

Instructions of L.J. Meeker, Special Agent in Charge.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CINCINNATI, OHIO.

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: LOS ANGELES, CAL. DATE WHEN MADE: 11/2/23 PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10/26-11/2/23 MADE BY: E. J. CONNELLEY /EP

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE	DOE OSBORN, alias	: In custody,	: VIO. SEC. 32 C.C.
H.L. PUTNAM - ROSE PUTNAM		: Cincinnati, Ohio.	: Impersonation
R.C., alias C.W., alias BLACKY WALSON		: Fugitive	: Govt. Officer
J.A., alias JACK RYAN, alias GRAHAM		: Fugitive	: VIO. SEC. 37 C.C.
HERBERT I. HOSS alias ALBERT S. HARRIS		: In custody, Cincinnati.	: Conspiracy
ELLA MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA		: In custody, Los Angeles.	: Sec. 32: VIO. SEC. 145 Extor-
"PAT" PALMER			: tion.

At Los Angeles, Cal.  
San Diego, Cal.

Attention: Mr. Hoover #2 47  
Los Angeles File [redacted]  
Cincinnati File 8195.

1293

Agent, together with Agent Meehan, Los Angeles, assisted by Detectives Reed and Shafer, Los Angeles Police, and C.J. Reimer, Investigator, County District Attorney's office, developed the following additional information.

Continuing investigation as to the developments pertaining to a charge against subject, PATRICIA "PAT" PALMER.

Agents interviewed R.L. Thomason, Assistant Secretary, Security Trust and Savings Bank, Hollywood Branch, 6385 Hollywood Blvd., and learned that PATRICIA PALMER, 2324 Beechwood Drive, opened an account there on December 7th, 1922 with about \$1200.00, and up to December 11th, 1922, her check would have been good for \$1000.00, but never after that date. The check given her by George W. Lasher on February 4th, 1923, was deposited through her account at the above bank. Signature upon check agrees

with that appearing upon signature record card in bank. After original deposit, there were no large deposits to this account, other than two for \$200.00.

FILE NO. 47-1293-25  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION RECORDED & INDEXED  
NOV 11 1923  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DIVISION

REFERENCE

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*E. J. Connelley*  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

up to March 10th, 1923, when she deposited \$588.00, this evidently being check obtained from DON OSBORN, for equity in property at 257b Beechwood Drive, assigned to OSBORN March 9th, 1923. Her account with this bank closed June 15th, 1923.

George W. Lasher formerly had an account in this bank, but his balance has never been sufficient to meet a check of \$1000.00. The members of the bank here are unable to recall the details of the \$1000.00 check transaction, but same could not have been cashed, for reason of insufficient funds. *so she deposited out no*

In further interview of George W. Lasher, Burbank, Cal., he advised that the name of the contractor previously mentioned is O.E. Lepper, office Johnson Building, home 3611 W. 4th St., Los Angeles, and that this is the party who appeared at the place of M.H. McCabe Electric Company, 6278 Hollywood Blvd., together with another party and tried to secure the cashing of the \$1000.00 check. He advises they represented this check to be a gambling debt, and when he, Lasher, returned he learned of their visit and he called upon O.E. Lepper and demanded the return of the check. Lepper advised that the check was then held by Jim Dallas, who was then stopping at his, (O.E. Lepper's) home. When he saw Jim Dallas, he demanded the return of the check, and Dallas advised him that he had been sent across the border in an effort to cash this check. He advised PATRICIA PALMER at first told a story to the effect that the check had been taken away from her at the point of a gun and that she was forced to endorse same, but later would not stand by this story. BLACKY THOMPSON, previously mentioned, is now going by the name of ROLLY ROLLINS, and is now out on location, and this is the party who advised him of PATRICIA

PALMER's previous record, and that it was Jim Dallas who had possession of the check when he secured the return of same. Lasher advised that he knew that he did not have sufficient money in the bank to meet the check which he had given.

Agents interviewed Orlando E. Lepper, 3611 W. 4th St. Los Angeles, who advises that he is a friend of Jim Dallas, a Greek, living at 4143 Cleveland Ave., San Diego, and that he and Dallas are married to two women that are cousins. He advised that about the last part of January Dallas came to Los Angeles with a check for \$1000.00, and, as he remembers, had the address of the McCabe Electric Company, and that he, together with Dallas went in to see Mr. McCabe as to the cashing of the check which Dallas had. He advised Lasher was supposed to be employed at this place and evidently had represented himself as being sick. Dallas then told McCabe he had a check which Lasher had given him at Tia Juana, and McCabe took Lepper's address, and on the following day Lasher appeared at his office and demanded the check when he, Lepper, referred Lasher to Dallas, who was then at the home of O.E. Lepper, and he understands Lasher demanded, and obtained the return of the check from Dallas. He advises that Dallas told him he had cashed this check for Lasher in his saloon in Tia Juana, and that he had no connection with the matter, other than going with Dallas to the bank with the check, and later to the place of the McCabe Electric Company.

Agents, together with R.H. Colvin, interviewed James K. Dallas, alias Jim Dallas, living at 4143 Cleveland Ave., San Diego, and operating a saloon known as the Vernon Club at Tia Juana. His description is as



follows:

Nationality: Greek  
Height: 6 ft.  
Age: 33  
Weight: About 170 lbs.  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Blue  
Complexion: Dark  
Build: Slight

This party is not naturalized; arrived at New York City July, 1906 from Patras, Greece, coming from there to Los Angeles, and has since been in the State of California. The following signed statement was obtained from DeLes:

San Diego, Cal.,  
November 1st, 1923.

"Statement of James K. DeLes, (Jim Dallas) 4143 Cleveland Ave., San Diego, California, made to E.J. Connelley and R.R. Colvin, Special Agents, Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice.

About January 29th, 1923, George W. Lasher, and PATRICIA PALMER came to my place at Tia Juana and were drinking and having a good time. Evidently one of my entertainers, one Edw. Rucker, of Tia Juana, knew George W. Lasher.

Late on this night near to twelve o'clock, Edw. Rucker came to me with the check of Lasher made out to PATRICIA PALMER for one thousand dollars and wanted to get same cashed for her. They, that is, PATRICIA PALMER and George W. Lasher, represented themselves to be movie actors from Hollywood. I would not cash same but finally agreed to give them two hundred dollars on the check, until I could find out if same was good. I advanced two hundred on the check, which evidently, Edw. Rucker gave this money to PATRICIA PALMER. She was supposed to be down to Tia Juana for several days and I thought I could take same to Los Angeles and get it cashed, so as to make sure the check was good, charging them for expenses. At the time the check was being cashed, George W.

Lasher was evidently out in the toilet.

I went to Los Angeles and took the check to the Security Trust & Savings Bank, Hollywood, and check was not good for reason of insufficient funds.

I, together with O.E. Lepper, then went to the McCabe Electric Company and made inquiry as to George Lasher, who was supposed to be working there. I believe the bank advised me where he was working. We finally advised McCabe as to why we were making inquiry.

Edw. Bucker did all the talking on the check, advising me this woman, PATRICIA PALMER would pay all my expenses of going up to Los Angeles to get the check cashed.

About the first of February, George W. Lasher came to the place of O.E. Lepper, where I was staying with my wife in Los Angeles and came in with a gun and said he was a deputy Sheriff and demanded the check. He accused me or some one of having taken the check from this girl and making her endorse same. After making Lasher lay his gun aside he asked me to walk down the street to his auto where PATRICIA PALMER was in the auto.

Lasher asked PATRICIA PALMER if I was the party who had forced her to sign the check, and she said she did not know me. Lasher then asked her if any one had forced her, and she would not answer. Then I asked her if any one asked her to sign the check and she said no.

I understand PATRICIA PALMER made some remarks to people at Tia Juana that Lasher would have to pay the check, as he was a married man, and she was not stepping out for nothing, but I did not hear her say this.

After some talking with Lasher, I turned the check over to him, taking his receipt for same, as I expected to get my two hundred from my entertainer who had oked the check. George W. Lasher said he would see that I got the two hundred, but to date, I have not received the two hundred I advanced.

The only endorsements on the check was that of PATRICIA PALMER.

Lasher, when he first came to the place said this woman was his wife.

The above statement read by me and same made voluntarily without threat, promise or duress upon the part of any one.

Witness: (Signed) James K. DeLes.  
Ralph H. Colvin,  
E. J. Connelley.

On November 2nd, PATRICIA PALMER was arrested upon complaint secured by Agent Meehan and was arraigned before United States Commissioner Long; entered a plea of not guilty; bond placed at \$2500. and hearing set for November 8th.

Upon subject, PATRICIA PALMER, being arrested, she was brought to the Bureau office, Los Angeles, and advised as to her rights by Agent and Agent in Charge Wheeler, and upon being asked whether or not she cared to make a voluntary statement in this matter, agreed that she would. PATRICIA PALMER then was interrogated at length by United States Attorney Joseph Burke, and her complete statement taken with questions and answers, copy of which is attached to this report, as exhibit "A".

Continuing investigation as to developments in case as pertaining to DON OSBORN and ROSE PUTNAM. Agents interviewed Thomas C. Deane, assistant cashier, Commercial National Bank, 401 S. Spring St., Los Angeles. Arthur M. Osborne had an account here, and closed same in 1913, after paying an overdraft of about \$207.00 which had stood for several months. George W. Osborne had an account here about 1913 and closed same shortly thereafter; neither of these accounts ever showed a large amount of money. Mrs. E.M. Osborne, mother of DON



OSBORNE, still has an account with this bank. DON F. OSBORNE opened an account here in 1913; there was never any large balance on hand for any length of time, the money being deposited and taken out shortly thereafter by check. This account closed out by a service charge, September 20th, 1920. There were some deposits up to a \$1000.00 in this account, but never more than one or two in the year and this money checked out within a day or so thereafter.

Agents interviewed C.C. White, Assistant Cashier, Citizens National Bank, 457 South Spring St. DON F. OSBORNE 2575 Beechwood Drive, opened an account with this bank on December 27th, 1922, No. 52016, giving as reference the Commercial National Bank, and made the following deposits thereto:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
December 27, 1922	\$600.00
January 9, 1923	600.00
February 26, 1923	75.00
March 2, 1923	65.00
March 9, 1923	1025.00
April 2, 1923	460.00
April 18, 1923	50.00
April 26, 1923	175.00
May 4, 1923	450.00
Total	3600.00

The checks drawn against this account were usually for small amounts under \$50.00, and the only checks appearing above that amount against this account are the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
January 9, 1923	\$135.00	
January 11, 1923	100.00	
February 1, 1923	125.00	
February 8, 1923	89.75	
February 14, 1923	100.00	
March 12, 1923	660.00	This is evidently check used in payment to PATRICIA PALMER for her equity in property at 2575 Beechwood Drive.

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
March 19, 1923	\$100.00	
April 9, 1923	350.00	This is evidently check in payment on property 2575 Beechwood Drive to H.A. Mosher.
May 7th, 1923	576.59	This is evidently check drawn for transfer of funds to the Security Trust & Savings Bank
May 12, 1923	9.40	Balance of account which was closed out.

Agents interviewed R.L. Thomason, Assistant Secretary, Security Trust & Savings Bank, Hollywood Branch, DON F. OSBORNE, 2575 Beechwood Drive, opened an account at this bank on May 5, 1923 with a deposit of \$576.59, this being a single check drawn on the Citizens National Bank. Place of employment was indicated as Brentwood Studios; former bank references, Commercial National Bank and Citizens National Bank. This account closed out in June by a service charge, the entire amount on deposit having been depleted.

ADD IN

As per case No. 625, Justice's Court, Los Angeles County, DON F. OSBORN, arrested, charge: Failure to provide, October 20, 1919; complaining witness, Flo McCauley, 627 E. 28th St., and Lillian Vennum, 814 E. 29th St.; charged that subject failed to support his minor child, Earl R. Osborn, four years, for a period of ninety days. Above as per register of actions, Los Angeles County, Volume one; no disposition shown on this case.

Agents examined the place of DON OSBORN, 2575 Beechwood Drive, it being a small shanty like arrangement, consisting of two rooms, about 12 x 14, a bath room and an inclosed porch, about 7 x 12. There was a sleeping couch in the front room and a small army cot on the inclosed porch, all being very small and cramped arrangements for two

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persons to live in.

Agents interviewed Maybelle Anderson, former wife of DON OSBORN, and in addition to the information as given in previous interview by this party by Agent Meehan, she advised that a girl by the name of Ellen had been living with Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Clapham across the street from DON OSBORN and ROSE PUTNAM, and that this girl, who is now playing in a review at the Newhouse Hotel, Salt Lake City, had made admissions to a friend of hers, one Helen Page, also with this same review, to the effect that ROSE PUTNAM had confided all of her relations with DON OSBORN to Mrs. Clapham, also the transactions as to the second trip to Springfield, Ohio, etc. Mrs. Maybelle Osborn, or Anderson, also advised that she had received information that ROSE PUTNAM shortly before making a trip to Springfield, in July, 1923, had undergone an operation for an abortion, at 2575 Beechwood Drive, and that Mrs. Leo Maloney had nursed her at this time.

Agents interviewed Leonard Clapham and wife, 2567 Beechwood Drive, but these parties absolutely denied that ROSE made a confidant of Mrs. Clapham, although they did know that she and DON OSBORN were to make a trip East for some purpose. These parties deny that they even knew that ROSE had been sick, although they evidently were frequent visitors at the place there. Handwriting of these two parties indicate they are not the parties who wrote the letters under the name of Earl Frank Dustin. These parties recognize the picture of BLACKY MADSON as being a party who was seen at DON OSBORN's place. Mrs. Clapham advised that party at Salt Lake City is Ellen Dunkle, and on October 26th, the following wire was sent to Agent Kimball, Salt Lake City:

"KIMBALL  
DEPT JUSTICE  
SALT LAKE CITY UTAH

LOS ANGELES CAL.  
OCTOBER 26th, 1923.

DISCREETLY INTERVIEW EILEEN DUNKLE WITH NEWHOUSE  
REVIEW AS TO ANY KNOWLEDGE SHE HAS OF RELATIONS  
EXISTING BETWEEN DON OSBORN AND HIS BRICE ROSE  
PUTNAM ROSE PUTNAM AND DON OSBORN LIVED TOGETHER  
AS MAN AND WIFE BEACHWOOD DRIVE LOS ANGELES NOW  
UNDER ARREST CINCINNATI OHIO FOR BLACKMAIL AND  
EXTORTION OF JOHN L BUSHNELL SPRINGFIELD OHIO  
THIS GIRL HAS ALREADY MADE ADMISSIONS TO HELEN  
PAGE ALSO WITH SHOW OF FACTS SHOWING COMPLETE  
KNOWLEDGE OF CONDITIONS EILEEN LIVED WITH MRS.  
LEONARD CHAPMAN ON BEACHWOOD DRIVE.

COLVIN"  
Acting.

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Agents interviewed Leo Maloney and wife, 2305 Beechwood Drive, who advised they knew both DON and ROSE and visited at their place and have also had them at their home here. Mr. Maloney advises that he has known OSBORN for about nine years all together, and ROSE for the last year. He denies that he knew there were any relations existing between these two parties. He advises that he often attended parties at their place, at which they had considerable to drink. He could not advise of any place where OSBORN had worked except in the production of the picture in which Matty Mattison appeared. He advises that he met BLACKY MADSON once at 2575 Beechwood Drive, and at this time a brother of ROSE PUTNAM was also present. He advises he understands George Weh was running around with the wife of BLACKY MADSON. Both advise that ROSE had been sick shortly before going East on this last trip and that Mrs. Maloney had visited her at the place while she

was sick, but deny that they knew what the cause of the sickness was. They advise that they understand PATRICIA PALMER was arrested in connection with a diamond robbery, together with BLACKY THOMPSON.

Agents interviewed Herman A. Mosher, 2225 Beechwood Drive, and he advises that the equity of PATRICIA PALMER from 2575 Beechwood Drive was assigned to DON OSBORN on March 9, 1923. PATRICIA PALMER's equity at that time was worth, according to payments made, \$313.20. On April 6th, OSBORN made one payment of \$350.00. All payments of OSBORN on this place, to June 22nd, totaled \$470.00.

Inquiry of the neighbors in the vicinity of 2575 Beechwood Drive developed that most of the people here are unwilling to say anything of value, with the exception of Mrs. Edward Johnson, 6121 Glen Alder, wife of a carpenter, and evidently of a different class from the usual tenants of the property along this drive, and she advises that there were numerous all night parties at this place, and although they live immediately to the rear of this place OSBORN and ROSE PUTNAM never had much to say to them.

Continuing investigation as to developments looking to the location of R.G. MADSON and J.A. RYAN and to details involving HERBERT I. ROSS, alias ALBERT S. HARRIS, now in jail at Cincinnati, especially as to his trip to Springfield, Ohio in October in an effort to make a second shake down of JOHN L. BUSHELL.

Through a confidential informant, Detective Reed of the Los Angeles Police Department, has learned that ROSS, together with certain other parties here in August, were planning some sort of a shake down of a party in the East. At that time, HERBERT I. ROSS was occupying



room 202 at the Southland Hotel, 602 So. Flower St., and a friend and associate, namely George Stafford, alias George Lawrence, alias Sparrow, previously mentioned in reports, occupied room 418. Detective Reed, together with investigators from the County District Attorney's office, covered these parties at this hotel, from August 30th to September 5th, and at this time evidently the arrangements for the trip to Springfield were made. At that time, and since, together with agents, efforts have been made to trace the connections of these two parties through their actions while at this hotel. On August 31st, Mrs. Albert Main, wife of party mentioned in previous reports, called and advised that she would have Sam call. Sam proved to be Sam Mathewson, who drives a Ford Coupe, license No. 642166, which license was issued to Mrs. G. Mathewson, 428 E. "D" St., Ontario, California, for a Cadillac car. This is the mother of Sam Mathewson, and as per information from the Chief of Police at Ontario, the Mathewson boys are known as crooks, and arrangements were made with the Chief of Police at that place to cover the movements of the Mathewson boys for the appearance of RYAN or MADSON. On August 31st, about 9:45 P.M., Sam Mathewson, HERBERT I. ROSS and another party, conferred at the hotel for about fifteen minutes. Charles Doak, alias William C. Doak, an old time confidence man was occupying room 500 at this place, and was also seen to talk with HERBERT I. ROSS. On September 2nd, ROSS called the Victoria Hotel for a Mr. Shea, and left word for this party to call him, <sup>This party is still living</sup> at the Victoria Hotel and working for some bonding company in Los Angeles. Gertrude Smith, address unknown, but at that time believed to have been at the Herman Apartments, 336 South Flower St., called ROSS on the 'phone several times, and evidently was

associated with him. Another party who called at the hotel was H. S. Sloan, now at Huntington Beach and left a memorandum for him, indicating he was endeavoring to obtain some kind of a job for ROSS. Another associate was one Mr. Bell, Angelus Hotel, who left that place on September 15th, and his present address is unknown. Another party who called at the hotel to see ROSS was a party driving a Buick car license No. 97-946, which license was issued to Jack Smart, 439 Wellington St., a known dope peddler. Mrs. Albert Main, called at the hotel to see ROSS, together with D. Logan and Mrs. Levy. A car with license No. 876-651 which was issued to Ellis Dubaraska, 724 W. 7th St., a clothing dealer, drove up to the hotel and took Mrs. Levy and Mrs. Main away, they then driving to the place of D. Cohen, 1150 Central Ave., where it is understood that they obtained an ounce of dope. Mrs. Main is one Birgie Clayton, with whom Albert Main has recently associated himself, and was arrested with him on a local charge here recently, upon which Main is now out on bond. D. Logan, above mentioned, is Logan Laughbraugh, and Mrs. Levy is Hattie Warsaw, and were recently arrested together here at Los Angeles about six months ago in connection with some bonds this woman had taken from her husband in Chicago, both since released. Los Angeles County Bertillon records show Logan Laughbraugh as No. 35053, and his description is as follows:

Age: 45  
Weight: 195  
Height: 5 ft, 8 inches  
Hair: brown  
Eyes: Blue-grey.

The above associations of HERBERT I. ROSS and ALBERT MAIN and his various associates shows that there is a probability that ALBERT

ALBERT S. KAIN is the party who accompanied ROSS East at the time ROSS was arrested in Dayton, Ohio, on October 8th, 1923.

Latest information from under cover informant who has been working with Agent and a local police is that two other parties accompanied ROSS East other than ALBERT KAIN, and GEORGE STAFFORD alias SPARROW. Under cover informant is endeavoring to obtain the names of the parties who actually made the trip with ROSS.

[redacted] was to come up for plea in the State Court here on [redacted] in answer to a charge of receiving stolen property, and he had advised, through C.J. Reimer, that he was desirous of talking, if same could in any way benefit him. Arrangements were made by Agent and Agent Neehan for a conversation with [redacted] previous to the time that he came up for sentence, and on [redacted] agents conferred with this party, who is known as a criminal of considerable ability, [redacted]

[redacted] from interview of [redacted] it was readily apparent that he was thoroughly familiar with all of the details of the case, insofar as it involved BLACKY MADSON and J.A. RYAN. He advised that he knows both of these parties and stated that he had been in communication recently with them, having talked with both RYAN and MADSON. He advised that DON OSBORN first got MADSON into the deal, and later MADSON introduced RYAN into the second deal in this transaction. He advised of all the details of the happening at the time Agent Spolansky endeavored to apprehend RYAN at the place of Roy J. Jones, in Chicago, and advised that RYAN at this time escaped out of the rear at this place. At this time, special attention is called



to the fact that the Chicago office should not approach Roy J. Jones in this matter, until advised further by either the Cincinnati or the Los Angeles office. This party also advised of considerable of the details of the transaction at Springfield, indicating that he had evidently secured same in conversation from either Ryan or Madson. RYAN who was in Los Angeles and resting upon assurance that his identity was not known, made boast that he would not be found, for reason that his picture is in no gallery at this time, and has made effort to check the movements of investigation being made by the Los Angeles office, and was advised by some one at the California Laundry that Agent Meehan had been there making inquiry as to his laundry, and supplied RYAN with a description of Agent Meehan. RYAN advised [redacted] that he was <sup>b7D</sup> tipped off in a hotel that a Department of Justice Agent was there making inquiry as to him, with some police officer. From previous developments in this case, this was evidently the Commodore Hotel that RYAN was at with two women, and left upon being tipped as to Agent Meehan's presence. [redacted] advises that the parties who have supplied the Department with the description of J.A. RYAN, through error, or intentionally have deceived us as to his exact description, he advising that RYAN is probably fifty-five years of age; hair, turning very grey; florid complexion; height 5 ft. 10 inches, weight about 170 lbs.; a very good dresser and usually associates with well dressed women.

[redacted] RYAN in San Francisco, shortly before the time that the trip East was made, at which time ROSS was apprehended. [redacted] advises that positively the parties who made the trip East at this time were HERBERT I. ROSS, party who was apprehended.

J.A. RYAN and another party from San Francisco are the ones who went East on this trip. The third party is a small man, whom he describes similar to description as furnished by Attorney Haines at Troy, Ohio, and this party was taken along as a tail for J.A. Ryan, whom it was realized was known in Ohio from his previous trip and was there for the purpose of preventing being covered and picked up. They had in their possession twelve letters which had been received by ROSE PUTNAM from John L. Bushnell and which disclosed the intimate relations which had existed between Bushnell and ROSE PUTNAM, but it is believed that they took photographic copies of these letters East, instead of the originals. Of course, as previously set out, ROSS approached Bushnell with the letters and was apprehended when J.A. RYAN and a third party evidently left for the West for some other point. Due to the newspaper accounts which appeared, in which Bushnell was alleged to have denied any improper relations with ROSE PUTNAM, these parties believed that Bushnell would be willing to pay for these letters for the disclosures in same, inasmuch as he was denying any improper relations with ROSE PUTNAM, as per the newspaper accounts. b7D [ ] advised that with a little time he can secure the address of both RYAN and MADSON, the name of the third party who went East with ROSE and RYAN in September, 1923, and possibly may be able to obtain the originals of the twelve letters still being held, but that if he is to do this work for the Department, he would expect some consideration from us. In other words, he requested that we try and make arrangements with the local State authorities here to have leniency extended him in regard to the State charge in which he is out on \$3000.00, as he was desirous, if possible, of not serving any time on

this State charge.

In order that [ ] might be given an opportunity to produce results, effort was made to have a continuance in his State case, which was to come up on [ ] and Agent in Charge Wheeler and Agnet Meehan, conferred with United States Attorney Burke, who in turn took the matter up with Charles Fricke, Chief Deputy District Attorney, requesting that if possible arrangements along these lines be made, and agents then conferred with C.J. Reimer, investigator for the District Attorney's office and Charles Fricke, Chief Deputy, District Attorney's office, Los Angeles County, and arrangements were made to have case of [ ] in State Court continued for two weeks. After again conferring with [ ] he agreed to immediately start to make efforts to locate the address of RYAN and MADSON as previously set out above, and is to supply this information to Agent Meehan later, with the understanding that arrangements will be made, if possible, to have him shown leniency in the State court under the charge which he is to face. It is believed that subject will probably produce results along these lines, due to the fact that he wants to save himself on the State charge here, and it is also very probably that he is implicated in some way in the transaction with RYAN and ROSS on a second shake-down.

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

To be continued at Los Angeles, pending developments through under cover Informant.



Los Angeles, California, November 2, 1943.

Statement of ELLEN MARGARET GIBSON, alias PATRICIA PALMER,

- Q. by Special Agent Connelley: Miss Gibson, after being duly advised as to your rights in the matter as to making a statement, are you willing to make this statement of your own free will and accord?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is your correct name?
- A. Ellen Margaret Gibson.
- Q. Where were you born?
- A. Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Q. How long have you lived in Los Angeles?
- A. About fourteen years.
- Q. When did you first meet Don Osborn?
- A. About a year and a half ago.
- Q. What were your relations with Don Osborn?
- A. I owned the home they lived in.
- Q. By "they", whom do you mean?
- A. Don Osborn and Rose Putnam.
- Q. Have you ever been at their place for social calls of any kind?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What was the nature of such calls, parties or informal calls or what?
- A. Mostly on account of the property.
- Q. By United States Attorney Burke: Then you went there to collect the rent, is that it?
- A. No. I did not rent the place to them, I let them live in it for fixing the place up.
- Q. Did you meet anybody at this home other than Don Osborn and Rose Putnam?
- A. On different occasions, yes.
- Q. Whom do you remember meeting there?
- A. The people who lived across the street, Edith and Bennett Chapman.
- Q. Who else?
- A. There were always people there, I cannot remember their names.
- Q. Do you know of any one in particular whom you noticed around there more than anyone else?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you remember the men whom you met there?
- A. Yes, but I do not know their names. There were different picture men who would drop in there.
- Q. Anyone outside of picture men?
- A. They had many friends.
- Q. Do you remember any of those fellows whom you met around there by their first names or nicknames?
- A. No.
- Q. Then you were not introduced to anyone, or if you were introduced you forget their names.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Where did you first meet George W. Lasher?
- A. He was fixing some electrical fixtures at Osborn's.
- Q. That was the first place that you met him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Then you afterwards became acquainted?
- A. Yes.
- so early 1922?*  
*NOV 22*  
*AD*

- mid  
TAB  
?*
- Q. How intimate were you with Lasher after that acquaintanceship?  
A. Just as a friend.
- Q. Did you travel any with him?  
A. He went to Tia Juana and back.
- Q. Who else was in that party to Tia Juana?  
A. No one, just he and I.
- Q. What happened when you got to Tia Juana?  
A. We went to the races.
- Q. How long did you stay in Tia Juana?  
A. Two days.
- Q. Where did he stay and where did you stay?  
A. In a residence.
- Q. Whose residence?  
A. A cafe entertainer's residence.
- Q. What was his name?  
A. I do not know.
- Q. Which cafe did he work in?  
A. I could not tell you the name.
- Q. Where was this cafe located?  
A. In Old Town Tia Juana.
- Q. On the Main Street?  
A. Yes.
- Q. Was it the Vernon Club?  
A. I would not know the name.
- Q. Did you hear the name Jim Dallas?  
A. No.
- Q. When you got down to Tia Juana did you and this man Lasher pass as husband and wife?  
A. Yes.
- Q. You told people down there that you were husband and wife?  
A. I made no mention of it.
- Q. But he did?  
A. Yes.
- Q. But you did not deny it?  
A. No.
- Q. How old are you?  
A. 28.
- Q. Did you meet a man by the name of Edward Hucker down there?  
A. I do not know whom I met.
- Q. Did you have any money transactions in this place?  
A. No.
- Q. While in Tia Juana was there any check handed to you?  
A. Yes.
- Q. Give in detail all that happened in connection with this check.  
A. We were in a cafe sitting at a table with two ladies.
- Q. Do you know those ladies?  
A. I met them there for the first time and never saw them afterwards. We were drinking and Mr. Lasher said to me, "I'll bet you \$1000.00 that I can drink more than you can", and I laughed and said all right. We both wrote a \$1000.00 check. Mr. Lasher or I handed the check to one of the ladies. Afterwards I was talking to the lady and I realized the check was gone. I told Mr. Lasher the check was gone and I was afraid it was going to Los Angeles.
- Q. Just why did you fear that this check was going to Los Angeles?  
A. The lady who had the check said something about my check and I
- she's lying  
about man.*



launched and said, "Why, I haven't got \$1000.00 in the bank". She said, "Well, he has". I told Mr. Lasher and he said it was impossible; they could not do such a thing, and he wouldn't listen, but the next morning I made him listen and we rushed back to Los Angeles.

Q. Just before you turned that check over to the lady you endorsed the check?

A. We both did.

Q. He endorsed the check you gave him and you endorsed the check he gave you?

A. Yes.

Q. The next morning you rushed to Los Angeles. What did you do?

A. We came on to Los Angeles. When we stopped at the border Mr. Lasher told the people there that we were going to Los Angeles to stop a check. On the way up we were stopped by an officer, going 45 miles an hour, and Mr. Lasher told him why he was rushing. We got here and got the check and tore it up.

Q. Then the check was torn up the next day?

A. Well, it was either the next day or the day after.

Q. Were you ever with anybody when a presentment was made for the payment of this money to Mr. Lasher?

A. No.

Q. Did you at any time ever deny your signature on the back of that check?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever discuss this check with anybody afterwards?

A. Yes, about a month or two months ago.

Q. And with whom did you discuss it?

A. Mr. Lasher called me up and a friend of mine, Mr. Saunders, went out with me.

Q. What was the discussion then?

A. Mr. Lasher would not talk to me in the presence of Mr. Saunders. His wife was there. He talked to me alone and he said I must give him \$1000.00 in thirty days or he would cause me a lot of trouble because he said I tried to get \$1000.00 from him and for that reason I must give him \$1000.00.

Q. Where was this, at his place of business?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you go there?

A. Because Mr. Lasher called up and told my mother if I did not see him he would cause me a lot of trouble and I was afraid.

Q. Did Mr. Lasher ever call to see you at your home?

A. Yes.

Q. On how many occasions?

A. Quite a number, because he put in some electrical fixtures for me.

Q. Aside from that, did he call to see you personally?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you entertain him?

A. Yes.

Q. You knew he was married?

A. I did not know he was living with his wife until we got back from Tia Juana and when I discovered it I talked to his wife and told her I would never see him again.

Q. When was this?

A. After we got back from Tia Juana, about two weeks.

Q. The check had been torn up in the meantime?

A. Yes.



Statement of Ellen Margaret Gibson, Continued.

- Q. The check was not in existence at the time you talked to Lasher's wife?  
A. No.  
Q. After you talked to Lasher's wife you had no other conversation with him?  
A. Not except the time he jumped on the running board of a car I was in and threatened me. I was with a friend.  
Q. Who was this friend?  
A. Mr. McGinnis who is now my husband.  
Q. When were you married?  
A. Last Saturday afternoon.  
Q. Where was this that he jumped on the running board?  
A. In front of my home. He jumped on the running board and threatened me and demanded that I get out of the car. I got out of the car and talked to him.  
Q. Did you leave the car and go with Lasher?  
A. Yes.  
Q. Did you go back home with him?  
A. He drove around a while and then took me home, to my home.  
Q. That was the last time you saw Lasher?  
A. No. Then his wife called me up and asked me if I would do something for them. I was leaving for San Francisco and I saw them then.  
Q. What did she want you to do?  
A. She wanted me to get him a position in my company in San Francisco.  
Q. Did you?  
A. No, I could not.  
Q. When was that?  
A. Just before I left for San Francisco, about a month or six weeks after the trip to San Diego.  
Q. Then after you had called on Mrs. Lasher and recognized that Lasher was living with his wife, she became friendly enough with you to suggest that you get her husband employment?  
A. Yes.  
Q. Did you visit with her or meet her in a social way?  
A. No, except that one evening about two months ago when Mr. Saunders went with me to the shop.  
Q. That was the time when he demanded \$1000.00 from you?  
A. Yes.  
Q. A few days after you got back from Tia Juana you realized that this man and his wife were living together and you called Lasher's wife up and told her you would not see him again?  
A. I did not call her up. I never called her.  
Q. Then she realized that her husband and you were keeping company and she came over and told you about it?  
A. She was in the yard when Lasher and I drove up one day.  
Q. And then I suppose that you agreed with her at that time that you would have nothing more to do with her husband?  
A. Yes.  
Q. How long had you and Lasher been going together prior to the time that you went to Tia Juana?  
A. Six weeks, I imagine, or two months maybe.  
Q. All of the statement that you have made to us in reference to this check is the truth?  
A. Absolutely.

MAR 23

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Sept 23

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- Q. You say Mrs. Lasher was waiting out on the lawn at your home when you and Mr. Lasher drove back.
- A. Yes.
- Q. And that was the time that she realized that you and her husband were going together?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Was there anyone else present at that time?
- A. My mother came out.
- Q. Did you and your mother and Mr. Lasher have any conversation at that time in reference to the fact that your mother was going to have Lasher prosecuted for violating the White Slave Act in taking you to Tia Juana?
- A. No. Mother told him that he must leave me alone or she would have him arrested.
- Q. Did you see him any more after that in reference to money matters or things of that character?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you ever receive any money from Mr. Lasher other than the \$1000.00 check that you have referred to?
- A. I think there was a small check for \$75.00 or \$50.00, which was for the payment on my car. I afterwards returned the money.
- Q. Just about when did he give you that check for the car?
- A. About two or three days after we got back from San Diego.
- Q. And what led up to that?
- A. I asked him for the loan.
- Q. And he loaned you this money?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did he ever give you any other money than this check?
- A. No.
- Q. Then as far as the financial transactions you have had with this man, there have only been two — when he gave you the check in Tia Juana and when he loaned you the \$75.00 here.
- A. Yes. In that Tia Juana affair, I never realized that it was a check. It was only a joke and the minute I realized it was a check we rushed back and got the check and tore it up.
- Q. Where did you get hold of the check?
- A. He found it some way through the place where he was employed, I don't know just how. Anyway we went to several places and finally located it in an apartment house.
- Q. Where was this apartment house?
- A. I do not remember where. We had an address and drove there.
- Q. And who had the check?
- A. A man; I do not remember his name; he was a Mexican or foreigner of some sort.
- Q. Did you call him out on the street or did you and Lasher go up and see him?
- A. Mr. Lasher left me sitting in the car and he went up and then he came down with the man and he had the check.
- Q. Did you just deliberately tear up the check there?
- A. No, not until riding in the car. Lasher tore it up.
- Q. Did Lasher and the Mexican and yourself have any conversation?
- A. Yes, brief.
- Q. What was the effect of the conversation?
- A. Lasher blamed me and the foreigner said, "Well, you were all drinking, it was only a joke", and Lasher said, "Yes, I realize it", and I think that was all the conversation.

- Q. Then, outside of the \$75.00 check there was no other money transaction?
- A. No.
- Q. Did Lasher ever give you any cash?
- A. No.
- Q. He never gave you a nickel? never a dollar?
- A. He gave me some electrical fixtures.
- Q. About how much in value would you figure them?
- A. I would not know.
- Q. Did you volunteer to come in here and make this statement?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You came in voluntarily?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Everything you have told us is absolutely the truth?
- A. Absolutely.
- Q. And you are not keeping anything back in your mind that we should know?
- A. Not a thing.
- Q. Everything I have asked you have answered truthfully?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Your mother then never made the suggestion to you or to Lasher that she intended to have Lasher prosecuted for violation of the White Slave Act,
- A. No.
- Q. Lasher never gave you any money?
- A. No.
- Q. He gave you a \$75.00 check and that was money that you borrowed from him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. That is the impression that you want to leave with us and the story you want us to have?
- A. That is the truth.
- Q. As far as the individuals at Tia Juana are concerned you absolutely do not know them?
- A. I met them for the first time there. It was just a party, a wild party, and I would not know one if I were to see them again. I have never been to Tia Juana since.
- Q. And you do not remember the names of any of the men or women whom you met at the home of Don Osborn and Rose Putnam, except the people who lived across the street?
- A. I would remember, I suppose, if I stopped to think, but I can't right now.
- Q. Did you ever see that man at Don Osborn's? (Miss Gibson was here shown a picture of Elacky Madson.)
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you hear his name mentioned?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you see him on many occasions?
- A. No, just once.