

# DOCTORED RECORDS IN GRAFT CASE BARE MYSTERIOUS \$3,500

**Chemicals Restore Erased En-  
tries in Books of Butcher  
Who Got Market Permit.**

**\$500 FOR THE McMANUS**

**Permit Issued by O'Malley When  
Adolph Kahn Visited Him  
After Drawing \$3,000.**

**SWANN TO AID COMMITTEE**

**Promises Prosecutions and Protec-  
tion of Witnesses Whose  
Permits Are Revoked.**

Adolf Kahn, a wholesale butcher in West Washington Market, admitted before the Meyer committee yesterday that he had cashed a check for \$3,000 on the morning of April 11, 1921, had visited Edwin J. O'Malley, Commissioner of Public Markets, at the Municipal Building immediately thereafter, and had walked out of his office with a valuable permit for trading in West Washington Market.

Mr. Kahn on the same day made out a check for \$500 in favor of Thomas J. (The) McManus, the Tammany politician and leader of the Fifth Assembly District. Mr. Kahn said, however, that he "thought better" of this and did not issue the check with the name of McManus on it. Instead, he made out a check for \$500 payable to bearer and it was duly cashed by the bearer.

Just what the \$3,000 cash and the \$500 check were used for was the subject of a good deal of contradiction. Facts tending to explain the transaction were drawn from reluctant witnesses, from erased and rewritten checks and from pages of Mr. Kahn's books the writing on which had been obliterated with chemicals.

**Drew Check to "Surprise" McManus.**

Mr. Kahn issued a statement to the press explaining that he had originally drawn the check for McManus in order to "surprise" him. Then he changed his mind and gave Mr. McManus not a single cent. He said he cashed the check himself on the same day, April 11, and bet the money even that Jack Dempsey would defeat Georges Carpentier. He testified that the \$3,000 in cash which he drew a few minutes before calling on Commissioner O'Malley had been turned over at the bank as a loan to his brother-in-law.

An erased entry in Mr. Kahn's books, later restored with chemicals by the Meyer committee, showed that he had originally credited the \$3,500 to his investment in the West Washington Market property, which he acquired by permit from Commissioner O'Malley. The whole page recording his expenses in connection with this transaction had been washed with ink-bleaching chemicals. A new investment account had been written up on another page. This account did not contain any reference to the \$3,000 in cash or the \$500 bearer check. But on another page the \$3,500 was succinctly recorded as "withdrawn from capital."

Nearly the whole day was consumed with an intensely interesting development of the mysterious Kahn-O'Malley-McManus transaction; of the manner in which Kahn originally heard that an applicant for a market permit should see McManus; of his quick migration from the bank to Commissioner O'Malley's office; of the number of telephone calls sent out by Kahn on the Saturday he received his subpoena to appear before a Meyer sub-committee; of his consultations and attempted consultations with legal and political advisers, relatives, friends, employes and an expert accountant; of his orders and countermanded orders to his employes; of a gathering on Sunday at his office where his books were kept, and of his appearance on Monday before the Meyer committee with books erased, chemically treated and revised.

**To Trail That \$3,000 Today.**

Today's session will be devoted to an investigation of the real destination of the \$3,000. The facts already developed are regarded by counsel for the committee as pretty conclusive as to the recipient of the \$500 check to bearer.

"Who got the \$3,000 in cash?" To this question the committee will attempt to find an answer today. More definite evidence than is usually obtainable in bribery transaction is said to be forthcoming tomorrow, involving a member of Mayor Hylan's official family.

The committee took prompt action to protect the witnesses—Christian Haslob and Stephen Woolsey—whose permits to do business in Washington Market were revoked by Commissioner O'Malley after they had testified to the payment of bribes demanded of them as the price of permission to do business under Commissioner O'Malley.

The committee engaged Cyrus R. Miller, a lawyer of 261 Broadway, to fight any overt steps taken by Commissioner O'Malley against these men. O'Malley caused them to be notified that their permits would be revoked, but he took no steps to dispossess them. An application for an injunction will be made, according to Leonard A. Wallstein of counsel for the committee, as the first step to prevent dispossession.

**Swann to Support Committee.**

District Attorney Edward Swann assured the committee that he would give ~~him~~ full support, both in prosecuting crime brought to light by the committee and in crushing attempts to interfere with the committee's work.

"I deem it to be of greater importance," said Mr. Swann, in a letter to the committee, "to drive from the public service any public official who has been guilty of exacting tribute from a citizen, or receiving compensation for the

Continued on Page Three.

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