

## SON OF NOTED DRY RAIDER AID ON FORCE HERE

### 'Lone Wolf' Asher, Father of Local Inspector, Was Known Widely for Exploits

Quietly pursuing his duties here as a member of the prohibition enforcement unit since the appointment of Harold T. Patton as Rochester dry chief several weeks ago, has been James L. Asher, son of the late James L. "Lone Wolf" Asher, nemesis of bootleggers in the early period of the dry era, it was revealed yesterday. Young Asher is an inspector attached to the Rochester office.

"Lone Wolf" Asher was one of the first general prohibition enforcement agents working in the field, having received his appointment in August, 1920. His first post of duty was in the Washington-Baltimore district, and from May until December, 1922, he worked in various Western states.

On Dec. 30, 1922, he was ordered to Washington to "clean up" the capital. Until this time, he had staged his raids with the assistance of fellow agents, but in Washington, single handed, he conducted a whirlwind campaign, employing the tactics that won him the title of "Lone Wolf."

One of the "Lone Wolf's" remarkable feats was the engineering of 175 raids, only ten of which failed, in February, 1922, in Philadelphia and Atlantic City. Convictions were obtained in the majority of these cases. His success in court was said to have been due to his unusual memory.

Before taking oath as a prohibition agent, "Lone Wolf" Asher was a well known saloon proprietor in Washington and Baltimore, and his knowledge of the tricks of the business was obtained from first hand experience. According to his son, he disliked the saloon and sold out shortly before the advent of prohibition to enter the grocery business.

In the Summer of 1925, utilizing his saloon experience in his work as a Federal agent, "Lone Wolf" Asher established and operated the Uncle Sam saloon in Peoria, Ill., and rounded up the liquor manufacturers and wholesalers who delivered their stuff to him. He used the same idea in a paint shop in Norfolk, Va. New York agents carried out the "Lone Wolf's" system last year when they ran the Bridge Whist Club, a speakeasy under the Brooklyn Bridge.

The "Lone Wolf" and his son worked out of the same office, but not as a pair, for about a year before the father died in Chicago on Oct. 25, 1925. Young Asher has been an agent and inspector for four years and, like his father, has taken part in investigations and raids in many parts of the country.

Since his arrival in Rochester, Asher has been of considerable assistance to Chief Patton in ferreting out "wildcat" breweries, nine of which have been seized since the new chief began his duties here less than a month ago. This is considered an unusual record and indicates that the new inspector is likely name to carry him through.

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