

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

NORFOLK, ss.  
Nos. 5545 and 5546

SUPERIOR COURT  
CRIMINAL SESSION

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

vs.

NICOLA SACCO  
and  
BARTOLOMEO VANZETTI

AFFIDAVIT OF ALICE PECKHAM

My name is Alice Peckham and I reside in Providence in the State of Rhode Island. I am at present Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island and in May, 1920 and for some years prior thereto I was secretary to *Judge Arthur R.* ~~Mr. Justice~~ Brown of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island. I am a stenographer of many years experience and have reported many court cases.

In May, 1920 I reported the testimony of some of the witnesses in the trial of United States vs. Joseph, Pasquale, Fred and Frank Morelli on indictments 563 and 576, and in June, 1920 I reported hearings on motions for a new trial and hearings on sentences, and copied certain affidavits filed in the case. I transcribed my stenographic notes shortly after they were made into a typewritten record.

I have examined my record and find that the following excerpts are accurate copies from my record:

In the testimony of Joseph Imondi, the following:

"543 I show you this Colt revolver, and ask you if you recognize it?

A No sir.

544 Never saw it before?

A I don't know if this is the one or not.

545 Which one?

A This one here.

546 Well, what one have you in mind?

A Well, I seen so many of them I don't know if this is it.



547 Like that?

A Yes sir.

548 Where did you see them?

A I seen them in Joe's house.

549 How often?

A Well, I would see it pretty near every day; it was right on the desk.

550 On what desk?

A On his desk.

✓ 551 Joe's desk?

A Yes sir.

552 Did you ever see that gun when you were out on these jobs?

A That one there?

553 That is one like that?

A Why, I never seen that one; I don't know if that is the one or not.

554 Was it like that?

A Well, it had that color,- the same shape as that.

555 How many guns of that kind,- like that,- have you seen up there in the Morelli house?

A The same one like that.

556 And what were the others like?

A Well, I think I seen two like that, and another one was smaller than that.

557 Outside of the one you said belonged to Joe, and was on Joe's desk? Do you know who the others belonged to?

A Well, Bibber had one.

558 And who does the third one belong to?

A The third one Buttsy had; the small one.

559 Frank Morelli?

A Yes sir."

In the rebuttal testimony of Joseph Imondi, the following:

"13 And who was in the party that night, Joe?

A I think me, Fred, Joe and Frank.



14 Which is Frank?

A Buttsy over there."

In the testimony of Frank Morelli, cross-examination, the following:

"X92 You know Joe Imondi, don't you?

A Yes sir.

X93 How long have you known him?

A I was born up there with him; born in the same neighborhood."

In the examination of Nathan Remmer, cross-examination, the following:

"X159 And you were asked in the preliminary examination who was "Buttsy" and did you testify Frank Morelli?

A Frank Morelli.

X160 You are sure that you said that?

A Why I couldn't see how I could say anything else."

In the affidavit of Robert Jensky dated June 2, 1920, the following paragraph:

"Before this time Joe tried to sell me a lot of Reed & Barton silver-ware. "Buttsy" or Frank Morelli had it for sale for a long time. Joe finally sold it to Jack McDonough. One day during the Morrell trial Joe in front of the Narragansett Hotel told me that the Marshal would never live to see him go to jail. Later on he repeated this to me on Washington street."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, cross-examination, the following:

"X491 I just mentioned that to fix the date. Now, while you were in the Marshal's office some men from the Marshal's office went up to your house to search it, didn't they?

A Yes.

X492 And didn't you talk over the telephone with your housekeeper, Pauline Gray?

A I have talked with so many people with regard to my bail I don't know who I have talked to, Mr. Cannon.

X493 I know; but you talked to Pauline; now listen to this; you are speaking to Pauline over the telephone,--

J Has anyone been up there?

P Yes, they have been here, Mr. Karnes and several others, and they took some goods.



J You <sup>see</sup> ~~see~~ if they got goods from there they brought them there. What did they get?

P They took your automobile curtains, and wanted to know if I had made you any shirts, and I told them I could not sew.

J That's the girl; don't tell them anything.

P Karnes wanted me to make a statement, and I told him I would not make any.

J Don't make a statement to anyone. Why didn't you tell him to have his sister make one? Did they take my silk shirts?

P No; they looked them over.

J Why didn't they take the house?

P They wanted to know where your car was, and I didn't tell them.

J That's the girl; that's the girl; don't tell them anything.

P They took your gun and blackjack.

J It's too bad I happen to have a gun.

P Have you got bail yet?

J No; after five o'clock I go out to jail.

P Has the two fellows got there yet?

J No.

P I told Karnes that Marshal Richards knew about the cloth?

J That's right; good girl.

X494 Did you have that conversation with Pauline when you were in the Marshal's office that day?

A I may have, Mr. Cannon."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, cross-examination, the following:

"X430 Didn't you tell Mr. Karnes, and the Marshal, during this period after you were arrested on this charge, that you never got home until three or four o'clock in the morning?

A Yes; sometimes five or seven.

X431 What were you doing out at that time?

A Gambling.

X432 Stealing?

A No sir; gambling I said; not stealing."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, recalled, the following:

"1 Were you convicted on March 19, 1915, in the State Courts, of making an assault with a dangerous weapon, a revolver, on Eraclio Mangiante, one of the deputy sheriffs, when he went to your place to serve civil process?

A Yes."

In the testimony of Frank Morelli at the hearing on his sentence, the following:

"BY THE COURT: How much have you been in New York?



A. Quite a number of times; I don't know just how long; perhaps two years off and on; not in any one place all the time.

BY THE COURT: What have you to say about Imondi's testimony that you said you would blow him?

A. It is not true, your Honor; that is all I have to say; it aint true, and he wouldn't realize it if I had said it to him.

BY THE COURT: He so testified, and you didn't contradict him; and that was a very serious attempt to intimidate a witness. About as serious a crime as it is possible to commit when a case is on trial.

A. All I have to say is I think I have too much sense to make that kind of a threat to an ignorant fellow like him. Perhaps I am mistaken."

In the testimony of Frank Morelli, cross-examination, the following:

"X62 Can you tell us how many times you have visited the house on Marietta street since May 1919; within the last year?

A I don't know.

X63 Once a week?

A No; maybe once a month.

X64 I mean when you were in Providence?

A When I was in Providence I would go up there once a week.

In the testimony of Frank Morelli, cross-examination, the following:

"X71 Where did you live when you was in Providence?

A 88 Broad Street; Newman Hotel; quite a few places.

In the testimony of Frank Morelli, cross-examination the following:

"X38 When did you go to New York?

A I have been in New York quite often, back and forth.

X39 Since the Remmer arrest?

A Oh; I don't just remember; I didn't go to New York right after the Remmer arrest.

X40 You went from New London to New Bedford, and stayed at New Bedford three or four months. What were you doing in New Bedford during this time?

A Nothing at all.



X41 How did you make your living? There is no ball game in Winter.

A Ball games, races, horses, yes sir.

X42 Where?

A Down South; Havana, New York, Baltimore.

X43 That was your living?

A Yes, I'm lucky.

X44 Where did you go from New Bedford?

A New London.

X45 I think you told me a little while ago that when you left Providence you went to New London. How long did you stay in New London.

A Perhaps a week.

X46 Where did you go from there?

A I don't know if I came back to New Bedford or Providence or New York; I don't know just where. That was four or five months ago and I do so much travelling I don't just remember where I go."

In the examination of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"1 Your name?

A Joseph Morelli.

2 And you live where?

A 62 Marietta street.

3 What is your business, Mr. Morelli?

A I'm in the piano business.

4 Have you been in other business beside the piano business?

A No sir.

5 Where do you carry on the piano business?

A 62 Marietta street.

6 Do you carry on any other business beside the piano business at 62 Marietta street?

A Well, 30 of June I bought a Reo truck, and I continued moving some of my pianos from one place to another, and at the time a fellow named Tony Dwyer asked me if I would go into the fruit and produce business.

7 The 30 of June you say you bought a truck?

A Yes sir.



8 And then what did you do after you had bought the truck?

A I used it for pianos.

9 You moved the pianos, and what else did you do with the truck?

A After two or three weeks, as I said, this Mr. Dwyer asked me to go into the fruit and produce business. I asked him what I could make out of it, and he told me I could make a pretty good thing; and I tried it, and the first carload of melons I bought I think we made something like \$360. profit on it."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"21 Would you buy in any other cities?

A We used to go up to Boston; he took me up to Boston when we couldn't get anything in Providence.

22 You and Tony would go up to Boston; and whether or not any of your brothers would go to Boston?

A Fred went several times. When I couldn't go I sent him."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"55 Were you in any other line of business?

A I run a restaurant on Snow street.

56 No, I mean during the last year.

A No.

57 How about your hens and chickens up there?

A I've been in that three or four years. Them hens and chickens has been always up there for two or three years."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"355 You have a high powered automobile at the present time?

A I have.

359 What kind of cars were they?

A Pope-Hartford, Paige, Packard, and three Cole cars; this is the third Cole car I've had."

In the cross-examination of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"X50 You tell people you are in the piano business; but you havn't worked, Mr. Morelli, have you, at any regular occupation, in ten years?

A Always worked.



X51 At what job?

A Running a restaurant on Snow street for three years.

X52 How long ago?

A Five years ago.

X53 Who was associated with you there?

A Myself.

X54 Were you raided by the police there?

A I should say not.

X55 For conducting an immoral house there?

A I should say not.

X56 Weren't you indicted, and stayed away in New York for several years.

A No sir.

X57 Did you ever run away and jump your bail?

A Why I don't know as I ever jumped any bail.

X58 And you didn't come back when you were needed?

A I didn't have to come back, because my case was fixed."

In the cross-examination of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"X349 And you told Colonel Baker also that you made your living putting pianos in road houses, houses of prostitution and ice cream parlors and restaurants, and chop suey joints.

A I guess I did; I can't remember everything I told him."

In the testimony of Fred Morelli, the following:

"80 You were the only one of the four brothers who didn't get bail on the second case?

A Yes sir.

81 And you have been in jail how long?

A Thirteen weeks today.

82 Thirteen weeks in jail?

A Yes sir."

In the testimony of Pasquale Morelli, the following from re-cross examination:

"X2 Your mother lives in the house?

A No sir.



X3 Where does your father live?

A I told you my father wasn't living.

X4 But you answered Mr. Geary that your mother and father owned the house. Who owns it now?

A It's in Joe's name just now.

X5 But your mother doesn't live there?

A No sir, she is out in the state asylum."

In the testimony of Joseph Morelli, the following:

"125 The title to your house is in your name at the present time?

A Yes sir.

126 Can you explain how that is?

A Well the old gent died, and the old lady has been paralyzed, and I was living down town at the time. My brother Fred, and Pasquale, came to me that they were going to sell the house, being that it didn't pay the interest, and I told them I didn't want anything to do with it; and after two or three days Freddie came begging me to take the house, as they were going to sell it. He says "Save it for the old lady". And I went to speak to the fellow that holds the mortgage, and he says to me "All right, Joe; we'll do that; we'll stop the auction". And I says "I'll pay the interest"; and he says "I'll see you tomorrow morning at ten o'clock at my office". Ten o'clock the next morning I went to his office, and we got Glendenning the lawyer, and Mr. Dwyer, my partner, went with me also. We went up to the Dexter's Home and had the old lady transfer the property into my name. I was holding it more for my mother than anything else."

Alice Peckham

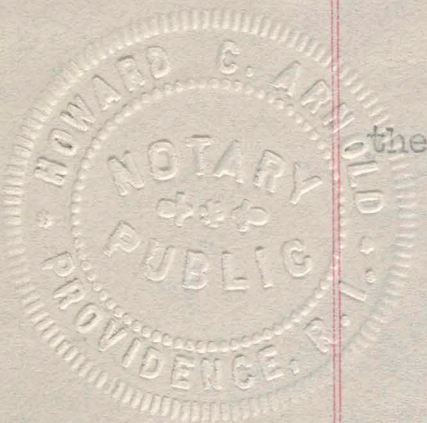
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Providence, SC

Providence, July 14, 1926

Then personally appeared the above named Alice Peckham and made oath that the foregoing statement subscribed by her is true, Before me:

Howard C. Arnold  
Notary Public.









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JUL 16 1926

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