

IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF UTAH,  
IN AND FOR WASATCH COUNTY.

State of Utah, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
Louis Christ, )  
Defendant. )

TO THE HONORABLE STATE BOARD OF PARDONS OF THE STATE OF UTAH:

The defendant, Louis Christ, was convicted of the crime of Arson in the Second Degree, the crime having been committed at Soldier Summit, in Wasatch county, Utah. The building burned was a building owned by one, Peterson, and used by some Greeks as a soft drink parlor at Soldier Summit, Wasatch county, Utah. There is little doubt but that the place being run by the Greeks was used as a place to sell intoxicating liquors, and the evidence showed that on pay day the Greeks in charge had prostitutes come to Soldier Summit and use the building for purposes of prostitution. The evidence also shows that the K. K. K. had threatened to destroy the building, unless it was cleaned up. The defendant was engaged principally in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. During the trial of the case there did not appear any special motive on the part of the defendant for burning the building, unless he was employed to do so by Greeks who were competitors of the place burned: but the district informs me that the defendant had recently sold to the runners of the building burned, a large quantity of intoxicating liquors, and while the owners of the building were absent from Soldier Summit, the defendant stole this liquor, and burned the building in order to hide the stealing; but I am in no position to know whether or not this is the fact. At any event, the evidence was ample to justify the jury in finding the defendant guilty, particularly because of admissions made by the defendant; and the evidence also shows that just prior to the burning he came running to a business house nearby, and at the time he was all out of breath, and no satisfactory explanation was made by the defendant of this circumstance. The defendant is an alien, being a Greek, and as above indicated, according to reliable information, has been making his livelihood by the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor. While the evidence against the defendant is not conclusive, in that the record does not disclose a motive for burning the building, in my opinion, as above indicated, it is ample to sustain a conviction, and I recommend that he be imprisoned in the State Prison for a period of one year.

Respectfully submitted.

*Elias Hansen*

J U D G E .