3 Women and 2 Men Get Espionage Terms Ranging to 20 Years

By the Associated Press.

DETROIT, Mar. 25. — Three women and two men who confessed they conspired to violate the Wartime Espionage Act were sentenced in United States District Court today to prison terms ranging from 5 to 20 years.

Grace Buchanan-Dineen, 34-year-old Canadian-born cosmopolite, described by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as leader of a group that sought to furnish Germany with information concerning America's industrial war effort, was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment.

Mrs. Behrens Gets 20 Years.

Others sentenced: Mrs. Theresa Behrens, 20 years; Mrs. Emma Elise Leonhardt, 5 years; her husband, Carl J. W. Leonhardt, and Walter J. Abt, 10 years each.

Mrs. Behrens, who engaged in a long argument with Judge Edward J. Moinet, fainted as he pronounced her sentence.

Judge Moinet called Mrs. Behrens "the heart and soul of the espionage conspiracy in Detroit."

Yet to be sentenced is Mrs. Marianne Von Moltke, wife of a suspended German-language instructor at Wayne University. According to the district attorney's office, she has volunteered additional information and an investigation is still underway.

Woman Argues With Judge.

In arguing with Judge Moinet before he sentenced her, Mrs. Behrens maintained that when she pleaded guilty she had not admitted spying activities. She said she had merely admitted knowing the others arrested with her.

Mrs. Behrens was German-American secretary of the international center of the YWCA in Detroit.

According to the FBI, Miss Buchanan-Dineen, sometimes called a "countess," co-operated with Federal agents after her activities were discovered. She was a Government witness before the grand jury and at the trial of Dr. Frederick William Thomas she testified he gave her information concerning explosives plants in Ohio, of planes that were being ferried from Detroit to England and of Detroit plants that were making war materials. Dr. Thomas, an obstetrician, was convicted and sentenced to 16 years imprisonment.