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ROBERT L. McMANUS, PRESS SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

Governor Rockefeller and the leaders of the Legislature, Senator Walter J. Mahoney, temporary president of the Senate, and Joseph F. Carlino, Speaker of the Assembly, today announced their appointments to the nine-member Temporary State Commission on Revision of the Penal Law and Criminal Code. Three of the appointments were made by Governor Rockefeller and three each by Senator Mahoney and Speaker Carlino.

Governor Rockefeller designated Assemblyman Richard J. Bartlett as chairman and Timothy N. Pfeiffer as vice-chairman of the Commission.

The Commission was created by the 1961 Legislature, upon Governor Rockefeller's recommendation, to study the existing provisions of the Penal Law and the Code of Criminal Procedure with a view to eliminating unnecessary provisions, simplifying existing provisions, improving substantive content and simplifying court procedure to facilitate the disposition of criminal cases.

The creation of the Temporary Commission will mark the first step in filling the need which has long existed for an overall revision of the Penal Law and Code of Criminal Procedure which have undergone no major revision since 1881.

Among the specific objectives to which the Commission is to direct its attention are included:

- sentencing practices and the theory of punishment in criminal cases;
- adequate and equal representation for all accused;
- uniformity of procedures in courts throughout the State;
- insanity and other special defenses in criminal cases;
- trial costs;
- special proceedings relating to commitment of persons to various State institutions; and

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-- the overall efficiency of police and court personnel.

Governor Rockefeller appointed to the Commission:

TIMOTHY N. PFEIFFER, 125 East 74th Street, New York City. Mr. Pfeiffer was Chief Counsel for the New York State Temporary Commission on the Courts, 1956-57; former Special Deputy Attorney General of New York; former Deputy Assistant District Attorney of New York County; member of the Council of the American Law Institute; former president of the National Probation and Parole Association; former vice-president and director of Youth House; a trustee of Princeton University and Teachers College of Columbia University, and a member of the law firm of Milbank Tweed Hope and Hadley.

HOWARD A. JONES, 188 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City, and 63 Brookdale Avenue, New Rochelle, as Assistant Counsel to Governor Rockefeller since October 1960.

Mr. Jones was an Assistant District Attorney in New York County from 1953 until 1960, and had served that office in various other capacities since 1942.

As an Assistant District Attorney, he was in charge of narcotics investigations in New York County conducted by the District Attorney. He has lectured before various school, church and civic groups in New York City on the subject of narcotics and drug addiction. He has also served as a guest lecturer at the New York City Police Academy on the subjects of vice and gambling. As Assistant Counsel to the Governor, Mr. Jones' areas of primary responsibility include matters relating to the Department of Correction, the Parole Division, the Lottery Control Commission, State Liquor Authority, Youth and Delinquency, Criminal Law, Extradition, Narcotics, Parole and Probation.

WILLIAM B. MAHONEY, 42 Court Street, Buffalo.

Mr. Mahoney, a practicing trial attorney, received his law degree from the University of Buffalo Law School in 1922.

Senator Mahoney appointed the following to the Commission:

JUSTICE PHILIP HALPERN, 739 Lafayette Avenue, Buffalo, New York, Associate Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, Fourth Department.

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Justice Halpern was a Professor of Law at the University of Buffalo from 1923 to 1943, Acting Dean of the Law School from 1943 to 1946 and Dean of the Law School from 1946 to 1947. While a professor at the Law School, Justice Halpern taught criminal law. He was elected Justice of the Supreme Court in November of 1947 and served as a Trial Justice from 1948 to 1952. In September of 1952 he was appointed to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, Third Department, serving in that Department until 1958 when he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department.

Justice Halpern was a delegate to the New York Constitutional Convention of 1938. He has been the United States member of the United Nations Sub-commission on the prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities since 1954.

PROFESSOR HERBERT WECHSLER, 20 East 67th Street, New York City. Mr. Wechsler has been Professor of Law, Columbia Law School, since 1945; Chief Reporter of the American Law Institute on the Model Code of Criminal Law since 1952. He was a member of the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure, United States Supreme Court, from 1941-45; Assistant Attorney General of the United States in charge of the War Division, Department of Justice; and co-author of "Criminal Law and Its Administration". From 1938-40 he served as Assistant Attorney General of New York State and in 1938 he was counsel to the Minority Leader of the New York State Constitutional Convention.

JOHN J. CONWAY, JR., 21 Westland Avenue, Brighton, New York, District Attorney of Monroe County.

Mr. Conway was an Assistant District Attorney in Monroe County from 1950 to 1957. From 1945 to 1947 he was a legal assistant to Alger B. Chapman, the president of the New York State Tax Commission. Mr. Conway was elected to the Assembly from the Second Assembly District of Monroe County in a Special Election held in 1957 and was re-elected to a full term in November, 1958. Mr. Conway was elected District Attorney of Monroe in November, 1960, and assumed office on January 1, 1961.

Speaker Carlino appointed the following to the Commission:

ASSEMBLYMAN RICHARD J. BARTLETT, Ridge Road, Glens Falls, New York.

Assemblyman Bartlett is a graduate of Georgetown University and Harvard Law School. Admitted to the bar in 1949, he is a member of the firm of Bartlett & Dier with offices in Glens Falls, N.Y. He was elected to the Assembly in 1958, representing Warren county,

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A veteran, he served with the Air Force in Korea as Staff Judge Advocate of the 8th Fighter-Bomber Wing, and was discharged in 1953 with rank of Captain.

ASSEMBLYMAN WILLIAM KAPELMAN, 201 East Mosholu Parkway, New York City.

Assemblyman Kapelman is a graduate of the College of the City of New York and New York Law School. He is a member of the law firm of McCarthy, Kapelman and Nathanson with offices at 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

He was elected to the Assembly, representing the Ninth Assembly District of Bronx county, in the 1950 general election and re-elected in each successive election.

NICHOLAS ATLAS, 141 East Third Street, New York City.

Mr. Atlas, a practicing attorney, has been since 1958 a member of the Committee on Law Reform of the American Bar Association. He is a former Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, (1932-34); former Assistant District Attorney of New York County, (1938-48); and a former Trial Examiner of the State Labor Relations Board, (1953-57). In 1957 he was appointed Assistant Attorney General by Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz to expedite publication of Administrative Rules. He is the author of Criminal Law and Procedure, in the Encyclopedia of Criminology, and he lectured on Evidence and Criminal Law at the Practicing Law Institute from 1957 through 1960.