

## Chief Witness Said Successor For Partin Post

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) — The defense in the conspiracy trial of Edward Grady Partin has produced testimony indicating that a key government witness may have been picked to succeed the Teamsters Union official if and when he was imprisoned.

A union steward yesterday told the federal court in Butte that government witness and Louisiana convict Wade McClanahan told him Partin was "washed up in Baton Rouge and was going up the river."

McClanahan is serving two years in prison for aggravated assault in connection with the shooting of W. O. Bergeron, a contractor.

THE STATEMENT came from Franklin Walker, a Louisiana Ironworkers Union steward. Walker said McClanahan was quoted during a meeting in Natchez, Miss. that the 6-4, 250-pound McClanahan would be the man to see for favors in Baton Rouge, after Partin was convicted.

Another witness, J.D. Arnold of Watsonville, La., mentioned earlier in McClanahan's testimony last week as a collaborator with McClanahan in acts of violence and sabotage, testified he knew McClanahan, but not as a friend.

Arnold said his only contact with Partin had been when Arnold organized sand and gravel pit workers in 1966.

DURING yesterday morning's testimony, Bill McLaughlin, a shop steward and organizer for Partin's Local 5, said he had had a dispute with McClanahan, Partin's ex-lieutenant and strong arm man, when McClanahan had "threatened to whip a construction superintendent on a job" in the spring of 1967.

As a result of the disagreement, McLaughlin said, Partin had recommended that McClanahan be fired from the job.

McClanahan had testified last week for the government that, as Partin's one-man "wrecking crews," he had worked for "liars and thieves" and was one of the prosecution's key witnesses.

THE PROSECUTION has tried to prove Partin, 46, conspired with Ted F. Dunham Jr. from 1966 to 1969 in an attempt to control the concrete business in Baton Rouge. Partin is charged with four counts of conspiracy in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Dunham was convicted earlier this year on two of five conspiracy charges.