

Case Dropped Against Two 'Fronters'

Men Freed Were Said to Be Underlings in Terror Mob

Upon motion of defense attorneys, Judge Marcus Campbell, presiding over the sedition trial against Christian Front defendants, acquitted two of the defendants yesterday.

The acquitted men were Edward L. Walsh and George M. Kelly, which left fourteen more defendants facing the Federal Court trial for alleged conspiracy to overthrow the government. Seventeen were originally on trial, among them John T. Prout, Jr., a captain in the 165th Infantry of the National Guard.

Another defendant, Claus Gunther Ernecke, committed suicide after having been arraigned.

Walsh, aged 23, of 94 Brook Ave., the Bronx, the prosecution had charged, allegedly attended several meetings of the Christian Fronters where the so-called "plots" were discussed. In acquitting him Judge Campbell said Walsh may have been in the home where the meeting was held "innocently."

Kelly, aged 24, a Brooklyn swimming instructor was dismissed when the judge decided that he "did not appear to have a very clear apprehension of what it was all about." In dismissing Kelly, however, the judge referred to the fact that Kelly was known for his anti-Semitic utterances.

Immediately following the acquittal of the two the defense placed Capt. Prout on the stand as its first witness.