

7 Witnesses Give Defense For Partin

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) — Seven witnesses, including contractors and construction executives, yesterday came to the defense of Edward Grady Partin in his attempt to refute government witnesses who testified that he criminally conspired with portions of Baton Rouge, La., labor in a period between 1966-69.

Testifying in federal court, the witnesses said the Baton Rouge Teamsters Union business agent had never tried to influence them to show preference in dealings they had with concrete suppliers.

For two weeks, the government has tried to show that Partin, 46-year-old business agent for the union, conspired with Baton Rouge concrete producer Ted F. Dunham Jr. to control the concrete business in that city.

Partin is charged with four counts of conspiracy in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

After a two-day recess, the prosecution rested its case yesterday morning and the defense immediately moved for acquittal.

The defense based the acquittal motion on the grounds that the government has not met the legal requirements necessary to forward the case to the jury and that the testimony of two key government witnesses should not be considered by the jury because of the character of the witnesses.

Federal Judge W. D. Murray said he would take the matter under consideration.

The defense then began presentation of its case.