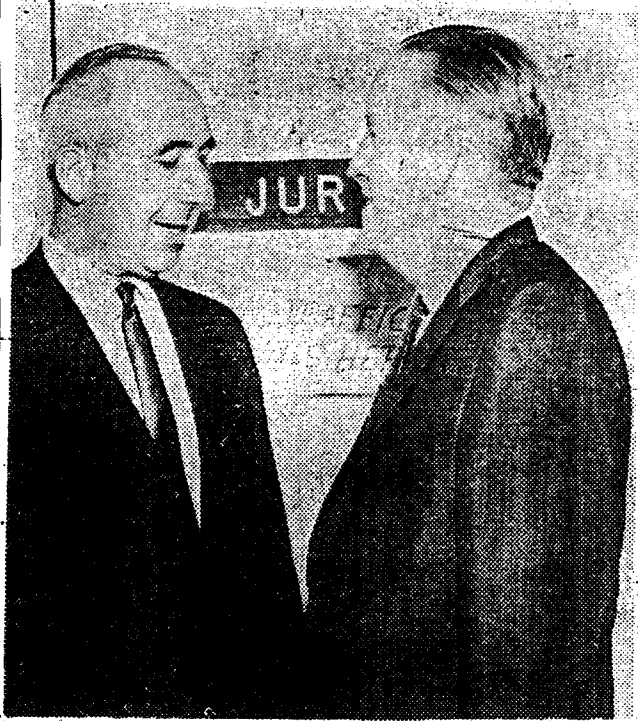


Jeff Jury Hears Cronvich

10-24-67 - SI.

By ROSEMARY JAMES
 Sheriff Alwynn J. Cronvich appeared before the Jefferson Parish grand jury today as the

jury joined its counterparts in Orleans and East Baton Rouge parishes in probing organized crime. Subpenaed for today's ses-



—States-Item photo.

AARON KOHN, left, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, talks with Jefferson Parish President **THOMAS F. DONELON** outside the Jefferson Parish Grand Jury room in Gretna.

stion were Parish President Thomas F. Donelon; his aide, Merlin Hudson; Joe Johnson, a contractor; Col. Thomas Burbank, superintendent of the State Police, and Aaron Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission.

Charles Ray Ward, first assistant district attorney of Orleans Parish, was subpoenaed to appear today. However, when he was called he had not shown up.

However, it was reported that Ward would appear later today.

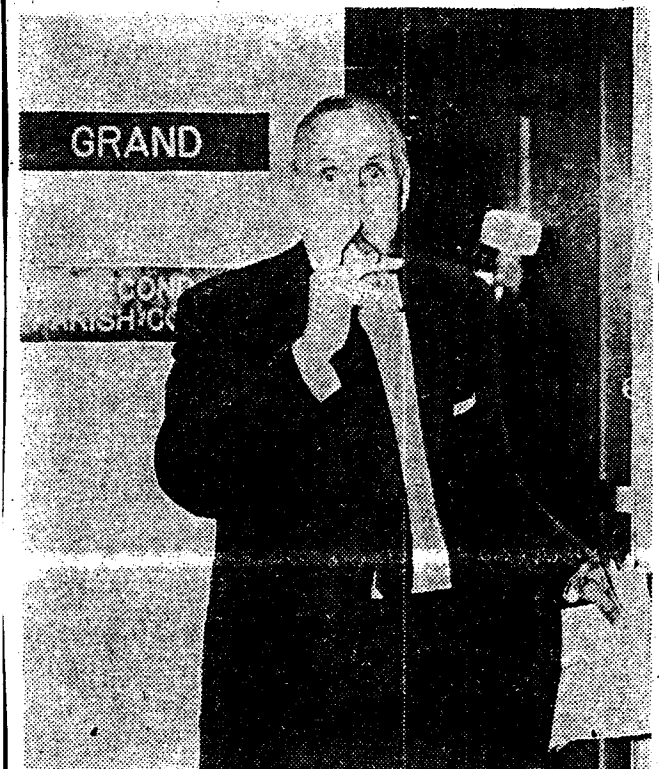
Sheriff Cronvich appeared voluntarily, without a subpoena. He entered the jury room about 11 a. m. and was still there at noon. He was the first to be called.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Frank H. Langridge, asked



—States-Item Photo.

JEFF SHERIFF
ALWYNN J. CRONVICH
 Jury witness.



—States-Item photo.

DA FRANK H. LANGRIDGE leaves the Jefferson Parish Grand Jury room during this morning's session.

about the probe, said, "It is in connection with organized crime. Don't ask me anything else."

Langridge said later, "it is my opinion that there is no organized crime in Jefferson Parish. However, other people say there is organized crime. I want to settle this question once and for all for my own satisfaction and for the benefit of the people of Jefferson—is there or isn't there organized crime? So I have asked the grand jury to investigate this question."

Langridge had previously announced his intention of investigating charges by Life magazine that organized crime is rife in Louisiana, especially in Jefferson.

District Attorneys Jim Garrison of Orleans and Sargent Pitcher of East Baton Rouge are conducting separate probes of the same charges. Garrison contends the charges

Many Witnesses Due at Rackets Probe

10-25-67 ST

BATON ROUGE (AP)—Many witnesses will be summoned next month to a closed-door session of the state agency probing alleged racketeering in labor and management relations.

Chairman Cecil Morgan of the Labor-Management Commission of Inquiry said last night the group hopes to develop leads for action in public hearings planned before Jan. 1.

The special agency set up by the Legislature to deal with a two-month shutdown of industrial and other construction projects in the Baton Rouge area last summer held a day-long session here yesterday.

MORGAN SAID THE group set another closed-door meeting for Nov. 14. He said subpoenas

will be issued for "a large number of witnesses" to appear before the commission about that time.

Meanwhile, James H. Gill, contractors' association official, said a charge by Teamster local official Edward Partin that he carried a \$1 million bribe offer in an alleged attempt to buy James Hoffa's way out of prison was "completely and utterly false."

Gill promised every possible legal step would be taken to see that Partin is called to account for the charge. Partin made the charge in a U.S. District Court motion in which he seeks to have a federal judge recall an order to force him to answer questions in a \$3 million anti-trust suit.

PARTIN IS ACCUSED of conspiring with concrete firms to force Altex Ready-Mix Concrete out of business.

The local Teamster official gave testimony in the government's jury tampering case against Hoffa that led to the imprisonment of Hoffa, national Teamster president.

Gill said the statement by Partin, business agent for Teamster Local No. 5 here, that he carried the bribe offer "is another of a series of irresponsible and untrue statements designed to mislead and misinform the public."

Gill, a former executive assistant to Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La., blamed Partin for last summer's labor-management crisis.

"I am the most recent in a series of persons who supposedly has offered Partin \$1 million or some other amounts of money. Only heaven knows who Partin will accuse next," Gill said.