

"Dusty the Bread Man," or prosecutorial crookedness MW 11/6/74

From an informed source whose representations of fact I have always found to be accurate and who wants anonymity I learned that there was crookedness in the Canale office involving the man who took the Ray case over when Dwyer and Bonaley became judges and who at the time of the case had been administrative DA. It came about this way, according to this source, whose source was Acting Chief of Police Jack Wallace. (Wallace said he'd deny the story if it ever appeared.)

Former mayor Leeb, ultra-right but allegedly honest- the man whose policies caused the strike during which King was killed - came to believe that there was hankypanky in Canale's office from regular reports that in the underworld there was talk of "Dusty the Bread Man." Dusty is the nickname of Rhodes.

Leeb turned it over to the Deputy Chief of Police, who had an illegal tap installed. The tap yielded the proof that Dusty was on the take. He resigned quietly, followed by Canale. In Canale's case there were reports that may or may not have been part of this ploy, that he would retire so Hugh Stanton Jr. could be appointed in his place and have the advantage of incumbence. Whether or not connected, this is what did happen. Stanton had been assistant Public Defender while his late father was PD.

With the tap illegal, the proof could not be used. I doubt it would have been had it been admissible and I have little doubt admissible proof could have been obtained had there been the desire.

Rhodes is the DA to whom all Ray's intercepted mail was delivered for illegal copying under Policy State,ent 11.

Not until he was about to take the stand did we learn that he had had a heart attack. I was not then in the courtroom. Lenoir did not ask him this tough question about the copying, from intent or forgetfulness. With this heart condition, I agree sh he should not have. We had enough proof without Rhodes' admissions.

He is practicing law. Canale is an official of the Union Planters' Bank, apparently not practicing law now.

Reputed reports are that Larry Hutchison is the new hatchet man in the DA's office. It appears that each DA has his own hatchetman who do his strong-arm and dirty work so the each can present the face of decency in public. Canale had a good public reputation but a very bad private record.