

# WICOMICO

## GRAND JURY

### INVESTIGATES

#### *Judge Bailey Instructs Jurors To Make A Sweeping Inquiry*

#### **Reviews Interference And False Accusations**

#### *List Of 102 Witnesses Summoned To Give Testimony*

The Wicomico county grand jury was instructed Monday to make a sweeping investigation into the murder of Daniel J. Elliott, prominent lumber manufacturer at Salisbury on December 4th, the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, the confessed slayer of Mr. Elliott, and the activities of communist organizations which preceded these two crimes. State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey handed Sheriff G. Murray Phillips a list of 102 witnesses, whose testimony is to be heard by the jury making its investigations.

Attorney General Wm. Preston Lane, who has co-operated with the Wicomico county prosecutor in conducting a quiet investigation, will come to Salisbury to assist in placing the results of the probe before the grand jurors.

In a lengthy charge that consumed more than a half hour, Judge Joseph L. Bailey brought the two crimes and the communistic activities on the lower Eastern Shore to the attention of the grand jury.

He reviewed the sequence of events which aroused the Shore following the murder of the four members of the Green Davis family in adjacent Worcester county and the activities of the representatives of the International Labor Defense. While not referring to the communist organization by name, he spoke of "an organization," with headquarters outside of this state, but with a branch with members in this state and recalled statements of the organization's members that the public officials were seeking to "legally lynch an innocent man charged with the crime of committing these four murders."

"To the sting of foreign interference, -and I might say to the sting of false accusation the people not only of Worcester county, but throughout this entire section of the state, became much disturbed," Judge Bailey asserted. His charge follows: