

The web of the Gordon Novel case became more tangled Wednesday. All the principals conveniently disappeared.

Novel, 29, arrested Saturday in Gahanna on a Louisiana charge of conspiracy to commit simple burglary, is free from Columbus City Prison on \$10,000 bond.

NOVEL ALSO is wanted by New Orleans District Atty. Jim Garrison as a "most important witness" in the Kennedy assassination probe.

Meanwhile, Novel's attorney, Jerry Weiner, was reported "out of town until tomorrow." Reports circulated around police headquarters that Weiner was en route to New Orleans.

Stan Greenbaum, private investigator hired as Novel's bodyguard, was reported out of his office and not available for comment.

NOVEL'S REPORTED fiancée, Playboy Club "bunny" Abby Mulligan of 226 E. Oakland Ave., was said to be in Chicago.

Miss Mulligan's sister-in-law at the Oakland Ave. address said the family has heard from Novel by telephone since Tuesday, but she did not know where he is staying.

Novel, the frenetic former New Orleans night club owner Tuesday, had continued his public utterances claiming Garrison "is a fraud."

NOVEL HAS contended that he worked for Garrison on the assassination probe through his firm, International Dynamics Corp., engaged in the electronic eavesdropping business.

Garrison's assistant in New Orleans denied the Novel allegation Saturday night.

As Louisiana authorities presumably prepare to request Novel's extradition

from Ohio, Statehouse sources recalled the past difficulties in obtaining Ohio fugitives from that Southern State.

THREE TIMES since 1965, the State of Ohio has been thwarted in attempts to extradite Eugene H. Woods, former Lorain and Cuyahoga County nursing home operator wanted for larceny by trick.

According to Jerry Collins, deputy assistant to Governor Rhodes, Woods is accused of unlawfully obtaining more than \$26,000 in stocks and cash from a more than 60-year-old gravely ill veteran.

Collins reported Woods is operator of Mike's Fisherman's Wharf bar and restaurant near New Orleans.

ANOTHER case involving four unsuccessful attempts at extradition since 1965 concerns John J. Pettito indicted for grand larceny from Lake County.

Recently the Lake County prosecutor notified Louisiana court officials that he had "no alternative but to report the suspicious circumstances of the denials" to the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Louisiana governor and the Louisiana Bar Association.

Curiously, the charge against Novel of conspiracy to commit simple burglary is not a crime under Ohio statutes.

NOVEL

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"I don't know anything about a munitions plant."

He said some tieup in a New Orleans bank required that he stay in jail for nearly three days before he could be bailed out.

HIS BOND was posted by Sanford Solomon, a Columbus representative of the Maryland National Insurance Co. Solomon would not comment when asked who posted the 10 per cent fee required.

Novel referred to a lie detector test given him in Virginia before several witnesses which he contends will clear him of any involvement in Garrison's probe.

In an about-face, Novel claimed he was only kidding when he expressed concern for his safety Saturday.

"IT'S A GREAT town. I've had a good vacation here (referring to City Prison), but I don't recommend the food," he said.

Novel did not sign a Columbus address on the bond book, the last obstacle to his being set free.

He listed instead a Louisiana address and then moments later told reporters, "I intend to stay here indefinitely."

HE WOULD not comment

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All Principals Are 'Missing' In Novel Case

By JAMES RICHARDS
Of The Dispatch Staff

when asked if he still intends to carry out his plans to marry Abby Mulligan a local girl who works as a bunny in the Chicago Playboy Club.

She was not among the 50 or 60 spectators who crammed the clerk's office along with newsmen.

Relatives claim she is in Chicago, but nobody has been able to trace her whereabouts there.

MEANWHILE, another man arrested in Dallas, Tex., on the same charge as Novel, also was free on bond and indicated he, too, will fight extradition to Louisiana.

Arrested Monday, Sergio Arcacha Smith, a former Cuban exile leader in New Orleans, was released Monday on \$1500 bond.

SMITH SAID he had offered three times to talk with Garrison, but the efforts were in vain, so he now intends to fight extradition.

The Cuban flatly denied he had anything to do with the assassination plot.

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Clay Shaw Is Confident Of Acquittal

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Clay L. Shaw, expressing confidence that he will be acquitted, will be arraigned Wednesday on a charge of conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy.

Shaw, a 54-year-old retired executive, said that while awaiting the trial, in which he will "be proved innocent, of course," he is writing a play. Shaw spoke at a news conference which Defense Attorney Edward Wegmann said had been arranged to permit photographs for future use.

F. IRVIN Dymond, another defense attorney, said court guidelines issued earlier in the day by Dist. Judge Ed-