

Texas Crime Investigating Committee – Item Inventory

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Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06/1952-11-07

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-07

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-08

Crime Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, Amarillo Hearing - Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas, 1952-11-06/1952-11-07/1952-11-08

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06

Potter County Grand Jury, Amarillo, Texas - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-01-11

Potter County Grand Jury, Amarillo, Texas - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-08-27

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06

Potter County Grand Jury, Amarillo, Texas - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-01-11

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-06/1952-11-07

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-07

Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-07

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Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing - Noteworthy topics and synopses, 1952-11-08



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 1: Billy Hall, C. H. Cavness, Tom (Pinkie) Roden

Noteworthy topics:

Side I

Billy Hall:

Employment by Clinton Langford (1)  
Langford unable to appear at Hearing  
due to sudden illness (57)

C. H. Cavness:

Background of financial operations of  
Pinkie's Liquor Stores (130)

Volume of sales:  
total, 1950-51 (210)  
total, 1951-52 (297)  
Farm Store, Apr. '51- Feb. '52 (337)  
Abnormalities (420)

Taxes (728)

Side II

End of testimony (7)

Tom Roden:

Also known as Pinkie Roden or Boyd (32)

Ownership of stores in Big Springs  
and Odessa (441)

Subpoenaed records of employees and  
other data (50)

Residence in Odessa and Big Springs (163)

Number and location of stores (187)

First store was in Big Springs (280)

Other stores (296)

Conviction of violation of liquor  
law (298)

Maynard Store and SAMCO Corporation (431)

Farm Store: volume of business, location,  
and structure (502)

Synopsis:

Billy Hall, an attorney representing Clinton Langford, was questioned concerning the absence of his client.

C. H. Cavness, the State Auditor, gave a financial report of findings from subpoenaed records of Pinkie's Liquor Stores. He disclosed that there were some irregularities in the income of certain stores during some months, and that the Farm Store had \$47,266.76 worth of business the first four days.

Pinkie Roden admitted having started in the liquor during Prohibition but refused to say that he had been a bootlegger. He was questioned about his employees, his connection with SAMCO Corporation, his stores in Odessa and Big Springs, and his Farm Store. He refused to answer many of the questions that were propounded to him.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting Chairman

Reel 2: Pinkie Roden

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Pinkie Roden (cont. from Reel 1):

Farm Store, structure

(1)

Denies having any knowledge of a filling station in Lubbock owned by the Farm Store

(745)

Warning system provided for customers - watchout car, electric light in back of store

(9)

Charges long-distance calls to Farm Store, Big Springs corporation, Odessa Corporation, Acme Sales Co., and Standard Sales Co.

(810)

Explanation of volume of sales the first month at the Farm Store

(144)

(Side II)

Shortwave radio in liquor store

(1)

Farm Store sold to Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc.

(112)

Shipping liquor into dry areas

(30)

Roden's financial interest in the Corporation

(114)

Association with bootleggers - in Levelland (Oscar Ward)

(135)

Sale and price of store; items sold included a 1951 Cadillac and a filling station in Lubbock

(140)

in Sundown (Skeet Childers)

(248)

in Scurry County (Tom Moore)

(285)

Sold other stores in Odessa and Big Springs to the respective corporations

(228)

in Sweetwater (Highway 80 Club, Steve Wells)

(224)

Had a financial interest in Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Big Springs, Inc.

(254)

in Lubbock (Clinton Langford, Bud Shankles, et al)

(320)

Ted Roden's connections with Odessa Corporation

(268)

Bribery of public officials (Charlie Fuller, Lubbock)

(425)

Organization and ownership of the corporations

(412)

Synopsis:

Roden refused to answer as to whether or not he had a warning system for his bootleg customers at the Farm Store, had a financial interest in the Odessa Corporation, or sold whiskey and beer to bootleggers. He denied having any connection with bribery of public officials, and claimed to have no knowledge of a filling station in Lubbock, or of a shortwave sending and receiving radio in an unidentified liquor store. Carr disclosed evidence that proved that Roden was closely associated with bootleggers in the dry areas, but the witness refused to commit himself to an answer.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: 35 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 3: Tom (Pinkie) Roden

Noteworthy topics:  
(Side I)

Tom Roden:

Meeting with Charlie Fuller in San Angelo (1)

Ownership of filling stations in Lubbock and Odessa by the  
Odessa corporation (45)

(five-minute break) (90)

Billy Hall:

Client Langford in hospital in Roswell, N. M. for emergency  
appendectomy (100)

Tom Roden:

Filling station in Levelland (140)

Roden keeps close contact with his bootleg distributors -  
account of travels and telephone calls to Lubbock (D. C. Turner),  
Snyder (Park Realty Co., E. H. Wright), Sweetwater (highway 80  
Club, Earl and Lynn Husky, Steve Wells), Abilene, Big Springs,  
and Brownfield (E. G. Tubbs) (145)

(testimony incomplete)

recess for morning (570)

resumption (576)

Meredith: explanation of the Committee and the hearing (591-704)

Synopsis:

As in the earlier portion of his testimony, Pinkie Roden refused to answer most of the questions asked him. Carr, however, did not let that deter him. He reported extensive travels and numerous telephone calls made by Roden to the dry areas. During a five-minute break, Billy Hall brought in an affidavit to the effect that his client was in a hospital in New Mexico for an operation.

As the Committee resumed session in the afternoon, Meredith explained the purpose of the committee and the hearing. He then turned the hearing over to Carr. The tape recorder was then switched off, and no mention made of whether Roden had completed his testimony or not.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 4: (Anderson Davis, Jr.), Erbert Bailey, John J. McCowan

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Erbert Bailey:

Present occupation: feeding cattle (35)

Used 9 to 10 ice boxes when a bootlegger (56)

Persons from whom liquor was obtained -  
George Aaron, Pinkie Roden, et al (146)

Mr. Meredith: Danger of self-incrimination  
in disclosing sources of bootleg  
liquor (231)

George McCarthy: (Bailey's attorney)  
Danger of self-incrimination and  
re-inditement (275)

Bailey: persons from whom liquor was  
purchased (384)

Buying on consignment from Pinkie  
Roden (491)

Bribery of public officials (500)

Purchase of liquor from Pinkie Roden (526)

Horace and Bailey: discussion of  
sources of bootleg liquor (685)

(Side II)  
Buying on consignment (1)

Purchase of Liquor (67)

John J. McCowan:

Is President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores  
of Big Springs, Inc., a corporation  
no longer in operation (125)

HHH, Inc. organized shortly after  
closed hearing in Austin (140)

McCowan owes \$128,000 to Pinkie Roden  
on a demand note, has salary of  
\$600 per month (159)

Object of creation of new corporation (221)

Loaned \$50,000 to new corporation from  
sale of inventory (375)

Pinkie's financial interest in and  
control over the old corporation (410)

Stockholders of HHH, Inc., their  
previous employment, and their  
share in the corporation (536)

Selling to bootleggers (680)

Association with Will Clay, boot-  
legger in Snyder (715)

Selling after 10 p.m.

Synopsis:

The testimony of John J. McCowan dealt mainly with the selling of whiskey to certain persons for the purpose of resale. He is President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Big Springs, Inc., which sold out its inventory so that HHH could take over its business. The old corporation leases its stores to HHH, Inc. McCowan discussed the set-up of the old and new corporations, the share of stocks held by each member, and other details pertinent to the stores in Big Springs.

Erbert Bailey of Childress, formerly operated on such a scale that he had to keep 9 to 10 iceboxes full of liquor for his customers. Yet he couldn't remember the name of any person from whom he had purchased the liquor.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6 & 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 5: John J. McCowan, Anderson Davis, Sr., Marshall King, C. W. Coyle

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

John J. McCowan:

Buys whiskey for the Young Men's  
Social Club, members pay for it (226)

Selling Liquor on Consignment to  
E. G. Tubbs of Brownfield, Will  
Clay of Snyder (35)

Bribery of public officials (266)  
Buys liquor from Pinkie's for cash  
and on consignment (272)

Explanation of statute by which Committee  
may force a witness to answer the  
questions (145)

Fines for bootlegging (316)

Selling to bootleggers on consignment--  
Snyder, Brownfield, Sweetwater (273)

Extra charge to members for the  
liquor (343)

Adjournment until morning (374)

Anderson Davis, Sr.:

Bootlegging activities (823)

(November 7, 1952)  
Carr: contempt action against P. D.  
Austin (404)

Fines paid for bootlegging (870)  
(Side II)

C. W. Coyle:

Profits made by bootlegging (3)  
Sources of liquor--Joe Martinez (40)

President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores  
of Odessa, Inc. (556)

Exclusive bootlegging privileges  
in Snyder guaranteed to certain  
individuals (126)

Previously employed as manager of  
the four stores in Odessa  
Corporation (575)

Inconsistency with testimony of  
year ago (135)

Cancelled license after hearing in  
Austin, on Roden's advice (630)

Marshall King:

Bootlegging in Midland (223)

Coyle indebted to Pinkie for his shares of  
stock in the corporation (683)

Synopsis:

This portion of the McCowan testimony, continued from the previous reel, deals mainly with the selling of liquor to certain persons for the purpose of resale.

Anderson Davis, Sr., a bootlegger in Snyder, denied the existence of exclusive bootlegging rights in Snyder for him and a few other people as set up by Pinkie Roden.

Marshall King owns a social club in Midland through which the members may purchase liquor for a cover charge of \$.50.

C. W. Coyle, President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Big Springs, Inc., confirmed that his corporation had cancelled its license after the closed hearing, sold out its inventory, and set up a rental business.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time; one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 6: C. W. Coyle, A. W. Ellington

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

C. W. Coyle:

Shares of stock owned by members of  
the Pinkie's Liquor Stores of  
Odessa, Inc (1)

Coyle owed Tom Roden for his stock(20)

Liquidated stock in stores to pay  
Roden, creditors, make loan to new  
corporation (34)

Chief stockholders in Herco Corporation  
(Paul Harper, et al, previous  
employment and salaries (147)

Old corporation rents stores to new  
corporation (220)

Coyle owed \$165,000 to Roden on a  
demand note (244)

Stock never paid any dividends (281)

Operating stores after 10:00 p.m.,  
selling to bootleggers (304)

Corporation bookkeeper makes out  
inventory taxes to boot leggers in  
dry areas (377)

Carr:

Subpoenaed witness who failed to  
answer subpoenas, fled to other  
states were all operators in the  
dry areas (639)

A. W. Ellington:

San Angelo stores recently incorporated(773)

Partnership with Ann Roden Dedrick (790)

Bought out partnership in 1950, has  
not yet paid for the other share (836)

(Side II)

Tom Roden handled his sister's part of  
the business (8)

Selling to bootleggers (84)

Selling liquor on consignment, credit(124)

Stockholders of Samco, the new  
corporation; shares held by each;  
money paid for shares of stock (147)

Reason for incorporating San Angelo  
stores (351)

Selling to bootleggers (400)

How Ellington came to use Pinkie's  
name on his stores (454)

Reason for voluntarily turning in permit  
(660)

Sold stock to pay creditors (694)

Synopsis:

Coyle's testimony concerned the change in the corporation set-up of the Pinkie's Liquor Stores in Odessa. Roden, the President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc., owed Pinkie Roden \$165,000 for his shares of stock on a demand note. Most of the stockholders in the Herco Corporation are previous employees of Pinkie's Liquor Stores.

A. W. Ellington, resident of San Angelo and owner of Pinkie's Liquor Stores in San Angelo, started in the liquor retail business as a partner with Ann Roden Dedrick. At the urging of creditors and with Pinkie's advice, Ellington sold out and started over as president of HHH, Inc.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 25 min.

Reel 7: Paul Harper

Noteworthy topics:

Paul Harper:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Selling to bootleggers, warning system at Farm Store                                  | (1)   |
| Selling after 10:00 p.m.  | (53)  |
| Carr & Meredith:  |       |
| action to require witness to answer questions   | (204) |
| Selling liquor to bootleggers   | (306) |
| Selling to bootleggers on consignment and credit                                      | (376) |
| Rents Farm Store and four stores in Odessa from Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc | (445) |
| Paid bank for his shares of stock in the Herco Corporation                            | (500) |
| end of testimony  | (530) |
| Recess for morning  | (541) |

Synopsis:

Paul Harper, President of the Herco Corporation in Odessa, was very reluctant to answer the questions until the Committee took action to require him to answer the questions. He then admitted that he sells to bootleggers and that he does have the warning system at the Farm Store that Carr described. He denied being involved in a scheme with the Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 8: Hubert Odom, Sam Calloway

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Hubert Odom:

End of testimony & 5-minute break (441)

Shortwave radio in Odessa store (1)

Fred Meredith (interviewed by radio announcer):

Selling to bootleggers (Oscar Ward, Levelland) (57)

Reason for holding the hearing in Amarillo (466)

Percentage of sales going to bootleggers (67)

Background of meeting with the Potter County Grand Jury (495)

Selling to bootleggers--Tom Moore, Skeet Childress, et al (100)

Expression of appreciation to those responsible for the hearing (517)

Connection with George Aaron; once asked for advice about buying a store (195)

Comparison of testimonies in public hearing to those of the secret hearing held previously in Austin (577)

Odom asked Roden to meet him in Amarillo (283)

Hearings in Lubbock and Scurry Counties (620)

Proposed bribery or pay-off (299)

Listing of witnesses for the morning (678)

Association with George Aaron (315)

Sam Calloway:

Counsel same as Roden's--reatiner (355)

Former bootlegger, convictions for bootlegging (811)

Selling to clubs or organizations in dry areas (381)

(testimony is incomplete)

Attempted bribery (390)

Side I only

Synopsis:

Hubert Odom has a shortwave receiving radio in his store which, according to Carr, he used to pick up police calls in order to warn his customers as they leave the store. . He refused to answer any specific questions directly related to selling to bootleggers, but denied being involved in a pay-off scheme with Roden and Aaron, explaining that he asked advice from each about buying a store in Amarillo and that the meeting was coincidental.

The testimony of Sam Calloway is incomplete. The portion on the tape is concerned with his previous activities as a bootlegger.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 9: Leon Bowman, Ferman Pierce, Fred Weatherford, Bud Shankles, Carl Wynne,  
Bud Foreman

Noteworthy topics:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Side I: Leon Bowman--duplicate of<br>Testimony by same on Reel 1 of the<br>Potter County Grand Jury | Encounter with Sam Cilloway (242)  |
|   | Bud Shankles:  |
| Side II<br>Ferman Pierce:   | Occupation: trucker, although<br>presently unemployed (408)                |
| Bootlegger in Lubbock County (2)  | Hauls liquor for VFW in Lubbock (419)                                      |
| Bought from Charlie Blunt (48)  | Buys from Pinkie's Liquor Stores (449)                                     |
| Pay-off to Charlie Fuller for<br>warning system at Liquor Board<br>in Lubbock (55)                  | Subpoenaed records (520)   |
|   | Bootlegging in Lubbock County (546)  |
| Buys from Pinkie's Farm Store (90)  | Knows Bo Sessums, but does not<br>assist him in bootlegging (564)          |
| Sometimes flies liquor in from<br>Wichita Falls (106)   | Purchase of liquor from Hubert Odom<br>or Cecil Odom's liquor stores (593) |
| Contributed to hiring the killing<br>of a fellow bootlegger in<br>Lubbock (133)                     | Bud Foreman:   |
| Discussion of subpoenaed records (168)  | Subpoenaed records (765)   |
| Fred Weatherfore:   |  |
|   | Farms in del City (930)  |
| 30-day temporary assignment in<br>Lubbock (237)   | (testimony incomplete)   |

Synopsis:

The questions asked of Ferman Pierce by Carr were actually accusations. Carr charged him of sending runners to Odessa to bring back liquor for him to sell in the dry area and even flying some in from Wichita, of contributing to a fund to kill a fellow footlegger. All accusations were denied by Mr. Pierce.

Fred Weatherford, a Texas Liquor Control Board Inspector at Waco, who testified the day before, described his encounter with Sam Calloway while he was in Lubbock.

Bud Shankles of Lubbock readily admitted to bootlegging in Lubbock. He purchased his liquor at Pinkie's Liquor store, buying as many as 200 cases at one time, and the employees asked no questions, even though they knew the liquor was going to Lubbock.

Carl Wynne denied the charge of bootlegging but refused to say why he purchased liquor. The testimony of Bud Foreman of Idalou is incomplete.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 30 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 10: F. O. Goen, J. T. Hill

Noteworthy topics:

F. O. Goen:

Employment by Liquor Control Board(2)

Resignation from liquor board was  
voluntary (10)

Attempted bribery of Leon Bowman (20)

Attempted bribery of Fred  
Prestridge (160)

Undercover men--tip--offs (200)

J. T. Hill:

Employment as inspector of the  
Liquor Control Board of  
Texas (280)

Resignation from the Board (300)

Attempted bribery: Leon Bowman &  
Fred Prestridge (330)

Pay-offs (530)

(Side I only)

Synopsis:

F. O. Goen and J. T. Hill, both of whom were previously employed by the Liquor Control Board, were carried along the same lines of interrogation. Both claimed to have resigned voluntarily; they were not forced to resign. They both denied being connected with an attempted bribery of Leon Bowman and Fred Prestridge.

This particular tape is faint and almost indiscernible.

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CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1963

approximate time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 11: Side I: James Lee Russell, Ray Hutcheson, Bohn Hilliard

Noteworthy topics:

|  |   |       |
|--|---|-------|
| James Lee Russell:   | George Aaron  | (349) |
| Presently salesman for a roofing company (28)  | Selling to bootleggers                                      | (398) |
| Charlie Fuller as supervisor of the Lubbock district controlled every move his men made (51) | Bootleggers do not purchase from Hutcheson                  | (398) |
| Never gave Russell authority to catch a bootlegger of his own initiative (93)                | Liquor Syndicate responsible for Hutcheson's dismissal      | (405) |
| Russell's resignation from Board (165)   | Bohn Hilliard   | (512) |
| Fuller's expenses; bought 20-35 suits in two years (176)                                     | Sam Calloway, <u>et al</u>                                  | (584) |
| Men forgidden to stop whiskey runners when alone (214)                                       | Connection between George Aaron and Pinkie Roden            | (586) |
| Ray Hutcheson:   | Bohn Hilliard:  |       |
| Fired from Board in 1951, now operates a package store Amarillo (283)                        | Is President of Midway Savings and Loan Association         | (621) |
| Leon Bowman told Hutcheson about the bribery offers (823)                                    | Employment as head of enforcement division of Control Board | (742) |
|  | Always consulted with State Administrator                   | (783) |
|  | George Aaron, Pinkie Boyd                                   | (822) |

Synopsis:

James (Jimmie) Lee Russell, former inspector on the Liquor Control Board, described the manner in which Charlie Fuller managed his district when he was superintendent of the Lubbock district under the Liquor Control Board.

Ray Hutcheson, also a former employee of the Liquor Control Board, set up a liquor store after being fired in 1951. According to the testimony, bootleggers never try to buy from his store.

Bohn Hilliard of Arlington, former head of enforcement division of the Liquor Control Board of Texas, testified that he always consulted with Coke Stevenson before making any transfers or appointments. He said, that he did not know George Aaron and that he had met Pinkie Roden only once.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 11: Side II: Bohn Hilliard, John L. Dibrell, III

Noteworthy topics:

|                                   |       |                                     |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Hilliard:                         |       | Clarence Jackson, Jack Grant        |       |
|                                   |       | George Aaron among contacts         |       |
| Refused pay-off and filed a       |       | made                                | (288) |
| affidavit                         | (1)   |                                     |       |
| Was never approached in behalf of |       | Meeting at home of Ralph Lowe on    |       |
| George Aaron                      | (20)  | Aug. 7, 1951, to discuss the        |       |
|                                   |       | pay-off proposition                 | (314) |
| Never accepted any pay-off        | (24)  | Dibrell and Taylor told about other |       |
|                                   |       | pay-offs--Jordon, Fuller            | (395) |
| Charlie Fuller                    | (29)  |                                     |       |
|                                   |       | F. O. Goen                          | (520) |
| Action taken on affidavits        | (68)  |                                     |       |
| Meeting in Hilton Hotel with      |       | Telephone conversation between      |       |
| Roden                             | (121) | George Aaron and Hubert Odom        | (539) |
| Connections with liquor stores    | (127) | Pinkie Roden                        | (621) |
|                                   |       | Bohn Hilliard connected with pay-   |       |
| Oil well jointly owned by F.O.    |       | offs                                | (695) |
| Goen, McCormick, Hilliard,        |       |                                     |       |
| <u>et al</u>                      | (137) | Wayne McCormick also connected with |       |
|                                   |       | pay-offs                            | (814) |
| Hilliard was requested to         |       |                                     |       |
| resign                            | (162) | <i>(incomplete)</i>                 |       |
| John L. Dibrell:                  |       |                                     |       |
| Investigation of pay-offs         | (252) |                                     |       |

Synopsis:

Hilliard testified that he had refused any pay-offs and had filed a report on such proposals. He denied meeting Pinkie Roden or any bootlegger in the Hilton Hotel in Lubbock. He had not tried to find out why he had been requested to resign from his position as head of the enforcement division of the Liquor Control Board.

John L. Dibrell had been assigned to Lubbock to investigate pay-offs of Liquor agents. He and his partner Taylor were propositioned at a meeting at the residence of Ralph Lowe in Amarillo. George Aaron and Hubert discussed the deal over the telephone. Odom had testified earlier that the "deal" discussed was the purchase of a liquor store in Amarillo. Dibrell said, that there was no mention of a store. In the discussion it was brought out that Bohn Hilliard and Wayne McCormick were already taking pay-offs.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 12: L. W. Smith, Coke Stevenson, Jr.

Noteworthy topics:

Side I

|   |       |  |       |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| Carr: Extradition of George Aaron                       | (4)   | Liquor Syndicate reported by the the Potter County and Lubbock County Grand Juries | (411) |
| L. W. Smith   |       |  |       |
| Extent of the Lubbock District                          | (55)  | Pay-offs of Liquor Board agents action taken by the Board                          | (480) |
| Problems in Enforcing liquor law                        | (101) | Reason for not pressing charges  | (547) |
| Shortage of staff                                       | (106) |  |       |
|   |       | Side II  |       |
| Bootleggers in Lubbock counted by the hundreds          | (146) | Attempted bribery  | (16)  |
| Limited expense account                                 | (173) | Never been offered bribe by Pinkie Roden   | (24)  |
| Gross salary is \$297 per month                         | (202) | Attempted bribery of Liquor Board men since the hearings                           | (80)  |
| Comparison of working conditions in East and West Texas | (249) | Taking action against violations of liquor law: limited personnel                  | (116) |
| Men frequently transferred from Lubbock District        | (271) | Equipment not furnished by the State   | (540) |
| Aid from sheriffs and deputies                          | (296) |  |       |
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:                                    |       | Recommendations for improvement of the Liquor Control Law                          | (745) |
| Organization of the Liquor Control Board of Texas       | (341) | Suspensions of license of Pinkie's liquor stores                                   | (904) |

Synopsis:

L.W. Smith, inspector with the Liquor Control Board in the Lubbock District, discussed the problems involved in enforcing the Liquor Law. In the Lubbock District, three men staff a twenty-three county area; six to eight are needed in Lubbock alone. The men use their own cars, are given limited expense account from which they receive \$.06 per mile. Some counties would be visited once a year. The shortage of men, equipment, and expense allowances prevented adequate law enforcement.

Coke Stevenson, Jr., State Administrator of the Liquor Control Board, explained that the Board only asked the men accused of accepting bribes to resign instead of pressing charges against them because they did not have enough evidence. The greatest difficulty in enforcing the liquor law is the lack of personnel and equipment. There are only 105 inspectors for the whole state. The state does not furnish two-way radios, and the men must furnish their own pistols and automobiles. Stevenson also commented about needed improvements in the liquor law.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 13: Coke Stevenson, Jr.; Herman Pipkin; George McCarthy; Fred Meredith

Noteworthy topics:

Side I only

|  |      |   |       |
|--|------|---|-------|
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:   |      | Recommendations for changes in the liquor law                       | (98)  |
| Housing situation in Odessa and transfer of the district office to Big Springs | (1)  | Indictments   | (286) |
|  |      | Obtaining convictions   | (330) |
| Suspensions of license for Pinkie's Liquor Stores                              | (15) | George McCarthy:  |       |
| Hearings against Cecil's   | (44) | Criticism of liquor control law and recommendations for improvement | (640) |
| Herman Pipkin:   |      |   |       |

Synopsis:

Coke Stevenson concluded his testimony with comments about the suspensions of licenses and a hearing concerning Cecil's Liquor Stores.

Herman Pipkin, the District Attorney of Potter County, made suggestions for changes needed in the liquor law and affirmed that indictments would be issued and every effort made to convict the men who were involved in the syndicate.

George McCarthy, attorney, criticized the liquor law as it is and suggested changes that could be made.

Reel 14: Coke Stevenson, Jr.; Fred Meredith; M.T. O'Neill

Side I

|                           |      |  |       |
|---------------------------|------|--|-------|
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:      |      | Closing remarks  | (80)  |
| Issuance of licenses      | (1)  | Adjournment and close of hearing   | (144) |
| Work of the Control Board | (52) | Side II  |       |
| Fred Meredith:            |      | M.T. O'Neill, duplicate of testimony by M.T. O'Neill on Reel 5 of the Potter County Grand Jury |       |

Synopsis:

Coke Stevenson added a few comments before the hearing closed. Most of the testimony is missing from the tape.

Fred Meredith gave the closing remarks and adjourned the hearing.



Crime Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 7 & 8, 1952

Amarillo, Texas

Waggoner Carr of Lubbock, acting Chairman

Other committee members: Fred V. Meridith of Terrell, Chr.; Horace Houston, Jr. of Dallas; Charles Murphy of Houston; Bill Wood of Tyler

Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas

| Nov. 6                             | Reel |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Sheriff Roy Hillin, Crosby County  | —    |
| Billy Hall                         | 1    |
| C. H. Cavness                      | 1    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 1    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 2    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 3    |
| Fred Weatherford                   | —    |
| Ted Roden                          | —    |
| W. F. Roden                        | —    |
| Erbert Bailey                      | 4    |
| John J. McCowan                    | 4    |
| John J. McCowan                    | 5    |
| Anderson Davis, Jr., Negro, Snyder | —    |
| Anderson Davis, Sr.                | 5    |
| Marshall King                      | 5    |
| Nov. 7:                            |      |
| C. W. Coyle                        | 5    |
| C. W. Coyle                        | 6    |
| A. W. Ellington                    | 6    |
| Ann Roden Dedrick                  | —    |



Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing (cont)

2

Nov. 6-8, 1952

Amarillo, Texas

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas

Nov. 7 (cont.) Reel

E. F. Hamm —

Paul Harper 7

G. W. Killingsworth —

Hubert Odom 8

Sam Calloway 8

Ferman Pierce 9

Bud Shankles 9

Carl Wynne 9

Bud Foreman 9

Charles Fuller —

F. O. Goen 10

Joe T. Hill 10

Wayne W. McCormick —

Leon Bowman —

Sheriff W. M. Harryman, Cochran Co. —

Nov. 8:

James (Jimmy) Lee Russell 11

Ray Hutcheson 11

Bohn Hilliard 11

John L. Dibrell, III 11

L. W. Smith 12

Coke Stevenson, Jr. 12



**Crime Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, Amarillo Hearing p.3**

**Nov. 6-8, 1952**

**Amarillo, Texas**

**Waggoner Carr, acting chairman**

**Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas**

**Nov. 8 (cont):** **Reel**

**Coke Stevenson, Jr.** **13**

**George McCarthy** **13**

**Coke Stevenson, Jr.** **14**

**Fred Meredith** **14**





Crime Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 7 & 8, 1952

Amarillo, Texas

Waggoner Carr of Lubbock, acting Chairman

Other committee members: Fred V. Meridith of Terrell, Chr.; Horace Houston, Jr. of Dallas; Charles Murphy of Houston; Bill Wood of Tyler

Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas

| Nov. 6                             | Reel |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Sheriff Roy Hillin, Crosby County  | —    |
| Billy Hall                         | 1    |
| C. H. Cavness                      | 1    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 1    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 2    |
| Tom (Pinkie) Roden                 | 3    |
| Fred Weatherford                   | —    |
| Ted Roden                          | —    |
| W. F. Roden                        | —    |
| Erbert Bailey                      | 4    |
| John J. McCowan                    | 4    |
| John J. McCowan                    | 5    |
| Anderson Davis, Jr., Negro, Snyder | —    |
| Anderson Davis, Sr.                | 5    |
| Marshall King                      | 5    |
| Nov. 7:                            |      |
| C. W. Coyle                        | 5    |
| C. W. Coyle                        | 6    |
| A. W. Ellington                    | 6    |
| Ann Roden Dedrick                  | —    |



Crime Investigating Committee, Amarillo Hearing (cont)

2

Nov. 6-8, 1952

Amarillo, Texas

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas

Nov. 7 (cont.)

Reel

E. F. Hamm

—

Paul Harper

7

G. W. Killingsworth

—

Hubert Odom

8

Sam Calloway

8

Ferman Pierce

9

Bud Shankles

9

Carl Wynne

9

Bud Foreman

9

Charles Fuller

—

F. O. Goen

10

Joe T. Hill

10

Wayne W. McCormick

—

Leon Bowman

—

Sheriff W. M. Harryman, Cochran Co. —

Nov. 8:

James (Jimmy) Lee Russell

11

Ray Hutcheson

11

Bohn Hilliard

11

John L. Dibrell, III

11

L. W. Smith

12

Coke Stevenson, Jr.

12



Crime Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, Amarillo Hearing p.3

Nov. 6-8, 1952

Amarillo, Texas

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Investigation of an alleged multi-million dollar liquor syndicate operating in West Texas

Nov. 8 (cont): Reel

Coke Stevenson, Jr. 13

George McCarthy 13

Coke Stevenson, Jr. 14

Fred Meredith 14



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 1: Billy Hall, C. H. Cavness, Tom (Pinkie) Roden

Noteworthy topics:

Side I

Billy Hall:

Employment by Clinton Langford (1)

Langford unable to appear at Hearing  
due to sudden illness (57)

C. H. Cavness:

Background of financial operations of  
Pinkie's Liquor Stores (130)

Volume of sales:  
total, 1950-51 (210)  
total, 1951-52 (297)  
Farm Store, Apr. '51- Feb. '52 (337)  
Abnormalities (420)

Taxes (728)

Side II

End of testimony (7)

Tom Roden:

Also known as Pinkie Roden or Boyd (32)

Ownership of stores in Big Springs  
and Odessa (41)

Subpoenaed records of employees and  
other data (50)

Residence in Odessa and Big Springs (163)

Number and location of stores (187)

First store was in Big Springs (280)

Other stores (296)

Conviction of violation of liquor  
law (298)

Maynard Store and SAMCO Corporation (431)

Farm Store: volume of business, location,  
and structure (502)

Synopsis:

Billy Hall, an attorney representing Clinton Langford, was questioned concerning the absence of his client.

C. H. Cavness, the State Auditor, gave a financial report of findings from subpoenaed records of Pinkie's Liquor Stores. He disclosed that there were some irregularities in the income of certain stores during some months, and that the Farm Store had \$47,266.76 worth of business the first four days.

Pinkie Roden admitted having started in the liquor during Prohibition but refused to say that he had been a bootlegger. He was questioned about his employees, his connection with SAMCO Corporation, his stores in Odessa and Big Springs, and his Farm Store. He refused to answer many of the questions that were propounded to him.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: 35 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 3: Tom (Pinkie) Roden

Noteworthy topics:  
(Side I)

Tom Roden:

Meeting with Charlie Fuller in San Angelo (1)

Ownership of filling stations in Lubbock and Odessa by the  
Odessa corporation (45)

(five-minute break) (90)

Billy Hall:

Client Langford in hospital in Roswell, N. M. for emergency  
appendectomy (100)

Tom Roden:

Filling station in Levelland (140)

Roden keeps close contact with his bootleg distributors -  
account of travels and telephone calls to Lubbock (D. C. Turner),  
Snyder (Park Realty Co., E. H. Wright), Sweetwater (highway 80  
Club, Earl and Lynn Husky, Steve Wells), Abilene, Big Springs,  
and Brownfield (E. G. Tubbs) (145)

(testimony incomplete)

recess for morning (570)

resumption (576)

Meredith: explanation of the Committee and the hearing (591-704)

Synopsis:

As in the earlier portion of his testimony, Pinkie Roden refused to answer most of the questions asked him. Carr, however, did not let that deter him. He reported extensive travels and numerous telephone calls made by Roden to the dry areas. During a five-minute break, Billy Hall brought in an affidavit to the effect that his client was in a hospital in New Mexico for an operation. (R)

As the Committee resumed session in the afternoon, Meredith explained the purpose of the committee and the hearing. He then turned the hearing over to Carr. The tape recorder was then switched off, and no mention made of whether Roden had completed his testimony or not.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 1: Clarence Jackson

Reel 2: Clarence Jackson

Noteworthy topics:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Investigation of Joe Sides                            | (20)  |
| Trip to Austin  | (36)  |
| Charges against Clover Club and<br>ten-day suspension | (74)  |
| Suspension of licenses                                | (96)  |
| Trip to Austin  | (190) |
| Reimbursement of expenses for the<br>trip             | (348) |
| Employment of George McCarthy                         | (497) |
| Employment of Grady Hazelwood                         | (501) |
| Administrators of liquor control<br>board             | (543) |
| Pay-offs of liquor agents by<br>Jackson's competitors | (720) |

Noteworthy topics:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Pay-offs to liquor agents and the<br>attitudes of liquor agents in<br>Amarillo | (10)  |
| Joe Sides  | (33)  |
| Running of bootleg whiskey from<br>Amarillo                                    | (58)  |
| Running of bootleg whiskey from<br>Odessa                                      | (113) |
| Pinkie Roden - bootlegging   | (118) |
| Cover Charge for giving beer away  | (256) |
| Clover Club in Lubbock   | (329) |
| Joe Sides affair   | (367) |
| Raids on clubs and complaints filled<br>against them                           | (398) |
| Trip to Austin   | (489) |
| Relation between liquor board and<br>other law enforcement agencies            | (498) |
| Recovery of confiscated liquor   | (659) |

Synopsis:

Discussion of the trip made to Austin by Clarence Jackson, Jack Grant, and Joe Sides. Jackson was supposed to say some good words for Sides, and Sides would drop a ten-day suspension which was pending against Jackson.

Jackson claimed that he had never engaged in any pay-offs of liquor officers, but said that it was almost impossible to stay in business for those who did not. The officers had the power to put a liquor man out of business if they wanted to. He discussed the Joe Sides investigation and asked for advice on recovering his confiscated liquor before it spoiled.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 3: James (Jimmy) Stamford

Noteworthy topics:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Indictment against Joe Sides, filed July, 1951   | (10)  |
| Expense account for July 3rd trip  | (73)  |
| Trip made in conjunction with an investigation of bribery<br>and bootlegging complaints in the Amarillo District | (150) |
| Organization of the Liquor Control Board   | (231) |
| Previous indictments against men connected with the bribery<br>charges   | (374) |
| Jack Grant   | (529) |
| Members of the Liquor Control Board  | (628) |
| Bohn Hilliard requested to resign  | (731) |

Synopsis:

Stamford was asked for information about Joe Sides to be used in connection with an indictment filed against Sides for a false expense account. Sides had been given wide discretion to investigate briberies and bootlegging activities in Amarillo. He had taken a trip to get in good with the suspected parties and had filed an expense account for the trip. He made it up later by making an equivalent trip and not charging for it. Stamford also gave Pipkin some leads by which to gather evidence for use in the pending bribery cases.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 3: James (Jimmy) Stamford

Noteworthy topics:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Indictment against Joe Sides, filed July, 1951  | (10)  |
| Expense account for July 3rd trip   | (73)  |
| Trip made in conjunction with an investigation of bribery and bootlegging complaints in the Amarillo District | (150) |
| Organization of the Liquor Control Board  | (231) |
| Previous indictments against men connected with the bribery charges   | (374) |
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POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 4: Jack Grant

Reel 5: Jack Grant

Noteworthy topics:

Noteworthy topics:

Trip to Austin with Clarence Jackson and Jack Grant (1)

Underhandedness of liquor agents (1)

Discussion of car to be taken (37)

Purpose of trip to Austin (23)

Raid on Old Tascosa (97)

Joe Sides' expense account for the Peace Officers' Convention (41)

Discussion of expenses (132)

Favoritism practiced by liquor agents (87)

10-day suspension on Clover Club (167)

Liquor run from Amarillo to dry counties (335)

Expense accounts for the trip to Austin (277)

Rumors about bootlegging in Lubbock (350)

Charge against Joe Sides for false expense account (500)

Ray Hutcheson refused to associate with Sides, asked to be transferred to Lubbock, was fired soon after (370)

Old Tascosa affair (562)

Resignation of Bohn Hilliard, other officers - rumors (429)

Under-handedness of liquor board agents (680)

Sides held in high esteem by Stevenson (505)

Dibrell and Grant were best of friends (634)

Rumors of favoritism (770)

Bootlegging (820)

Synopsis:

Joe Sides' men had raided the wrong place (Old Tascosa) and Sides was in hot water with Stevenson. At the same time, he had a 10-day suspension ready to file on Clarence Jackson. If Jackson would go to Austin and put in a good word for Sides, Sides would drop the suspension.

Grant also told about the favoritism shown to some establishments by agents of the Liquor Control Board, rumors of bootlegging in Lubbock, and the resignation of several liquor officers in connection with some bribery accusations. Grant testified that a liquor officer could file on any one at anytime he wanted to. Some stores would never have any complaints filed on them; others were constantly interfered with. When Joe Sides was moved to Amarillo, Ray Hutcheson asked to be transferred to Lubbock. Shortly there after he was dismissed.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 6: Jack Grant, George McCarthy

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Jack Grant:

Cover-charge - Clover Club (1)

Bootlegging - pattern of movement(36)

Rumor of scheme between Grant,  
Hutchinson, Greenwood, & Pinkie  
Boyd (45)

Dismissal of Hutchinson (95)

(rest of testimony is too faint  
to be understood)

George McCarthy:

Joe Sides: expense account (630)

(Side II)

Handled Rocket Club case for  
Clarence Jackson (1)

Bribery offers made to Leon Bowman (45)

Rumors of truckloads of liquor going  
from Amarillo to the dry area (103)

Rumors of bootlegging in Lubbock (140)

Not retained by Clarence Jackson (159)

Joe Sides' false expense account for  
the Peace Officers' Meeting (197)

John Dibrell's expense accounts (316)

Criticism of liquor control law (365)

Favoritism toward liquor operators (470)

Bailey tried for bribery by the  
Childress County Grand Jury (510)

Bohn Hilliard's resignation from the  
Liquor Control Board (593)

end of testimony (676)

Synopsis:

The remainder of the Jack Grant testimony pertains to the cover charge of the Clover Club, bootlegging, and an alleged conspiracy.

George McCarthy, attorney, gave a verified report pertaining to the false expense account filed by Joe Sides. The information given collaborated with Jack Grant's testimony. He talked about rumors pertaining to the carrying of bootleg liquor from Amarillo to the Lubbock area.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 1: Leon Bowman

Reel 2: Leon Bowman

Noteworthy topics:

Noteworthy topics:

Employment by Liquor Control Board(1)

Bohn Hilliard - investigation of  
Charlie Fuller (4)

Worked as inspector in Plainview(29)

Big-scale bootlegging - Lubbock (55)

Bribery offers: (35)

F. O. Goen (75)

J. T. Hill (127)

Governor appoints Liquor Control  
Board, Board appoints the  
Administrator (239)

Bowman reported bribery attempts to  
Stevenson and a Board member (270)

Bribery of Liquor Board employees and  
resignation of those persons (270)

Was transferred from Plainview  
six months after the reports (400)

Attempted bribery (302)

Became supervisor at Lubbock; Charlie  
Fuller approached Bowman in  
behalf of Pinkie Boyd (430)

Lack of evidence hindered Stevenson  
from acting on bribery charges (320)

Bootlegging in Lubbock and Abilene (354)

Pinkie Boyd (Roden) - extent of  
his business (780)

Local bootleggers buy from Pinkie or  
get caught (578)

Secrecy of hearing (750)

Synopsis:

Leon Bowman, deputy supervisor in the Abilene District for the Liquor Control Board, was approached by three different men about bribery offers. He refused and made a statement to Coke Stevenson and a Board member in Dallas. Later, when he was transferred to Lubbock, Charlie Fuller approached him in behalf of Pinkie Boyd (Roden). He made a statement to James Stamford and later to Coke Stevenson, James Stamford, and Bohn Hilliard in Austin. Bohn Hilliard took a written statement. Fuller was not discharged for another six months.

Bowman stated that he believed that Coke Stevenson was doing his best on the bribery cases but was able to accomplish very little due to lack of evidence.

Pinkie Roden operates as far as Sweetwater in Bowman's territory. When he moves in and takes over a locality, the local bootleggers buy from him or get caught. Pinkie even knew when an undercover man "hit" town, often before Bowman himself knew.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

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Reel 1: Leon Bowman

Reel 2: Leon Bowman

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Board, Board appoints the  
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POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 3: Clyde Vaughan

Noteworthy topics:

George Aaron knocked down by Roden (60)

Investigation of Grady Watson, District Joe White (80)  
Superintendent of the Beaumont  
District (30) Pinkie Roden could be stopped (132)

Written report on investigation (163) Wholesale liquor business in  
Amarillo (160)

Investigation in Plainview (204)

Criticism of Liquor Control Law--  
unequal enforcement (315) Amount of liquor run from Amarillo to  
Lubbock (168)

Reel 3a: Duplicate of Clyde Vaughan  
testimony on Reel 3

W. H. Harris:

Employment with Liquor Control Board(250)

Reel 4: Clyde Vaughan, W. H. Harris

Reason for being in hall (279)

Clyde Vaughan:

Counsel employed by Sides (319)

Payoffs to city, county, and Liquor  
Control Board in Beaumont  
District (8)

End of testimony (375)

Rumor of Board member taking bribe  
from Pinkie Roden (38)

Synopsis:

Clyde Vaughan, former Liquor Board employee, was first assigned to investigate the district supervisor in two Districts as an undercover man.

His first assignment was in the Plainview District. He did not know whom he was investigating and learned nothing.

A month later he was sent to the Beaumont District to check on Grady Watson. He and his partner found that the establishments which served mixed drinks and had slot machines, etc. were paying the city and county and State. By "State" they meant Grady Watson. The two men reported what they had learned, but Grady Watson had not yet been fired at the time of the hearing.

Vaughan was in the crew that "wrecked" George Aaron. He thought he was doing the people a service but learned later that he was doing a favor for Pinkie Roden and his friends on the Liquor Board. Aaron had been giving Pinkie too much competition and had to be put out of business.

W. H. Harris was questioned concerning his presence in the hall. He said that he had only wanted to speak to Pipkin and not tried to obtain any information.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 3: Clyde Vaughan

Noteworthy topics:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| George Aaron knocked down by Roden  | (60)                                      |
| Investigation of Grady Watson, District Superintendent of the Beaumont District | (80)                                      |
| (30)  | Pinkie Roden could be stopped (132)       |
| Written report on investigation   | (163)                                     |
| Investigation in Plainview  | (204)                                     |
| Criticism of Liquor Control Law---unequal enforcement                           | (315)                                     |
| Wholesale liquor business in Amarillo   | (160)                                     |
| Amount of liquor run from Amarillo to Lubbock                                   | (168)                                     |
| W. H. Harris:   |   |
| Reel 3a: Duplicate of Clyde Vaughan testimony on Reel 3                         | Employment with Liquor Control Board(250) |
| Reel 4: Clyde Vaughan, W. H. Harris   | Reason for being in hall (279)            |
| Clyde Vaughan:  | Counsel employed by Sides (319)           |
| Payoffs to city, county, and Liquor Control Board in Beaumont District          | (8)                                       |
| End of testimony  | (375)                                     |
| Rumor of Board member taking bribe from Pinkie Roden                            | (38)                                      |

Synopsis:

Clyde Vaughan, former Liquor Board employee, was first assigned to investigate the district supervisor in two Districts as an undercover man.

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POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 5: M. T. O'Neill

Noteworthy topics:

Employment with the Liquor Control Board (30)

Senator Grady Hazelwood and Pinkie Roden--  
the liquor syndicate in the Lubbock  
area (67)

Synopsis:

M. T. O'Neill narrated his experience with Pinkie Roden and Senator Grady Hazelwood when those two decided to form a partnership and establish a bootleg monopoly in West Texas. O'Neill, then inspector in the Amarillo District, was asked to take a pay-off but refused Pinkie's proposition. About six months later, Roden, who was then using the name "Carol", was caught and his license was revoked. Hazel wood was able to exert enough influence to have the license reinstated.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting Chairman

Reel 2: Pinkie Roden

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Pinkie Roden (cont. from Reel 1):

Farm Store, structure (1)

Warning system provided for customers -  
watchout car, electric light in  
back of store (9)

Explanation of volume of sales the  
first month at the Farm Store (44)

Farm Store sold to Pinkie's Liquor  
Stores of Odessa, Inc. (112)

Roden's financial interest in the  
Corporation (114)

Sale and price of store; items sold  
included a 1951 Cadillac and a  
filling station in Lubbock (140)

Sold other stores in Odessa and Big  
Springs to the respective corporations  
(228)

Had a financial interest in Pinkie's Liquor  
Stores of Big Springs, Inc. (254)

Ted Roden's connections with Odessa  
Corporation (268)

Organization and ownership of the  
corporations (412)

Denies having any knowledge of a  
filling station in Lubbock owned  
by the Farm Store (745)

Charges long-distance calls to Farm  
Store, Big Springs corporation,  
Odessa Corporation, Acme Sales Co.,  
and Standard Sales Co. (810)

(Side II)  
Shortwave radio in liquor store (1)

Shipping liquor into dry areas (30)

Association with bootleggers -  
in Levelland (Oscar Ward) (135)

in Sundown (Skeet Childers) (248)

in Scurry County (Tom Moore) (285)

in Sweetwater (Highway 80 Club,  
Steve Wells) (224)

in Lubbock (Clinton Langford, Bud  
Shankles, et al) (320)

Bribery of public officials (Charlie  
Fuller, Lubbock) (425)

Synopsis:

Roden refused to answer as to whether or not he had a warning system for his bootleg customers at the Farm Store, had a financial interest in the Odessa Corporation, or sold whiskey and beer to bootleggers. He denied having any connection with bribery of public officials, and claimed to have no knowledge of a filling station in Lubbock, or of a shortwave sending and receiving radio in an unidentified liquor store. Carr disclosed evidence that proved that Roden was closely associated with bootleggers in the dry areas, but the witness refused to commit himself to an answer.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 1: Clarence Jackson

Reel 2: Clarence Jackson

Noteworthy topics:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Investigation of Joe Sides                            | (20)  |
| Trip to Austin  | (36)  |
| Charges against Clover Club and<br>ten-day suspension | (74)  |
| Suspension of licenses                                | (96)  |
| Trip to Austin  | (190) |
| Reimbursement of expenses for the<br>trip             | (348) |
| Employment of George McCarthy                         | (497) |
| Employment of Grady Hazelwood                         | (501) |
| Administrators of liquor control<br>board             | (543) |
| Pay-offs of liquor agents by<br>Jackson's competitors | (720) |

Noteworthy topics:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Pay-offs to liquor agents and the<br>attitudes of liquor agents in<br>Amarillo | (10)  |
| Joe Sides  | (33)  |
| Running of bootleg whiskey from<br>Amarillo                                    | (58)  |
| Running of bootleg whiskey from<br>Odessa                                      | (113) |
| Pinkie Roden - bootlegging   | (118) |
| Cover Charge for giving beer away  | (256) |
| Clover Club in Lubbock   | (329) |
| Joe Sides affair   | (367) |
| Raids on clubs and complaints filled<br>against them                           | (398) |
| Trip to Austin   | (489) |
| Relation between liquor board and<br>other law enforcement agencies            | (498) |
| Recovery of confiscated liquor   | (659) |

Synopsis:

Discussion of the trip made to Austin by Clarence Jackson, Jack Grant, and Joe Sides. Jackson was supposed to say some good words for Sides, and Sides would drop a ten-day suspension which was pending against Jackson.

Jackson claimed that he had never engaged in any pay-offs of liquor officers, but said that it was almost impossible to stay in business for those who did not. The officers had the power to put a liquor man out of business if they wanted to. He discussed the Joe Sides investigation and asked for advice on recovering his confiscated liquor before it spoiled.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 4: Jack Grant

Reel 5: Jack Grant

Noteworthy topics:

Noteworthy topics:

Trip to Austin with Clarence Jackson and Jack Grant (1)  
Discussion of car to be taken (37)  
Raid on Old Tascosa (97)  
Discussion of expenses (132)  
10-day suspension on Clover Club (167)  
Expense accounts for the trip to Austin (277)  
Charge against Joe Sides for false expense account (500)  
Old Tascosa affair (562)  
Under-handedness of liquor board agents (680)

Underhandedness of liquor agents (1)  
Purpose of trip to Austin (23)  
Joe Sides' expense account for the Peace Officers' Convention (41)  
Favoritism practiced by liquor agents (87)  
Liquor run from Amarillo to dry counties (335)  
Rumors about bootlegging in Lubbock (350)  
Ray Hutcherson refused to associate with Sides, asked to be transferred to Lubbock, was fired soon after (370)  
Resignation of Bohn Hilliard, other officers - rumors (429)  
Sides held in high esteem by Stevenson (505)  
Dibrell and Grant were best of friends (634)  
Rumors of favoritism (770)  
Bootlegging (820)

Synopsis:

Joe Sides' men had raided the wrong place (Old Tascosa) and Sides was in hot water with Stevenson. At the same time, he had a 10-day suspension ready to file on Clarence Jackson. If Jackson would go to Austin and put in a good word for Sides, Sides would drop the suspension.

Grant also told about the favoritism shown to some establishments by agents of the Liquor Control Board, rumors of bootlegging in Lubbock, and the resignation of several liquor officers in connection with some bribery accusations. Grant testified that a liquor officer could file on any one at anytime he wanted to. Some stores would never have any complaints filed on them; others were constantly interfered with. When Joe Sides was moved to Amarillo, Ray Hutcherson asked to be transferred to Lubbock. Shortly there after he was dismissed.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

January 11, 1952

Approximate length in time: 1 hr. 20 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 6: Jack Grant, George McCarthy

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Jack Grant:

Cover-charge - Clover Club (1)

Bootlegging - pattern of movement(36)

Rumor of scheme between Grant,  
Hutchinson, Greenwood, & Pinkie  
Boyd (45)

Dismissal of Hutchinson (95)

(rest of testimony is too faint  
to be understood)

George McCarthy:

Joe Sides: expense account (630)

(Side II)

Handled Rocket Club case for  
Clarence Jackson (1)

Bribery offers made to Leon Bowman (45)

Rumors of truckloads of liquor going  
from Amarillo to the dry area (103)

Rumors of bootlegging in Lubbock (140)

Not retained by Clarence Jackson (159)

Joe Sides' false expense account for  
the Peace Officers' Meeting (197)

John Dibrell's expense accounts (316)

Criticism of liquor control law (365)

Favoritism toward liquor operators (470)

Bailey tried for bribery by the  
Childress County Grand Jury (510)

Bohn Hilliard's resignation from the  
Liquor Control Board (593)

end of testimony (676)

Synopsis:

The remainder of the Jack Grant testimony pertains to the cover charge of the Clover Club, bootlegging, and an alleged conspiracy.

George McCarthy, attorney, gave a verified report pertaining to the false expense account filed by Joe Sides. The information given collaborated with Jack Grant's testimony. He talked about rumors pertaining to the carrying of bootleg liquor from Amarillo to the Lubbock area.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 1: (Anderson Davis, Jr.), Erbert Bailey, John J. McCowan

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Erbert Bailey:

Present occupation: feeding cattle (35)

Used 9 to 10 ice boxes when a bootlegger (56)

Persons from whom liquor was obtained -  
George Aaron, Pinkie Roden, et al (146)

Mr. Meredith: Danger of self-incrimination  
in disclosing sources of bootleg  
liquor (231)

George McCarthy: (Bailey's attorney)  
Danger of self-incrimination and  
re-inditment (275)

Bailey: persons from whom liquor was  
purchased (384)

Buying on consignment from Pinkie  
Roden (491)

Bribery of public officials (500)

Purchase of liquor from Pinkie Roden (526)

Horace and Bailey: discussion of  
sources of bootleg liquor (685)

(Side II)  
Buying on consignment (1)

Purchase of liquor (67)

John J. McCowan:

Is President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores  
of Big Springs, Inc., a corporation  
no longer in operation (125)

HHH, Inc. organized shortly after  
closed hearing in Austin (140)

McCowan owes \$128,000 to Pinkie Roden  
on a demand note, has salary of  
\$600 per month (159)

Object of creation of new corporation (221)

Loaned \$50,000 to new corporation from  
sale of inventory (375)

Pinkie's financial interest in and  
control over the old corporation (410)

Stockholders of HHH, Inc., their  
previous employment, and their  
share in the corporation (536)

Selling to bootleggers (680)

Association with Will Clay, boot-  
legger in Snyder (715)

Selling after 10 p.m.

Synopsis:

The testimony of John J. McCowan dealt mainly with the selling of whiskey to certain persons for the purpose of resale. He is President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Big Springs, Inc., which sold out its inventory so that HHH could take over its business. The old corporation leases its stores to HHH, Inc. McCowan discussed the set-up of the old and new corporations, the share of stocks held by each member, and other details pertinent to the stores in Big Springs.

Erbert Bailey of Childress, formerly operated on such a scale that he had to keep 9 to 10 iceboxes full of liquor for his customers. Yet he couldn't remember the name of any person from whom he had purchased the liquor.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 6 & 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 5: John J. McCowan, Anderson Davis, Sr., Marshall King, C. W. Coyle

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

John J. McCowan:

Buys whiskey for the Young Men's  
Social Club, members pay for it (226)

Selling Liquor on Consignment to  
E. G. Tubbs of Brownfield, Will  
Clay of Snyder (35)

Bribery of public officials (266)

Buy liquor from Pinkie's for cash  
and on consignment (272)

Explanation of statute by which Committee  
may force a witness to answer the  
questions (145)

Fines for bootlegging (316)

Selling to bootleggers on consignment--  
Snyder, Brownfield, Sweetwater (273)

Extra charge to members for the  
liquor (343)

Adjournment until morning (374)

Anderson Davis, Sr.:

(November 7, 1952)

Bootlegging activities (823)

Carr: contempt action against P. D.  
Austin (404)

Fines paid for bootlegging (870)  
(Side II)

C. W. Coyle:

Profits made by bootlegging (3)

Sources of liquor--Joe Martinez (40)

President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores  
of Odessa, Inc. (556)

Exclusive bootlegging privileges  
in Snyder guaranteed to certain  
individuals (126)

Previously employed as manager of  
the four stores in Odessa  
Corporation (575)

Inconsistency with testimony of  
year ago (135)

Cancelled license after hearing in  
Austin, on Roden's advice (630)

Marshall King:

Bootlegging in Midland (223)

Coyle indebted to Pinkie for his shares of  
stock in the corporation (663)

Synopsis:

This portion of the McCowan testimony, continued from the previous reel, deals mainly with the selling of liquor to certain persons for the purpose of resale.

Anderson Davis, Sr., a bootlegger in Snyder, denied the existence of exclusive bootlegging rights in Snyder for him and a few other people as set up by Pinkie Roden.

Marshall King owns a social club in Midland through which the members may purchase liquor for a cover charge of \$.50.

C. W. Coyle, President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Big Springs, Inc., confirmed that his corporation had cancelled its license after the closed hearing, sold out its inventory, and set up a rental business.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time; one hour

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 6: C. W. Coyle, A. W. Ellington

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

C. W. Coyle:

Shares of stock owned by members of  
the Pinkie's Liquor Stores of  
Odessa, Inc (1)

Coyle owed Tom Roden for his stock(20)

Liquidated stock in stores to pay  
Roden, creditors, make loan to new  
corporation (34)

Chief stockholders in Herco Corporation  
(Paul Harper, et al, previous  
employment and salaries (147)

Old corporation rents stores to new  
corporation (220)

Coyle owed \$165,000 to Roden on a  
demand note (244)

Stock never paid any dividends (281)

Operating stores after 10:00 p.m.,  
selling to bootleggers (304)

Corporation bookkeeper makes out  
inventory taxes to boot leggers in  
dry areas (377)

Carr:  
Subpoenaed witness who failed to  
answer subpoenas, fled to other  
states were all operators in the  
dry areas (639)

A. W. Ellington:

San Angelo stores recently incorporated(773)

Partnership with Ann Roden Dedrick (790)

Bought out partnership in 1950, has  
not yet paid for the other share (836)

(Side II)

Tom Roden handled his sister's part of  
the business (8)

Selling to bootleggers (84)

Selling liquor on consignment, credit(124)

Stockholders of Samco, the new  
corporation; shares held by each;  
money paid for shares of stock (147)

Reason for incorporating San Angelo  
stores (351)

Selling to bootleggers (400)

How Ellington came to use Pinkie's  
name on his stores (454)

Reason for voluntarily turning in permit  
(660)

Sold stock to pay creditors (694)

Synopsis:

Coyle's testimony concerned the change in the corporation set-up of the Pinkie's Liquor Stores in Odessa. Roden, the President of Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc., owed Pinkie Roden \$165,000 for his shares of stock on a demand note. Most of the stockholders in the Herco Corporation are previous employees of Pinkie's Liquor Stores.

A. W. Ellington, resident of San Angelo and owner of Pinkie's Liquor Stores in San Angelo, started in the liquor retail business as a partner with Ann Roden Dedrick. At the urging of creditors and with Pinkie's advice, Ellington sold out and started over as president of HHH, Inc.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 25 min.

Reel 7: Paul Harper

Noteworthy topics:

Paul Harper:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Selling to bootleggers, warning system at Farm Store                                     | (1)   |
| Selling after 10:00 p.m.   | (53)  |
| Carr & Meredith:<br>action to require witness to answer questions                        | (204) |
| Selling liquor to bootleggers  | (306) |
| Selling to bootleggers on consignment and credit   | (376) |
| Rents Farm Store and four stores in Odessa from Pinkie's Liquor Stores of<br>Odessa, Inc | (445) |
| Paid bank for his shares of stock in the Herco Corporation                               | (500) |
| end of testimony   | (530) |
| Recess for morning   | (541) |

Synopsis:

Paul Harper, President of the Herco Corporation in Odessa, was very reluctant to answer the questions until the Committee took action to require him to answer the questions. He then admitted that he sells to bootleggers and that he does have the warning system at the Farm Store that Carr described. He denied being involved in a scheme with the Pinkie's Liquor Stores of Odessa, Inc.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 8: Hubert Odom, Sam Calloway

Noteworthy topics:

(Side I)

Hubert Odom:

End of testimony & 5-minute break (441)

Fred Meredith (interviewed by radio  
announcer):

Shortwave radio in Odessa store (1)

Selling to bootleggers (Oscar Ward,  
Levelland) (57)

Reason for holding the hearing in  
Amarillo (466)

Percentage of sales going to bootleggers (67) Background of meeting with the Potter  
County Grand Jury (495)

Selling to bootleggers- -Tom Moore,  
Skeet Childress, et al (100)

Expression of appreciation to those  
responsible for the hearing (517)

Connection with George Aaron; once  
asked for advice about buying a store (195)

Comparison of testimonies in public  
hearing to those of the secret  
hearing held previously in Austin (577)

Odom asked Roden to meet him in  
Amarillo (283)

Hearings in Lubbock and Scurry Counties (620)

Proposed bribery or pay-off (299)

Listing of witnesses for the morning (678)

Association with George Aaron (315)

Sam Calloway:

Counsel same as Roden's--reatiner (355)

Former bootlegger, convictions for  
bootlegging (811)

Selling to clubs or organizations  
in dry areas (381)

(testimony is incomplete)

Attempted bribery (390)

Side I only

Synopsis:

Hubert Odom has a shortwave receiving radio in his store which, according to Carr, he used to pick up police calls in order to warn his customers as they leave the store. He refused to answer any specific questions directly related to selling to bootleggers, but denied being involved in a pay-off scheme with Roden and Aaron, explaining that he asked advice from each about buying a store in Amarillo and that the meeting was coincidental.

The testimony of Sam Calloway is incomplete. The portion on the tape is concerned with his previous activities as a bootlegger.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 9: Leon Bowman, Ferman Pierce, Fred Weatherford, Bud Shankles, Carl Wynne,  
Bud Foreman

Noteworthy topics:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Side I: Leon Bowman--duplicate of<br>Testimony by same on Reel 1 of the<br>Potter County Grand Jury | Encounter with Sam Cilloway (242)<br>Bud Shankles:                         |
| Side II<br>Ferman Pierce:   | Occupation: trucker, although<br>presently unemployed (408)                |
| Bootlegger in Lubbock County (2)  | Hauls liquor for VFW in Lubbock (419)                                      |
| Bought from Charlie Blunt (48)  | Buys from Pinkie's Liquor Stores (449)                                     |
| Pay-off to Charlie Fuller for<br>warning system at Liquor Board<br>in Lubbock (55)                  | Subpoenaed records (520)<br>Bootlegging in Lubbock County (546)            |
| Buys from Pinkie's Farm Store (90)  | Knows Bo Sessums, but does not<br>assist him in bootlegging (564)          |
| Sometimes flies liquor in from<br>Wichita Falls (106)   | Purchase of liquor from Hubert Odom<br>or Cecil Odom's liquor stores (593) |
| Contributed to hiring the killing<br>of a fellow bootlegger in<br>Lubbock (133)                     | Bud Foreman:   |
| Discussion of subpoenaed records<br>Fred Weatherford: (168)   | Subpoenaed records (765)<br>Farms in del City (930)                        |
| 30-day temporary assignment in<br>Lubbock (237)   | (testimony incomplete)   |

Synopsis:

The questions asked of Ferman Pierce by Carr were actually accusations. Carr charged him of sending runners to Odessa to bring back liquor for him to sell in the dry area and even flying some in from Wichita, of contributing to a fund to kill a fellow bootlegger. All accusations were denied by Mr. Pierce.

Fred Weatherford, a Texas Liquor Control Board Inspector at Waco, who testified the day before, described his encounter with Sam Calloway while he was in Lubbock.

Bud Shankles of Lubbock readily admitted to bootlegging in Lubbock. He purchased his liquor at Pinkie's Liquor store, buying as many as 200 cases at one time, and the employees asked no questions, even though they knew the liquor was going to Lubbock.

Carl Wynne denied the charge of bootlegging but refused to say why he purchased liquor. The testimony of Bud Foreman of Idalou is incomplete.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 7, 1952

Approximate length in time: 30 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 10: F. O. Goen, J. T. Hill

Noteworthy topics:

F. O. Goen:

Employment by Liquor Control Board(2)

Resignation from liquor board was  
voluntary (10)

Attempted bribery of Leon Bowman (20)

Attempted bribery of Fred  
Prestridge (160)

Undercover men--tip--offs (200)

J. T. Hill:

Employment as inspector of the  
Liquor Control Board of  
Texas (280)

Resignation from the Board (300)

Attempted bribery: Leon Bowman &  
Fred Prestridge (330)

Pay-offs (530)

(Side I only)

Synopsis:

F. O. Goen and J. T. Hill, both of whom were previously employed by the Liquor Control Board, were carried along the same lines of interrogation. Both claimed to have resigned voluntarily; they were not forced to resign. They both denied being connected with an attempted bribery of Leon Bowman and Fred Prestridge.

This particular tape is faint and almost indiscernible.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1963

approximate time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 11: Side I: James Lee Russell, Ray Hutcheson, Bohn Hilliard

Noteworthy topics:

|  |   |       |
|--|---|-------|
| James Lee Russell:   | George Aaron  | (349) |
| Presently salesman for a roofing company (28)  | Selling to bootleggers                                      | (398) |
| Charlie Fuller as supervisor of the Lubbock district controlled every move his men made (51) | Bootleggers do not purchase from Hutcheson                  | (398) |
| Never gave Russell authority to catch a bootlegger of his own initiative (93)                | Liquor Syndicate responsible for Hutcheson's dismissal      | (405) |
| Russell's resignation from Board (165)   | Bohn Hilliard   | (512) |
| Fuller's expenses; bought 20-35 suits in two years (176)                                     | Sam Calloway, <u>et al</u>                                  | (584) |
| Men forbidden to stop whiskey runners when alone (214)                                       | Connection between George Aaron and Pinkie Roden            | (586) |
| Ray Hutcheson:   | Bohn Hilliard:  |       |
| Fired from Board in 1951, now operates a package store Amarillo (283)                        | Is President of Midway Savings and Loan Association         | (621) |
| Leon Bowman told Hutcheson about the bribery offers (323)                                    | Employment as head of enforcement division of Control Board | (742) |
|  | Always consulted with State Administrator                   | (783) |
|  | George Aaron, Pinkie Boyd                                   | (822) |

Synopsis:

James (Jimmie) Lee Russell, former inspector on the Liquor Control Board, described the manner in which Charlie Fuller managed his district when he was superintendent of the Lubbock district under the Liquor Control Board.

Ray Hutcheson, also a former employee of the Liquor Control Board, set up a liquor store after being fired in 1951. According to the testimony, bootleggers never try to buy from his store.

Bohn Hilliard of Arlington, former head of enforcement division of the Liquor Control Board of Texas, testified that he always consulted with Coke Stevenson before making any transfers or appointments. He said, that he did not know George Aaron and that he had met Pinkie Roden only once.



CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 11: Side II: Bohn Hilliard, John L. Dibrell, III

Noteworthy topics:

|  |       |   |       |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| Hilliard:  |       | Clarence Jackson, Jack Grant<br>George Aaron among contacts<br>made                     | (288) |
| Refused pay-off and filed a<br>affidavit                                     | (1)   |   |       |
| Was never approached in behalf of<br>George Aaron                            | (20)  | Meeting at home of Ralph Lowe on<br>Aug. 7, 1951, to discuss the<br>pay-off proposition | (314) |
| Never accepted any pay-off   | (24)  | Dibrell and Taylor told about other<br>pay-offs--Jordon, Fuller                         | (395) |
| Charlie Fuller   | (29)  | F. O. Goen  | (520) |
| Action taken on affidavits   | (68)  |   |       |
| Meeting in Hilton Hotel with<br>Roden  | (121) | Telephone conversation between<br>George Aaron and Hubert Odom                          | (539) |
| Connections with liquor stores   | (127) | Pinkie Roden  | (621) |
| Oil well jointly owned by F.O.<br>Goen, McCormick, Hilliard,<br><u>et al</u> | (137) | Bohn Hilliard connected with pay-<br>offs   | (695) |
| Hilliard was requested to<br>resign  | (162) | Wayne McCormick also connected with<br>pay-offs   | (814) |
|  |       | (incomplete)  |       |
| John L. Dibrell:   |       |   |       |
| Investigation of pay-offs  | (252) |   |       |

Synopsis:

Hilliard testified that he had refused any pay-offs and had filed a report on such proposals. He denied meeting Pinkie Roden or any bootlegger in the Hilton Hotel in Lubbock. He had not tried to find out why he had been requested to resign from his position as head of the enforcement division of the Liquor Control Board.

John L. Dibrell had been assigned to Lubbock to investigate pay-offs of Liquor agents. He and his partner Taylor were propositioned at a meeting at the residence of Ralph Lowe in Amarillo. George Aaron and Hubert discussed the deal over the telephone. Odom had testified earlier that the "deal" discussed was the purchase of a liquor store in Amarillo. Dibrell said, that there was no mention of a store. In the discussion it was brought out that Bohn Hilliard and Wayne McCormick were already taking pay-offs.



# CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 12: L. W. Smith, Coke Stevenson, Jr.

Noteworthy topics:

Side I

|   |       |  |       |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| Carr: Extradition of George Aaron                       | (4)   | Liquor Syndicate reported by the the Potter County and Lubbock County Grand Juries | (411) |
| L. W. Smith   |       |  |       |
| Extent of the Lubbock District                          | (55)  | Pay-offs of Liquor Board agents action taken by the Board                          | (480) |
| Problems in Enforcing liquor law                        | (101) | Reason for not pressing charges  | (547) |
| Shortage of staff                                       | (106) |  |       |
|   |       | Side II  |       |
| Bootleggers in Lubbock counted by the hundreds          | (146) | Attempted bribery  | (16)  |
| Limited expense account                                 | (173) | Never been offered bribe by Pinkie Roden   | (24)  |
| Gross salary is \$297 per month                         | (202) | Attempted bribery of Liquor Board men since the hearings                           | (80)  |
| Comparison of working conditions in East and West Texas | (249) | Taking action against violations of liquor law: limited personnel                  | (116) |
| Men frequently transferred from Lubbock District        | (271) | Equipment not furnished by the State   | (540) |
| Aid from sheriffs and deputies                          | (296) | Recommendations for improvement of the Liquor Control Law                          | (745) |
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:                                    |       |  |       |
| Organization of the Liquor Control Board of Texas       | (341) | Suspensions of license of Pinkie's liquor stores                                   | (904) |

Synopsis:

L.W. Smith, inspector with the Liquor Control Board in the Lubbock District, discussed the problems involved in enforcing the Liquor Law. In the Lubbock District, three men staff a twenty-three county area; six to eight are needed in Lubbock alone. The men use their own cars, are given limited expense account from which they receive \$.06 per mile. Some counties would be visited once a year. The shortage of men, equipment, and expense allowances prevented adequate law enforcement.

Coke Stevenson, Jr., State Administrator of the Liquor Control Board, explained that the Board only asked the men accused of accepting bribes to resign instead of pressing charges against them because they did not have enough evidence. The greatest difficulty in enforcing the liquor law is the lack of personnel and equipment. There are only 105 inspectors for the whole state. The state does not furnish two-way radios, and the men must furnish their own pistols and automobiles. Stevenson also commented about needed improvements in the liquor law.



POTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY, Amarillo, Texas

August 27, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Herman Pipkin, District Attorney

Reel 5: M. T. O'Neill

Noteworthy topics:

Employment with the Liquor Control Board (30)

Senator Grady Hazelwood and Pinkie Roden--  
the liquor syndicate in the Lubbock  
area (67)

Synopsis:

M. T. O'Neill narrated his experience with Pinkie Roden and Senator Grady Hazelwood when those two decided to form a partnership and establish a bootleg monopoly in West Texas. O'Neill, then inspector in the Amarillo District, was asked to take a pay-off but refused Pinkie's proposition. About six months later, Roden, who was then using the name "Carol", was caught and his license was revoked. Hazel wood was able to exert enough influence to have the license reinstated.

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CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE, Amarillo Hearing

November 8, 1952

Approximate length in time: 40 min.

Waggoner Carr, acting chairman

Reel 13: Coke Stevenson, Jr.; Herman Pipkin; George McCarthy; Fred Meredith

Noteworthy topics:

Side I only

|  |      |   |       |
|--|------|---|-------|
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:   |      | Recommendations for changes in the liquor law                       | (98)  |
| Housing situation in Odessa and transfer of the district office to Big Springs | (1)  | Indictments   | (286) |
|  |      | Obtaining convictions   | (330) |
| Suspensions of license for Pinkie's Liquor Stores                              | (15) | George McCarthy:  |       |
| Hearings against Cecil's   | (44) | Criticism of liquor control law and recommendations for improvement | (640) |
| Herman Pipkin:   |      |   |       |

Synopsis:

Coke Stevenson concluded his testimony with comments about the suspensions of licenses and a hearing concerning Cecil's Liquor Stores.

Herman Pipkin, the District Attorney of Potter County, made suggestions for changes needed in the liquor law and affirmed that indictments would be issued and every effort made to convict the men who were involved in the syndicate.

George McCarthy, attorney, criticized the liquor law as it is and suggested changes that could be made.

Reel 14: Coke Stevenson, Jr.; Fred Meredith; M.T. O'Neill

Side I

|                           |      |  |       |
|---------------------------|------|--|-------|
| Coke Stevenson, Jr.:      |      | Closing remarks  | (80)  |
| Issuance of licenses      | (1)  | Adjournment and close of hearing   | (144) |
| Work of the Control Board | (52) | Side II  |       |
| Fred Meredith:            |      | M.T. O'Neill, duplicate of testimony by M.T. O'Neill on Reel 5 of the Potter County Grand Jury |       |

Synopsis:

Coke Stevenson added a few comments before the hearing closed. Most of the testimony is missing from the tape.

Fred Meredith gave the closing remarks and adjourned the hearing.