

# LONE WOLF FACES TRIAL FOR DEATH SALOON KEEPER

## Prohibition Agent Engage in Free-for-All When Man Resists Arrest

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18.—(By Associated Press)—Prohibition agents are justified in using football tactics on violators of the prohibition law who resist their efforts to obtain possession of intoxicating liquors as evidence, Francis V. Hertzig, a witness for the commonwealth testified today at the trial of James L. Asher, federal prohibition agent on a charge of second degree murder in connection with the death of Peter Yancauskas, a saloon keeper.

The state which is prosecuting the case, claims that Yancauskas died from peritonitis resulting from a beating and kicks in the stomach administered by Asher during a raid on his saloon. It is also claimed that in resisting the prohibition officers, Yancauskas and his wife behaved them to be robbers. Asher, who is known as the "lone wolf" is being defended by the federal district attorney.

Describing what he called a free for all fight that followed the agents' entry into the saloon, Hertzig, a former prohibition agent, who accompanied Asher in the raid, said that Mrs. Yancauskas "flew at us like a tigress and her husband rushed at us like a wild bull." Hertzig denied that the saloon keeper had been given an unjustified beating.

Thomas A. McCann, a policeman, testified that although Yancauskas was bleeding from wounds on the head and face, Asher refused to allow him to be taken to a hospital for medical treatment.

"I saw Yancauskas' face was bleeding, that his forehead and head were cut and that blood was splattered on his clothing," said McCann. "From his condition, I thought he needed medical attention and I asked Asher, who was in the patrol with me, to let me take Yancauskas to a hospital for treatment before taking him to the federal building but Asher said 'No, take him to the post-office.'"

The witness said that Asher bore no marks of the encounter.

Testimony of Mrs. Yancauskas that David Erskine, another agent who assisted Asher in the raid, had hit her husband in the head with a blackjack and had threatened to shoot him, was denied by Erskine.

peter\_yancauskas (20)

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