

7 Solons named for Mafia Probe

By BILL LYNCH

(States-Item Bureau)

BATON ROUGE—The administration has decided on its list of appointments to a legislative investigating committee on the Mafia.

Three south Louisiana senators, including one from New Orleans, three north Louisiana representatives and one from south Louisiana have been selected for the 16-member committee being created to probe allegations by Life magazine of organized crime influence on state government.

Newspaper editors to be appointed are Sam Hanna, publisher of the Concordia Sentinel, and Jim Levy, publisher of the Bunkie Record.

They were the choices of the governor, who asked each to serve, but House Speaker John S. Garrett had said he would not make an official designation until next Monday.

Garrett said he thinks one should represent weekly newspapers and one daily newspapers, which is in conflict with the governor's choice.

THE SENATORS are Adrian G. Duplantier of New Orleans, Claude B. Duval of Houma and L. W. Eaton Jr. of Baton Rouge.

The representatives are Carl W. Bauer of Franklin, George B. Holstead of Ruston, Lonnie O. Aulds of Shreveport and Joe H. Cooper of Mansfield.

Other members of the 16-member committee will be the deans of the four law schools of Louisiana State, Tulane, Southern and Loyola universities, the president of the State Chamber of Commerce and the president of the state AFL-CIO.

LT. GOV. C. C. Aycock, who presides over the Senate, named the appointees to the committee from the Senate and Garrett named those from the House.

The two newspaper editors were added to the committee Tuesday when the House amended the Senate-passed

See PROBE— Page 4

Continued from Page 1

resolution creating the special committee.

Meanwhile the House voted, 87 to 9, in favor of establishing the investigating committee by statutory act. The bill was filed by Rep. J. Luke LeBlanc of Lafayette who declared it would give the citizen members of the committee full participation rights in its actions.

Under the resolution only the legislators would have the power to subpoena and vote on committee decisions.

LeBlanc said the measure would be amended to provide that the act would take precedence over the resolution, which already has cleared the Legislature and does not re-

quire the governor's signature. A legislative act would require the governor's signature or at least a lack of a veto to become law.

Of the senators, Duplantier and Eagan have close ties to the governor. Duplantier was one of three senators who sponsored an administration-backed resolution calling for an investigation confined to the period of the current legislative session.

D U V A L INTRODUCED his own resolution calling for a broad probe, but allowed it to die in committee, deferring to other resolutions and the compromise eventually worked out.

The House members generally are independent of the administration, with Bauer and Aulds the most closely connected. Both men serve on the Legislative Budget Committee, of which its members are appointed by the governor.

Holstead and Cooper are generally regarded as independent of any factions in the legislature.

THE DEANS of the law schools are Paul M. Hebert of LSU, A. A. Lenoir of Southern, Joseph M. Sweeney of Tulane and Marcel Garsaud, who actually won't become dean at Loyola until Aug. 1, but has agreed to serve.

The president of the State Chamber of Commerce is Charles C. Hightower of Lake Charles. Victor Bussie is president of the AFL-CIO.

The 16th member of the group will be state Supreme Court Justice Joe W. Sanders, chairman of the state com-

mission on law enforcement.

Both Levy and Hanna were contacted Tuesday by Gov. John J. McKeithen, who had a strong voice in the selection of the group.

HANNA, WHO publishes another weekly newspaper, in Catahoula Parish, was formerly a capitol correspondent for the Monroe newspapers.

He covered many legislative sessions and is familiar with the operations of government. Levy, owner-publisher of the Bunkie Record in Avoyelles Parish, was elected president of the Louisiana Press Association at its annual meeting in New Orleans in April.

The Senate selections excluded two senators who offered bills calling for a broad-based probe. Both Sen. William J. Guste Jr. of New Orleans, who was anxious to sit on the committee, and Sen. Jules G. Mollere of Metairie were passed over by the lieutenant governor.

GUSTE WAS the most outspoken of all in calling for a committee composed of citizens as well as legislators and for an extensive investigation, rather than one confined to the present session.

Under the terms of the resolution, the committee is supposed to make a report prior to the end of the session and then a final report at least 30 days prior to the 1971 fiscal session.

Gov. McKeithen has expressed the hope that if the committee determines there is nothing to the Life allegations it will not pursue the investigation.



VICTOR BUSSIE



REP. GEORGE B. HOLSTEAD



ADRIAN J. DUPLANTIER, CLAUDE B. DUVAL
New Orleans, Houma senators on panel.



PUBLISHERS JIM LEVY AND SAM HANNA
Members of Mafia probe committee.



REP. CARL W. BAUER



DEAN A. A. LENOIR



DR. JOSEPH M. SWEENEY



DR. PAUL M. HEBERT



REP. JOE COOPER



JUSTICE JOE W. SANDERS



CHARLES S. HIGHTOWER



REP. LONNIE AULDS