

By the Chairman:

Q. I understand the objection is yours, and is that the documents may be filed under reserve of your own objections?—A. Yes.

Q. When they are supposed to be kept secret and confidential?—A. The files are here, and whatever files we have we have nothing to withhold from any of them from the committee. We do not want to hide anything.

By Mr. Bell:

Q. How many would there be?—A. I have 32 now, but altogether up to the present time there would be several thousand.

Q. How many do you figure there are?—A. If I am desired to bring all these inland revenue cases there are hundreds of those, where John Smith, with a still, was fined \$200 and so on.

Q. May I ask you if you have a file showing a list or referring in any way to prosecutions withheld under instructions?—A. No. I have no recollection of any prosecutions withheld on instructions.

Q. You could at least give us a file, I take it, of cases in which reports were made and no prosecution followed?—A. I have a form that would perhaps answer what you are asking. I have a monthly form, about 125 of them, from every district, that shows every case entered and the results, whether prosecution or whatever it is. That will perhaps cover what Mr. Bennett wants, too. That is a monthly form from each district in the whole force.

Q. Is that available immediately?—A. Yes, I could get that this afternoon.

By Hon. Mr. Stevens:

Q. For the last two years anyway?—A. For the last two years, 1924, 1925, and 1926. Those are regular monthly forms with the fines paid, or whatever action is taken.

By Mr. Bell:

Q. And it contains a resume of what you report to the Department?—A. No, it just gives each case, the date it occurs, but it gives you the number of the file so if the file is wanted you could get the number of the file of that case.

Q. Does it give no indication of the nature of the evidence at your command when you report?—A. That is on the files. There is one line for each case, and the district reports all cases entered and whether they were prosecuted and convictions obtained, or what happens.

Q. Do you, having regard to your knowledge of the particular situation, you are reporting from, recommend prosecutions?—A. If we recommend prosecutions?

Q. Yes?—A. We often do.

Q. And that shows on the files themselves?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Elliott:

Q. Mr. Commissioner, have I understood you correctly in this, that you act under instructions only?—A. Yes.

Q. That is correct?—A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been connected with this Department?—A. Forty years at the end of this month.

Q. You started in in what year?—A. The 1st of March, 1886.

Q. And have been connected with the department constantly since?—A. Ever since.

[Commissioner Cortlandt Starnes.]