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CHICAGO TRIBUNE, FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1966

The witness is silent? Well, what a surprise!

On the island of Sicily, a new Mafia boss was on his way up. By the time he was 25, calm, strong, imaginative, and—of course, totally unscrupulous—Calogero Vizzini had gained the title of "zu." That means "uncle," and in Sicily "uncle" means respect.

So, in a mood of proper respect, we continue our study of the life and times of Uncle Calo. This is another in a series condensed from "The Honorable Society."

By NORMAN LEWIS

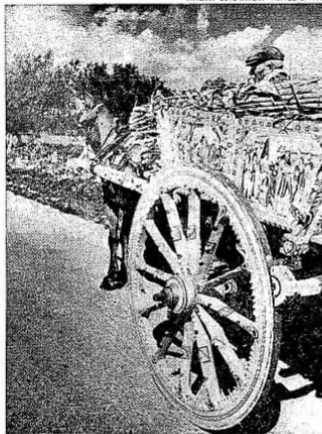
WORLD WAR I provided Zu Calo with endless new opportunities for self-enrichment. An army board sent to Sicily and charged with the regulation of horses for the cavalry and artillery suggested in him three separate sources of profit. As a preliminary, Zu Calo came to terms with the members of the commission, who were happy to delegate their responsibilities to him. Thereafter all the horses and broken-winded mules of the island were collected and sold to the government. Zu Calo then collected a pull tax on animals whose owners preferred them not to be requisitioned. The third string in his belt was the sale to the commission of a large number of horses and mules that had been rustled for the occasion and bought from the experts who conducted such operations at the very low prices that, stolen animals normally fetched, also resold to the commission at the top of the market.

A large proportion of the horses and mules supplied by Zu Calo died of glanders, heart disease, pneumonia, malnutrition, or sheer old age before they could be transported to the battle areas, and this contempt was followed by a widespread campaign and then allegations in the press that the army had become the largest-scale receiver of stolen property in Italian history.

The ministry of war instituted an inquiry and a Gen. Mecca was sent to Palermo to investigate. As a result, Calogero Vizzini and a number of his accomplices, both civilian and army, appeared before a military tribunal. What happened at that trial has happened a hundred times before and a hundred times since, and has come to be regarded as the inevitable outcome of all such criminal proceedings when an attempt is made to bring the Mafia to justice. Witnesses who outside the courtroom had been visible were now obstinately silent. Every single person who had made a statement of any kind likely to incriminate the formidable pezzo di novanta in any way, forthwith withdrew it. In the course of the brief and frustrating proceedings nine witnesses were condemned and sentenced on the spot for perjury or "mattanza di malizia," and it is recorded that the only emotion they showed on hearing their sentences was one of relief.

The defendants were acquitted, to the enormous enlargement of Zu Calo's prestige. The trial had amply shown that he had powerful friends in the army, the administration, and probably in justice itself. Moreover, Sicilians had little stomach for wars that they were involved in by the Italians, and were inclined to throw their caps up in the air when anyone succeeded in misting a hanging stock of the government of Rome.

It was soon after his disfigurement of the Italian army that Calogero Vizzini, now considered the second Mafia personality of the island and styled as such to the honorific prefix Don, completed a social process that had been going on since 1961, and forms part of the theme of the Leopard. The Mafia has at all times delighted in fishing in troubled waters, and has therefore al-



The Mafia unhitched horses and mules from peasant carts, sold them.

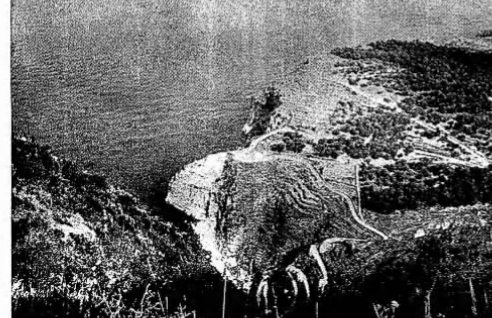
MAFIA



The Italian cavalry was first rate.

ways been ready with its support for any attack on the central government, whether that of Italy or its predecessors. In keeping with this traditional policy, it came to the aid of Garibaldi in his overthrow of the Bourbon kingdom and was properly rewarded for its services. Don Calogero Vizzini, Lampedusa's sinister and powerful mayor, is shown as having made a fortune out of the war and as already overruling the prince of Salina, left defenseless by the prince's death by his breeding, his gentlemanly scruples, and a somewhat atypical preference for the study of astronomy to the collection of rents. With melancholy resignation Salina foresees the eventual replacement of a class of other worldly, enlightened aristocrats by one of money-grubbing realists. With allowances for the special angle of the prince's view, this is roughly the historic process completed by Don Calogero Vizzini 60 years later.

Sicily is not Italy, nor—with the excep-



Ulysses may have sailed past here on his oddball return from Troy. Sicily has many scenes of beauty.

OPEN HOUSING BILL TERMED UNACCEPTABLE

Negro, White Realty Men Hit Proposal

Washington, July 14 (AP)—Negro and white real estate spokesmen snarled as unacceptable today the House Judiciary committee's proposed compromise of President Johnson's open housing proposal.

Q. V. Williamson, president of the predominantly Negro National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc., said that under the House bill the ban on racial and religious discriminations would be limited to apartment rentals and the sale of new homes in subdivisions.

"This is not totally satisfactory," he told the Senate constitutional rights subcommittee, adding the body refused to recognize that housing houses and individual homes "becomes commodities for rent or sale also."

Trotsky to Opposition Vernon Miles of Springfield, Mo., president of the Missouri Real Estate association, testified that its opposition to Johnson's proposal to prohibit discrimination in the sale or rental of all housing was not because of the House committee's action.

Including the House bill would exempt home owners or owners of corporations of housing houses or apartments with up to four units, Miles said.

"Our arguments with respect to freedom of contract apply with equal force to the owner of a building with more than four dwelling units or to the owner of a single family residence whether he occupies them or not."

While Miles argued against any legislation of this sort, Williamson strongly appealed for approval of the President's proposal.

"I cannot conceive of any enlightened person denying that any type of discrimination for reason of race or color is unjustified and inhuman," Williamson said.

Beryl Keryan, legislative counsel for the Michigan Real Estate association, joined Miles in opposing the open housing

Seek to Curb Occupancy Rule

Springfield, Ill., July 14 (Special)—The Illinois Association of Real Estate Boards said today a suit will be filed in DeWitt county circuit court Monday seeking an injunction against Gov. Kerr's executive order of yesterday which, in effect, created an open occupancy law in Illinois.

Robert E. Cook, executive vice president of the association, said the suit will seek a declaratory judgment blocking the order.

Filed by Kerr The order was filed by Kerr with the secretary of state's office and will automatically go into effect in 30 days barring court action.

James Winning, attorney for the association, said the suit is being filed in the name of two Springfield realtors—James Chapman and Carl Harms.

Cook explained that the association itself cannot file suit for an injunction since it does not own a building with more than four dwelling units or to the owner of a single family residence whether he occupies them or not.

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THE BACK DOOR TO OPEN HOUSING

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not engage in real estate sales, and therefore cannot prove it would be injured by the governor's order.

Points of law Winning said the suit, filed against John C. Watson, director of the department of registration and education which must administer the Kerr order, will argue three key constitutional points:

- 1. That the order interferes with the constitutional right of contract between property owners and their agents, and members of other minority or religious groups.
- 2. That the order curtails the powers of the executive branch to enact.

The Sangamon county court action Monday is expected to be the first step toward taking

the Kerr order to the higher courts in what could become a summer-long legal battle.

Winning said his clients would "almost certainly want to carry an appeal to a higher court if the request for an injunction to carry the suit to the appellate level if the injunction is granted."

Order Issued Yesterday The order, issued yesterday by the governor following a meeting with representatives of the real estate associations, calls for revocation or suspension of the licenses of brokers who list property, houses, or apartments which the owners do not want sold or rented to Negroes or members of other minority or religious groups.

The order is similar to Republican-sponsored open housing legislation which was defeated in 1963 by the state legislature.

CLERK RAISES PRECINCTS FOR ELECTIONS BY 7

Seven new suburban voting precincts have been created by the county clerk's office because of a population increase in six townships, it was announced yesterday.

The changes are: Bremen township from 33 to 34 precincts; Elk Grove, 40 to 41; Leyden, 31 to 32; Maine, 108 to 110; Schuamburg, 18 to 19; and Thornton, 16 to 17.

The new precincts bring to 1,941 the number under the county clerk's jurisdiction, said George H. McCallister, county election supervisor. Each precinct is limited to 500 registered voters.

Mexico City Police

Solve 137 Slayings

MEXICO CITY, July 14 (AP)—Mexico City police announced they solved 137 slayings in June and that 80 homicide cases remain open.

E. J. Korvette

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