

Gremillion Convicted Of Perjury

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 25 (AP)—Louisiana Attorney General Jack Gremillion was convicted by a federal jury today on five counts of perjury.

The conviction stemmed from a federal grand jury indictment which said he lied under oath in 1969 when he said he did not own stock and did not have an economic interest in Louisiana Loan and Thrift Corp.

Defense Attorney F. Irvin Dymond, in his concluding arguments, told the jury that the government spread a cloud of doubt over Gremillion without proving a single charge against him.

Edward Barnes, attorney for the U.S. Justice Department, argued that the government had produced abundant evidence to show that Gremillion had lied to the federal grand jury about his financial connections with Louisiana Loan and Thrift.

Gremillion was charged with five counts of perjury in connection with the grand jury testimony. He faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$20,000 fine on each count. Earlier he was acquitted on charges of fraud and conspiracy in connection with the now-defunct firm.

"I want you to know, ladies and gentlemen, that if you're going to convict him on one count, you may as well convict him on all five," Dymond told the jurors, "because if you do, he has lost his life, his future and his career as a lawyer."

Barnes said, "I think the evidence and the issues are clear and simple—did or did not Mr. Gremillion lie before a grand jury and did he know his responses to be false? We believe the evidence is replete and abundant."

Barnes referred frequently to testimony of Janyce Coman Degan, LL&T secretary. Mrs. Degan testified that Gremillion was a stockholder in the firm and that he called her to ask her about his dividend checks.