

D.J.R. Watching BRUCKNER

for Hoffa's prison door to open

D.J.R. Bruckner is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

"MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN to President Fitzsimmons." That was the President of the United States talking about the new president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Frank Fitzsimmons. And the Teamsters' door was open to Mr. Nixon just before he said that, when he visited the union's executive board.

Among members of that board are an officer who admitted guilt in taking payments from companies in violation of federal labor law and one under indictment accused of counterfeiting. Mr. Nixon's insensitivity to the public image he projects by chumming in that kind of company is not new. He had previously opened the White House door to a group of hard-hat union leaders, among whom were a couple who had fallen afoul of federal law.

THE DOOR TO WATCH NOW is that of the federal prison at Lewisburg, Pa., where James E. Hoffa is behind bars. The U.S. Board of Pardons rejected a plea by Hoffa in March for parole and told him to try again next year, but it has suddenly decided to consider the matter anew in August. It claims it has "new" and substantial information. Earlier this year, Justice Department officials said no parole for Hoffa could be considered while he held union office. So, last month, after four years in prison, he finally resigned the presidency of the international union and the many posts he held in local IBT affiliates in Michigan. At the Teamsters convention last week, the president of the

United Auto Workers, which was rescued from fiscal disaster last year by IBI, said Hoffa is a "political prisoner."

Some political prisoner! The record of corruption swirling around Hoffa stretches back 20 years. He was one of the most powerful men in the United States, with virtually unquestioned control of America's largest union and domination of its immense pension and welfare funds. The pension fund alone is worth more than \$800 million today. You would have to be very stupid not to realize what kind of power such a huge bag of risk money can give a man.

In his years in office Hoffa shielded and promoted local union officers who grew rich on the union, who formed sham locals for purposes of extortion and who consorted with leaders of organized crime.

A federal jury in Chattanooga, Tenn., convicted Hoffa of trying to tamper with a previous jury which was trying him, and he was sentenced to eight years in prison. Later, he was given five more years after another federal jury convicted him and others of defrauding the pension fund of \$25 million.

NOW, ABOUT POLITICS: The Chattanooga conviction led largely on testimony by Edward G. Parthin, a Louisiana local Teamster official who became an informant after he himself was indicted for embezzlement in 1962. Parthin said in 1957 that he was offered \$1 million to recant his testimony. That year, a close friend of Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) and a Louisiana state judge tried together to get Parthin to sign an

affidavit claiming the government used wiretaps to prepare his jury tampering case.

When the Justice Department investigated these approaches to Parthin, Long twice warned an assistant U.S. attorney general that he should not be indicted by Louisiana courts if he persisted in the job. Last week Parthin was tried, in Montana on charges of conspiring to violate antitrust laws. A mistrial resulted when the jury deadlocked, but the government hoped his testimony would convict him.

This year, the doors at Justice were opened for Hoffa's appeal and a supporter of Hoffa to appeal to Atty. Gen. John Mitchell and to the chief of Justice's criminal division to get Hoffa out of jail. The Hon. Audie Murphy solicited the help of Sen. George Murphy in getting copies of a 31-page, unsigned document, said to be a Parthin recantation, delivered to Mitchell and to Mr. Nixon. After the episode of that affidavit, Long would suspect a 31-page anything in the hands of Hoffa's

THE TEAMSTERS CONVENTION, incidentally, placed Fitzsimmons in the hands of the sole control over political control of the union. As America grows more conservative, the political scene is becoming more and more conservative and it is not Mr. Nixon, at least some congressmen would agree, who are the candidates of this party or of his preference. Fitzsimmons is a pleasant, gentle man, and nobody is bringing anything against him. But he is not the whole union, people of the United States ought to keep a sharp eye on door of Teamsters, where that "political prisoner" is shut

Flora Lewis

Maureen Brennan



Teamster leader Partin convicted

ATLANTA (AP) — Teamsters leader Edward G. Partin was convicted by a federal jury Thursday of conspiracy to violate antitrust laws and conspiracy to extort.

The judge took under advisement a defense motion to set aside the verdict and another asking that the proceeding be declared a mistrial.

U.S. District Court Judge James Battin deferred sentencing pending his rulings. He did not indicate when he would rule.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of 23 years' imprisonment and fines of up to \$160,000.

His second trial Partin, 48, is business agent of Teamsters Local No. 100 in Baton Rouge, La.

The trial, which began Jan. 31 and spanned more than four weeks of testimony from 60 witnesses, was Partin's second on the charges.

His first ended in a mistrial last summer after the jury deadlocked on a verdict. It was held in Butte, Mont., on a change of venue motion that moved the trial from New Orleans, where he was indicted in 1969.

A second change of venue shifted the trial to Atlanta.

Kickbacks charge

The charges against Partin arose from an alleged scheme

in which he and a Baton Rouge businessman, Ted F. Dunham Jr., conspired to gain a monopoly over the area's cement business through strongarm tactics and labor trouble.

The government accused Partin of accepting kickbacks from Dunham in the amount of 50 cents for each cubic yard of cement sold by the businessman.

Dunham was convicted of conspiracy in New Orleans last year and was sentenced to one year in jail. He remains free pending an appeal to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

SUN-TIMES
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Partin Convictions On 3 Counts Voided; Trial on 4th Is Set

ATLANTA, March 27 (AP)— A Federal judge has set aside conviction of Edward Grady Partin, a Louisiana teamster leader, on three counts of conspiracy to violate antitrust laws and ordered a new trial on an extortion conspiracy charge.

Partin, 47 years old, was convicted March 2 of all four charges. His lawyers had moved for a mistrial or for the judge to set aside the verdicts.

The ruling, disclosed today, was made by United States District Court Judge James Battin of Billings, Mont. Judge Battin presided at the five-week trial, held in Georgia on

Judge Battin said a new trial date would be set for the extortion conspiracy charge, which alleges that Partin, the business agent of the Team-

sters local in Baton Rouge, used strong-arm tactics to force a contractor into doing business with a cement producer, Ted F. Dunham Jr.

Mr. Dunham was convicted last year of conspiring with Mr. Partin to gain a monopoly over the concrete business in the Louisiana capital through illegal means.

Mr. Partin's testimony helped the Government convict the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, James P. Hoffa, of jury tampering in 1964. Hoffa has since been paroled.

Judge Battin said he had taken his action because he felt assured that appeals courts were almost certain to overturn the conviction of Partin on the three antitrust conspiracy charges.

The reason, he said, was that he had not been able to erase from the memory of the jurors certain hearsay evidence admitted in support of a fifth charge that he had thrown out during the trial. The evidence consisted of testimony about Partin's reputation for violence.

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NLRB Accuses A Foe of Hoffa

WASHINGTON (AP)—Edward G. Partin, the teamster who helped convict union president James R. Hoffa of federal jury tampering, was charged in a government action Saturday with blacklisting a rebel union member.

A National Labor Relations Board examiner said Partin blacklisted a teamster truck driver who challenged his handling of union funds and accused Partin of "ill treatment of union members" in a Louisiana teamsters' local.

Meanwhile, Hoffa reportedly is laying the groundwork for trusteeship action to seize Partin's Baton Rouge local.

Once close friends, the two have been bitter enemies since Partin's surprise testimony helped the government win an eight-year jury-tampering sentence against Hoffa.

Dues Refused

The ruling of NLRB examiner George A. Downing said Partin refused to accept the dues of teamster Calvin C. Clary as a subterfuge to blacklist him and get him fired.

"The evidence shows... that Clary was in fact in disfavor with Partin because Clary had openly aligned himself with other members of Local 5 in opposition to Partin and to his management of the affairs of the local," Downing said.

The examiner said the evidence showed also "that Partin repeatedly sought to have Clary withdraw from such opposition, both by promises to straighten out his dues arrearages and by threats made to Clary's wife of blacklisting and other harm to befall Clary, meanwhile refusing to accept Clary's tender to his back dues."

Signed Petition

Downing said Clary had signed a petition asking investigation of "Partin's alleged mishandling of union funds and ill treatment of union members."

These are the grounds on which Hoffa reportedly will try

to wrest Partin's local from him, although the action is not based on Saturday's NLRB finding.

Downing recommended that Partin be ordered to stop coercing Clary or any other local teamster and to notify Clary's employer to reinstate him. Downing recommended also that Partin be ordered to compensate Clary for any loss of pay since July 30, 1962.

Downing's ruling becomes final in 20 days unless there is an appeal to the NLRB.

Under Indictment

Partin, business agent of the Baton Rouge local, is under federal indictment on a charge of embezzling union funds. The indictment came before his testimony against Hoffa at the Chattanooga (Tenn.) jury-tampering trial.

A source close to Hoffa confirmed that trusteeship of Partin's local by the international union is being investigated.

Partin was indicted in 1962 on federal charges of embezzling \$1,656 of the local's funds and making false entries on books and records. No trial date has been set and he is free under \$50,000 bond.

In Chicago, a federal jury is being selected to try Hoffa on charges of conspiracy to defraud his union in a \$20,000-000 loan scheme.

Apartment Draws Twenty Calls

More than twenty Chicagoans responded to a Sun-Times and Daily News People Reacher Want Ad placed by Martin Bold of Chicago. He rents his four-room apartment a day after the ad appeared. Thousands of Chicagoans have discovered that People Reachers can help sell or rent almost anything, and yet these ads are very economical. A two-line Family Want Ad costs only \$4 for four days in both papers. For \$5, the same ad will appear in both papers one full week.

Hoffa Trial Figure Cited for Threats

By William J. Eaton

Of Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The National Labor Relations Board has ruled that a Teamsters union official who was a star government witness against James R. Hoffa has violated the labor law by threatening to kill a dissident union member.

A three-man NLRB panel returned the decision against Edward G. Partin, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters' Local 5 in Baton Rouge, La.

It ordered the local union to stop trying to block the employment of Joseph D. Albin — a Partin opponent — Ryder Truck Lines and pay back wages that Albin lost because of the union's actions.

PARTIN gave the main testimony against Hoffa, president of the Teamsters, during a jury-tampering trial in Chattanooga, Tenn.

While acting as doorkeeper in Hoffa's hotel suite during an earlier trial in Nashville, Tenn., Partin also was an informer for the Justice Department.

The Supreme Court is considering Hoffa's appeal from his conviction on the grounds that Partin's spying violated his constitutional rights.

IN THE NLRB case, the three-man panel said "Partin's threat to kill Albin with a gun on June 29, 1965, was caused by Albin's opposition to Partin's leadership" of the local.

Therefore, it said, this action violated the Taft-Hartley Act action forbidding coercion of workers for their union activity.

NLRB trial examiner Stanley Gilbert cited testimony by a trucking company executive that Partin reached for a pistol stuck in his belt and told Albin: "In you take one step closer to me, I will kill you."

But Gilbert said the incident was an "outgrowth of hostility between the two men" and not an effort to coerce Albin. The NLRB overruled him on the conclusion.

The board also found that Local 5's massing of about 200 men outside the Ryder terminal, to prevent Albin from reporting for work as a truck mechanic, violated the labor law.

PARTIN earlier had threatened to strike the firm if it hired Albin, a former member

"I declared a national holiday in Baton Rouge and we are going to have a little march," Partin was quoted by Ryder executives as saying.

The NLRB report indicated the Albin testified about Partin's conduct of the local's affairs before a federal grand jury in New Orleans in 1962. Albin was summoned as a witness on Hoffa's behalf during the Chattanooga trial.

In an unusually stiff order, the board directed Local 5 to mail copies of the usual sino-more pledge, signed by Partin, to all of its members.


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U.S. Dropping Its Case On Hoffa Informant

By Ronald J. Ostrow

L.A. Times Special

WASHINGTON—The Justice Department Thursday moved to dismiss embezzlement charges against Edward G. Partin, the government informant whose testimony was crucial in convicting James R. Hoffa of jury tampering.

Lack of evidence has blocked a successful prosecution **SUMMIT** indictment attorneys told a Baton Rouge **SEP 22 1967** court.

If a successful prosecution could be maintained," the lawyers said, "the interests of justice would warrant a dismissal of this charge."

Teamster union lawyers have long charged that the

government made a deal with Partin to drop the prosecution in return for his testifying that Hoffa tried to fix a Nashville (Tenn.) jury in 1962.

Hoffa is serving up to eight years in the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa., on the jury-tampering conviction. He is scheduled to be resentenced Friday in Chicago on an unrelated conviction for fraud and conspiracy. Hoffa originally was sentenced to five years for the Chicago conviction, but appealed.

Partin, business agent of Teamsters Local 5 in Baton Rouge, was indicted in June, 1962, on 26 counts charging him with embezzling union funds and making false entries in union books to cover the alleged embezzlements.

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King Supplement Still Being Offered

Orders for almost 50,000 classroom copies of a special 20-page supplement on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. have been received since the section appeared in last Sunday's Sun-Times.

The section still is being offered for use in schools.

Demand for the section has been heavy not only in Chicago and its suburbs but across the nation. For example, 8,500 copies were ordered **SUN-TIMES** in the Indianapolis school system.

In Chicago, 9,000 copies were ordered **SUN-TIMES** to Chicago schools by Donald Peters, president of the Warehouse and Mail Order Employees Local 743 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The supplement—titled "He Had a Dream"—tells the story of Dr. King's life, much of it in his own words. It has numerous pictures, many in color, depicting highlights of his career.

The section is being offered for use in schools at the rate of 50 for \$1. Teachers should send \$1 for each multiple of 50 they desire to The Chicago Sun-Times School Services Division, 401 N. Wabash, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

To make certain that copies will be reserved, call the School Services Division at 828-0350 during the business day Monday.

At least a week must be allowed for delivery.

Tell Story Of Plot On R.F. Kennedy

NEW YORK (UPD)—A top teamsters' union official planned to assassinate Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy by tossing a plastic bomb into his convertible auto, a magazine reported Monday.

when he was called into a teamster office. Partin swore he was asked to help obtain plastic explosives about that little S.O.B., Bobby Kennedy," a top teamster official was quoted as saying. "He'll be an easy target, always driving around Washington in that convertible with that big black dog. All we need is some plastic explosives tossed in with him, and that will finish him off."

Partin said he was told the teamster official also was considering using plastic explosives to blow up the Kennedy home at McLean, Va.

The Louisiana union official was in trouble with the federal government in 1962 for loose use of teamster funds. He said he assumed he was

learned of the murder plot in September 1964. The magazine said in a copyrighted article by Clark Mollenhoff of the magazine's Washington bureau. According to the article, Edward Grady Partin, a Baton Rouge, (La.) teamster official, was visiting International Brotherhood of Teamsters headquarters in Washington

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approached to help in the assassination plot because of the indictment and because some teamster officials knew he was a gun fanatic with a private gun collection and might have access to sources for explosives.

Partin said the idea of assassinating the attorney general was "too much for him" and he felt a bomb at the Kennedy home would endanger the Kennedy children. He had small children of his own.

At first, federal officials found his story too incredible to believe. But they stood up under intense questioning—and a lie detector test, the magazine says.

Security measures for Kennedy and his family were tightened. He was not allowed to drive the convertible any more.

Partin was a government witness against teamster union boss James R. Hoffa in his recent jury tampering trial at Memphis, Tenn., in which he and three other teamster officials were convicted and sentenced to prison. The convictions are being appealed.

'Violates No Privacy'

U.S. Defends Role of Informer in Hoffa Appeal

By William J. Eaton
Of Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — James R. Hoffa gambled—and lost by talking too much to the wrong man. There is no reason why the Supreme Court

should save Hoffa from eight years in jail because the man turned out to be a government informer.

This was the gist of the Justice Department's argument Tuesday in its 150-page brief urging the court to affirm Hoffa's conviction for jury tampering during a 1962 trial in Nashville, Tenn.

The court will hear arguments Oct. 12 on Hoffa's charge that the investigative forces led by former Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy deprived him of his constitutional rights by planting an agent in his camp.

AND G. J. Partin, a Justice Department official from Jackson, La., gave the chief testimony against Hoffa. Hoffa's contention that the Supreme Court agreed to his conviction for jury tampering violated the 4th, 5th and 6th Amendments to the Constitution. This misconduct, says the "Union president,

defense headquarters during the trial.

But the Justice Department countered that it did not bring Partin into Hoffa's camp or keep him there, that Partin was merely carrying out his duty as a citizen by reporting regularly to federal officials on evidence of jury-rigging in Hoffa's trial on another charge.

In defending its use of an informer, the Justice Department said no constitutional principle required the government to "stand back and permit the (Hoffa) trial to degenerate into a hollow mockery."

IT WAS HOFFA, the government's brief said, who invited Partin into the Nashville hotel suite that served as the

It was Hoffa, the government's brief said, who invited Partin into the Nashville hotel suite that served as the

"Certainly members of any society run the risk that the person to whom they address an otherwise unprivileged state-

And it is that risk, which this case, stripped to its essential involves."

THE JUSTICE Department said the use of Partin to report on Hoffa's conversations "constituted the only practical means of preserving the integrity of a federal trial . . . was being subjected to a . . . ing attack by corrupt influences."

Two jurors, it said, were moved from the panel because of Partin's warning that they were being approached through intermediaries.

The government brief admitted that Hoffa's right to counsel with his attorneys was breached because Partin's reports to federal agents focused only on "fragments" of the legal strategy.


THE LEGAL papers referred indirectly to Partin's charge—never proven or in public at the time—that Hoffa was plotting to assassinate Robert Kennedy with an explosive device.

A polygraph examination administered to Partin ten days after he was indicted, though his story may not be soundly probable, it could be in light of its gravity, be punished out-of-hand."

The FBI investigated charges never were investigated against Hoffa.

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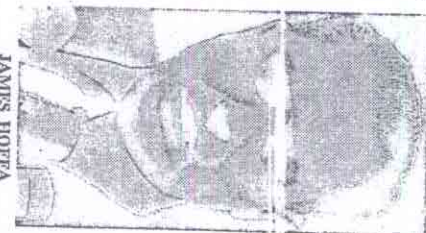
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JAMES HOFFA
Did he talk too much?



Hoffa's Accuser Is in the Center of a Labor Furor in Louisiana

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times
NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 5

While Edward G. Partin, a 43-year-old official of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, testified this week before a Federal grand jury here that he had been offered a "million-dollar bribe" to change his testimony against the union's international president, James R. Hoffa, the following actions were in progress:

Twenty-five members of Mr. Partin's teamster Local 5 were suing him for \$100,000, asserting that he had stolen union funds.

The United States attorney in New Orleans continued to hold in abeyance a five-year-old indictment charging Mr. Partin with stealing money from his union.

A ready-mixed concrete company was accusing Mr. Partin of conspiring with a Louisiana industrialist and some other concrete concerns to corner the concrete market in the state.

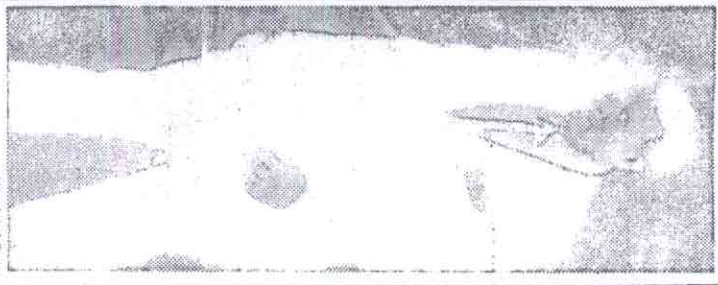
Several Louisiana lawyers, who were hired by union members opposing Mr. Partin and by a concrete company, were trying to prove that Mr. Partin had built a \$500,000 automobile race track, which went into operation near Baton Rouge this summer.

Construction was shut down in an expanding industrial complex along the Mississippi River because of chaotic labor conditions.

Hoffa's Hall

Local 5 has its headquarters in a long union hall on the outskirts of Baton Rouge. The hall, known as Hoffa's Hall before Hoffa was convicted of jury tampering in Tennessee in 1964, is rented out weekly for professional wrestling.

In an office in the hall, Edward Grady Partin runs a controversial union local that has not paid its dues to the inter-



Edward G. Partin
Associated Press

pany charged \$15 a yard for the concrete, he said.

The next day, teamster members walked off the job. Mr. Williams said.

"Did the teamsters give you any reason when they walked off?" Mr. Williams was asked by one of the Alex lawyers. "No, sir, nobody knew why," he said. "They said they didn't know."

Mr. Williams said a Gulf employee, who was supervising the job, told him to buy the concrete from Louisiana Ready Mix Company. The Louisiana Ready Mix price was \$19.40 a yard, Mr. Williams testified, and the Gulf employee said Gulf would "kick in" the extra

trolled by the Dunhams. Mr. Hunt testified that he did not know who owned the race track and added that he had never heard that Mr. Partin did.

"Did Mr. Partin, to your knowledge, make any effort to obtain contributions from industrial concerns by way either of use of equipment, materials or use of labor in connection of this race track?" Mr. Hunt was asked.

"Not to my knowledge," Mr. Hunt said.

Mr. Hunt said that he was not in a position to know if any material had been donated by any company toward construction of the race track. He said that he was not familiar with the procedures used by his construction crews.

Partin Denies Ownership

Last Thursday, while waiting to testify before the Federal grand jury at New Orleans, Mr. Partin said he had no connection with the race track.

In Daytona Beach, Fla., officials of the National Stock Car Automobile Racers said that the Baton Rouge Speedway had applied May 22, 1967, for a sanction, which was granted. NASCAR said the application for the sanction, for the Baton Rouge International Speedway was signed by "Ed Partin."

In answer to the Alex charges, Mr. Partin said there had been a general conspiracy to force him out of a position of authority in the union and to get him to change the testimony that he gave against Hoffa in 1964.

In an article that he wrote for Life magazine in 1964, Mr. Partin said he began to break with Hoffa in 1962 because Hoffa had suggested to him that Senator Robert F. Kennedy, who was then Attorney General, should be assassinated.

In June, 1962, a Federal grand jury in Louisiana indicted Mr. Partin on 26 counts charg-

bers of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in the Baton Rouge area became involved in a dispute over jurisdiction in unloading electrical supplies at construction sites, and both unions set up picket lines.

More than 20 major manufacturers who were building factories along the Mississippi River halted construction. A spokesman for the companies said that they had been forced to pay premiums to keep labor in peace, that members of the union had caused work slowdowns and that they were then forced to hire more employees than were needed.

Shutdown Still in Effect

The shutdown still was in effect this weekend, but Gov. John J. McKeithen said he would resume next week.

In July, the Governor called a special session of the Legislature to create a commission to investigate labor and management "racketeering" in Louisiana. The commission began functioning Aug. 9.

tioning last week but has not yet held any hearings. Mr. Partin said the labor shutdown was designed to force him to change his testimony against Hoffa.

The union leader also asserted that he had been offered large sums of money if he would agree to change the testimony that he had given against Hoffa.

A source close to Federal officers who investigated Mr. Partin's assertion reported that the teamster official said he had been offered \$150,000 by a Baton Rouge businessman and \$50,000 by a state judge. Attorney General Ramsey Clark two weeks ago assigned Michael T. Epstein of Washington as a special attorney to assist the United States District Attorney in New Orleans, Louis C. Lacombe, investigating the bribery claims.

A United States grand jury was convened in New Orleans on last Tuesday to hear Mr. Partin. Other witnesses had been subpoenaed to testify about the bribery offers on

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Local 5 has only a small percentage of truck driver members. Mr. Partin described it as a general local and said it had members from many trades, including construction workers, bakers and food handlers. In the recent prosperous years in Baton Rouge, the local has had as many as 1,500 temporary members in addition to its regular members.

In the last 14 years, Mr. Partin has been involved almost continually in controversy. He has been shot twice and knifed once, he said.

Convicted of Burglary

Since leaving home in Woodville, Miss., more than 25 years ago, Mr. Partin has been charged with burglary, rape, manslaughter and kidnapping, among other offenses. However, he has been convicted only of burglary and some other minor offenses, such as reckless driving.

He said that he was given a bad conduct discharge from the Marine Corps after he struck an officer during a fit of temper and that he once was sentenced to a reformatory in Washington, D. C., for breaking into pinball machines.

Since 1962, Mr. Partin has been free on \$50,000 bond on a 26-count Federal indictment charging him with stealing union funds.

In 1964, he testified that he had heard his one-time friend, Hoffa, tell assistants to bribe one or more members of a jury that was trying Hoffa on a charge of accepting a kickback from a Detroit trucking company.

Since that testimony, Federal marshals have been assigned to protect Mr. Partin.

"Ed Partin must have nerves of steel," an opposing lawyer said in Baton Rouge this week. "I don't see how he sleeps at

the funds of said local union on numerous occasions."

They asked for a \$100,000 judgment.

The civil suit followed an unsuccessful effort by an assistant business agent of Local 5, A. G. Klein Jr., and a teamster member, Joseph D. Albin, to get the international union to dismiss Mr. Partin.

Mr. Klein was found crushed to death under a truck in 1962 while this appeal was pending. Mr. Albin is still pressing the civil suit.

Speedway Investigated

The Dunhams were mentioned in another phase of the antitrust suit when lawyers explored the ownership of the Baton Rouge International Speedway, an automobile race track that opened this summer about 15 miles south of Baton Rouge.

The race track was chartered Dec. 5, 1966, by Jerry Sylvester of Ville Platte, La., Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Foster of Baton Rouge and Mrs. Frances Kay Thibodeaux of Baton Rouge.

The charter on file in the Louisiana Secretary of State's office shows that Mrs. Thibodeaux had 60 shares of stock and that the other two organizers had 20 shares each.

At the time, Mrs. Thibodeaux was a secretary at tenmaster Local 5 and worked in the office of Mr. Partin. Efforts to find information about Mr. Sylvester and Mrs. Foster were unsuccessful.

The race track was built on 67 acres of land leased from Cal Broussard, Inc., on July 15, 1965. A copy of the lease on file in the Federal court at Baton Rouge showed that Mr. Partin had leased the land from Cal Broussard, Inc., and that his lease on July 15, 1966, he assigned to Mrs. Thibodeaux for \$400.

On July 18, 1967, Mrs. Thibodeaux

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Judge West would not allow the civil suit to come to trial pending the outcome of the criminal indictment brought by the grand jury.

The civil suit was based on much the same allegations as the indictment, and Mr. Partin's lawyers said that he might be giving evidence against himself if he were required to defend himself in the civil suit before being brought to trial on the criminal action.

In September, 1962, Mr. Partin was charged with kidnapping in Baton Rouge after he became involved in a dispute while helping a friend gain custody of his children.

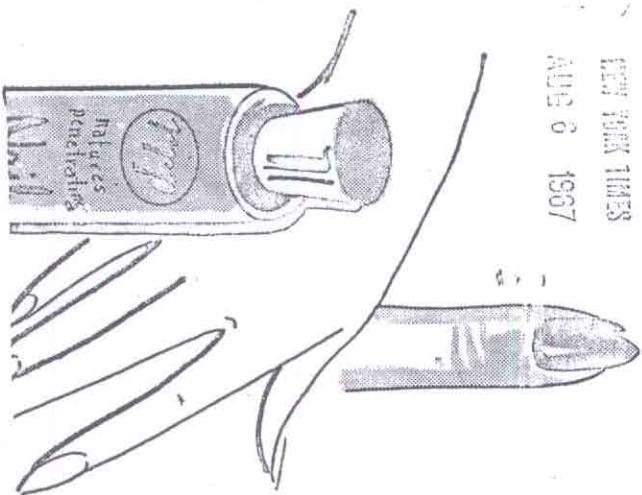
That charge was later dropped, but Mr. Partin was held in jail without bond for several days, since kidnapping in Louisiana is a capital offense. During the time he was in jail without bond, Mr. Partin told a jailer about the alleged threat to assassinate Robert Kennedy.

After the jailer told Federal officers about the conversation, the Justice Department began an investigation. Mr. Partin, in his Life magazine article, said he agreed to work with the Federal officials, who were trying to send Hoffa to jail on a charge of racketeering.

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NEW YORK TIMES
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THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 1967

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Mr. Partin was released from jail in Baton Rouge, and he went to Nashville, where Hoffa was being tried in October, 1962, on the charge of accepting a kickback from Commercial Carriers, Inc. The jury was unable to agree on a verdict.

Mr. Partin said that during the trial he reported conversations between Hoffa and his associates, and in early 1964, Mr. Partin testified against Hoffa in the trial that resulted in Hoffa's conviction for jury tampering.

Since that time, the Federal Government has held in abeyance the indictment against Mr. Partin.

However, on July 21, 1967, after the Government had not prosecuted the criminal indictment for five years, Judge West agreed to allow the suit by Local 5 members to come to trial. No date has been set.

Injunction Sought

On Aug. 1, 1967, attorneys for the 25 teamsters suing Mr. Partin, asked Judge West to enjoin Mr. Partin and Emilie Verbois, a friend of Mr. Partin's in Local 5, from threatening their clients.

The petition said that it had been "suggested" that the union members should withdraw their names from the suit. "Plaintiffs fear for their lives and the safety of their property," the petition said.

Judge West has not set a date for a hearing on the petition.

Last May, Local 5 and mem-

deaux answered a subpoena from the Federal court but refused to answer questions about the race track.

Seeking the Truth

Drew McKinnis of Baton Rouge, one of the lawyers representing Alex, said he was trying to find out the truth.

Mr. Partin, who was observing the taking of the deposition, broke in to say: "The truth will kill you, Mr. McKinnis."

Bruce L. Hunt, president and owner of the A.A.A. Contracting Company in Baton Rouge, testified in a deposition May 16, 1967, that his company had built the race track under an oral agreement with Mr. Sylvester.

Mr. Hunt was asked what kind of work Mr. Sylvester did. "I don't know," Mr. Hunt said.

"Do you know who he works for?"

"No, I don't," Mr. Hunt said he had not obtained a credit check or a financial statement on Mr. Sylvester.

At the time of the deposition, Mr. Hunt said that his company had done \$543,769 worth of work on the track but had received no payment.

Photostats of A.A.A. Contracting Company checks drawn by Mr. Sylvester showed that \$78,163 had gone to Anderson-Dunham Company, and that \$97,477 had gone to the Louisiana Ready Mix Concrete Company for concrete and asphalt.

Both companies are con-

might with all this going on." Many observers of the labor scene in Baton Rouge believe that the chaotic labor conditions that have shut down \$482-million worth of new construction in and around the city have resulted from moves by Mr. Partin to consolidate his power in the Louisiana labor market.

Importance of Concrete

Much of the construction along the Mississippi River between Baton Rouge and New Orleans depends on a steady supply of ready-mixed concrete.

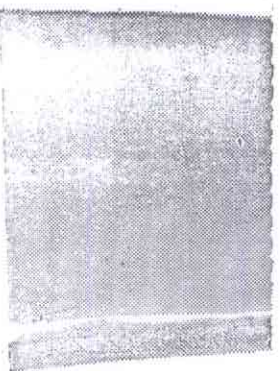
This spring, the Alex Reddy Mixed Concrete Corporation of Baton Rouge sued Mr. Partin, the Louisiana Ready Mix Company, Inc. and the Lone Star Cement Corporation, plus a number of individuals, asserting that there was a conspiracy to drive Alex out of business.

The suit was filed in Federal anti-trust laws here is pending in a United States District Court in Baton Rouge.

The essence of the Alex case was contained in testimony given by Cleo F. Williams, a construction superintendent for the Raymond Concrete Pile Company of Baton Rouge.

In a deposition taken by Alex lawyers last month, Mr. Williams said that he was in charge of a construction job on a Gulf Oil Corporation project near Baton Rouge in December, 1966.

One day, he testified, he bought 25 yards of concrete from Alex for a test. The com-



Partin, Louisiana Teamster Chief, Charged By Federal Jury With Extortion, Conspiracy

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter
NEW ORLEANS—Edward G. Partin, controversial Louisiana Teamsters' leader, was indicted here by a Federal grand jury on charges of extortion and criminally conspiring to monopolize trade in concrete products.

Indicted with him on the same charges were a prominent Baton Rouge businessman, Ted F. Dunham Jr., and the three Baton Rouge concrete companies that, according to the indictment, Mr. Dunham manages or controls: Dunham Concrete Products Inc., Louisiana Ready-Mix Co. and Anderson-Dunham Inc.

The five-count indictment includes two counts charging violations of the labor-racketeering provisions of the Hobbs Act through strikes, work stoppages and physical violence at construction sites in the Baton Rouge area. Conviction on each count could bring maximum jail terms of 20 years and \$10,000 fines, a Justice Department spokesman said.

The remaining three counts allege violation of the restraint-of-trade and antimonopoly provisions of the Sherman Act. Conviction on each count could bring a maximum one-year jail term and \$50,000 fine for the individual defendants and a \$50,000 fine for the corporate defendants.

The indictment of Mr. Partin, business manager of Teamsters Local 5, may help end a long controversy over whether the Teamsters official has received unusual immunity from the Justice Department since 1964. In that year he gave the key testimony that helped convict Teamsters chief James Hoffa of jury tampering. Mr. Hoffa is serving an eight-year Federal prison term.

Mr. Partin was taken from jail in Louisiana in 1962 by Justice Department officials to work as an undercover agent against Mr. Hoffa. Since the Hoffa conviction, the Justice Department has declined to press a 1962 indictment against Mr. Partin charging embezzlement of union funds. Various Louisiana officials have charged that the Department hampered a state investigation of Baton Rouge labor troubles begun after widespread violence and work stoppages in 1966-67. The Justice Department vigorously denies the charge.

It's understood that the complaints about Mr. Partin's alleged immunity reached Attorney General Mitchell, who recently ordered a review of the entire matter. His Antitrust Division pressed the investigation that culminated in Friday's indictment. A similar grand jury in New Orleans, also hearing evidence from the Antitrust Division, was dismissed in December without taking action.

"The charges against me and my company are totally incorrect," Mr. Dunham said, according to the Associated Press. "I have known for some time that such complaints have been made and I think they are the outgrowth of a civil suit against me and others filed in March of 1967 and not yet brought to trial."

The civil action Mr. Dunham referred to is a \$3.15 million antitrust suit filed by William Heck, official of the competing Altex Ready

Mixed Concrete Co. Mr. Heck alleged that a conspiracy existed to put him out of business. Mr. Partin wasn't available for comment but he told reporters several weeks ago that he was aware of the grand jury and that he was innocent of any wrongdoing.

Both men will be arraigned July 18 in Baton Rouge Federal district court. Bond was set at \$25,000 for each defendant. According to Justice Department sources, no further indictments related to the Baton Rouge labor troubles are expected from the New Orleans jury.

The indictment charges the defendants violated the Sherman Act by coercing industrial purchasers of concrete products, beginning in early 1966, to deal exclusively with the Dunham companies. The coercion involved strikes, work stoppages and property damage at construction sites, the jury charged.

The defendants also conspired to delay and obstruct construction projects that used competitors' concrete products, it said, and conspired to furnish truck drivers and equipment operators to concrete suppliers at higher wage rates and on less favorable terms than those extended to the Dunham companies.

The indictment also charges that the defendants conspired to fix prices and prescribe areas of sale of concrete products. It said the Dunham companies had 1968 sales of \$9 million, or about 56% of total concrete sales of \$16 million in the Baton Rouge area. The concrete products involved are primarily ready-mix concrete and concrete pipe.

As a result of the Sherman Act violations, the grand jury said competition in the Baton Rouge area among concrete suppliers was suppressed and purchasers were deprived of an opportunity to buy in an open and competitive market.

The conspiracy began in 1966 and continues to the present, the indictment charged.

The two Hobbs Act counts cited alleged extortion from two Louisiana companies. In December 1966 and January 1967, the jury said, Mr. Partin caused Local 5 to strike Raymond Concrete Pile division of Raymond International Inc., which was building test concrete piles for a Gulf Oil Corp. plant in Donaldsonville, La. The strikes and work stoppages forced the Raymond division to buy ready-mix concrete from the Dunham companies at a price "more than \$6,000 higher than a price quoted" by other suppliers, the indictment said. The extortion consisted of the profit obtained on the sale by the Dunham companies, it said.

Beginning in January 1968, the indictment charged, Mr. Partin "threatened to cause and did cause strikes, work stoppages and physical violence by members of Local 5 at the site" of a sewerage project in Plaquemine, La., being built by W. O. Bergeron Construction Co. It said Mr. Partin continued such actions until Bergeron "agreed to purchase the total requirements of concrete pipe for said project from Anderson-Dunham Inc."

Teamster unit in drive to replace Hoffa

5/17/71

By Harry Bernstein
Special from the Los Angeles Times

A campaign to make Frank E. Fitzsimmons president of the teamsters' union was officially begun Sunday by the 60,000-member Teamsters Joint Council 28, covering Washington and northern Idaho.

The council, at its quarterly meeting at Yakima, Wash., acted to "endorse Fitzsimmons and pledge him our full support," Amle Wehmeister, president of the council, said.

A group of teamster leaders met in Los Angeles recently to pledge their support to Fitzsimmons. They want to make certain that imprisoned teamster president James R. Hoffa is not re-elected.

Lacks membership sanction

But the committee they formed, which says it is working for Fitzsimmons in every major union area of the nation, had no official status and was not authorized by any membership group to back Fitzsimmons.

"We have started in the Northwest and are moving quickly to consolidate our support behind Fitzsimmons, not only in the Western states, but throughout the country," one of the committee members said.

Fitzsimmons had expected to get the endorsement of all vice presidents of the 2-million-member union when they met last week in Hollywood Fla.

Hoffa reportedly has promised to resign the presidency he has held despite the four years he has served of a 13-year term for pension fund fraud and jury tampering.

Key decision in Chicago

The promise was made in Chicago on the outcome of the decision by U.S. District Court Judge Richard Austin in Chicago on Hoffa's pleas to let the terms of his sentences run concurrently, which would have reduced the total time.

When Judge Austin rejected the move, Hoffa pleaded with the union officers through messages relayed by two attorneys from his Lewisburg (Pa.) penitentiary cell to allow him more time to win his freedom before submitting his resignation.

Hoffa claimed to have a statement from Edward Grady Partin, one of the key witnesses against him in his 1964 jury-tampering trial, confessing that Partin had lied to the jury "what he testified that Hoffa had tried to bribe jurors."

The vice presidents agreed to meet again in Washington June 3, when they have been promised "a final" message from Hoffa.

Probe of deposition

In Chattanooga, Tenn., U.S. District Court Judge Frank Wilson last Friday ordered an inquiry into the statement allegedly made by

Partin in a deposition given to a reporter for the Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader, published by William Loeb, who borrowed about \$1 million from the Teamsters' central states pension fund when Hoffa was the fund's chairman.

But the statement was not signed by Partin. The newspaper said the deposition was signed by several witnesses from Los Angeles after it was given in a secret meeting March 27 in Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Partin's alleged recanting of his testimony could be critical to Hoffa in the jury-tampering case, since that testimony was primarily responsible for his conviction.

Pole for Audie Murphy

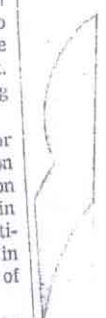
A similar statement from Partin was sent to the White House recently under unusual circumstances.

Audie Murphy, the actor and World War II hero, called former California Republican Sen. George Murphy, seeking entrance to the White House so the purported statement from Partin could be given to President Nixon for consideration of a pardon for Hoffa.

There was no explanation of Murphy's role in the affair. Murphy said only that he did not know the contents of the statement to be delivered to the White House and that he simply called the White House switchboard as a favor to the actor.

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"No benefits or so-called 'ice-cream' were held out to Jimmy for what he did," Fitzsimmons said during an angry

Teamster Partin case a mistrial

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) — U.S. District Court Judge W. D. Murray declared a mistrial Thursday in the conspiracy trial of Louisiana teamsters union official Edward G. Partin after the jury failed to reach a verdict.

The nine-woman, three-man jury said they were unable to agree and that they could see no chance to reach a verdict. They began deliberating Wednesday.

Partin, 46, business agent for Teamster Local 6 in Baton Rouge, La., was tried here on five counts of conspiracy in violation of the Sherman Anti-trust Act after federal courts in Louisiana granted a change of venue.

The prosecution alleged that Partin used strong-arm extortion in an attempt to gain control of the cement industry in the Baton Rouge area.