

## PROHIBITION AGENT PLACED ON TRIAL ON MURDER CHARGE

(By Associated Press to Altoona Tribune)

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17—Alleged "rough house" methods of three prohibition agents during a liquor raid which is declared to have resulted in the death of Peter Yancauskas, a saloonkeeper, were described by the victim's wife in the federal district court today at the trial of James L. Asher, one of the agents, on a charge of second degree murder in connection with the case.

Mrs. Yancauskas testified that blackjacks were used on her husband, that Asher, who is known as the "Lone Wolf" threw a bottle at him while he was struggling with the other prohibition agents and that she herself was thrown out of the saloon and later knocked down by Asher.

The case was removed from the state courts to the federal court because Asher is a federal agent. The prosecution is being conducted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Asher is being defended by the federal district attorney.

During the raid in April, 1923, Asher is alleged to have kicked Yancauskas in the stomach several times after having knocked him down and the commonwealth contends that the saloonkeeper died two months later from peritonitis which developed from the beating.

Mrs. Yancauskas identified the men who had seized her husband as Francis V. Hertzog and Davis Erskine, who with Asher and James Fine, a deputy United States marshal, went to the saloon to serve a warrant on her husband.

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