

CLAUSEN'S BOOKS OBSCURE

ENTRIES ABOUT PICTURES NO ONE IS ABLE TO FIND.

Confronted by Guaranty certificates which he denied giving Mrs. Leggett's Art House Cleaning—Checks and Stubs That Cannot Be Found.

William Clausen was cross examined nearly all yesterday in William T. Evans's suit against him and when confronted with a record from his ledger showing that a payment for \$25 had been made to Arthur Dawson on a Martin painting he declared that the entry was false and had been put in the book without his knowledge. He was questioned closely regarding checks and receipts for the two Martins which are the subject of the suit, which papers are expected to be the subject of testimony by a handwriting expert.

Clausen called the plaintiff a commissioner at one stage of his testimony and Edward W. Hatch, who was questioning him, inquired with some heat if Clausen was speaking sarcastically. Clausen said he wasn't.

"Is that Leggett picture brought into court an original?" asked Clausen's counsel, Jerome Kiser.

"It is not. It is a copy."

"What you have the original?"

"I did."

"What were the circumstances?"

"Mr. and Mrs. Francis H. Leggett had been customers and friends of mine for a long time. He bought a house in Madison avenue, and with the house he bought a number of marble statues. I got word from Mrs. Leggett to come to the house and look at the statues. She said they were in the way. They had cost a couple of thousand dollars, she said. When I went there Mrs. Leggett showed me a number of pictures and said, 'Look at the paintings my husband bought.' She wanted to sell all the pictures and I bought thirteen of them for \$5,000. Mrs. Leggett insisted that I remove the pictures from the house at once and I did."

"The next morning Mr. Leggett came in and said he didn't want to have those pictures sold. He said Mrs. Leggett had told him that she had sold them and he had to go and recover them. He asked me what profit I would want to return the pictures to him and insisted that his wife had no authority to sell them. I said, 'There's a Wyant among your pictures that I like very much. I would be willing to take that for my profit.' He said, 'You can keep the Wyant. I want to teach my wife a lesson. Keep the original and have a copy made for me and send it to the house. I kept the original and had Herman Eric make a copy of it on the second floor of my gallery. The picture was worth only a couple of hundred dollars.'

"What did you do with the original?"

"I kept it on exhibition and sold it later to Col. H. B. Wilson of the Lotus Club. I told him about the transaction."

"Did you afterward have dealings with Mr. Leggett?"

"Yes, lots of times up to the day of his death."

Clausen denied that he had erased the name Rudell from a painting by that artist and substituted Wyant, as employees had testified. He said that the Wyant sold to H. Victor Newcomb, which is alleged to be a Rudell, was bought from Mrs. Wyant. He didn't know where she supposed Wyant came from that he took out of a sale because Louis A. Lehman declared that Dawson had made it and that it was a copy of Lehman's. Wyant, but he knew it didn't come from Dawson. He exchanged a Ringer for the Inness Henry Smith distributed. Mr. Smith paying the difference in price. Afterward he sold the Inness again. He never told Ringer that he wished he had killed Arthur Dawson the first time he saw him. "Last afternoon in Medfield, when Mr. Evans declares a false was bought from Elizabeth Inness, the painter's widow."

"Did you tell Mr. Keat the whole picture business was a lunacy game?"

"Certainly did not."

Clausen said that his gross business for about three years prior to the Evans action had been between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year, of which about \$20,000 was profit. The profit seemed large, but it wasn't, he said. He said he had a private record of every picture, but his book was stolen from him. He bought about twenty Russett, and didn't know whether they were entered or not. He supposed that the Martins were entered in the stock book, too.

"Don't you know that two Martins and Inness's 'Apricot in Medfield' are not entered there?"

"I don't know. I suppose I directed my clerk to enter them."

"Look at the list of thirteen attributed Martins in your exhibition and tell me where there is a book with a single entry concerning them?"

"I had a book, but I haven't got it now."

"Do you swear that any of the books taken by the receiver contain these entries?"

"I'll swear the books contain some of them, but I can't tell what books they'll be in."

"It may be possible that they were left out on purpose by your star witness?"

"Whom do you call your star witness?"

"Karsch."

"Do you deny everything he said?"

"Everything."

"Do you know how many witnesses you may have had?"

Clausen's counsel objected to the line of questioning, and the Court sustained him.

Clausen said concerning his books, "I never had a list of bookkeeping and was entirely in the hands of my employees."

He said he didn't keep track of his account with Arthur Dawson. He couldn't tell the names of many of Dawson's pictures because they had such ordinary names as "Autumn," "Spring," "Sunset," "At the Seashore," "Moonlight" and "All those things."

"Ever purchase any Homer Martins from him?"

"Positively not."

"Page 146 of your journal says, 'Account of Arthur Dawson, one painting, Homer D. Martin, April, 1902, \$275.' Do you know what that is for?"

"I don't know."

"How did it happen to be entered there?"

"I don't know."

"Is what the only answer you can give?"

"I know I never got any Homer Martin or any picture in imitation of any other artist from Dawson."

Clausen declared that he never bought a Homer Martin from Mr. DeKay, and Mr. Hatch asked him how he explained an entry in his journal for 1902 of one Homer Martin bought from DeKay for \$1,000.

"Absolutely untrue," said Clausen.

"He is living here now. Why don't you bring him here? If it's in the journal it is a false entry."

Clausen said he only gave certificates of guaranty with pictures when they were asked for. He said he didn't give Dr. Humphreys a certificate of guaranty, but when one was shown to him he said he had signed it. When Mr. Hatch asked if he gave the certificates to encourage more purchases, he said, "Certainly." He couldn't recollect another person out of 5,000 purchasers who had asked for a guaranty.

"Didn't you give one to Mr. Evans?"

"I never gave him a guaranty because he never asked for one."

Mr. Hatch showed him a guaranty he had signed, and Clausen said he thought

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he had given it to some one else than Mr. Evans, "probably Dr. Humphreys." Clausen was excused while James J. Sullivan was called to say that half a dozen books then in court in the plaintiff's possession were all found when he took charge of Clausen's business. When recalled, Clausen said he paid Dawson about \$3,000 and that the full account should be in the ledger. He had looked for it and couldn't find it. He said Dawson mostly in checks and hasn't been able to find the checks or the stubs. As to the identity of Andrew Chittenden from whom Clausen says he didn't know where Chittenden lived and had looked for him all over the city. He went to Burlington, Vt., on his search. "So far as you know now he has no existence?"

"I only know I couldn't find a trace of him."

"Didn't you write a letter to Mr. Newcomb some time later and tell him you had purchased a picture from Mr. Chittenden?"

"I did not. I said the picture came from the Chittenden collection."

Clausen said he found the check he gave Mr. Chittenden in a drawer in his desk. He didn't find the receipt for a long time. He said he only kept it because that was the only receipt she had. He added that he found it after he got out of jail.

Clausen's name was signed to the Chittenden check and Clausen explained it by saying that he had a blank check at the office with her name signed to it.

Clausen was asked about the purchase of "The Old Mill," which he said was owned by "Mr. Swift" and "Mr. Hamilton" of Syracuse. Hamilton wrote first and when he got the letter Clausen assumed it was from Mr. Hamilton he knew there. He found out later it wasn't and never has been able to find him. Hamilton's letter has disappeared, he said. He showed his letterpress copy book containing his alleged reply to Hamilton.

"What are the initials of Mr. Hamilton on that letter you wrote him?"

"They aren't here. The letterpress didn't copy them."

Clausen said he only knew Swift as P. Swift, the name signed to the alleged receipt from him. He said he found the check with which Swift was paid under the bookkeeper's desk. Some of his boys found the receipt.

Mr. Hatch asked Clausen if he hadn't testified previously that the receipt was stolen from his desk and he replied, "All of us were so happy when we found it that I didn't remember about it."

BANKERS' DINNER TALK.

Mr. Watson Jokes About Banker Van Norden Mayor Gaynor Complimented.

A hundred or more Long Island bankers and their wives attended the eighteenth annual dinner of Group Seven of the New York State Bankers Association at the Astor last night. Henry S. Mott, Northport, chairman of the group, presided.

Archibald E. Watson, Corporation Counsel, didn't talk much about banking. He thought bankers were pretty good readers of human nature.

"They are not at all like the late Mr. Van Norden, who was so touched at the sight of a fallen pedestrian that he immediately dropped \$20,000 in the street," said Mr. Watson. "On the other hand, they are about as reckless as the little boy whose mother said to him, 'My son, an angel has brought you a little sister, don't you want to see her?' No, answered the boy, 'I'd rather see the angel.'"

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Charles E. Littlefield, former Congressman from Maine, passed upbunking but said he thought Mayor Gaynor so far as he has gone has made good. He didn't approve of the United States Government going into the banking business or any business that might be more profitably conducted by some of the government.

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LAX BROOKLYN FIRE SERVICE

WALDO FOUND SPOTS WHERE REPAIRS WERE NECESSARY.

Sends Deputy Chief Guerin Over to Williamsburg First and Afterward to the Repair Shops and Training Stables Political Pull Party to Blame.

Fire Commissioner Waldo found considerable laxity prevailing in his department in certain parts of Brooklyn and he decided to bring the fire fighting force of that borough up to the standard set by the men of Manhattan.

His attention was first drawn to the poor fire service in Williamsburg, where companies responded to fire alarms with only a part of the crew on the apparatus. The other part went to the fire on trolley cars from places outside of their quarters, or didn't show up at all.

The Commissioner decided to send over a Manhattan fireman to show the men of Williamsburg how the work is done in this borough and he picked out Deputy Chief William Guerin for the job. Guerin jacked up the firemen in Williamsburg, and in a short time complaints from residents of that part of Brooklyn about the poor service of the firemen ceased to reach the Commissioner.

Recently the Commissioner in one of his inspecting tours found things in the repair shops and training stables of Brooklyn sadly amiss. Trains were running about loose instead of being in stalls. No systematic record of material on hand was kept. A wheel for an engine is worth \$50. When the Commissioner asked how many wheels there were in the repair shops there were no records that would show. No uniform color was put on the trucks of the department as in Manhattan. Some of the Brooklyn trucks were painted others green and a few white.

Political influence was found to have something to do with filling the repair shops with men out of proportion to the work performed. A fireman was doing clerical work there and some of the men seemed to be doing no work at all. The men in the attached engine company were found to be sleeping in the room where dead horses were dissected. In the abandoned quarters of Squadron C, now occupied by the Fire Department, the Commissioner was surprised that the Board of Health had not closed the place as a nuisance. Perhaps it would have taken action had other than a city department been in possession. The horses had made the place filthy and the men wouldn't clean up.

Commissioner Waldo summoned Deputy Chief Guerin from his other work and put him in charge of the repair shops, giving

him a free hand in cleaning out abuses and establishing efficiency. The Commissioner was pleased with the way Guerin had improved the Williamsburg fire service and the assignment of the repair shops was in recognition of good work.

Guerin is the representative of the Fire Department in delivering lectures before civic bodies upon Fire Department matters.

Commissioner Waldo has instituted a card system in regard to hose that is expected to save the department from trouble through rotten hose bursting at fires. All new hose must be guaranteed by the manufacturer for three years of actual service. To assure this the new system will keep a complete record of every length of hose from the time it is received, so that if it should burst before the time of actual service is up it may be returned to the manufacturer.

Expulsion of Jews From Russia.

The American Jewish committee is in receipt of advice from entirely trustworthy sources in Berlin stating that the expulsion of Jews from various cities in Russia has reached a magnitude never heretofore attained. Whereas formerly, even in Von Plehve's time, those threatened with expulsion by the caprice of local governors were enabled to get protection through the Ministry of the Interior, now it is the Ministry itself from which the orders for the expulsion emanate.

At the present time hundreds of families that have lived for decades in Kief, Riga, Kasan and Woronesch are being driven out.

The Wall Street "Evening Sun."

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THE PITTSBURG BRIBERS NEXT

COURTS NOW AFTER MEN WHO PAID THE COINCIDENTS.

Three Leaders of the