence and was merged into the Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Raker: And the Chamber of Commerce into the organization that you were secretary of?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I was secretary of the old organization. I would like to correct that--of the old Commercial Club. Then when the new organization came in I was secretary,

and they appointed a manager, a general manager, Mr. Fining; and to be frank with you, I didn't think that the organization could stand the expense of two men, although they retained me at an increase in salary, and I looked about to find some other work to do. I asked Mr. Fox--I told him, "I am going to resign," and he said, ^{Well,} "I might be able to find a place for you out there." I got two thousand dollars a year with the new organization, and yet very little more than that out there with the Aluminum Ore Company. I get \$175 a month.

Mr. Johnson: When these guns were shipped here, to what address were they shipped?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I suppose in care of Mr. Weinel or Mr. Chntke, East St. Louis Rifle Club.

Mr. Johnson: You don't know exactly?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I brought them up--well, I did the hard work, while the other fellows probably told me what to do. I remember I got a cart and went down to the depot and brought them up and stored them where part of the ammunition is now stored.

Mr. Johnson: You were taking orders from your superior officers in the gun club?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; you might say that.

Mr. Johnson: Well, that was literally true, wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: ~~Well,~~ I didn't take orders. I went down-- they didn't order me. They suggested there should be some way, and wanted to know if there was some way ^{could} we get them up from the freight depot.

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Mr. Johnson: In other words, they were looking after having them delivered to the gun club?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Johnson: And they had you to go to the station and get the guns and bring them up to the gun club?

Mr. Sorrells: To the freight depot.

Mr. Johnson: Where was the gun club headquarters then, to which you delivered these guns?

Mr. Sorrells: I can tell you that place. I would be glad to tell you, but I say there is some--

Mr. Johnson: (Interposing) I am asking you now where you delivered the guns to, what place?

Mr. Sorrells: Do you want to know ^{the room where} ~~where~~ we delivered them? We still have some ammunition there.

Mr. Johnson: No, I wanted to know--

Mr. Sorrells: (Interposing) That is the only place. We had no headquarters for the gun club. We met generally in the city hall whenever we ^{had} ~~have~~ a meeting, in one of the ~~court~~ ^{rooms} of the city hall.

Mr. Johnson: To whom did you report that you had delivered the guns to the gun club?

Mr. Sorrells: Well now, Mr. Weinel was then president, and Mr. Ohmtke. They were going down with me to bring these guns, and something happened that they couldn't, and I got them up and told Mr. Weinel. I said, "the guns are stored where you asked me to store them."

Mr. Johnson: You got a gun for about every five men *of* the gun club?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; of the original signers, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Therefore no individual member of the gun club was entitled to a gun except during the exact time when

he was using it.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, we never--we were glad to give any member that wanted ^{it} a gun. We have had several of them, I would say about ten of them were given to different persons at different times. We just kept track of the gun number and knew who had that gun.

Mr. Johnson: You kept a record of that?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And if ^{any} one of these members of the gun club had gone there and gotten one or more guns and had taken them out without the consent of the gun club, he would have been exceeding his rights, would he?

Mr. Sorrells: He couldn't very well have gotten them.

Mr. Johnson: He couldn't have gotten them?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: Well, if he had taken a gun, one or more guns, would he or would he not have been exceeding his lawful rights in the premises?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, you are supposing something that couldn't be.

Mr. Johnson: It couldn't be? Well, then I will suppose a possibility. Suppose that a member of the gun club had stolen one of these guns. He would have been exceeding his legal rights. Wouldn't he?

Mr. Sorrells: How do you mean, steal? Steal them out of the place where we had them, or steal them while he had the gun?

Mr. Johnson: Go to the place where they were stored as

the property of the United States Government in charge of the gun club and carry it away ~~very~~ ^{steal} surreptitiously.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, he would be a thief under those conditions, the same as any other.

Mr. Johnson: And no member of the gun club had a right to go there and take a gun away, one or more guns, without the consent of the gun club, would he?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, not so much the consent of the gun club. We never based it on that, as we did those who had charge. Now if anyone wanted a rifle and came to me, or came to Mr. Weinel, who had the keys to the vault where we have them stored, we would be glad to go down--it wouldn't be necessary for them to steal it. We would be glad to let him have the gun, and to do the same thing with any member of the gun club, just so we know the number of the gun. We have no member of the gun club in whom we haven't faith that he would ~~not~~ take care of it.

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Mr. Johnson: But still if he would take them of his own accord, he would be exceeding his authority? Membership in the gun club didn't give him that right?

Mr. Sorrells: I would say ^{no,} not, unless he were with some one who had charge of the guns, to keep track of them.

Mr. Johnson: Who was made official custodian of the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel had the guns.

Mr. Johnson: He was official custodian of the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: He was the man who spent his own money to get the gun club organized. He spent more money than anybody else, and as president we looked to him; and I think he was the only man really that had.

Mr. Johnson: He was conceded to have authority in the matter?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, but they came to me as much as they did to him. I don't know as we conceded that to anybody, so far as that is concerned, as to where the guns were located. But I didn't have the combination to the vault where the guns were located. I couldn't have gotten one of the guns myself without going to Mr. Weinel.

Mr. Cooper: Why wasn't that a safe place to store them, if you couldn't get them without going to Mr. Weinel yourself? You were one of the officers yourself, and why was it not a safe place to store them?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, sir, if you had been here and seen the turmoil on the streets at different times, as I have seen it, you wouldn't think any place ^{around town} was safe.

Mr. Johnson: I believe that you have said that a member of the gun club wouldn't have the right to appropriate a gun or any ^{number} of those guns to his own use?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't see why we should presuppose that question, when the man could come and get them without having to go to all that trouble to steal them or get them. He could get them, by just coming and asking for them.

Mr. Johnson: Well, you *compel me* to resort to the supposed case of theft in order to make myself understood, *to you*, whereas I was endeavoring to keep this side of so expressing myself; but it is a fact now that the guns, were taken by somebody from the vault where they were locked up, or from the possession of the proper officer, and transferred to

another place?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Johnson: They just remained in the same place, did they?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir. Mr. Weinel and I both took them out. I asked Mr. Weinel, I said, "lets store them out to the Aluminum."

Mr. Johnson: Oh, and a few nights ago you did it?

Mr. Sorrells: No, you are mistaken. I said that I got them in the first place myself from the freight depot. I never said anything heretofore ^{about} who took them out to the plant. Mr. Weinel and I took them out to the plant and stored them at the plant.

Mr. Johnson: This is the first time I understood you to say Mr. Weinel had anything to do with taking them out there.

Mr. Sorrells: You see there is two storings there. The first from the freight depot when they first came in, and the second place.

Mr. Johnson: Yes, I was endeavoring to trace the guns from the freight depot up to their legitimate place of storage for the gun club.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, this is still a legitimate place.

Mr. Johnson: Well, that is your opinion on it.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; as long as Mr. Weinel and I thought so.

Mr. Johnson: Although the rifle club itself, nor the board of directors have ever authorized you or anybody else to take those guns away from there.

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Mr. Sorrells: They have never authorized us to store them anywhere.

Mr. Johnson: But when they were stored in the vault to

which you referred, the gun club nor its directors have ever authorized you or anybody else to take them over to the Aluminum Ore plant?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Johnson: Did you not taken them unlawfully then?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Johnson: What would have been unlawful for other people to have done, became lawful when you did it, in your judgment? Now you can see why I was endeavoring to use less harsh terms.

Mr. Sorrells: I see the point you are trying to make, so far as that is concerned, but I claim^{that}/as we have had those guns in our possession and were responsible for the guns, Mr. Weinel and myself--

Mr. Foss: (Interposing) You put up a bond, do you not?

Mr. Sorrells: My. Weinel put up a bond.

Mr. Foss: On behalf of the rifle club?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Foss: You claim that you have a right to store them wherever you see fit?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes. We would have to pay for the rifle if it were lost.

Mr. Foss: That is, you are responsible for them. The question of a place to store them is a matter entirely up to you?

Mr. Sorrells: A minor question entirely.

Mr. Foss: The United States Government does not specify. I take it, any particular place where they shall be stored.

Mr. Sorrells: That is right.

Mr. Johnson: Don't you believe that if you had advised the Secretary of War as to where these rifles are and why you took them there, the moral reason that you gave for taking them there, that he would demand their surrender immediately?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know.

Mr. Johnson: Now then, if I understand you, the rifle club, either through a general meeting of its own or through its board of directors, has never authorized the transfer of those rifles from the vault in which they were first located to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Absolutely not.

Mr. Johnson: Has there not been an illegal asportation of those rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; I think not.

Mr. Johnson: My opinion is not controlling, and I might just as well not give it, but it looks to me like larceny; and I am not so sure that if it is taken to the courts, as it ought to be, that it would not be held to be larceny. There has been an illegal asportation of those guns, in my judgment.

Mr. Sorrells: How can you make it larceny when we are responsible? Mr. Weinel is responsible for the guns. If he steals his own property and has the bond put up--

Mr. Johnson. (Interposing.) You are undertaking now to make either yourself or Mr. Weinel the rifle club, and you have stated that you ~~have~~ resolved yourself into the rifle club.

Mr. Sorrells: We stand responsible for the rifles, and if they disappear we will have to put up the price the Government

asks for them.

Mr. Johnson: If I go over there and without ~~of~~ the consent of those having the guns in charge to take one of them away-- or in plain language, if I steal it, and when I am caught with it, if I ~~should~~ ^{just} simply say that I am responsible for it, does that relieve me of the charge of having stolen that gun?

Mr. Sorrells: You couldn't steal from yourself, if you are responsible for it.

Mr. Johnson: These guns don't belong to you; they belong to the United States Government.

Mr. Sorrells: They belong to us to the extent of the value of the guns, if we stand responsible for the guns.

Mr. Johnson: No, those guns haven't been sold to you, nor to your rifle club.

Mr. Sorrells: Well suppose now that if one of these guns--

158-N Mr. Johnson: (Interposing) Now you commence to supposing things. You objected to my doing so a few moments ago.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, your supposition is wrong. You couldn't get one of those rifles anyway, the chances are.

Mr. Johnson: I couldn't steal it?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: Well, but larceny is possible sometimes beyond the dreams of people.

Mr. Sorrells: It would be larceny for you to take one of them. It wouldn't be larceny for me.

Mr. Johnson: No, because you have resolved yourself into the gun club.

Mr. Sorrells: We have charge of those guns, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: If I belong to the gun club and I steal a gun, I would ^{be} answerable for larceny; but if you belong to the gun club and become guilty of an illegal asportation of those guns, then you are not guilty of larceny. That is the position you are taking.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the theory that I am taking--the fine spun theory underneath all that I don't just get.

Mr. Johnson: Well, I am going to ask this committee to lay this matter before the Secretary of War, before the Department of Justice, to investigate the asportation of those guns, and we will endeavor at least to get at the question as to whether or not they have been taken legally over there; and if they have been taken illegally over there, if the gun club--if the United States has been deprived of their property for the purpose for which they sent them here, I think the Department of Justice ought to have hold of it, and I am going to ask this committee to bring it directly to the attention of the Department of Justice, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not there has been a misappropriation of those guns and that ammunition.

You will let us have the list that you spoke of?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Baker: Now to go on where I left off; the Commercial Club disintegrated and the Chamber of Commerce took it over?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the Chamber of Commerce absorbed two organizations, the old commercial club and the association of commerce, and they became known as the Chamber of Commerce.

The two united.

Mr. Raker: Now you were secretary of the new Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; I was secretary of the old commercial club and still retained as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Raker: Well, that made you secretary of the new Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Of which body Mr. Fox was chairman, or president?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; of the new organization.

Mr. Raker: This is Mr. Fox, the superintendent of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: How when were you secretary and Mr. Fox chairman, of the Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, Mr. Fox was elected as the first president of the new Chamber of Commerce. I forget just when that was.

Mr. Raker: To what time did you remain as secretary-- as such secretary?

Mr. Sorrells: From the organization of the Chamber of Commerce up to about May 8, 1917.

At
Mr. Raker: /what time did Mr. Fox become chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and at what time did he resign as president of the Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know. I can't just tell. I can't even guess at it.

Mr. Raker: Of course he was president when it commenced

and when the consolidation occurred; and that was some time at the beginning of this year, wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: In the early part of 1917?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Raker: Then Mr. Fox remained president of the Chamber of Commerce up until about the middle of May of this year, didn't he?

Mr. Sorrells: I think probably you are right.

Mr. Raker: How you were associated together?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: You talked over the object and purposes of the Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: And at the same time he was superintendent of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: And you were also a member of the rifle club.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; secretary of the rifle club.

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Mr. Raker: You kept your minutes, your books and papers, in the same office where you were secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sorrells: They were there for a short while, yes sir. They had been kept by the former secretary, and they stayed there for a long while in the Illinois State Trust Company.

Mr. Raker: While you were secretary you did your work there?

Mr. Sorrells: We had very little work to do, because we

had very few meetings.

Mr. Raker: And of course you talked over the purposes, the general conditions in East St. Louis, with Mr. Fox?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, Mr. Fox was a very busy man, and after he was made president of the Chamber of Commerce I probably saw him only three or four times in all that time.

Mr. Raker: You were on good terms,--speaking terms?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: And you talked over as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the secretary and president, the general conditions in East St. Louis,

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Now what date was it that yourself and Mr. Weinel took these guns--these rifles--over to the Aluminum Ore Company plant? You haven't given that yet.

Mr. Sorrells: Well no, I can't say. It was sometime in April, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Raker: Well now, if some memorandum that you can give us that will fix this date when you did take them over?

Mr. Sorrells: I am not sure, but I will tell you when I come back with the list of rifles. I will try and fix the *exact time* ^{and the} exact date.

Mr. Raker: And at this time that you did take them over, you ~~were~~ were secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, secretary of the rifle club, and Mr. Fox, superintendent of the Aluminum Ore Company was president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sorrells: I think so. I think you are right, yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Now you and Weinel, physically, took them

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from their storage place in the vault to the Aluminum Ore Company plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Was this a vault, a sealed vault, and was there lock and key on it, where you had first delivered them from the railroad station?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir;

Mr. Raker: Was it a combination lock?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir, I think so. I think the outside door is a combination--yes, I am *sure of it*.

Mr. Raker: Is it in a bank building?

Mr. Sorrells: No, it is in a vacant building.

Mr. Johnson: You are apprehensive that they are not safe there?

Mr. Raker: Yes, I am not going to get the particular location on that. I just wanted to know if it was supposed to be a good vault.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I imagine the vault--yes, it is a very good vault, and it would take considerable--the vault itself is all right.

Mr. Raker: That is the point I am getting at now. And both from fire as well as from ordinary burglary, except that a man could go there and blow it up?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I think it could be very easily broken into. The outside door doesn't seem to be so awfully strong. I may be wrong on that--and the inside door, I know it wouldn't take much to get in there.

Mr. Raker: Is it a Hall safe, a Marvin safe, or what kind

of a safe?

Mr. Sorrells: The name I am not sure of.

Mr. Raker: Is it ~~what is supposed~~ to be a real genuine safe vault?

Mr. Sorrells: It is built in concrete, inside of the room, yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Then that has a vault door?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: With a time lock?

Mr. Sorrells: A combination lock.

Mr. Raker: ^{And} /how did you and Mr. Weinel take them from this vault to the Aluminum plant?

Mr. Sorrells: We put them in a truck and took them out there.

Mr. Raker: Just the two of you?

Mr. Sorrells: We got the truck driver.

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Mr. Raker: Who was the truck driver?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know his name.

Mr. Raker: Did you all three go?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: You went down now to the vault, you and Weinel had the keys; you unlocked it, you took from the vault these 32 rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: We had them--they were crated in boxes.

Mr. Raker: They were crated, and they were taken from the vault and loaded on to the truck, the ten thousand rounds of ammunition and 32 rifles and were put on the truck?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Now whose truck was it?

Mr. Sorrells: It was an Aluminum Ore Company truck.

Mr. Raker: So you didn't have to hire an extra truck?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir.

Mr. Raker: You don't remember the man's name?

Mr. Sorrells: That drove it? No sir; I do not.

Mr. Raker: Was it an automobile or horse truck?

Mr. Sorrells: No, it was an auto truck.

Mr. Raker: What time of day was it that you got the rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: It wasn't daytime; it was at night, midnight.

Mr. Raker: About what time? Midnight, definitely would be 12 o'clock.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, 12 or 1 o'clock.

Mr. Raker: Were you guarded in any way?

Mr. Sorrells: No, only inasmuch as myself and Mr. Weinel were armed.

Mr. Raker: How were you armed?

Mr. Sorrells: I had a gun in my pocket.

Mr. Raker: What kind of a gun?

Mr. Sorrells: It was an automatic, a 38.

Mr. Raker: Was it loaded?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Field-jacketed bullets?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know just whether they were field-jacketed.

Mr. Raker: High powered bullets?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, it was a good gun.

Mr. Raker: And what did you do with that gun, this particular automatic pistol?

Mr. Sorrells: I had it in my pocket.

Mr. Raker: Concealed?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: And what did Mr. Weinel have on him?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I am not sure, but I think that he had a gun also.

Mr. Raker: An automatic also?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Concealed?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I am not sure. He had a revolver.

Mr. Raker: You mean by that that neither of you took a belt and put the guns down in front of you so that anybody who saw could realize that you were carrying a gun for your protection?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel had a belt.

Mr. Raker: But still it was concealed under his coat, was it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I am not sure about that. He had a belt and a gun. He always carries his revolver in a belt.

Mr. Foster: All the time?

Mr. Sorrells: Whenever he carries it.

Mr. Foster: He carries it all the time?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I think not.

Mr. Foster: Just on special occasions?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Foster: For recreation?

Mr. Sorrells: We used to go down to the rifle club, in the basement of the library building, and we took ~~with~~ our revolvers along with us and used them.

Mr. Raker: Is it habitual to carry this automatic with you?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; I have carried my gun quite frequently in going down to the library building, and I have been trying to think while I was talking to you, whether this was one of the evenings when we had been down to the library building; but I am satisfied that I--I had a gun, and I am satisfied Mr. Weinel had a gun.

Mr. Johnson: How did you become satisfied that Mr. Weinel had a gun?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I think I saw it. Now I may be mistaken.

Mr. Johnson: Did you see him draw it out, or did you see him put it back? Which?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: Which was it?

Mr. Sorrells: I think I saw it in its scabbard.

Mr. Johnson: Where was the scabbard?

Mr. Sorrells: He was carrying it on the belt.

Mr. Johnson: The belt was where?

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Mr. Sorrells: On his body.

Mr. Johnson: Around his waist?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir. Now I may be entirely wrong on that part of it, but it runs in my mind that he did have a gun.

Mr. Johnson: Upon what occasion was it that you now think that he did have the gun?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the evening that we took the rifles out to the plant.

Mr. Johnson: Well, did he tell you that he did?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I don't believe he did. It runs in my mind--as I say, I may be wrong--it runs in my mind that Mr. Weinel had a gun.

Mr. Johnson: What got it into your mind that Mr. Weinel had a gun?

Mr. Sorrells: It seems to me I can see that gun hanging on his hip.

Mr. Johnson: Were there times when you couldn't see it hanging on his hip?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know. Naturally the gun would drop back under his coat when the gun is left in that position.

Mr. Johnson: You have said it was an automatic?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, he usually had an automatic. He has an automatic gun, yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Now what did the driver of the truck have?

Mr. Sorrells: ~~Now~~ That I don't know.

Mr. Raker: Well, it would be almost certain that he would also have a gun?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, if he had one I would tell you if I knew it. I am not trying to keep anything back.

Mr. Johnson: It would be just in the ordinary course of the transaction of the business of the rifle club that the rifles were transferred from one place to the other at midnight, without any authority from the board of directors?

Mr. Sorrells: No sir; Mr. Fox had asked--or stated to me that he was figuring on getting some guns, and I said, "why get guns when we have got them?" Just as I have stated before. And in order to keep down any trouble and know that they might--

in order to avoid any question of those guns going out/^{of}there in the daytime, we took them out at night.

Mr. Johnson: And they went not upon the suggestion of the gun club, but upon the suggestion of Mr. Fox that he was going to get guns?

Mr. Sorrells: No, they went upon my suggestion, pure and simple. In fact, I asked Mr. Weinel if we couldn't get them, and he never questioned it. He said, "all right, take them out."

Mr. Johnson: Why did Mr. Fox mention it to you that he was going to get guns from St. Louis? Was it in your capacity as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, or otherwise?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, sir, I think I was out getting some checks signed at the Aluminum Ore Company plant.

Mr. Johnson: You weren't then an employee of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: What checks were you getting signed?

Mr. Sorrells: And Mr. Fox was talking over the telephone, and he said something to someone about getting some guns to protect his plant, and I said to him, "why is that necessary? I've got some guns down here. We probably will never need them, and we will just simply move them out here."

Mr. Johnson: You will probably never need them?

Mr. Sorrells: And he said all right.

Mr. Johnson: He said all right. Then did the conversation about the guns cease entirely then and there?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, there wasn't much else said about it

that I remember.

Mr. Johnson: And nothing more being said about it--

Mr. Sorrells: (Interposing) He asked me, "where did you get any guns?" And I told him that we had some rifles stored down in the vault down town, and I would be glad to store them out there.

Mr. Johnson: And without any--without another word being said about it, a truck just turned up and you dreamed where to *meet* it?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I asked for a truck.

Mr. Johnson: Then there was something more said about it?

Mr. Sorrells: No, not from him.

142-E Mr. Johnson: Then where did the trucks turn up and how?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I asked for a truck.

Mr. Johnson: How many did you ask?

Mr. Sorrells: It might have been Mr. Fox. I am not sure.

Mr. Johnson: It might have been anybody else?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, it might have been someone else.

Mr. Johnson: Now who do you think it was--your best judgment?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, Mr. Fox might have called someone in there.

Mr. Johnson: Now all the conversation between you and Mr. Fox about the guns concluded long before any truck was mentioned?

Mr. Sorrells: I think in the conversation as to my getting the guns out there the truck might have been mentioned. He might have said something about it.

Mr. Johnson: Well, it must have been, must it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I should judge so, yes sir. I don't remember the conversation. I don't remember how we got the truck, or how the conversation ^{came} up about getting the truck, but we got the truck.

Mr. Johnson: It wasn't the rifle club truck?

Mr. Sorrells: No, we had no truck.

Mr. Johnson: It was the Aluminum Ore Company's truck?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And the Aluminum Ore Company's superintendent who took up the subject of these rifles with you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Who received the guns out there that night?

Mr. Sorrells: We took them into the yard on Missouri Avenue beyond the plant; and I think young Mr. Wilbar was out there, and we placed them in a shed.

Mr. Johnson: Who took them out of the truck?

Mr. Sorrells: We did.

Mr. Johnson: Who are "we"?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, Mr. Weinel, myself and the truck-driver.

Mr. Johnson: Which end of the box did you take hold of, the first end that came out of the truck, or the last end?

Mr. Sorrells: I took hold of any end that came handy.

Mr. Johnson: You actually took hold of the box?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Foss: How many boxes were there?

Mr. Sorrells: There were two boxes of guns, and about--

I suppose about twelve boxes of ammunition. There may have been more or there may have been less.

Mr. Raker: Of ammunition, loaded cartridges?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir, about that long. (two feet and a half)

Mr. Johnson: What does each box weigh?

Mr. Sorrells: I should judge fifty or sixty pounds, or maybe a hundred pounds.

Mr. Johnson: As near ^{ly as you} can now, tell who was present and ~~witnessed~~ ^{assisted in} the transfer of the rifles, and the ammunition ^{from the truck into the place where they were put?}

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Weinel, myself and the truckdriver, Mr. Wilbur, and it seems to me like there was one other, but I don't remember who that was.

Mr. Johnson: How many of them were members of the gun club.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, there were three of us. Mr. Wilbur was a member of the gun club.

Mr. Johnson: How many of them were employees at that time of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, in the receiving end I think that probably the truckdriver--I am not sure about that--whoever drove the truck--and the one who received--a Mr. Wilbur was an employee of the Aluminum Ore Company also at that time. Mr. Weinel and I were the only ones who were not employees of the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Johnson: And of that crowd of five or six that made that delivery at midnight, all are now employees of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: I think they all are. They all were

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then, but Mr. Weinel and myself, and we are now.

Mr. Johnson: When was Mr. Weinel--when did he become an employee of the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: I think about--I am not just sure. He has been out there about a month.

Mr. Johnson: In what capacity is he employed?

Mr. Sorrells: He is superintendent of the docks, the Fox Terminal docks on the river.

Mr. Johnson: What is his salary?

Mr. Sorrells: About one hundred and fifty dollars, I think--something like that. I am not certain.

Mr. Johnson: Were any others of those five or six habitual gun toters, except yourself and Mr. Weinel?

Mr. Sorrells: I am not a habitual gun toters, except when I am going to the gun club.

Mr. Johnson: And you were going to the gun club at midnight, when you say you had this pistol in your pocket?

Mr. Sorrells: We may have been there. I am not sure. I am sure I had this gun on me.

Mr. Johnson: You may have been going to the gun club at midnight?

Mr. Sorrells: No, we may have been to the gun club before, because we didn't move those guns until late in the evening.

Mr. Johnson: And you were at the gun club, if you were there, for the purpose of target practice?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And it is possible for you to have been practicing at the targets up until one o'clock at night, when

you started on this mission?

Mr. Sorrells: No, we might have gone down there--we intended to ~~move~~ these that night. I am not trying to quibble this; to get away from moving these rifles. We intended to ~~move~~ these rifles at twelve or one o'clock, when we felt everybody would be off the streets.

Mr. Johnson: Why was that?

Mr. Sorrells: Simply because we didn't want them to know we were moving ammunition.

Mr. Johnson: Why didn't you want them to know?

Mr. Sorrells: Because.

Mr. Johnson. That is the old woman's reason. (Laughter)

Mr. Sorrells: That is a good reason in this case.

Mr. Johnson: Who is you didn't want to know you were moving this stuff out there? Now there is somebody in your mind.

Mr. Sorrells: Sure.

Mr. Johnson: Well, who is it?

Mr. Sorrells: The Aluminum Ore strikers.

Mr. Johnson: Why didn't you want them to know it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they probably would have stopped it.

Mr. Johnson: Why would they have stopped it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they were stopping other wagons which were going out there.

Mr. Johnson: And then there was a little controversy, was there, between the Aluminum Ore Company and the Aluminum Ore employees?

Mr. Sorrells: At that time, yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: And you were taking guns and ammunition furnished to a gun club, and arming one side of this controversy?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir; and I would do so again whenever there is threatened destruction of property, especially a big plant like that or any other plant in town. I would do the same thing again. I would even put myself into the ranks.

Mr. Johnson: I am not questioning that. So two members of the gun club, at the hour of midnight or thereabouts, without the knowledge or consent of the gun club or its board of directors, took these guns from the rifle club place of deposit, where they were stored for target use, and transferred them to another place where they were to be used for another purpose than target use?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes sir.

Mr. Johnson: Then do you reason from that statement that they ^{were} transferred from a regular place of deposit in the vault of which you have spoken to the Aluminum Ore Company for their purposes?

Mr. Sorrells: They would have been turned over to the Aluminum Ore Company, ^{yes, sir;} ~~if they~~, in case--

Mr. Johnson: (Interposing) They would have been, then?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, whenever they needed them. If they had call for them.

Mr. Johnson: Who did they have to call on for them?

Mr. Sorrells: They would probably have to call on me to get the keys to get into the box in which they were.

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Mr. Johnson: They had no axes or ~~hammers~~ hammers about that place by which they could have broken them open? They had no way of breaking that box open, but somebody might have ~~xxxx~~ broken this strong vault open over here, of which you have spoken? The pine box, in your judgment, was more secure than the vault?

Mr. Corrells: Well, they were in a safer place out there than they could be down here.

Mr. Johnson: Was for the Aluminum Company to get at, that is about the only difference, isn't it?

Mr. Corrells: Probably, yes.

Mr. Johnson: And that was your intention?

Mr. Corrells: It was my intention to give them to them if they needed them.

Mr. Johnson: It was your intention as an individual member of the rifle club, not entitled to custody of all these guns, without permission ^{of somebody} higher up, to deliver them to this Aluminum Ore Company for their participation in a strike?

Mr. Corrells: Yes sir; if they needed them they could have them.

Mr. Foster: And you are now in the employ of the Aluminum Ore Company and have been since that time at a good salary?

Mr. Corrells: Not at any better salary than I was getting.

Mr. Foster: Well, you must have thought it was a better situation or you wouldn't have taken it.

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Mr. Sorrells: I did, yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: It was possible for somebody to take those guns from their first regular place of deposit at midnight, because you did it, was it not?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, we had the combination of the safe and ^{had} the custody of the rifles, you, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Do you say now, "we had the custody of the rifles?" You have just said you didn't have access to the rifles because you didn't have the combination of the safe.

Mr. Sorrells: That ^{will admit of} ~~will be~~ a modification to that extent, yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: If I had gotten those rifles under similar conditions, what would you call it?

Mr. Sorrells: In what way? What similar conditions?

Mr. Johnson: Suppose I had gone to the place over there, to the vault where those rifles were stored and had taken them out and had turned them over to the strikers, what would have been your attitude in your judgment, before the law?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, if you had money to reimburse me for the price of the rifles, and had stood good for the rifles and had charge of them, as I had, and turned them over or put them in a different place, I could say that you had a right to place them wherever you pleased.

Mr. Johnson: So if I had a \$100. in my pocket and would go down here to a grocery store at the dead hour of midnight and take out \$5.00 worth of

groceries and carry them off and secret them at the Aluminum Ore Company, or any other place; because I am able to pay for it in the event I am caught, then I am relieved of offense, am I?

Mr. Sorrells: No, that isn't a parallel case, or isn't what I mean.

Mr. Johnson: I think it is quite parallel. The ability of the illegal taker of goods does not excuse him from the illegal taking.

Mr. Cooper: When did those rifles arrive here?

Mr. Sorrells: I should judge about a year and a half ago; some several months after the rifles club was organized. I am not just sure as to the exact date. They stayed in this vault over here, that I have mentioned several times, for one time.

Mr. Cooper: There were about forty of them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And ^{two} ~~thirty~~ of them ^{were} in boxes, you said. — you said they were all crated; you took them out of the box that night, you said, a little while ago here, they were in ~~crates~~ ^{in this vault}.

Mr. Sorrells: No, they were in boxes. I say crated in the box.

Mr. Cooper: Well, had they been taken on?

Mr. Sorrells: No, they had not.

Mr. Cooper: They had never been used?

Mr. Sorrells: No, and they had been cleaned.

Mr. Cooper: A few had been cleaned, and you got these rifles for the sporting club and had them in your

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possession for a year and a half - about a year?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I should judge, yes, *SIR*.

Mr. Cooper: You had them in your possession about a year and you said a little while ago you would have sent them to any plant that was threatened - that is, if there had been likelihood of the destruction of property?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: You were prepared then to take these rifles which you got from the Government and which hadn't been taken out of their boxes and had been in your possession for a year, and send them to any plant that was having trouble?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I didn't say that. I said I would have done so if in your mind, so I think now, any of these plants were threatened. I would give them arms to defend themselves with if I had them, either personally or not.

Mr. Cooper: Of course you wouldn't give them to them if you didn't have them. Everybody understands that. So you would have sent them to the packing plant or any other plant just as quickly as to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; if I had thought there was danger of the place being destroyed. So the rifles got here and are kept in boxes about one year; ~~by~~ five or six are cleaned, but thirty two are in the boxes in which they were originally shipped to this city. A strike came on in the Aluminum Ore Company plant; the danger

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xxxxxxx of that plant speaks to you about being unable to get rifles in xxxxxxx St. Louis; you suggest that you have got some rifles that you can give them, why not take them? So you, the secretary of the gun club, and Mr. Weinel, president of the gun club, and Mr. Fox, the manager of that company, make an arrangement to take these rifles which were in the original package, as they came from the Government, and had been in your possession for a year, to this plant, in the night, at midnight. That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Corrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: While they were having a strike?

Mr. Corrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: How you got them here for the express purpose of furnishing them to any company, the first strike that came on, when they demanded it?

Mr. Corrells: Absolutely not.

Mr. Cooper: Why didn't you get them out of the boxes, a lot of them, in the year?

Mr. Corrells: Because, as I said, the gun club would not come out. We could not get them to come. We couldn't do anything with them.

Mr. Cooper: Now wait a minute. That vehemence is unnecessary.

Mr. Corrells: I am simply telling you the straight truth.

Mr. Cooper: Such vehemence of mauling the table don't add anything to the force of the testimony like that you give. Not a bit. You, with a gun club,

hadn't inquired into how much it would cost to make a range. You said that a little while ago.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: You got rifles and kept them in a box without taking them out to look at them for a year until a strike was on, and this man Fox asked you for them. Then you moved them over at midnight. Now those are facts that you have testified to.

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the imputation that we got rifles here for that purpose - that is the only part that I don't agree to.

Mr. Cooper: But you said you would have sent them to any other plant as quick as you would to the Aluminum plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: So you would have sent them earlier than that day if any time trouble broke out with working men here? The very next day you would have sent them after you got them, wouldn't you?

Mr. Sorrells: I would give ^{any} plant that has a large property that is in danger of being destroyed - and I had anything to defend that plant with - I would ~~would~~ give it to them.

Mr. Cooper: You didn't have Government rifles to give to anybody. You got them here for a sporting club.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; not for a sporting club but for a rifle club.

Mr. Cooper: And the first use you made of them you not only kept them in the box for a year without

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ment later on in having men who can handle rifles.

Mr. Foster: For Home Guards?

Mr. Sorrells: No, not necessarily.

Mr. Foster: Or in war?

Mr. Sorrells: Just because the man who is a better shot, who has been trained and becomes a better shot ~~xxxxxxx~~ would be able probably, in case his government needs him, to respond to the call.

Mr. Foster: Well, now let me ask you this question. You understand the law that it is to permit the organization of these clubs and learn those Berg Torgensen rifles that are not used ^{now} in war, to become expert marksmen in case war should come upon the country? That is your statement, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Now let me ask you how many of the gun club, of this 200 men, including yourself and Mr. Weibel, have volunteered in this war?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I am some forty two years of age. I have a family of seven children.

Mr. Foster: Well, you know the limit is forty five.

Mr. Sorrells: That is true, and I have a family of seven children that if the Government will promise me to-day - or give me a way that I can take care of that bunch of children, then I will go.

Mr. Foster: You haven't volunteered?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I haven't volunteered.

Mr. Foster: And you know the Government does provide the insurance and taking care the families?

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Mr. Sorrells: That is no bluff. If the Government will take care of my family - show me any way that they will be taken care of, I will be glad to go.

Mr. Foster: And you took advantage of the law to form a rifle club for the purpose of becoming a marksman in case the Government should need you; but you didn't enlist?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I have not enlisted.

Mr. Foster: Many other young men have gone to the war. Do you have left families at home and those dependent on them, haven't they?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes. I don't know of any that have gone probably with as large a family as I have dependent upon them, and no other support except the man himself. Would you go if you were me?

Mr. Foster: Well, I am not on the witness stand.

Mr. Sorrells: No, but you are bringing it personally to me.

Mr. Foster: But I am asking you how many of these, the other men, including yourself, have enlisted now?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, young Wilbur, he has gone, and quite a good many of them.

Mr. Foster: Now when this gun club was about to tie out - I don't know whether you have answered that or not - why was it you didn't return these rifles to the United States Government, to whom they belonged?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, we just simply hated to give up and say that we had started something that we couldn't finish.

Mr. Foster: You have given up, haven't you and turned your rifles in for safe keeping?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir;

Mr. Foster: Into a private corporation where they might be used against strikers?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Foster: And where they wanted them for that purpose. Isn't that a fact?

Mr. Sorrells: No, the gun club has as much access to them, and we would be glad to furnish them to-day as we would in the beginning, and are anxious to get them to come out and shoot at the rifle range.

Mr. Foster: Still it hasn't been done, has it?

Mr. Sorrells: Not largely, no, sir. We have sent out a hundred cards or so to each member, asking **him** to meet. We asked them here a while back to meet and do something; that we had arranged to get **together** and about ten met in the City Hall.

Mr. Foster: You don't feel so much like standing as you did some time ago? Not since you have gotten a safe place to store these rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: Or if they care to elect ~~another~~ another secretary, I would be glad if they would do it and take these rifles.

Mr. Foster: But they are in a good place now where they will be taken care of?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; in a very good place.

Mr. Foster: ~~When~~ they will be in a position to be used in case there is trouble between the employers and

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employees? Is that about so?

Mr. Corrells: Well, if they should ask me for them and I had no instructions to the contrary from the Government, not knowing the law in the case, I would let them have them.

Mr. Foster: Now if a strike should break out in another plant could you take them out of the safe-keeping in the Aluminum plant and send them somewhere else?

Mr. Corrells: If a strike should break out today and they were likely to destroy the plant, and I had the guns still in my possession, and they would ask me for them; and I thought they were going to try to destroy the plant of the Aluminum Ore Company or the property of citizens here, I would be glad to go to that party and handle one of those guns myself, not only give it to them but handle one of them.

Mr. Foster: I haven't any doubt of that, of your position on that point, that you would try to do it with the strikers.

Mr. Corrells: Not so much the strikers.

Mr. Foster: That indicates to me exactly what the guns were put down there for.

Mr. Johnson: Where were you on July 2nd?

Mr. Corrells: On July 2nd, I was on the streets along about from eleven o'clock until ten o'clock that night. I went from the streets to the City Hall and back and forth.

Mr. Johnson: Did you have any apprehension on that day at all that property might be destroyed or ~~lives~~ ^{lives} jeopardized?

Mr. Sorrells: I did, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Did you handle a gun that day?

Mr. Sorrells: I went to Mr. Hollman and said, "for God's sake, Mr. Hollman, swear me and several others of the citizens in around here, and we will stop this thing."

Mr. Johnson: Did you ask the Aluminum Company to swear you in over there when they had that strike?

Mr. Sorrells: They had no need of it.

Mr. Johnson: They did for the guns but not for you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: If they needed guns they needed men to handle them, didn't they?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I don't know what could have been done along that line.

Mr. Johnson: And if they didn't ^{need} men to handle them, they didn't need the guns, did they?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: So then, in the final analysis, they did have need for the guns? Is that it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, they didn't have any need for the guns, no, sir. In fact they have never been used in any way except as the gun club used them.

Mr. Johnson: Did you offer to furnish Mayor Hollman the guns of the gun club on that day?

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Mr. Corrells: No, I didn't.

Mr. Johnson: But you did offer to furnish them to Mr. Fox when his anticipation of danger to his property first arose?

Mr. Corrells: Had the Mayor sworn me in or seemed anxious to secure any of us for that service, I don't doubt but that I would have offered him the guns.

Mr. Johnson: But you did not?

Mr. Corrells: No, I did not.

Mr. Johnson: You will come back for that statement for which he have spoken?

Mr. Corrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Come back at half past two.

(Whereupon, at 1.35 p.m. the Committee recessed)

day?

Mr. Campbell: No, I can't say that I saw any arrests made.

Mr. Johnson: Did you see anybody taken in charge by any official on that day, either by any official or anybody else?

Mr. Campbell: No, I personally did not see anybody brought into the station. I heard of that being done, but I never personally saw anybody brought in.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know of anybody who was taken in hand on that day, either by an officer or by his friend, because of drunkenness and apparent participation in the rioting?

Mr. Campbell: No; there was plenty of drunks. Maybe if you could place this more plain, I could recall, but I don't recall anybody taken up for disorder or anything.

Mr. Johnson: Were you an officer of the county or city on that day?

Mr. Campbell: Not on that day. I was until the last day of March or the first day of April-- that is, I was an officer of the State on that day; yes, sir-- that is, in the position I am in now.

Mr. Johnson: Did you see any official, either of the county, state or city, on that day who was drinking?

Mr. Campbell: No, I didn't. I think I know what you mean, but that was hearsay with me. I never saw that.

Mr. Johnson: Well, tell about it. What was it?

Mr. Campbell: Well, that was about the State's Attorney I heard-- I did see him that day about noon, going down Collinsville Avenue.

Mr. Johnson: Who was it that you saw?

Mr. Campbell: State's Attorney Schaumleffel.

Mr. Johnson: You saw him on July 2nd?

Mr. Campbell: About noon. He passed me on Collinsville Avenue.

Mr. Johnson: Whereabouts on Collinsville Avenue?

Mr. Campbell: Right in front of the Century Cigar Store.

Mr. Johnson: What was his condition?

Mr. Campbell: Well, he was intoxicated when I saw him.

Mr. Johnson: Plainly so?

Mr. Campbell: Well, you could notice it. He passed me without speaking. As a rule he always stopped and shook hands. He was going towards Broadway when I saw him.

Mr. Johnson: Who was with him?

Mr. Campbell: Nobody was with him when I saw him.

Mr. Johnson: He was going with the crowd, or away from them?

Mr. Campbell: No, he was on the sidewalk.

Mr. Johnson: Did you see him applaud anything that was going on, or otherwise encourage it?

Mr. Campbell: No; he wasn't paying any attention to anybody. Just making his way through the crowd and going on down the street towards Broadway.

Mr. Johnson: Do you recall having had a conversation with Reverend Allison about the incident of which we are now talking?

Mr. Campbell: I do not; no, sir. I don't say that I didn't, but I don't recall, because very nearly every time he meets me on the street he will stop and talk.

Mr. Johnson: You don't remember mentioning this incident to him, and the further thing that you spoke of Mr. Schaumleffel doing some applauding; thereby to encourage the rioting?

Mr. Campbell: To encourage the mob, no, I didn't tell Reverend Allison that, no, sir-- that he encouraged the mob? I may have told him about seeing him pass me intoxicated, because I very seldom saw him when he wasn't intoxicated.

Mr. Johnson: Are you a member of the local rifle club here?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I don't think I am now. I was one of the first vice-presidents, but I do not think I am any longer a member. I think that I was ousted when this last bunch came in. Now whenever that election was, I don't remember, but I believe I was first vice-president of the club.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know whether you were president of the club when the arms and ammunition were moved over to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Campbell: I don't know. I may have been.

Mr. Johnson: But as a member of the club or as an

officer of the club, which-ever you may have been at the time these arms and munitions were moved from the place in which the rifle club had them stored, over to the Aluminum Ore Company, you were not advised or consulted, and knew nothing about it?

Mr. Campbell: I knew nothing about it until this morning, when I heard this gentleman that preceded me testify. In fact, I didn't know where the rifles were.

Mr. Johnson: Some of the rifles of the rifle club which you helped to organize were turned over to the Aluminum Company without your knowledge or consent?

Mr. Campbell: I never knew anything about it at all. I wasn't consulted-- if I was still an officer, I was not consulted in any way.

Mr. Johnson: I was about to ask you if you knew of any members of the gun club who was advised of that; but since you have said that you knew nothing about it until you heard it on the witness stand here today, of course that question would be useless.

Did you see any other public official than the one you have named on the day of the riot?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I expect in the course of that day that there were very few of the men, officials of the city, that I didn't see. I saw the Mayor a couple of times, and I saw different officers.

Mr. Johnson: What was the Mayor doing when you saw him?

Mr. Campbell: Well, the only time I saw the Mayor

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to talk to him, I was standing in the South Main Street entrance of the Arcade Building, and that was shortly after this negro had been shot on Collinsville Avenue.

Mr. Johnson: In the morning about ten o'clock?

Mr. Campbell: In the morning about 10 or 10:30.

He came across the street, and there were three or four of us there, and somebody spoke up and told him that he thought it looked pretty bad, or something; and the Mayor replied that it wasn't quite as bad as people thought it was, and he went on into the Arcade Building.

Mr. Johnson: That was early in the morning?

Mr. Campbell: That was 10 or 10:30.

Mr. Johnson: what was the conduct of the soldiery on that day, if you had occasion to observe?

151 Mr. Campbell: Well, so much as I observed them, they did absolutely nothing. I know of two instances there that I stood on the steps of my office and watched them, and they did nothing. I know one instance where they broke into some pawnshops, and they simply run over the soldiers. I saw that. Then I saw another instance where there were five soldiers bringing two negroes towards the police station. That was in the afternoon, and the crowd-- we could see them from my window-- the crowds were stoning the negroes, throwing stones between the soldiers and stoning the negroes. That was within half a block of the police station.

Mr. Johnson: The soldiers had guns?

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Mr. Campbell: The soldiers had guns, and there was about five soldiers, and I think they had two negroes in the center of them, marching them with their hands in the air. The crowd was marching with the soldiers and continually "rocking" the negroes.

Mr. Johnson: Those stones were going right in among the soldiers?

Mr. Campbell: Right amongst the soldiers; yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: And they did nothing to protect the negroes from those attacks?

Mr. Campbell: They did not; no, sir.

Mr. Baker: The negroes were holding their hands up?

Mr. Campbell: Marching with their hands in the air; yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: What is your business, Mr. Campbell?

Mr. Campbell: I am superintendent of the free State employment office here in East St. Louis.

Mr. Baker: Where was your office at that time?

Mr. Campbell: On Main and Division, just half a block from the police station.

Mr. Baker: well, rioting had been going on and was going on when you saw these State's attorney?

Mr. Campbell: Yes. If I remember right, I was on my noon hour and had stopped there to get a cigar. It was about one or two, something like that, and I stopped out in front to talk before I went back to the office. And there was other men there with me, but I don't recall who they were now, because that is quite a congregating place there.

He passed us going south.

Mr. Raker: You didn't see any effort on his part to stop the riot, did you?

Mr. Campbell: No, he was just going south on Collinsville Avenue.

Mr. Raker: He was so intoxicated that he wasn't in a position to make any resistance to the mob? Is that it?

Mr. Campbell: Now that I couldn't answer. I know he wasn't doing it.

Mr. Raker: Didn't it seem a little bit peculiar to you to see the State's Attorney going down one of your main streets of your city, intoxicated, on an occasion like that?

Mr. Campbell: Well, it isn't peculiar to me to see him intoxicated. It might seem peculiar to see him going down the street making no effort to stop it.

Mr. Raker: Well, I will put it this way: Wasn't it an outrageous conduct on the part of the State's Attorney to be helplessly drunk on the streets on a day like that?

Mr. Campbell: Well, he wasn't helplessly drunk. He was walking along, but he was drunk. Of course it wasn't right, no.

Mr. Raker: Well, if he had been sober, he might have been able to have counselled and prevented the riot-- assisted in preventing the riot?

Mr. Campbell: He might have assisted, yes.

Mr. Raker: Well, drunkenness in cases of that kind, or drinking ordinarily incites one to bring about more

rioting?

Mr. Campbell: Well, it doesn't help any to stop it.

Mr. Raker: Well, don't it just do the other thing?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, it sets a bad example.

Mr. Raker: Well, it not only sets a bad example, but men who are intoxicated are more prone to violate the law and encourage others to violate the law than if they were sober?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

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Mr. Raker: And you found your State's Attorney on a main street, about noon on the day of the rioting, in the condition you have stated?

Mr. Campbell: He was intoxicated; yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: Now there is one other question I wanted to ask you: How long have you been in that free employment bureau?

Mr. Campbell: Since the 25th day of June, 1917.

Mr. Raker: So you know nothing about the people coming in from the South before that time?

Mr. Campbell: Only from what I have observed on the street. I could notice the great increase. Anybody could note that.

Mr. Raker: Well, did you make any investigation to see where they came from or why they came here?

Mr. Campbell: Not at that time. I made an investigation since then for the New York Chamber of Commerce. They sent letters, I expect, broadcast, all through the North, and I made an investigation as best I could as to the number

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which had arrived here, and the time they had come, and I did get some figures then. Of course the figures are not correct. They are just estimates and averages.

Mr. Baker: Covering what period?

Mr. Campbell: Covering the previous two years, the preceding two years.

Mr. Baker: How could you give the Committee any information on that?

Mr. Campbell: Well, as close as I could find out, there had been about 8,000 laborers come in in the two years previous-- 8,000 colored laborers.

Mr. Baker: How many white laborers?

Mr. Campbell: Well now, that I didn't figure. I went to the different men who had investigated things following the riot. I went to the State investigation; I went to the Grand Jury, and I went to the Committee of One Hundred, and I went to anybody that I thought could throw any light; and the best figures I could come at was about 8,000 in two years. And this I think was for the Charter of Commerce. It was some New York trade body. I did it at the solicitation of the Governor.

Mr. Cooper: You say these soldiers were walking up the street with negroes ~~they had~~ ^{ahead of} with them?

Mr. Campbell: No.

Mr. Cooper: How was that?

Mr. Campbell: The negroes were in the center. There was five or six soldiers and the two negroes were in

the center. They passed my office, and as the crowd surged up by, I went to the windows and they were taking these two negroes to the police station, and of course there was spaces between the soldiers, and they were firing rocks through these spaces and hitting the negroes.

Mr. Cooper: Did the soldiers have rifles and bayonets?

Mr. Campbell: They did. They had bayonets attached.

Mr. Cooper: Now then, if that mob followed up those soldiers and those negroes, and were able to throw rocks between the soldiers and not hit the soldiers, they must have been quite close to the troops, weren't they?

Mr. Campbell: They were from the curbing to the center of the street, eighteen or twenty feet at the most, I should judge.

Mr. Cooper: Was there any reason why those soldiers couldn't have turned around with those rifles and bayonets in that place and charged the crowd, or threatened them?

Mr. Campbell: Absolutely nothing at all, if they had the pep to do it.

Mr. Cooper: Did the rocks hit the negroes?

Mr. Campbell: They did. Some missed.

Mr. Cooper: Did any of them hit the soldiers?

Mr. Campbell: None that I saw. They were right on them.

Mr. Cooper: So they were close enough, at least, to enable them to throw rocks and hit a couple of helpless negroes, when soldiers were with them, and soldiers in uni-

forms and rifles and bayonets in place?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And not hit the soldiers?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir. They wasn't quite the width of this room.

Mr. Johnson: This room is about eighteen feet wide.

Mr. Campbell: Just about that wide, from the curb line to the middle of the street.

Mr. Johnson: Probably twelve feet away?

Mr. Campbell: Probably about that.

Mr. Cooper: When these rocks hit the negroes, what did the soldiers do?

Mr. Campbell: One of the soldiers did turn around and try to admonish the crowd to cease. He talked to them, and you see they were moving along all the time. It don't take them practically the space of a minute to pass my office. They only had to go probably 150 feet until they got into the police station. The crowd surged on up to the police station with them-- surged right up to the police station steps.

Mr. Cooper: Did anyone of those soldiers turn around with a bayonet in place as if to threaten the crowd at all?

Mr. Campbell: He did not; no, sir.

Mr. Baker: Do you know what a committee committee of the sheriff's office is?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I have read that act many a time, but I can't tell you what the act is. I know the power he has.

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Mr. Raker: You understand that the sheriff or the deputy has the right to call to his aid the citizens?

Mr. Campbell: Any civilian.

Mr. Raker: If the civilian refuses to respond, it makes him guilty of an offense as well as subjects him to a fine?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir; I know that.

Mr. Raker: Now you were deputy sheriff that day?

Mr. Campbell: No, not that day. I was removed from the sheriff's office on the last day of March.

Mr. Raker: And you weren't deputy that day?

Mr. Campbell: No, I was not. I was removed the last day of March or the first day of April, I forget which; and then I wasn't doing anything until the 25th day of June, when I went to work as superintendent of the State Free & Employment office.

Mr. Cooper: We have heard testimony besides your own about the drunkenness of your State's Attorney. Witnesses have testified, and it is the general rumor here, that he was drunk on that wonderfully tragic day in this city. You are the eye witness who saw him drunk, and to that statement you add the further statement that you have seen him drunk frequently, and so forth. Where have you seen him drunk before? On the public streets of this city?

Mr. Campbell: I have, yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: How many times do you think you have seen the state's Attorney of this County drunk on the

streets of this city or elsewhere in public?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I couldn't tell you.

Mr. Cooper: Well, about how many?

Mr. Campbell: Well, it would be impossible to say.

Mr. Cooper: Nearly every time you saw him?

Mr. Campbell: Not every time, no, but lots of times.

Mr. Cooper: In other words, it is the custom, the habit of the State's Attorney of this County, to go drunk on the streets. That isn't true, isn't it?

Mr. Campbell: No; I wouldn't say that it is the custom. I will say I have seen him at times intoxicated on the streets. I wouldn't want to say it is the custom of the man.

Mr. Cooper: Have you ever seen him conducting a trial?

Mr. Campbell: I have, many times, yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: Did you ever see h'm on or about those days under the influence of intoxicants?

Mr. Campbell: Well, never at any time have I ever seen him conducting a trial where I was close enough to know; but I will say this much for him, that doesn't seem to impair his ability. I think he is a very shrewd attorney myself.

Mr. Cooper: Well, do you think that it helps his reputation as an official, a very important official, the people's lawyer, to go drunk in public places?

Mr. Campbell: No. On the contrary, it hurts him. It has hurt him.

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Mr. Cooper: How does it affect the reputation of a community that elects that kind of officials?

Mr. Campbell: It lowers it.

Mr. Cooper: Do you think that a State official ought to be allowed to go drunk on the streets any more than any ordinary man not holding public place is allowed to go drunk?

Mr. Campbell: No indeed.

Mr. Cooper: You know, of course, as a citizen, that the State's Attorney represents the people in all criminal cases?

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Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And he represents the people in civil cases in which the county is interested?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And if money is to be recovered from delinquents of any sort, he is the man to get it, if they owe the money to the county. Don't you think that a man who represents you as one of the people of this city and county, and represents the public generally, ought to be a sober man?

Mr. Campbell: I do; yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And besides being an honest and able man?

Mr. Campbell: I do; yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Do you think that a State's Attorney of that kind can go around here and be drunk on the day of that riot unless he felt pretty sure that the crowd in control here wouldn't do anything to him?

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Mr. Campbell: Well, I-- there was nobody in control that day much. I wouldn't know how to answer that.

Mr. Cooper: There are people in control of the administration of this city-- I don't refer exclusively to the Mayor, but I refer to this machine, this sort of a bipartisan crooked machine that has been running things in this community for some time-- do you think a State's Attorney would dare to go drunk on a great day like that unless he felt pretty sure that he wouldn't be harmed or molested about it?

Mr. Campbell: Well, he knew he wouldn't be harmed or molested.

Mr. Cooper: He knew he wouldn't be touched, didn't he?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Either that day or any other day?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: I should say "non-partisan" political machine. In other words, the people's lawyer in this county knows that he can get drunk when he wants to and nobody will pay any attention to it? Is that it?

Mr. Campbell: That is about it.

Mr. Cooper: That's all.

Mr. Johnson: You may stand aside.

STATEMENT OF EMMETT P. GRIFFIN, 1810 Ohio Avenue,
East St. Louis, Illinois.

(The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.)

Mr. Johnson: Please give the stenographer your name

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and residence.

Mr. Griffin: Emmett P. Griffin, 1810 Ohio Avenue,
East St. Louis, Illinois.

Mr. Johnson: In what business are you engaged?

Mr. Griffin: Superintendent and chief engineer of
the East St. Louis Park Board.

Mr. Johnson: were you a member of the local rifle
club here about which we have heard something?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Are you a member of that club now?

Mr. Griffin: I think so.

Mr. Johnson: Paid up?

Mr. Griffin: Why, on the last notice I think I am
paid up; yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: If you are not, it isn't your fault?

Mr. Griffin: No, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Did you ever have one of those guns?

Mr. Griffin: No, sir; I never did.

Mr. Johnson: Did you ever practice?

Mr. Griffin: No, sir.

Mr. Johnson: How much money, to the best of your
memory, was paid in to the organization?

Mr. Griffin: when they were organized they charged
an initiation fee of two dollars. That is as much as I
have paid.

Mr. Johnson: Did you ever see one of the guns?

Mr. Griffin: I remember of them coming, and I re-
member-- yes, I have seen them. I remember when they took
them out of the case.

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Mr. Johnson: That is your experience with the rifle club?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: In so far as you know, was the membership of the rifle club or its board of directors consulted when these rifles were taken out of the place, the vault in which they were placed by the rifle club, and transferred to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Griffin: No, sir; I don't think so.

Mr. Johnson: When did you first hear that those rifles had been taken over to the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Griffin: Some day last week, I think. Mr. Anderson called me up on the telephone and asked me in reference to it, and at that time I told him that they had arranged an indoor range in the library building here, and were supposed to have a rifle station there. And so far as them being moved, I told him I never heard nothing in reference to it.

Mr. Johnson: I think it well for the record to show that the Committee did not know that Mr. Griffin was present in the room, or that he was a member of the rifle club, until just a few moments ago, when I was told of that fact. In other words, the Committee has not been singling out members of the rifle club who didn't know of this removal of their arms and ammunition. If the Committee knew other members of the club, it would call them for the purpose of establishing the same fact.

Do you know anything further about the matter, that

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I have not asked you?

Mr. Griffin: No, sir; I don't think I do. The only thing I know in reference to the organization of it and about the different ranges and everything, and that is all.

Mr. Raker: Did you know where the rifles were kept at the time they came here, until you heard here about a week ago what became of them?

Mr. Griffin: I think they were kept in the library building.

Mr. Raker: That is where you thought they were kept?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, sir; that is where they were supposed to have the indoor range.

Mr. Raker: In other words, it was a revelation to you to learn that these rifles had been turned over to the Aluminum Ore Company people?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, sir; it sure was.

Mr. Raker: Well, that would have been against your will and desire?

Mr. Griffin: Yes; I think it would be against the principles of the organization.

Mr. Raker: Not only against the principles of the organization, but against the law, as you understood it?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, the way I understand, the Government allows us to organize the thing, it would be against the law.

Mr. Raker: And you were surprised to learn of the fact that they had taken these guns and 10,000 rounds of ammunition and placed it out in the Aluminum Ore Company

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for their disposal and their use?

Mr. Griffin: Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: To be used against strikers or anybody else. That is right; isn't it?

Mr. Griffin: yes, sir; sure.

Mr. Johnson: You may be excused.

STATEMENT OF STEWART CAMPBELL (Recalled).

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Campbell, were you ever deputy sheriff?

Mr. Campbell: I was, yes, sir; about six years and a half.

Mr. Cooper: when did your term of office begin and end?

Mr. Campbell: I went in on the 5th day of December, 1910, and was discharged, I think, the 31st of March, 1917.

Mr. Cooper: Why were you discharged?

Mr. Campbell: I was discharged because I guessed wrong politically.

Mr. Cooper: Did you know about anybody wanting to pull any dives ~~xxxxxx~~ out at Brooklyn or elsewhere?

Mr. Campbell: About anybody wanting to pull them?

Mr. Cooper: Did you want to shut up anything out there?

Mr. Campbell: Why, I wanted to stop them a couple of times, yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: well, did you stop them?

Mr. Campbell: I did not; no, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Why not?

Mr. Campbell: I wasn't allowed to.

Mr. Cooper: Who stopped you from doing it?

Mr. Campbell: The sheriff.

Mr. Cooper: Who was the sheriff?

Mr. Campbell: Logan P. Mellon.

Mr. Cooper: What did he say to you?

Mr. Campbell: He told me he and Schaumleffel would tend to that, and to mind my own business.

Mr. Cooper: He and Schaumleffel would tend to that?

Mr. Campbell: He did.

Mr. Cooper: Did he and Schaumleffel tend to it?

Mr. Campbell: They did not.

Mr. Cooper: Why did you want to close up those dives out there?

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Mr. Campbell: Well, I went up to Brooklyn one Sunday, and I had heard this was going on, but I didn't know how bad it was. ~~gmkmgmsx~~ I went up there to get a woman--

Mr. Cooper (Interposing:): You heard what was going on?

Mr. Campbell: That this gambling was. I went up there to get a woman who had been arrested. When I got up there I stumbled on to all this stuff, and that was when I notified the sheriff about it. I knew that there always had been gambling in Brooklyn amongst the colored element, but I didn't know all these whites were in there. When I got into Brooklyn I stumbled on to Werner's crap game, and

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Fritz across the street.

Mr. Cooper: What Fritz is that? Mule Pole Fritz?

Mr. Campbell: No; I don't know whether his name is
or
Fritz/Pitts. It's Fritz or Pitts, but it isn't Mule Pole.
I stumbled onto these crap games and saw how they were go-
ing, and patronized by white people, and I went to the City
Hall in Brooklyn and called up the sheriff and told the
sheriff all about it, and asked him to give me permission
to close them up, and asked him to give me permission to
run them over the county line. That was my work. He told
me to come back to East St. Louis; that he and Schaumleffel
would tend to it.

Mr. Cooper: And you came back?

Mr. Campbell: I came back to East St. Louis and
went to see Wolcott, the assistant State's attorney, and
laid the proposition before Wolcott, and Wolcott said he
would see what he could do, and shortly after that I aspir-
ed to run for constable and was fired.

Mr. Cooper: Did you ever know of Schaumleffel do-
ing anything about it?

Mr. Campbell: I do not; no, sir.

Mr. Cooper: He never did do anything, did he?

Mr. Campbell: No, sir; I understand that Attorney
General Brundage stopped them.

Mr. Cooper: In other words, after you had reported
to the sheriff of this county gross, open, notorious viola-
tions of law, and asked permission as an officer to enforce
the law against the offenders, the sheriff told you to

come back home, that he and the State's Attorney would enforce the law-- would attend to it-- and they did nothing of the kind, and nothing was done until the Attorney General of the State of Illinois took hold of it?

Mr. Campbell: That is my understanding. I was out of office, I think, when the final clean up was made. I had been discharged. All I know about it is what I read in the paper.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know anything about-- have you ever been out at the Armour Packing plant or in National City anywhere during the strike out there?

Mr. Campbell: I was. I was sent for during that strike by Mr. Donnelly--

Mr. Cooper (Interposing:) Was he superintendent of the Armour Plant?

Mr. Campbell: Superintendent of Armour & Company-- and I called up the sheriff to see about going--

Mr. Cooper (Interposing:) When was that?

Mr. Campbell: That was the first or second day of the strike.

Mr. Cooper: That year?

Mr. Campbell: That was in 1917, I believe, or 1916, or whenever the strike was-- I don't remember the year.

Mr. Cooper: Well, the Aluminum Company plant was ^{this} year. But was it before that strike?

Mr. Campbell: Yes; it was before that. I can't remember the date.

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Mr. Cooper: 1916, wasn't it?

Mr. Campbell: well, I wouldn't say, but I will say it was when the packing house strike was.

Mr. Cooper: It was when you were deputy sheriff?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: when did you cease to be deputy sheriff?

Mr. Campbell: In March, 1917.

Mr. Cooper: Then how long before you went out?

~~Mr. Campbell:~~ *Mr. Campbell: Some months, I can't tell exactly.*

~~Mr. Cooper:~~ *Mr. Cooper: In March, 1917---*

Mr. Campbell (Interposing:) I guess it was in 1916. I don't remember the date, but it was the packing house strike.

Mr. Cooper: who sent for you to come out there?

Mr. Campbell: Mr. Conway sent for me to come out there. He told me he couldn't get his stenographer and his clerks into the plant, and the trouble was happening over the city line in the county. The city line is First and St. Clair. So I called up the sheriff, and the sheriff couldn't be located any place, and I believe we finally located him-- no, Belleville located him by wire, at Peoria, and he notified me to get in touch with Mr. Conway right away, and I went to Mr. Conway's office and Mr. Conway told me what he wanted me to do, and I told him what the sheriff told me to do.

Mr. Cooper: Did you see any guns there?

Mr. Campbell: I did. I saw plenty of guns in

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his office.

Mr. Cooper: Plenty of guns in Mr. Conway's office?

Mr. Campbell: I did; yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: What kind of guns?

Mr. Campbell: Automatics, blue steel.

Mr. Johnson: Pistols or rifles?

Mr. Campbell: Pistols.

Mr. Cooper: About how many?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I couldn't say, but there was lots of them.

Mr. Cooper: Where were they, on the floor?

Mr. Campbell: They were shot on the floor. They were on the table. Young Joe Messick was with me, and if I remember rightly, they were in a pasteboard box about ten inches long and about three inches wide and an inch deep.

Mr. Cooper: Each pistol?

Mr. Campbell: Each pistol. And Joe Messick took a box and opened it.

Mr. Cooper: Is that the son of the County Judge Messick?

Mr. Campbell: It is. He took a box and opened it, and took one of the revolvers out while we were in the office.

Mr. Cooper: What was he doing over there?

Mr. Campbell: He is the one that took us to Armour's. I think he represents Armour's. I think he

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met us. I think he came to the office.

Mr. Cooper: What was done with the pistols?

Mr. Campbell: Well, he just simply took the pistol out and was handling it. That's all.

Mr. Cooper: That was Joe Vessick?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: What did Mr. Conway want you to do?

Mr. Campbell: He told us that he didn't want any men protected; that they weren't going to put any men to work, but he wanted to be able to get his clerks and stenographers into the plant without having any trouble on the street cars. He asked us if we could see that the clerks and stenographers got to the office of the plant; and we told him we would. I believe that is the only request-- I believe he did request for me to have the sheriff see him as soon as the sheriff got back in town, but I don't think that was ever done, because as soon as the sheriff got back in town he told me to stay away from Conway.

Mr. Cooper: The sheriff told you to stay away from Conway?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Why?

Mr. Campbell: I don't know. He wired me to get into communication with Conway, but when he came back he told me to stay away from him.

Mr. Cooper: Did those look like new revolvers?

Mr. Campbell: They were new. They were not even

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taken out of the cartons that they came in.

Mr. Baker: were the cartridges there too?

Mr. Campbell: No, they could have been there, but I never saw them.

Mr. Cooper: what did Messick say?

Mr. Campbell: Well, just in a general way what Mr. Conway did. He told us what he wanted ~~to~~ do, and asked us if we could do it. Mr. Conway did most of the talking.

Mr. Cooper: What official position is it that young Messick occupies now?

Mr. Campbell: He is clerk of the board of election commissioners, I think is the only thing he hold right now.

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Mr. Baker: And attorney for getting assessments reduced ~~mm~~ for the corporations?

Mr. Campbell: About that I didn't learn till the other day.

Mr. Cooper: Do you know when he took his position as clerk of the board of election commissioners?

Mr. Campbell: I think upon the election of his father as County Judge.

Mr. Cooper: when was that? Was it before this strike?

Mr. Campbell: Oh yes.

Mr. Cooper: So he was clerk of the board of election commissioners at the time he was up at the Armour plant and directing things there?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, he was on that position then; and he also represented Armour-- that is, in cases of minor importance. Any case of any prominence he didn't.

Mr. Cooper: I think that is all of my questions.

Mr. Raker: Is the same sheriff in now that was in during all the time you have named?

Mr. Campbell: No; I was there under two sheriffs.

Mr. Raker: well, a year ago.

Mr. Campbell: Yes.

Mr. Raker: And is in now and was in during all this year?

Mr. Campbell: Oh, yes.

Mr. Raker: what is his name?

Mr. Campbell: Logan Mellon. Logan P. Mellon.

Mr. Raker: Did you ever meet the night chief of police and two detectives at any place that was any way disreputable?

Mr. Campbell: Oh, I have met them lots of places. I have seen them in different places.

Mr. Raker: well, can you think of any place that you found them?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I think I know the place you allude to.

Mr. Raker: what was it?

Mr. Campbell: We were out raiding one night--

Mr. Raker (Interposing:) Who was?

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Mr. Campbell: Myself and several deputies.

Mr. Raker: Deputy sheriffs?

Mr. Campbell: We were out raiding one night, cleaning up nigger crap games and different things, and we run on to them at 208 St. Louis Avenue.

Mr. Raker: Onto who?

Mr. Campbell: Onto Night Chief Hickey.

Mr. Raker: That is Con Hickey?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, and Detectives Baxter and Vadden.

Mr. Raker: What kind of a house were they in?

Mr. Campbell: In a house of prostitution.

Mr. Raker: Who runs it, do you know?

Mr. Campbell: Marie Hall.

Mr. Raker: Who owned the property, do you know?

Mr. Campbell: No, I don't.

Mr. Raker: That was Marie Hall's place?

Mr. Campbell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: Is Marie the same one that is alleged to have given a desk to Judge Clark?

Mr. Campbell: I don't know anything about that except just what I heard here.

Mr. Raker: Well, she is the only Marie Hall that does this kind of business, isn't she?

Mr. Campbell: She is the only one I know of; yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: You have spoken of having received orders from your superior officer to the effect that you must let gambling alone over in Brooklyn; that he and

Schaumleffel would look after that. Do you recall any other instance where you received similar orders from an officer to the effect-- or in other words, ^{orders to the effect} that you were not to perform your duty?

Mr. Campbell: Well, we only did what we were told to do, and didn't do what we were told not to do; but this case he told me to come to East St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson: And let it alone?

Mr. Campbell: He didn't use the words "let it alone". He said "You come to East St. Louis, and Schaumleffel and I will tend to it."

Mr. Johnson: well, can you recall any other similar instance in your official career?

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Mr. Campbell: where I was told to leave things alone?

Mr. Johnson: Yes.

Mr. Campbell: No.

Mr. Johnson: Were you given to understand upon any other occasion that you must pass by and let unlawful acts go unnoticed?

Mr. Campbell: No; things were worked on a different system.

Mr. Johnson: What is the system?

Mr. Campbell: You passed by things until you were told to get them (laughter.)

Mr. Johnson: Did you pass by localities and things, or anything, and report it to your superior officer and were told not to get it?

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Mr. Campbell: No, I never reported to him, because I figured he knew everything.

Mr. Johnson: In other words, while you were deputy sheriff, you never took the initiative until you were instructed by your superior officers?

Mr. Campbell: Absolutely; yes, sir. We were told what to do.

Mr. Johnson: And you were given thoroughly to understand, and did understand, that you must let vice and unlawful things alone until you were told to interfere with them?

Mr. Campbell: Well, we wasn't told that in so many words, but you knew enough to mind your own business, or you wouldn't be there long.

Mr. Raker: Do you know anything about the place that was run out here by a man and his wife, where a young girl was maltreated?

Mr. Campbell: Well, I know that place was in existence. I never was in that place. I know it was in existence.

Mr. Raker: You have heard of the place?

Mr. Campbell: Yes.

Mr. Raker: And you understood that a deputy sheriff was in attendance at that place?

Mr. Campbell: Well, that was hearsay too. This has all happened since I left office, and that is just hearsay with me.

Mr. Raker: But you understood that was the fact?

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Mr. Campbell: I have heard it. Well, about these deputies working there, I know about one deputy working. I have never worked at any of those places, but I have worked at some of those roadhouses myself, because up until the last few months those deputies only made \$72 a month, and they went out there in order to get enough money to live on.

Mr. Raker: Mr. Chairman, might Mr. Allison come forward just a moment, if he is in the room? I would like to ask him a question.

STATEMENT OF REVEREND GEORGE W. ALLISON, (resumed).

Mr. Raker: It has been brought to my notice in regard to a matter, Mr. Allison, to which you have testified before the Committee, that you have been threatened. I would like to know if there is anything in that statement, and if so, what it is.

Mr. Allison: It is true.

Mr. Raker: Since you have testified here?

Mr. Allison: Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: Just tell the Committee what it is.

Mr. Allison: Nay, this morning at 11:30 the telephone in my study at the church rang, and Miss Stark, my missionary or secretary there at the church, answered the telephone. I had gone to St. Louis. She told me that it was sort of a guttural voice-- feigned to make it a German brogue-- that asked for me. She told ^{them} ~~me~~ I wasn't there. She said they said, "well, it's all right; you'll

4004

do. Just tell him that we're going to get him." We immediately took it up with the telephone office and have been trying to trace the call.

Mr. Raker: That's all.

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Mr. Allison: May I make a statement in reference to that, Mr. Chairman? I think that it ought to be known to the general public. I have no fear at all from any individual of the underworld of East St. Louis, if they are left alone. My opinion of the folks who are participants in crime, and my experience with them, has been such that there is an honor among underworld people, and I don't believe that any gambler nor any prostitute nor any dive-keeper in East St. Louis, left alone, would harm a hair of my head; and I am thoroughly convinced that if I am harmed in any way it will be because some of these gentlemen higher up have hired these unfortunate people to do it. That is the statement I wanted to make.

Mr. Cooper: I want to ask just one question. Did you say that your stenographer reported that this was a kind of a feigned or pretended German brogue?

Mr. Allison: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: She thought it wasn't a genuine German brogue, but spoken by someone trying to make it appear that way?

Mr. Allison: Yes, sir; she stated it was very apparent that it was a feigned brogue.

Mr. Johnson: Mr. Sorrells, will you come to the stand?

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STATEMENT OF E. M. SORRELLS (continued.)

Mr. Johnson: Mr. Sorrells, have you the list that we asked you for?

Mr. Sorrells: I haven't the list. I have been unable to get it.

Mr. Johnson: What list are you speaking of now?

Mr. Sorrells: The list of names of those who have the rifles.

Mr. Johnson: Well, I am inquiring not only as to those who have them now, but as to those who had them when the removal was made over to the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, I will give you the names of all.

Mr. Johnson: What list have you in your hand now?

Mr. Sorrells: I haven't any list. You asked also for the date on which these rifles were taken out to the Aluminum Ore Company. It was the night of April 19, 1917.

You also asked me when Mr. Fox resigned as president of the Chamber of Commerce. That was on May 11.

Mr. Baker: You resigned at the same time?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I resigned-- I left there before the 11th. I believe the information was brought in question some time before, as to why we left. I think it was brought out that we left because of a certain resolution which had been given to the Chamber of Commerce in regard to importation of negroes.

Mr. Foss: Was that the ^{Joyce} ~~main~~ resolution?

Mr. Sorrells: I believe so. But that, I am sure,

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was offered on May 22. Here is-- this is taken from our files. Mr. Fox gave me this.

Mr. Johnson: You say "our files". Whose files?

Mr. Sorrells: From Mr. Fox's files at the Aluminum Ore Company (producing paper.)

Mr. Johnson: Just briefly what is this paper you are handing over to the Committee?

Mr. Sorrells: Just showing the date of his resignation.

Mr. Johnson: Well, you have stated that, so the insertion of this paper will serve no purpose in the record, will it?

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Mr. Sorrells: No, only to show why Mr. Fox resigned.

Mr. Johnson: Why did you resign?

Mr. Sorrells: Simply because I thought I was bettering myself.

Mr. Johnson: In other words, you resigned the position with the Chamber of Commerce in order to take the one out at the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. I would rather work for an individual plant than to work for a good many people, even at the same salary.

Mr. Johnson: Just to refresh my memory, when was the strike out at the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Some time in April.

Mr. Johnson: And when did you commence work out there? When was the strike over out at the Aluminum Ore Company?

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Mr. Sorrells: Well, that is a mooted question yet, whether it is over or not.

Mr. Johnson: Well, you accepted employment there, certainly, during the pendency of the strike?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, so far as the Aluminum Ore Company was concerned, though, it was settled. So far as they were concerned, they took no further part in it.

Mr. Johnson: They didn't strike at all? The Aluminum Ore Company didn't?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: It was just the working men who struck. When did Mr. Weinel take his employment with the Aluminum Ore Company?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, about a month ago. I think ~~about~~ he had been with them-- it might be a little longer than that, but I don't think so.

Mr. Johnson: And if, as suggested by you, the strike is still going on--

Mr. Sorrells (Interposing:): Well, I am not suggesting that, so far as the Aluminum Ore Company is concerned.

Mr. Johnson: You didn't let me finish my question-- but go ahead.

Mr. Sorrells: It was settled with the Aluminum Ore Company, I have an idea, on the day on which they struck and went out. They were satisfied that they didn't need those men any longer.

Mr. Johnson: So the strike with the Aluminum Ore Company, so far as the Aluminum Ore Company was concerned,

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was over the day the working men went out?

Mr. Sorrells: I am not saying that. You probably take my statement--

Mr. Johnson (Interposing:) I will ask the stenographer to read just what you did say at that point.

(The answer was read as follows:)

"Mr. Sorrells: It was settled with the Aluminum Ore Company, I have an idea, on the day on which they struck and went out."

Mr. Johnson: Now then, go ahead.

Mr. Sorrells: Since I have been to and from the Aluminum Ore Company there, I have seen the plant working-- this just comes from my own statement, that so far as the Aluminum Ore Company is concerned, the strike was over. They have been continuing operating in the plant, and of course as new men came in they secured them, because the men were standing outside and around-- that is, the strikers. Of course the strike was still on. I am not saying the strike was not, but I mean so far as operating the plant was concerned, we went ahead with regular business as fast as we could secure men. We went ahead and operated.

Mr. Johnson: From what source did you secure these men with which the plant continued to operate, when their regular employes went out?

Mr. Sorrells: well, sir, I don't know, ^{so much about that} only I can see men coming from time to time to apply for various positions. In fact, young men have asked me to help them secure positions out there, and I did so. And I think they

secured men from all sources that they could get good men from.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know from what source the common labor came?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I don't. From all sources, I suppose.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know of any effort upon the part of the company to secure negro labor from the South?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I do not.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know whether or not it did secure negro labor from the South?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Johnson: You have no information upon the subject about which I am asking you?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Johnson: How many members of the rifle club knew of the removal of these rifles and ammunition of which you have spoken?

Mr. Sorrells: I daresay only two. I don't know that many of them knew where they were in the first place.

Mr. Johnson: And those two were yourself and Mr. Weinel?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Now following up the line I started a moment ago, so as to make it consecutive; when you and Mr. Weinel made arrangements to take these rifles, remove the rifles from the vault to the Aluminum Ore Company plant, they knew that you were going to bring them out there?

4010

Mr. Sorrells: Yes; I asked them. As I said, we secured the truck out there, and they knew we were coming. They didn't know when or anything at all about that.

Mr. Baker: Well, arrangements had been made with the employes there, some one?

Mr. Sorrells: With those one or two that were in the lot there, yes sir, to receive those guns.

Mr. Baker: So they would know where to put them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: And you took them into the back way?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Now it has been stated here that those guns were cleaned since they were placed at the Aluminum Ore Company's plant.

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I think only a few of them.

Mr. Baker: Well, it has been stated that they were all in good shape, good order-- so advised by Mr. Fox?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, in good order-- I suppose it would take some-- well, I don't know just what length of time it would take to clean the vaseline out of the guns.

Mr. Baker: Well, it wouldn't take two minutes to grab one of those guns up and fill it full of cartridges and it would shoot just as good as the ones you have rubbed off half a day?

Mr. Sorrells: I wouldn't want to try it.

Mr. Baker: Well, whether you want to try it or not, isn't that the fact?

Mr. Sorrells: No, it is not.

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Mr. Raker: wouldn't they shoot all right?

Mr. Sorrells: No; not as good as if they were cleaned.

Mr. Raker: But they would shoot?

Mr. Sorrells: They might.

Mr. Raker: And kill?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I shouldn't wonder, yes sir.

Mr. Raker: Well, you haven't any doubt of it?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I wouldn't want any fellow to shoot at me, so far as that is concerned.

Mr. Raker: The guns have been where they could have been used by the people there in charge?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; by coming to me they could be, yes.

Mr. Raker: Couldn't they get into the box without you?

Mr. Sorrells: They could open the box-- break the lock on the box and get in if they had to. I suppose they would, and I wouldn't say anything against them if they did.

Mr. Raker: You have stated that, and I wanted to make it specific, because Mr. Fox said they got guns for use, and they were so they could get at them whenever they wanted to; and that was the position the guns were left in, and the ammunition too; isn't that right?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, the ammunition was in the same box with the guns.

Mr. Raker: What kind of bullets were those? Were they steel jacketed?

Mr. Sorrells: Steel jacketed.

4012

Mr. Baker: High-powered smokeless powder?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; 30-30, if I am not mistaken. I am not sure about that.

Mr. Baker: Now since the guns have been there, taken at the time you have designated, there has been no use made of them by the rifle club?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh yes; I secured one of them myself and took it out home, and we had them out at the rifle range shooting, and various members have taken those guns, four or five out there Saturday afternoons, and sometimes Sunday mornings, out there to shoot-- any member of the rifle club. In fact, we issued invitations-- sent out cards for meetings-- and told them what we had, and tried to get them together; but interest was very lax in it for some cause. At an expense of three or four hundred dollars out there the rifle range was made and it is a good rifle range, and there is considerable could be learned, I have an idea.

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Mr. Johnson: The principal activities regarding those rifles have been their transfer from their former place of deposit over to the Aluminum Ore works?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I think not. I don't exactly take that stand. Of course that is one move that was made.

Mr. Johnson: About the biggest move, wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh, I wouldn't say so. We have worried along with it for some time.

Mr. Johnson: You have worried along with what?

Mr. Sorrells: With the rifle club.

Mr. Johnson: You haven't worried much with the rifles,

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though, have you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; we bought some extra rifles of our own, 22's, for indoor practice, and we have used the indoor rifles quite a good deal.

Mr. Johnson: When you bought the 22 rifles you were not worrying about the 30-50's?

Mr. Sorrells: No, because we didn't have the range made for them. I shot one of those rifles out here on Horseshoe Lake, and for four days after that I picked up the papers to see who was killed on the other side; and I never shot one of them out there any more until I had a rifle range to shoot on.

Mr. Johnson: Did you think of the danger before you shot or after?

Mr. Sorrells: After. That is what worried me.

Mr. Johnson: Now you have said, without any sort of hesitation on your part, that when these rifles were transferred from the vault to the Aluminum Ore Company on that night, that you had a pistol in your pocket?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: For what purpose did you have it?

Mr. Sorrells: For protection in case I was attacked.

Mr. Johnson: Also for the purpose of protecting the rifles? I think you said something about that.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes; we wanted to protect them.

Mr. Johnson: Then you realized, of course, that you became a law-breaker in carrying the pistol as you did?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

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Mr. Johnson: You became a voluntary law-breaker?

MR. Sorrells: In so far as carrying a pistol; yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: Let me ask the question, please. You became a voluntary law-breaker for the purpose of protecting rifles which needed no protection if they had been left alone in the vault, but which, according to reality or your own imagination, did need protection while they were being transferred over to the Aluminum Ore plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: That is a very considerable interest, is it not, in those rifles?

MR. Sorrells: No, I think not.

Mr. Johnson: Just an ordinary, usual interest?

Mr. Sorrells: The occasion demanded that we take an interest in that part of it, so far as that is concerned.

Mr. Cooper: You have just replied to Judge Raker and said they could have used those rifles, the Aluminum Ore Company, if they broke open the box, or got permission from you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; they could have.

Mr. Cooper: They had to get permission from you first?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the chances are they would have asked me for the rifles.

Mr. Cooper: The chances are they would get permission?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: You said you would have given them to

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them any time, or to any other company that asked for them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then it wasn't very much trouble to the Aluminum Company to get them?

Mr. Sorrells: Not at all.

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Mr. Cooper: But besides your willingness to give them over at any time to any company that would ask for them-- and the company knowing your willingness-- do you think they would have taken the pains to ask you? What reason would there have been in it?

Mr. Sorrells: There probably wouldn't have been any reason.

Mr. Cooper: Then they wouldn't have asked you?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh, knowing that I was ready to give them those rifles there, there wouldn't have been any reason for not asking me.

Mr. Cooper: Suppose you had been up at Chicago and they didn't know where you were?

Mr. Sorrells: They would have taken the guns.

Mr. Cooper: So you took them over there for the very purpose of letting them use them any time?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Mr. Fox said they turned them over and they had the guns for that very use.

Mr. Cooper: Now you testified not only to your entire willingness to let the company use them whenever they wanted to, but when Mr. Fox suggested that they wanted guns, rifles; that they had been trying to get them in St. Lou's

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and couldn't get them, you yourself suggested that you would get them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Fox said he wanted rifles to use, of course, and you said "why not have these rifles?"

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then they wouldn't ask you, because you suggested that they take those and use them, didn't you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then the rifles were taken over there,-- and that is the only deduction to be drawn from your testimony, isn't it-- were taken over with the express understanding between you and Mr. Fox that he needn't wait any longer to try and get rifles over in St. Louis; that he could use these that you were going to let him have?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: He wouldn't have to secure permission at all, would he? That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then all this talk about they would have had to break open the box, or ask your permission, doesn't amount to anything in the light of your own testimony, that you suggested to Mr. Fox to accept these rifles for the purpose for which he wanted to get the other rifles in St. Louis?

Mr. Baker: Now Mr. Fox testified-- and I remember it distinctly-- I know this witness will corroborate the same thing-- Mr. Fox said the rifles were there in the cases so they could get them whenever they wanted them. That is the

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testimony before this Committee.

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; they could have them. No question about that.

Mr. Cooper: Now let's just sum this right up, if I can, in a few words, what your testimony is, the essential features of it. You organized a shooting club here in this city, a rifle club. You have got to have ranges to use these long range, high-power rifles. You have got to have a range, but you didn't take the pains to find out what the cost of a range would be before you organized the club?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, that I am not sure about, whether Mr. Weinel did or not. I am not stating that.

Mr. Cooper: You never heard that he did?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Cooper: You never saw any figures or any estimates they at all before ~~you~~ organized the club?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: But they organized the club and got about two years along?

Mr. Sorrells: I imagine it was something like that.

Mr. Cooper: well, it was upwards of two years ago; or shortly after this club was organized, you secured rifles from the United States Government?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And Mr. Weinel gave bond for their return?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: About 37 or 40?

Mr. Sorrells: About 40; yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And you testified this morning that 32 of those were taken at midnight by you and Mr. Weinel, in the boxes and crated up as they arrived here in the first instance, and never had been taken from the boxes?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: With the grease still in them; and you didn't use 32 out of 37 at all; you never unboxed them for a year after you got them; you never did a thing with them after you stored them over here, until you took them over at midnight, you and the other man, armed with automatics, 38 caliber pistols, to the plant of the Aluminum Ore Company at midnight. That is so, isn't it? You never took them out of the box at all?

Mr. Sorrells: Only those that we needed, yes sir.

Mr. Cooper: Only those that you needed. 32 out of the 37 you didn't take them out at all?

Mr. Sorrells: No, we didn't take them out.

Mr. Cooper: Three-quarters of them you didn't take out?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: You organized a gun club without knowing what a range would cost; you got rifles from the United States Government and kept them boxed for a year; never touched them after you first stored them, until you took them to the plant where a strike was in progress, at midnight. That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; that's right.

Mr. Cooper: Evidently that gun club didn't want very badly to use those rifles that you got from the United States Government, if they left them in the box for a year.

Mr. Sorrells: Now the imputation that we got them for anything otherwise than the use of the rifle club I wouldn't care to say yes to that, because that is absolutely wrong.

Mr. Foster: May be you anticipated war was coming on.

Mr. Cooper: Do you think they got them to fire salutes?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: You took one of these guns out and fired it across a lake. How far do you think that bullet went? What made you so alarmed about the possible consequence of that careless shot?

Mr. Sorrells: The lake was about four miles across, and there was an island that I was shooting against, and I shot just simply to try the range of the gun. I shot it about a mile and a half.

Mr. Cooper: Did the gun shoot a mile and a half?

Mr. Sorrells: Oh, yes.

Mr. Cooper: And you shot it a mile out in the lake?

Mr. Sorrells: And I saw it hit close to a willow, and then I saw it spurt up again probably half a mile farther on, and I just wondered whether there was anybody on the island or not.

Mr. Cooper: Well, that would have been rather an effective weapon that you took over there at midnight to the Aluminum Company for the purpose of having the Aluminum

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Company use it?

Mr. Sorrells: They were good guns, yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: A human target that possibly wouldn't have been but four or five rods away, that would have been a terrible weapon? It would have shot through a dozen men, wouldn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: And did you appreciate the fact when you took that box of guns that you had had in your possession for a year and hadn't even opened or looked at, over there to this private corporation whose men were insisting on better conditions or wages or something of that kind, for that company to use, that you were in practical effect having the United States Government take ~~xxxxxx~~ sides in this city on an industrial dispute? That is what you were doing; the United States Government, not your local officials, not the sheriff, not the constables, not your officers here, but the United States Government, the most powerful in the world, was by your connivance and midnight work, arming one side of an industrial dispute in this city; American citizens against other American citizens?

Mr. Sorrells: And those American citizens were not in one bit of danger so long as they didn't attempt to destroy property.

Mr. Cooper: But the Government of the United States was not only in danger of being lined up on one side of that dispute without its knowing anything about it, but it was actually lined up on one side of the dispute, in that the

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arms necessary to kill hundreds of men were put into the possession of one side of that industrial dispute by you and Mr. Weinel at midnight. Isn't that so? The United States Government was furnishing the arms indirectly through you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Well, can you conceive of any authority that the United States Government has ever given you or Mr. Weinel to supply arms to one side of an industrial dispute in this country?

Mr. Sorrells: That I didn't take into consideration.

Mr. Cooper: Of course you didn't. Well, how much difference is there between you, then, and the worst kind of I. W. T. when it comes to using violence to settle a dispute? Your act was lawless, wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I don't think so.

Mr. Cooper: It was putting the United States Government in the attitude of supplying arms secured by a club, ostensibly for sporting purposes under the United States law.

Mr. Sorrells: But not secured for that purpose.

Mr. Cooper: For what purpose?

Mr. Sorrells: For delivering to the Aluminum Ore Company. That came secondary and on the spur of the moment, so far as that is concerned.

Mr. Cooper: But the guns were secured for the purpose of a sporting club, weren't they?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; for the rifle club.

Mr. Cooper: And of course the Honorable Secretary of

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War and other officials in Washington didn't dream that they were to be used for any other purpose than the purpose for which they were secured, and that was a legitimate purpose, for a sporting club, a rifle club. Isn't that so?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Having secured them by that representation to the officials of the United States War Department, you proceed to take them over at midnight, the deadliest kind of a weapon, to a private plant engaged in an industrial dispute with its employes, to be used by that corporation. You so testified, didn't you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Do you think-- what do you think of that as an abstract proposition? You are taking guns obtained for the innocent purpose of a rifle club, and deliberately taking them over at midnight to a private plant to be used by them in an industrial dispute; the property of the United States Government, the government taking sides, and in a deadly manner, in an industrial dispute, without the Government, s having been apprised of the fact even that a dispute was in progress, much less having taken sides in it-- what do you think of that?

Mr. Sorrells: In what way do you want me to answer? Ask it so I can answer yes or no.

Mr. Cooper: I want you to tell the truth about it as you would if you were not an employe of the Aluminum Company.

Mr. Sorrells: Knowing the condition of the Aluminum Ore Company and what they are doing out there, and what they

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have been doing for their men, and that they have received the highest wages that there is, there was no reason in the world for a strike, that I could see.

Mr. Cooper: Therefore the United States Government ought to give the Aluzinum Company these powerful rifles that will shoot a mile and a half, and kill a dozen men in a row, because you don't think the men had any right to strike? Is that it?

Mr. Sorrells: No; that wasn't it at all.

Mr. Cooper: Well, you wanted the United States Government to get into that dispute. You didn't care whether they did or not?

Mr. Sorrells: No. I never gave that one single thought. It was simply protection of the property.

Mr. Cooper: But you furnished United States rifles?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; I furnished those rifles that I had. We have gone over that a good many times.

Mr. Cooper: The government of the United States is the government of all the people, employer and employe, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Cooper: And what would you think if some other man in the rifle club had taken those and handed them over to the strikers?

Mr. Sorrells: For the destruction of property out there I would think it was all wrong.

Mr. Cooper: It don't make any difference about what for. You are assuming a certain thing. I am talk-

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ing about the mere fact of the delivering of deadly weapons belonging to the United States Government. If you had a right to turn them over, to take sides in that dispute because you thought the other side was wrong; another member of that club might have taken those guns-- another official-- might have taken them over and delivered them to the strikers. That would you have thought of that, when they said the employer wasn't doing justice to his men?

Mr. Sorrells: As I say, that will only admit of one answer, if it came to the destruction of property, where those men were going out to do that thing, I would think it was wrong. If it was for the protection of those men or their families in any way, I would be glad to give them those guns, if I figured they were in the right; if they were protecting their homes; but if they were going to march out with those guns and deliberately attack the plant, I would say it was all wrong.

Mr. Cooper: That, in my judgment, doesn't reply to the question at all. Has the United States Government, which is the government of all the people, rich and poor, employer and employe alike, and is supposed to stand with absolute impartiality in all controversies between them-- has the United States Government the right to send ammunition and arms to an employer in dispute with employes?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know.

Mr. Cooper: Well, do you think it has?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't think about it in this case-- that is, I don't care to think about it.

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Mr. Cooper: Do you think it would be right for the United States Government to send those arms to that company directly?

Mr. Sorrells: As I understood it, the department just told them that they could buy arms under their order from St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper: Well, get farther and more rapidly to the end.

Mr. Sorrells: If you will tell me how you want the question answered, I will answer it.

Mr. Cooper: Now you are a very intelligent man. All I want is for you to answer it as you think it ought to be answered. Do you think that the United States--

Mr. Sorrells: In other words, if I answer it as you want it answered.

Mr. Cooper: No, not at all, because as an honest man you wouldn't answer it but one way. Do you think that the United States Government, which is the government of the rich and the poor, the employer and employe alike, and supposedly stands with ^{an} absolutely impartial attitude in all controversies of the company with its men, do you think that the United States Government ought to have sent 32 rifles directly to the Aluminum plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; and put the soldiers behind them.

Mr. Cooper: I am not talking about soldiers. The soldiers were not there. I am speaking about that box of rifles and turning it over to this Mr. Fox and the rest

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of those people. Do you think the United States Government ought to have done that directly?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper: That is the only answer you can think of, because you did it, and put the United States Government in; but do you think so? Do you think the United States Government, if there is a dispute here between employer and employe, and a strike on, that the United States Government, the Secretary of War, ought to send arms to the people that run the plant and own it?

Mr. Sorrells: They probably would not do so; no, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Do you think they ought to? I am not speaking of soldiers now, but send the arms directly to the private corporation to be used as they see fit?

Mr. Sorrells: Probably not.

Mr. Cooper: And if the United States Government ought not to have sent that box of arms directly to this company in a dispute with its employes, you had not any right to turn the United States Government arms over to them yourself, had you?

Mr. Sorrells: Probably not.

Mr. Cooper: That's all.

Mr. Sorrells: And again I will say this much, that if I had it again to do over, probably I would not do it again.

Mr. Foss: Now you were making a statement about the Department of Justice. I think it is only fair that you be permitted to make that statement. You said something about

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the Department of Justice. I think it is only fair that you be permitted to make that statement. You said something about the Department of Justice. Did you have any communication with the Department of Justice with regard to arms?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, that is what I had in mind, and I asked Mr. Fox about it today noon when I went out to get the dates. I said "You were talking over the telephone, and just refresh my memory in regard to how this came about. I want it to be able to tell the gentlemen down there exactly how I gave the guns to you-- offered the guns to you." He was telephoning to the Department of Justice, and he said they told him they could secure guns.

Mr. Johnson: When was this telephone conversation?

Mr. Sorrells: That was a couple of days before the delivery-- that I delivered the guns out there on April 19th.

Mr. Johnson: And he was telephoning to the Department of Justice?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: The Department of Justice is located where?

Mr. Sorrells: In St. Louis. They said they would give him an order for any guns which he might want to buy from Shapley, or Simons Hardware Company. And I said to him "Why do you want to buy guns? I have some downtown?" Now that is just how it came out.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know what person he was talking with over at the Department of Justice in St. Louis?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Brennan, I think.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know his full name?

Mr. Foster: He is chief of detectives over there.

Was your plant making a product for the Government at that time?

Mr. Sorrells: I believe so; I am not sure. I don't know just what the plant does make. I have not much to do with the operation of the main plant.

Mr. Foster: Well now, you were secretary of the Association of Commerce, were you?

Mr. Sorrells: No, the old Commercial Club. I was secretary later on when it was merged into the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Foster: How many members were in this old Commercial Club?

Mr. Sorrells: About 200.

Mr. Foster: Well then, when it was merged into this new organization, how many members were in that?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, the members of the new organization came in on a different basis. They paid more money, and I think there was about sixty or seventy members of those.

Mr. Foster: Did they have an initiation fee?

Mr. Sorrells: They paid \$100 yearly; while the Chamber of Commerce paid \$25 a year.

Mr. Foster: Well, how many members did you say there were of that?

Mr. Sorrells: There were about-- well, I would say between 175 and 200 in the old Chamber of Commerce; and then about sixty or seventy members came into the new organization that were paying \$100 a year.

Mr. Foster: Then were there other memberships?

Mr. Sorrells: No; just Class A and Class B memberships.

Mr. Foster: Representatives of the different kinds of business here in the city?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Now the statement has been made here that you resigned and Mr. Fox resigned as officers of the organization because of the introduction and pressing of a resolution by Mr. Joyce.

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; Mr. Joyce will bear that statement out.

Mr. Foster: Now when was that resolution presented?

Mr. Sorrells: If I am not mistaken, I never knew of the resolution, to be frank with you, till they spoke about it and I saw it in the papers; and I understand it was presented before the Chamber of Commerce after I left it, on May 22nd. I never knew of the resolution until today I got sight of the resolution. In fact, it was news to me.

Mr. Foster: Well, did Mr. Fox resign on that account?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; absolutely not.

Mr. Foster: This is the letter here, is it? Is that a copy of the letter? (Showing letter to witness)

Mr. Sorrells: This is a copy of his letter of resignation.

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Mr. Foster: Will you read that letter?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster: Or let it go into the record.

Mr. Johnson: Better read it; then we will know what it is.

Mr. Sorrells read letter from Mr. Fox dated May 11, 1917, certified copy of which, together with letter from Mr. Fox dated May 15th, were later furnished by Mr. Sorrells and are as follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



OFFICERS:

CONRAD REEB, PRESIDENT
M. V. JOYCE, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
W. E. KNOWLES, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
C. W. BRICHLER, TREASURER
E. C. NOLAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JOSEPH N. FINING, SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER

DIRECTORS:

C. W. BRICHLER
C. A. EWING
C. B. FOX
L. C. HAYNES
C. T. JONES
M. V. JOYCE
W. E. KNOWLES
E. C. KRAMER
C. H. QUACKENBUSH
CONRAD REEB
C. H. WAT

November 14, 1917.

Mr. E. M. Sorrells,
Aluminum Ore Company,
East St. Louis, Illinois.

My dear Sir:

The original letters written by Mr. Fox, resigning the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce, and for which you telephoned, are attached to a page in the minute book. They could not be taken from the book without breaking the continuity of the records, and, in particular, without establishing a precedent for removing exhibit documents.

Therefore, I am mailing you with this letter an attested copy of the letters, and hope this will serve the purpose. Should it be necessary to have the original letters, I will get the formal consent of the board to detach them.

Truly yours,

J. N. Fining
Secretary and General Manager.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 4032



OFFICERS:
CONRAD REES, PRESIDENT
M. V. JOYCE, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
W. E. KNOWLES, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
G. W. BRICHLER, TREASURER
E. C. NOLAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JOSEPH N. FINING, SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER

DIRECTORS:
G. W. BRICHLER
C. A. EWING
C. B. FOX
L. C. HAYNES
C. T. JONES
M. V. JOYCE
W. E. KNOWLES
E. C. KRAMER
C. H. QUACKENBUSH
CONRAD REES
C. H. WAY

November 14, 1917.

I, Joseph N. Fining, Secretary and General Manager of the Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis, Illinois, do hereby certify that the two following copies of letters which Mr. C. B. Fox addressed to Mr. M. V. Joyce, First Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce, in which Mr. Fox resigned the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce, are true and complete copies of the original letters written by Mr. Fox, which original letters are part of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce held May 16, 1917.

ALUMINUM ORE COMPANY

East St. Louis, Ill. May 11 1917.

(Exhibit B)

Mr. Maurice V. Joyce, Vice President,
Chamber of Commerce,
East St. Louis, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Joyce:

When I took the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce, you will remember that we had a sort of gentleman's agreement by which you were to do the work and I was to get the honor. Although this has been, up to date, a very satisfactory plan for me, I am sorry that conditions have so changed I can no longer enjoy the honor, while doing none of the work.

The fact is that our business, already largely disturbed by the war in Europe, has become very much more

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 4033



OFFICERS-

CONRAD REEB, PRESIDENT
M. V. JOYCE, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
W. E. KNOWLES, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
G. W. BRICHLER, TREASURER
E. C. NOLAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JOSEPH N. FINING, SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER

DIRECTORS-

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E. C. KRAMER
C. H. QUACKENBUSH
CONRAD REEB
C. H. WAY

disturbed since the entrance of the United States into the war. If it were not that practically ninety percent of our output is going to the use of the United States and our Allies, I would not perhaps feel that the most patriotic thing I could do would be to confine my attention to the business of the Aluminum Company.

I have been quite surprised to see how rapidly the transportation situation has changed, and as a consequence how quickly the difficulties in securing our raw materials have increased. These difficulties resulting from the tense transportation situation, have increased my own duties so many fold that I have decided I can best serve my Country by confining my attention strictly to the operation of the Aluminum Ore Company.

I would therefore thank you to present my resignation to the Board of Directors.

While I hardly suppose the Board will be concerned in getting my opinion as to who should ^{now} head the Chamber of Commerce, if there is any interest in knowing who I would recommend, I would thank you very much if you will inform them that I know of no one better qualified to administer the affairs and fill the responsible position of President of the Chamber of Commerce, than the present First Vice President.

With kind regards, I am

Yours very truly,

(Signed) C. B. Fox.

CBF*LIJE.

* 2 *

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

4034

OFFICERS:
CONRAD REEB, PRESIDENT
M. V. JOYCE, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
W. E. KNOWLES, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
G. W. BRICHLER, TREASURER
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E. C. KRAMER
C. H. QUACKENBUSH
CONRAD REEB
C. H. WAY

ALUMINUM ORE COMPANY.

East St..Louis, Ill. May 15, 1917.

(Exhibit C)

Mr. M. V. Joyce,
Attorney-at-Law,
329 Murphy Bldg.,
East St. Louis, Ill.

Dear Mr. Joyce:

I am in receipt of your letter of May 12th. If I had reason to think that the present difficulties were probably not to continue long, I would be glad to continue in the honorable position in which the Board has placed me, but in viewing the question from every possible angle and getting all the advice I can from those in a best position to judge, I am satisfied that we are in for a long war^{and} that the more we get into the war, the more difficult and trying will be the work of supplying the United States and its Allies with the necessary aluminum to properly carry on the war. If the experience of other countries is to be duplicated in the United States, we will see a dislocation of our transportation system which will make it extremely difficult for large manufacturers like ourselves to maintain the output of metals necessary for the successful prosecution of the war.

As between the duty of doing the work of the Aluminum Company and doing that of the Chamber of Commerce, I feel it is much more patriotic for me to do the work for which I have had special training,

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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OFFICERS:

CONRAD REEZ, PRESIDENT
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E. C. NOLAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JOSEPH N. FINING, SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER



DIRECTORS:

G. W. BRICHLER
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C. B. FOX
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C. T. JONES
M. V. JOYCE
W. E. KNOWLES
E. C. KRAMER
C. H. QUACKENBUSH
CONRAD REEZ
C. H. WAY

rather than the work which I have had no special training for, and which many others can do just as well as I.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) G. B. Fox,

GBF:MLJH.

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)ss.
COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR.)

JOSEPH N. FINING, Secretary and General Manager of the Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis, Illinois, being first duly sworn on his oath deposes and says that the foregoing are true and complete copies of original letters, which are a part of the minutes and records of the Chamber of Commerce of East St. Louis, Illinois, and which letters were written by Mr. C. B. Fox in resigning the Presidency of the Chamber of Commerce.

Joseph N. Fining (SEAL)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of November, A. D. 1917.

J. J. Martin
Notary Public.

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Mr. Johnson: Now who was Maurice V. Joyce?

Mr. Sorrells: He was the First Vice-President.

Mr. Foss: And he was the man who offered the resolution, or is said to have offered it?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. I don't know who offered the resolution, in fact.

Mr. Foss: But it is called the Joyce resolution. And this Joyce resolution came after this letter was written?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: By Mr. Fox tendering his resignation. Then you resigned?

Mr. Sorrells: I resigned before that.

Mr. Foss: I just wanted to get your statement on that proposition. Now going back to the gun club, you said that-- I understand you to say this gun club was organized in good faith at the time?

Mr. Sorrells: Absolutely; and still in good faith.

Mr. Foss: You had a membership of how many members?

Mr. Sorrells: About 200 signed in the first place, and I think about 100 actually paid members.

Mr. Foss: And the gun club is in existence at the present time?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: And has a membership of how many?

Mr. Sorrells: Just about a hundred. We have never asked for the second assessment. If we did, the membership might be cut down some.

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Mr. Foss: Did I understand you to say you purchased some guns to use in target practice?

Mr. Sorrells: Indoors; yes.

Mr. Foss: For indoor target practice?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. We purchased two 22 target rifles, and one 22 target revolver.

Mr. Johnson: When you say 22, you mean 22 caliber?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. We purchased three guns altogether for indoor rifle range work.

Mr. Foss: How often would the members meet? would you send out notices for a meeting, or would they come there at this place any time?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; we notified all that we could. I don't believe there was any regular notices sent out, but Mr. Winei one night kept that open himself. He took Monday night and I took Tuesday night, and we parcellied out a night for each member, and we kept that open every night of the week so that the members could go down there and practice; and we kept that up until after the riot, and then I don't believe we have been down there since. The fire burned everything in the neighborhood. I don't believe we have used it-- at least I haven't been down there since the riot.

Mr. Foss: And at that time you had no outside range?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Foss: You said something about a range that was offered to you by the superintendent of the park system, was it?

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Mr. Sorrells: Well, that was-- they offered us the range and helped us in the first place, and did some work grading and fixing it up-- I think they spend probably one hundred or some dollars out there.

Mr. Foss: Is that where you are at the present time?

Mr. Sorrells' Yes, sir.

Mr. Foss: Well, you have been using the same field ever since?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes.

Mr. Foss: How many members at the present time take part in target practice?

Mr. Sorrells: I think very few. They go out there probably ten or fifteen is the highest they have ever had out there-- may be not quite that many.

Mr. Johnson: Name them, please.

Mr. Sorrells: I can't do that.

Mr. Johnson: Can you give the names of some of them?

Mr. Sorrells: No. I was out there once only. I know Mr. Weinel told me there had been a few coming out there. I have been too busy to go out there myself, as much as I would like to.

Mr. Foss: Where do you get guns?

Mr. Sorrells: They bring them out. Mr. Weinel will bring out the guns usually-- a good many of the members have bought their own guns.

Mr. Johnson: Is that because they can't get access to the others?

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Mr. Sorrells: No; just simply because they would rather have them.

Mr. Foss: Did you have the key to these boxes all the time?

Mr. Sorrells: No. Part of the time they were left there to be cleaned-- that is, Mr. Wilbur had them, I know, for a while.

Mr. Baker: They were left where?

Mr. Sorrells: Left at the Aluminum Ore Company.

Mr. Foss: Since then you have had them yourself?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Foss: Has the club had them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; and then probably he gave them to someone else when they would want to get into the box, if I wouldn't be there.

Mr. Foss: Now have these forty guns-- how many have ever been used, did you say?

Mr. Sorrells: Right-- well, I would say not over ten, anyway-- well, probably more than that. There might have been fifteen. I am not sure about that, but I am satisfied that there were only a few cleaned-- about ten or fifteen.

Mr. Foss: And they have been used by no other persons than the members of the club?

Mr. Sorrells: Absolutely not, sir.

Mr. Foss: And the rest of them have never yet been used?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir. We would be glad if the members would come.

4040

Mr. Foss: They have never been taken out of the cases at all?

Mr. Sorrells: They were taken out of the boxes and placed in a large box under lock and key.

Mr. Foss: And they are there at the Aluminum works today?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: Where is Mr. Weinel now?

Mr. Sorrells: He is superintendent of docks.

Mr. Raker: Where is he?

Mr. Sorrells: I tried to get him myself at noon, to get that list. Mr. Weinel kept track of the list of rifles more than I have.

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Mr. Raker: Where can he be found? The Sergeant At Arms has been trying to get him for the last ten days and can't get him.

Mr. Sorrells: I tried to get him-- he is at the docks, 646, and I tried and tried to get him, and that telephone down there has been out of order. And I have tried at his residence.

Mr. Raker: Would you think it is so that the Sergeant at Arms would be able to get him?

Mr. Sorrells: I think so.

Mr. Raker: I understand he has called repeatedly, and can't locate him at all; and I just wondered if you couldn't have him show up so a subpoena could be served on him?

Mr. Sorrells: I imagine it would be easy enough to

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get him.

Mr. Raker: It hasn't been so far. It has been very difficult.

Mr. Sorrells: You might have thought the same thing about me. I have been out of town for a week or ten days. I just got back yesterday.

Mr. Johnson: Has Mr. Weinel been out of town?

Mr. Sorrells: That I don't know. He had some business on board the boat one day, I think; and all the other times I think he has been right at the dock.

Mr. Raker: Now you have started in on a matter, and I am going to drift a little farther. Since those guns have been there in the Aluminum Ore plant they haven't been taken out?

Mr. Sorrells: That is, used?

Mr. Raker: Yes.

Mr. Sorrells: For the rifle club?

Mr. Raker: Yes.

Mr. Sorrells: A few of them have, as the case might be. I took one of them out myself.

Mr. Raker: Outside of the one you took, you don't know of anybody else?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, I think there are several other members who have taken rifles since then, and as I said, I have agreed to furnish you with the list of those that have then.

Mr. Raker: Wouldn't it look a little strange to see men moving in and out there with these powerful rifles?

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Mr. Sorrells: Why, they asked me if they could have a little--

Mr. Baker (Interposing:) Just watch my question now. Here was a strike on, with these people there, these men moving in and out of the Aluminum plant with rifles, wouldn't it look rather strange?

Mr. Sorrells: There isn't anybody around the place that they could go in and out. In fact, on Saturday we went over in a truck and took two or three rifles over to the rifle range.

Mr. Baker: But you didn't carry them out in your hands?

Mr. Sorrells: No, but I would myself.

Mr. Baker: I know you would, but you haven't done it yet. Just think a moment now.

Mr. Sorrells: There isn't anybody there watching. I would carry it out there just as openly as I would anything else.

Mr. Baker: I know you would, but you have not done so.

Mr. Sorrells: No, because I had no occasion to do it.

Mr. Baker: That is not the point. Let the other conclusions follow. The other men haven't gone there openly, gone in and walked out with a rifle on their shoulder, out of the Aluminum Plant?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; there was a company of four or five ^{fellows} ~~each~~ that used to take their guns and march right out around the plant there in formation, and somebody asked me if they could use the guns, and I said "I don't know any

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reason, if you want to drill with them." And they were drilling out there and talking about the home guards down there; and I noticed members of the rifle club that belonged to the Aluminum Ore Company out there were using those clubs, drilling right out there in the open.

Mr. Raker: Using what?

Mr. Sorrells: Using four or five guns.

Mr. Raker: I thought you said clubs.

Mr. Sorrells: I said members of the club.

Mr. Raker: Now you don't know what guns they were using?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, I am satisfied they were our guns.

Mr. Raker: I know you may be satisfied, but there is other testimony about more guns. You don't know and can't swear that they were the guns that you took there, can you?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir; I would be willing to swear it.

Mr. Raker: You would?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir. I mean that absolutely.

Mr. Cooper: You say you would be willing to swear that those were the guns. Did you examine one of the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: No, only at a distance. They were Krags, I am satisfied-- those Krags.

Mr. Cooper: You didn't examine the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: Not close enough-- any farther than across the street that the boys were marching on.

4044

Mr. Cooper: And you didn't examine the box to see whether any had been removed?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Cooper: Then you can't swear positively they were the guns?

Mr. Sorrells: No, I wouldn't.

Mr. Raker: Then this further fact, Mr. Witness-- and that is the reason I asked-- you stated that you and Mr. Weinel had the keys and turned them over to the plant, to the superintendent of the plant, the man in charge?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker: Now anyone except those who had the keys couldn't get the guns, could they?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Raker: Now you didn't turn any over, did you? You didn't go out and get any key for yourself?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, as I say, ~~xxx~~ one afternoon we did.

Mr. ~~xxxxxx~~ Raker: Outside of that you didn't?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Raker: You don't know about Mr. Weinel getting any personally?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't know whether Mr. Weinel did or not.

Mr. Raker: You don't know anything about Mr. Fox or Mr. Rucker getting them?

Mr. Sorrells: No.

Mr. Raker: But any man that would get a gun there,

4045

out of the room or out of the locker-- out of the box-- would have to get the key for it or break open the box, wouldn't he?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: And you never heard of the box being broken?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir.

Mr. Baker: So it would be pretty hard to get one of those guns without the consent of the man in charge of them?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: You said something about Mr. Fox telephoning to some agent of the Department of Justice over at St. Louis about getting some guns?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: What was said in that conversation?

Mr. Sorrells: I don't remember such about the conversation, only I just happened to be at the desk at the time when he was telephoning, and I heard it mentioned about-- he said he could buy some guns-- that he could get guns across the river.

Mr. Johnson: Who said that?

Mr. Sorrells: Mr. Fox was telephoning, and he turned to me and said something about getting guns across-- from across the river. I said "well, why get them when I have got some guns downtown that you can have?"

Mr. Johnson: And he had that conversation with an agent of the Department of Justice over at St. Louis?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: And, as nearly as you can, fix the time of that conversation, both as to date and hour.

Mr. Sorrells: It has been some time ago.

Mr. Johnson: About how long ago? Two years ago?

Mr. Sorrells: It would have to be a little time prior to April 19th.

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Mr. Johnson: April 19th of this year?

Mr. Sorrells: Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson: How long do you think it was before that time?

Mr. Sorrells: It must have been only a few days, two or three days, because it wasn't long after that conversation until I brought the guns out there.

Mr. Baker: You took the guns out April 19, 1917?

Mr. Sorrells: Well, it may have been two or three days before that-- April 16.

Mr. Johnson: Have you any conception of your own as to why Mr. Fox happened to take up the matter of getting guns with an agent of the Department of Justice of the United States?

Mr. Sorrells: No, sir; I have not. I never paid much attention to it-- or not anything at all about it.

Mr. Johnson: Have you gathered from Mr. Fox or from anybody else that this agent of the Department of Justice was cooperating in the arming, equipment with arms and ammunition, of the Aluminum Ore Company plant?

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Mr. Sorrells: Well, I gathered that today. The first knowledge I had, and that is that in order to secure any quantity of ammunition or guns, that they would have to be given on an order from the Department of Justice. For instance, today I couldn't go over and buy a large quantity of ammunition and guns from Simmons Hardware Company for any of those people over there that were selling them, without an order from the government.

Mr. Johnson. When was that order made?

Mr. Sorrells. That I don't know. I just gather that. I gathered that today in talking with Mr. Fox.

Mr. Johnson. Did you gather information that that order was in force at the time that Mr. Fox was endeavoring to get the guns from the Department of Justice?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; I gathered that impression.

Mr. Johnson. That is your impression?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. What is the name of the agent that Mr. Fox was talking ^{to} about?

Mr. Sorrells. I asked Mr. Fox who the agent was, and he said, if I am not mistaken, Mr. Brennan.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know whether he is still with the Department of Justice?

Mr. Sorrells. That I don't know.

Mr. Johnson. He is not with the Aluminum Ore Company?

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Mr. Sorrells. No, sir; not that I know of.

Mr. Johnson. He might be, but you don't know it?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; he might be.

Mr. Raker. Now back to the thing I started on again--- you state you had a conversation with Mr. Mollman on the day of the riot?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. About what time?

Mr. Sorrells. Well, sir, I met Mr. Joyce along about noon. I was coming out of the Main Street side of the East St. Louis & Suburban Railway Company, and he was company through there--- Mr. Joyce was coming down and I said to him, "How does it look?" And he said, "I have just come from a meeting, and if we can't get someone to stop this, the town will be in ashes tonight".

Mr. Raker. Who said that?

Mr. Sorrells. Mr. Joyce, Maurice Joyce. I went on across to the City Hall, and I told Mr. Mollman---

Mr. Raker (Interposing) This was at what time?

Mr. Sorrells. Along just after dinner, some time. He was very much excited and he didn't make me much reply. I also again told him later in the evening when they were killing and murdering on the street; I said to Mr. Mollman, "Swear us in; get a bunch of representative citizens here and we will get out if we have nothing but clubs, and stop this." He said, "Well, stick around awhile."

Mr. Raker. At what particular time of day was it now that you requested the Mayor to swear you in?

and other citizens?

Mr. Sorrells. Just after dinner. It might have been 1 or 2 o'clock--- close to that time?

Mr. Baker. You weren't sworn in or anybody?

Mr. Sorrells. Not that I know of.

Mr. Baker. The riot, murder and arson proceeded?

Mr. Sorrells. Right in progress that afternoon, yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Who was with you now, besides--- there was Mayor Mollman, Mayor Fred Mollman and yourself?

Mr. Sorrells. Just he and I.

Mr. Baker. Have you talked with him about it since?

Mr. Sorrells. No, sir, I have not.

Mr. Baker. Do you suppose he would admit or deny that statement?

Mr. Sorrells. I don't know. It don't make any difference whether he does or not. That is true. I offered my assistance and I understood others did. Mr. Fajnel says he offered his assistance.

Mr. Baker. You understood that other citizens offered their assistance?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And they were either passed aside or refused by the Mayor? The Mayor, in other words, would not accept them?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. In other words, nothing was done?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir. In the evening I stood

out on the streets there and saw them murdering a man on the corner. I went over to the Mayor and I said, "For God's sake, swear in a few of us men and let us try and stop that." "Well", he said, "stick around awhile and see what we will do. I don't know what I am going to do," and that's all there was to it.

Mr. Cooper. How were they murdering this man, Mr. Sorrells?

Mr. Sorrells. Well, sir, they dragged--- someone told me that they had a man hanging on a pole around off of Broadway there, and I stepped across--- that was the second time I had been across Broadway that day--I stepped across and looked down and saw the man hanging on the pole. I also counted five bodies in the street, a short block there. One was lying at Broadway, and one at the street where the darkey was hanging, and then I looked on down as the crowd opened up and I saw three bodies. Just then a darkey came running out of the alley, and some man was running behind him and took a rope and threw it around his neck. It seems to me, as I remember it, he put his knee in his back and tied it around. It looked to me like it was a big hawser--- at least a 2-1/2-inch rope--- and they started to run, and six or eight grabbed it and they ran down the street. They didn't have enough audience down that way, or the right kind of audience, it seemed to me, and they ran right back in front of a policeman and three or four militiamen standing there, and I said to

~~the~~

the policeman, "That is a damned shame" and he said, "Well, they didn't give our men any chance the other day." I have tried to remember that fellow's face, but in the excitement and all that, I don't remember that policeman's face, but he said it, and those three militiamen stood right there in uniform and let that man be dragged up there.

Then the militia came back under this Ccl. Tripp, I think it was, and surrounded quite a number there, and this man-- they let that man lay right there with his tongue hanging out, and I thought at the time it is queer they don't stoop down and loosen that rope. The militia were gathering the men in and they didn't stop to loosen the rope. I noticed there was no effort made to take care of the darkey lying on the street with his tongue out. They might have done that little for him. I suppose they did, but that was the first thing that should have been done.

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Mr. Cooper. You say this man was hanging to the pole and there were five bodies in the street?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; five bodies in the street.

Mr. Cooper. Dead men?

Mr. Sorrells. They weren't moving, and were prone with their arms stretched out, and I suppose they were dead.

Mr. Cooper. That would make six presumably dead, and the other one you saw with the rope around his neck and his tongue out lying in the street after they had been dragging him?

Mr. Sorrells. Then I saw in the afternoon a darkey running across Broadway--- or rather Collinsville--- coming into the corner of Broadway and Collinsville. I was standing there at the corner of Division Avenue, and this darkey ran across the street, blood running down his face, three or four men after him, and he stumbled at the track and fell on his hands and knees and these three or four men running after him, and there was a guard standing there in Division Avenue with a gun.

Mr. Johnson. You mean a soldier when you say "guard"?

Mr. Sorrells. A soldier, yes; standing in Division Avenue there, and this darkey gathered himself and ran on past the soldier and I thought, "Well, the poor fellow is safe", and the men hesitated--- they ran right up to the opening of Division there and as they saw the guard they stopped, and if he had put his ^{gun} down like that (illustrating) and said, "Get back!" they would have stopped; but instead of that he just stood ^{there} and smiled--- took his gun like that (illustrating) and smiled, and they ran around him both ways, and I said to him? "Why in the hell didn't you use your gun?" He said, "No orders". //

Mr. Cooper. What else of incidents like that did you see?

Mr. Johnson. When he smiled, he showed that he was glad that he had no orders, didn't he?

Mr. Sorrells. He must have been. we could have stopped them with just a word. I saw that afternoon a

bunch of boys running down the street, young men, most of them boys, guns in their belts.

Mr. Cooper. You mean revolvers?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; and also I saw a shotgun they had gotten out of some second-hand store. The proprietor came running across the street waving his hands, where four or five militiamen were standing, and he says, "My God, they are taking my property; help me save my property." They said, "What's the use; they'll need them this evening."

Mr. Cooper. Were there any other incidents you think of? That is what we want to find; precisely what was done on that day, when the city officials and all other officials and the soldiers did nothing. Did you see the fires?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; I saw the fires. I didn't go beyond Broadway, however, and Collinsville Avenue.

Mr. Cooper. Do you recall any other instances that you happened to see?

Mr. Sorrells. I said to Col. Tripp later in the evening--- he was seated on the railing that runs around the City Hall--- on that short piece of railing there--- I said to him, "Colonel, why don't you put your men down Broadway there?" That was even before they started so much burning. I said, "Why don't you patrol that district down there?" And he said, "We've got the thing in hand." Well it didn't look well for me, a civilian, to come up there and

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tell the Colonel what to do.

Mr. Cooper. Col. Tripp said they had the thing in hand and that was before the main fires broke out, wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir; but they were beginning to burn in different places, and they had killed several men.

I saw another killing across from the drug store.

Mr. Cooper. What drug store?

Mr. Sorrells. Across from Werker's drug store on Broadway.

Mr. Cooper. Near what street?

Mr. Sorrells. The corner of Main Street and Broadway. There was a large, big six-foot darkey came up there, and he was the only one, I guess, that I have seen that was looking for trouble. He had a knife in his hand, and he just stood there on the corner. We had a look on his face as though, "You let them come to me, and I'll take care of them", and at that someone says "There's another one". They ran down there and circled around---

Mr. Johnson (Interposing). That is the one with the knife?

Mr. Sorrells. The one with the knife, and someone kicked his hand and kicked the knife out of his hand, and then another fellow jumped on his back, and he threw that fellow as far, I guess, as from here to the radiator---

Mr. Johnson (Interposing). Ten or twelve feet.

Mr. Sorrells. And he knocked down several of them,

and finally someone reached over with a stone and hit him in the head, and he dropped there, and then some fellow pulled out a gun and shot him. I walked over there and afterwards and saw the poor fellow lying there. There wasn't any chance of his living, and I suppose he died in the hospital.

Mr. Cooper. Any other incidents? That is a prominent corner where you saw that killing?

Mr. Sorrells. Oh, yes; in fact, Broadway and Collinsville are very prominent, where all that killing occurred.

Mr. Cooper. Right in the heart of the city, isn't it?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes. There was one brave deed that I would like to know who it was. It makes me feel ashamed, even though we men curse ourselves alone, we would have been charged probably with being on the other side if we had gone out there and attempted to do something without authority, but I saw a lady---

Mr. Cooper (Interposing). White?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir, rush in and grab a poor negro woman who was being beaten there, and put her arms around her and say, "You shant touch here; she's a woman just like I am". I would like to know who that woman was. She took that woman clear away from there--- that colored woman--- clear out. //

Mr. Rayer. Nobody has been able to find that woman yet?

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Mr. Sorrells. I would like to know who the lady was.

Mr. Cooper. Near what streets was that?

Mr. Sorrells. Down at Collinsville and Broadway.

Mr. Baker. She took her from the mob alone?

Mr. Sorrells. She took her from the mob alone, yes.

Mr. Cooper. Saying, "She is a woman just like I am, and you shant hurt her"?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir. That made me as a man feel just a little bit mean that we weren't able to protect those people at all.

Mr. Cooper. Well, a good, courageous woman, at a time like that, would be more effective than the average man with a mob.

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, but I always saw--- it seemed to me like in the beginning that there were about 50 that were operating, and it seemed to me like that with 25 or 30 men with good shillalahs they could have broken the whole thing up to start with in the afternoon if they had gone at it and broke a few heads.

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Mr. Baker. Particularly with good rifles.

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And stood them up, there wouldn't have been much moving down the street, would there?

Mr. Sorrells. No, sir.

Mr. Baker. I can't conceive yet why some of these citizens didn't line up on one of those streets with fifteen or twenty rifles and stop the crowd. It is beyond my com-

prehension. Why didn't you go and get a rifle?

Mr. Sorrells. Well, I would have been arrested. I would probably be hauled before the courts for breaking the laws.

Mr. Cooper. When you wanted to be sworn in as a posse ~~comitatus~~, what did the Mayor say?

Mr. Sorrells. He seemed to be excited. He didn't ~~make~~ ^{make} ~~make~~ ^{reply} very much ~~afire~~, but in the evening he said, "Stick around awhile".

Mr. Cooper. When you first asked him to do that what time of day was it?

Mr. Sorrells. Early in the afternoon; just after I was talking to Mr. Joyce.

Mr. Cooper. What did he say that time?

Mr. Sorrells. He didn't make me much reply. I don't know just what he did say, but I remember what he said further in the evening.

Mr. Cooper. About what time in the evening was it you asked again to be sworn in?

Mr. Sorrells. Well, it was along about--- it might have been--- probably it was 6 o'clock or later, 7 or 8 in the evening. I know it was after dark when the trouble was going on.

Mr. Cooper. And he said, "Stick around"?

Mr. Sorrells. "Stick around awhile; we don't know just what we will do." He was very much worried.

Mr. Johnson. The soldiers were here then?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes sir; the soldiers were here then.

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Mr. Cooper. I think everybody will concede that the sheriff had a right to summons a posse.

Mr. Johnson. But I doubt if the Mayor had any such right. Have you any information as to the law upon that subject?

Mr. Sorrells. No, sir; I have not. I just supposed he would have authority in times of that kind--- at least take the authority anyway.

Mr. Johnson. My offhand curbstone opinion would be that he had no such right.

Mr. Sorrells. Well, a man does sometimes something which he has no right to do, but it is the best thing to do.

Mr. Raker. Now, when you saw the men dragging this negro tandem, with a big heavy rope around his neck, around the negro's neck, with his tongue hanging out, you say the soldiers did surround this bunch-- part of them?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. And how many did they get in the crowd?

Mr. Sorrells. Oh, I don't know; they had quite a number as they marched them down there. There must have been--- oh, I might say one hundred.

Mr. Raker. I am trying to get this incident. I want to identify that this is the one. That is when the forty or fifty militiamen came up and ran all these people in this hollow square?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. And in that hollow square formed by these militiamen were the people that were actually pulling on the

rope, pulling the negro to death?

Mr. Sorrells. No, as the horns of the hollow square came out to engulf them, these fellows with the rope ran. They just simply beat it down the street. I don't know whether they got any of them in or not, but the darkey lay right where he had dropped when they came up. He lay right on the inside of the circle of soldiers.

Mr. Baker. Well, they did get in that circle or in that square, men that looked to you like they were encouraging and participating in this riot?

177 Mr. Sorrells. Well, they got most of them, it seemed to me like, were sightseers; just simply standing there. I never saw any of those. Of course I don't know.

Mr. Baker. Well, they weren't seeking to stop it?

Mr. Sorrells. No, but so many of the people go out of curiosity, that have no business to be there.

Mr. Baker. No one was saying, "Desist from dragging that negro to death"?

Mr. Sorrells. No, not that I know of.

Mr. Baker. Instead of desisting, it was encouraging talk, and hollering and screaming, "Get the nigger", wasn't it?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, you could hear that. Probably only a few were saying that.

Mr. Baker. Now isn't it in this same square where this negro was being dragged, that the father of Volley, one of the policemen that had been shot, was caught?

Mr. Sorrells. I don't know.

Mr. Baker. And who was taken in the square to the

police station; and by the time it got there he was turned loose?

Mr. Sorrells. That I am not certain of. I would like to remember. I have tried to remember the name of that policeman I was talking to--- the face of him, and I have looked into the faces of several policemen.

Mr. Baker. I have understood--- and someone gave some testimony--- that the father of this young officer that was shot down there the morning of July 1st, was among this crowd that was gathered in this Hollow square that was dragging this negro to death.

Mr. Sorrells. I am not sure. I never heard that before.

Mr. Foss. What was the date you say those guns were moved down to the Aluminum Company?

Mr. Sorrells. April 19.

Mr. Foss. Do you remember what time the United States soldiers came here?

Mr. Sorrells. No.

Mr. Foss. In what month?

Mr. Sorrells. No.

Mr. Foss. Was it along in April?

Mr. Sorrells. It might have been.

Mr. Foss. How many came in at that time, do you know?

Mr. Sorrells. That I don't know.

Mr. Foss. Do you know what they came here for? Was it for the protection of property here?

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Mr. Sorrells. I suppose so. I never heard. That is, I heard it rumored what they came here for.

Mr. Johnson. What rumor did you hear?

Mr. Sorrells. Well, it is hardly fair to state rumors.

Mr. Johnson. The resolution under which we are authorized and directs ^{us} /to take hearsay testimony.

Mr. Sorrells. A good many said they came out here to protect the Suburban Railway Company's property, on the anticipated strike. I heard that in a good many places. That I don't know to be true. There may not be anything in it at all. They were located out--- that might have been simply because they were located--- their camp was located near the Suburban power house out there.

Mr. Cooper. You say that you understood that the United States troops were brought here to protect the street car companies' ^{property,} because of a threatened strike. you heard that talk?

Mr. Sorrells. Yes, sir, I heard talk. I don't know whether there is anything in it.

Mr. Cooper. And you turned over rifles belonging to the United States Government to the Aluminum Company when they had a strike on?

Mr. Sorrells. That was prior to this. I think the soldiers came in later, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Cooper. But the soldiers came to protect the street car company's property and you turned over those guns because you thought they might have a strike, and you turned over guns of the United States, rifles of the United States

Government to the Aluminum Company when they had a strike. That is getting the United States soldiers in for the street car company and United States rifles for the Aluminum Company.

Mr. Sorrells. I said that was rumored back and forth. Probably there was no truth in it.

Mr. Johnson. The committee will stand in adjournment until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

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(Whereupon, at 5.30 o'clock p. m., an adjournment was taken until tomorrow, Tuesday, November 13, 1917, at 10 o'clock a. m.).