

Jury Acquits Nine on Trial Of Front, Disagree on Five

F-H 6/25/40

NEW YORK, June 24 (U.P.)—A Federal court jury today acquitted nine of fourteen defendants charged with plotting the overthrow of the United States Government, and disagreed on the fate of five others.

Federal Judge Marcus B. Campbell immediately declared a mistrial in the disputed cases. The jury of 11 men and one woman had received the case early Wednesday afternoon after seven weeks of testimony, and returned

its verdict at 5:45 p.m., in Brooklyn Court.

The jury could not agree in the cases of:

William Gerald Bishop, 29, alleged leader of the group, charged with conspiracy to overthrow the Government and conspiracy to steal Government property.

Macklin Boettger, 52, salesman, disagreement on the same two counts.

John T. Prout, jr., 29, New York National Guard captain.

John A. Viebrock, 34, elevator mechanic, disagreement on both counts.

William H. D. Bushnell jr., 18, student, disagreement on overthrow count; acquittal on theft count.

The nine acquitted were:

Michael Vill, 35, bus driver, naturalized American of German birth; Michael J. Beirne, 32, telephone company employe, naturalized American of Irish birth; Andrew Buckley, 32, tailor, naturalized American of Irish birth, former sergeant in the 165th Infantry, New York National Guard; Francis M. J. Malone, 25, department store clerk; Alfred J. Quinlan, 27, sergeant in 165th Infantry National Guard, John F.

Cassidy, 34, law student and former leader of the Christian Front; John A. Graff, 23, utility firm

clerk; John F. Cook, 19, and Leroy Keegan, 38, baker and member of the N. S. Naval Reserve.