



C. D.  
Underwood



N. E. Orr



C. L. Smith



Earl Nash  
Royal Oak

# Prosecutor's Office



THE personnel of the Prosecuting Attorney's office consists of Clyde D. Underwood, Prosecuting Attorney; Clarence L. Smith, first assistant; Norman C. Orr, second assistant; Earl N. Nash, third assistant; Marion E. Newberry, stenographer, and Florence E. Minnich, special court stenographer for the Prosecutor's office.

The County of Oakland is one of the busiest counties in the State of Michigan, and ranks third in the amount of criminal business in the State. This is due to the fact that Oakland County is located on the border of Wayne county, which is the largest county in the State of Michigan. Our population is increasing very rapidly due to the fact that we have a great manufacturing community which offers employment for all kinds of labor and this, of course, brings in a certain element which increases our crime. In spite of this fact society is well protected, because the Board of Supervisors and Board of Auditors have been far-sighted enough to maintain sufficient officers to give the people ample protection.

All criminal matters are handled directly through the office of the Prosecuting Attorney and we have found that in doing this we save the County large sums of money by carefully investigating all cases brought to our attention and only allowing those of merit to be carried into court. In this way we not only give ample protection to the people, but we also curb the expenditure of public money.

The work of this office carries its members to all parts of the county, as we hold cases before the justices of the various townships as it is cheaper for a member of the Prosecutor's office to go before the justice in the township where the crime happened than it is to bring the many witnesses to the county seat in Pontiac.

Oakland County is probably foremost in the results that it obtains from its prisoners that are confined at the County Jail for the reason that we have a special act whereby we can provide work for the prisoners and again because of the vision of the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Auditors in establishing a cement block factory which provides employment for them. This aids the Prosecuting Attorney in a good many instances because a number of men who commit crime are willing to work, and if they can be assured that they can work instead of being confined in jail they will plead guilty, rather than put the County to the expense of a trial.

During the past year and a half the Prosecutor's office has handled approximately six thousand cases, some of which have contributed to the general fund in the payment of costs. This practice is a direct benefit to the taxpayers of the county as it lessens the amount which otherwise would have to be raised.

The efficiency of this office is best demonstrated by the few bank robberies, hold-ups and other banditry as compared to other counties bordering us.

CLYDE D. UNDERWOOD.