

SHERIFF COLLINS, OTHERS ON TRIAL IN LIQUOR CASE

Okeechobee Officer One
of Rum Conspirators,
Government Charges

By The Associated Press

MIAMI, May 13—William Collins, sheriff of Okeechobee County, Lee Brewer, a deputy sheriff and four others went on trial in United States District Court here Wednesday on charges of conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act in connection with the alleged shipment of liquor from a lumber company near Sherman.

Other defendants on trial are Maurice J. Lipkin, Norman K. Ross, and two negroes, Alex James and Jack Martin.

W. P. Sloan, Carroll L. Gray and Casey Andrews, also named in the indictments entered pleas of guilty and Judge Alexander Akerman directed them to appear before him in federal court in Tampa on June 1.

Sloan and Gray, with Rufus Stokes, also pleaded guilty to a second indictment charging transportation of liquor in connection with the alleged landing of liquor from a ship near Sebastian Inlet, Broward County.

C. H. Davidson, shipping clerk at the Sherman mill, testified that he assisted in the loading of several freight cars with liquor for which he said he received \$1,200.

Davidson said the ends of the cars were bulkheaded with lumber and the floors covered with turpentine soaked sawdust to destroy odor and take up liquid in the event any of the bottles were broken.

Eugene Cutintha, St. Augustine, testified that he sold Gray the boat Phantom I for \$4,000. He said Gray was accompanied by Lee Coulum and Sloan at the time.

Coulum said on the stand that he was employed by Sloan to bring

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in liquor from the Bahama Islands. He asserted that it was brought ashore from the boat in lighters.

Theodore Walsh, Miami hotel employe, testified that Sloan, Gray and Lipkin, were registered at the hotel from November 6 to November 8, 1929 and Isaac Smith, immigration inspector, showed list he said showed that Sloan, Gray and Lipkin were passengers on a Nassau-bound airplane November 8, 1929.

The indictment charged that Sloan, Gray and Lipkin met in a Miami hotel and made plans for the importation of liquor and for its shipment north in lumber cars.

Others testifying during the afternoon included Orbie Horne, his father, C. Z. Horne and E. C. Boon, clerks at the lumber mill, and J. Arthur Thomas, operating superintendent, at the mill.