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DEANE AND FLOOD ADMIT MAHONY SIGNED DOCUMENT PROMISING POSITIONS IN EVENT OF HIS ELECTION AND THE GRAND JURY DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE MATTER

THE illegal acts on the part of County Clerk Bert Mahony during the recent campaign, as published exclusively in The Call yesterday, created intense indignation against boss politics in all circles in the city.

Mayor Schmitz took immediate action after reading the charges made against Mahony in The Call. After considerable difficulty the Mayor succeeded in getting Mahony before him and received a denial from the County Clerk of the charges made. The Grand Jury yesterday arranged for a special investigation, to begin next Friday afternoon.

The Mayor has again ordered Mahony to appear before him to-day at 2 p. m to answer to the charges made in The Call.

Ex-County Clerk Deane yesterday admitted that the document signed by Mahony was in existence and could be produced, while John Flood, a deputy, confessed to drawing up the paper. Mayor Schmitz will place Mahony on trial and remove him from office if found guilty.

IGNORES MESSAGES OF MAYOR

County Clerk Fails to Make Appearance When Asked.

Complies When a Policeman Brings a Request.

THE expose by The Call yesterday of the illegal acts committed by County Clerk Bert Mahony during the recent campaign to secure election was the sole topic of discussion in political circles and in the City Hall.

Mayor Schmitz yesterday morning took official action on the charges preferred by The Call, and the Grand Jury will hold a special session next Friday afternoon for the purpose of making an investigation.

Intense excitement prevailed in the office of the County Clerk. The deputy County Clerks appointed at the behest of Boss Crimmins and Attorney William F. Herrin fairly shook in their shoes, fearing that the searchlight of truth would expose more crooked deals and throw them out into the world.

County Clerk Bert Mahony emerged from the solitude of his home yesterday morning and went to his office in the City Hall. The doors of his office were locked and only the favored few of the "push" were given an audience.

The developments of yesterday were startling in every way. Mayor Schmitz had a hard task to secure Mahony's attendance in his office, and was obliged to send his usher and a police officer to bring him to the Mayor's rooms.

Ex-County Clerk Deane admitted yesterday the truth of the charges made by The Call, and told how Mahony had signed a contract to give him a position in the County Clerk's office in the event of Mahony's election.

Mahony tried to evade the question when asked if he had signed the document as charged by The Call. He made a half-hearted denial to a representative of The Call, and later on informed the Mayor that he had not signed any paper agreeing to give Deane a position.

Mayor Schmitz arrived at his office early yesterday morning, and as soon as he had read the charges against Mahony published in The Call he wrote a letter to the County Clerk and in it asked him to, at once call at the Mayor's office. The letter was sent to Mahony's residence by mail, as it was given out daily that Mahony was ill and was confined to his room. After sending the letter Mayor Schmitz tried to reach Mahony over the telephone, but was repeatedly informed by "central" that no one answered the telephone at Mahony's home.

While the Mayor was trying to secure telephonic connection with Mahony the County Clerk was not many yards away from the Mayor's office, locked behind the doors of his private office on the second floor of the City Hall.

Mayor Schmitz finally got a reply by telephone from Mahony's home in the afternoon, and was informed that the County Clerk was at the City Hall. When the Mayor called up the County Clerk's office he was told that Mahony was out to lunch and would be back in the course of a few minutes. The Mayor requested that Mahony be informed that his presence was desired in the Mayor's office, but no notice was taken of the message. Again and again the Mayor telephoned to the County Clerk's office, but evasive answers were given in each case. Then Mayor Schmitz became angry and determined to get Mahony before him at any cost. The Mayor instructed his usher, Marcus Blum, and Police Corporal Williams to go to Mahony's office and to "stand no nonsense."

"Don't be bluffed," said the Mayor to his usher and police attendant, "but see Mahony and tell him that I want to see him here immediately or I will know the reason why."

The usher and police corporal did not find Mahony in his office when they proceeded there. The County Clerk went out when the Mayor sent his last telephone message and met Attorney T. Riordan in the hallway. The message delivered by Usher Blum and Corporal Williams, when they ran into Mahony and his attorney a few minutes later, had the result desired by the Mayor.

Mahony, accompanied by his attorney, went to the Mayor's office and was immediately seen by the city's executive. A few minutes later Attorney A. Ruef, the Mayor's legal adviser, arrived and became one of the party in consultation. The seance lasted but a few minutes.



MAYOR SCHMITZ
"IF THE CHARGES ARE PROVEN I WILL REMOVE MAHONY."



ATTY WOLF HERRIN
"THE MAN BEHIND 'BOSS' CRIMMINS"



EX-COUNTY CLERK DEANE TELLS OF THE DEAL MADE BY MAHONY



JOHN FLOOD, WHO TELLS OF THE DRAWING OF THE DOCUMENT.



COUNTY CLERK A.B. MAHONY
"IF THE CALL PRODUCES THE DOCUMENT I'LL DO SOME TALKING ABOUT IT."

WILL NOT DENY THE CONTRACT

Ex-County Clerk Says Deal Was Made as Charged.

Will Produce Evidence of Compact When Asked.

WILLIAM A. DEANE was quite reluctant at first to discuss the details of the contract. He expressed regret that the story had leaked out and attributed the expose to overzealous friends who were displeased because he had not been fairly dealt with by Mahony. Deane said: "I am extremely sorry that this thing has been made public. I am sorry for Mahony's sake, even though he broke faith with me. Personally I feel that my position in the matter is an unfortunate one. I cannot deny the truth of the story published in yesterday's Call in reference to Mahony having made a contract with me, and at the same time I have little desire to discuss the matter."

"You know, Mr. Deane, that Mr. Mahony made a contract to retain you in his office as chief deputy in the event of his election?" was asked.

"Yes," answered Deane, "I admit that he did. I guess there is no use trying to protect Mahony. All those who knew of the contract and saw it or witnessed it with their signatures have admitted its existence and I will also be truthful about the matter. I was not treated right by Mahony. I worked harder for his election than any other man he had in his fight and of course I am very much grieved over the way he has turned me down. Personally I was disposed to return good for evil and assist him to get along to the best of my ability, but my friends have come to me in large numbers and all of them are nettled and sore. I was certainly turned down hard."

"I have not spoken of Mahony's contract to a soul and was thunderstruck when my wife awakened me at 6 o'clock yesterday morning to read the story of the affair published in The Call. I know where the contract is at the present moment and I can produce it if I am forced to by the proper authorities. Until I am ordered to produce this contract by the proper authorities I will not say where it is or who has it. It is a sorry plight to be placed in, but it is no fault of mine that the secret was divulged. Under the circumstances it would be useless for me to deny the existence of the contract. I would not be doing justice to my manhood to lie about it. I carried out my end of it like a major, and if Mahony had not thrown me down the subject would never have been brought up."

BROOKS MAKES DEPOSIT COVERING DISPUTED FEES

Deposits Certificate of Deposit With County Clerk Pending Trial of Suit.

Former Treasurer S. H. Brooks yesterday deposited in the custody of the County Clerk certificates of deposit on a local savings bank for \$3817.62, which he had held as fees for collecting collateral inheritance taxes, which he retained under the State law.

The certificates were immediately turned over to the city treasury and locked in the strong vaults. The City Attorney has begun suits on an agreed statement of facts in Superior Judge Cook's court to determine the ownership of the money.

This job would give him a chance to get his sleep between the time he closed up his dive and the time he would have to show up at the City Hall in the morning. Mahony did not assign McNair to the Justice Court, but told him to report at 8:30 o'clock. Now the job does not look so good to McNair and it is quite possible that he will resign.

CITY'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND SOME MEN WHO FIGURE IN THE SCANDAL IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

COUNTY CLERK MAHONY MUST ANSWER TO THE LAW FOR HIS GRAVE OFFENSE

In an exclusive publication yesterday The Call exposed a scandal which hung like a pall over the County Clerk's office since A. B. Mahony assumed the duties of County Clerk.

In obedience to public duty this paper accused County Clerk Mahony of having entered into a corrupt bargain before he received the nomination for the position which he now holds. Charges of the gravest character, impugning his honesty, reflecting upon his integrity and questioning his fitness to hold any position of trust in this municipality, were made.

By this paper Mr. Mahony was accused of having entered into a written agreement with William A. Deane to appoint the latter Chief Deputy County Clerk in the event of his retirement from the race for the position which Mahony subsequently won. In making this corrupt, secret bargain County Clerk Mahony committed an offense against the laws of this State and of this city. His gross violation subjects him to summary removal and to whatever other penalty justice may see fit to inflict.

In making these charges The Call has performed a painful duty, but one which as a representative of the public it was compelled to perform. The position occupied by County Clerk Mahony is one of the most responsible and deeply sacred in the gift of this municipality. The County Clerk has in his custody interests of almost immeasurable magnitude. He has in a very large measure direction over the affairs of the living and of the dead, and in him should be embodied principles of absolute and uncompromising integrity.

When The Call discovered that in an affair, comparatively of the smallest significance, he signed a written agreement to barter away a sacred trust, this paper deemed itself obligated to the city to expose the crime. Mr. Mahony now denies that

he ever signed such an agreement with W. A. Deane or made any compact, written or oral, binding him, in any way before election, to a disposition of the patronage of his office. In making this assertion Mr. Mahony lies, knows he lies, and may take what satisfaction there may be in the promise that The Call is ready to prove that he lies.

There can be no evasion of such an issue as this. The reputation, standing, character and official position of County Clerk Mahony are at stake in the face of such a grave accusation. The Call, however, understands thoroughly its position and defies County Clerk Mahony to take it into court to disprove that he is a liar when he asserts that before his nomination he did not make a corrupt bargain which unfits him for the most responsible post which he now holds.

The exposure of this ante-election bargaining on the part of County Clerk Mahony has attracted the attention of the Grand Jury, which promises to begin an inquiry next Friday. For the sake of purity in the administration not only of municipal affairs, but of matters which touch closely the very life of every resident of San Francisco, it is to be hoped that this promised investigation will be thorough.

Mayor Schmitz has declared that he recognizes his own serious responsibility in this affair and will leave nothing undone to learn the facts and upon learning them to act with decision and promptness. For him and for the Grand Jury there can be but two phases to this grave matter. The Call has either grossly and unwarrantably slandered a public official or it has called to the attention of the public and to the properly constituted authorities the dereliction of a man who is dangerous to the community in the position which he now occupies. If The Call has acted without justice it should be punished. If it has told the truth and pointed out an evil which jeopardizes the city, the evil should be removed in the person of him who created it—County Clerk A. B. Mahony.

The Mayor asked Mahony as to the charges made by The Call, and the County Clerk, by the advice of his attorney, entered a general denial.

"That is all for the present," said the Mayor, and Mahony left the room.

Mayor Schmitz ordered Mahony to appear before him at the Mayor's office to-day at 2 o'clock to answer the grave charges made by The Call. Mahony

waived the formality of being duly summoned, and promised to appear before the Mayor at the time specified.

Joseph E. Bier, of the firm of Bier & Regensburger, money lenders, denied point blank that he contributed the sum of \$3850 through Boss Crimmins to help Mahony win his fight for the County Clerkship. Bier also denied that he had any money dealings with Mahony or any-

body else in the latter's interests during the campaign. Bier said: "I have had dealings with Mahony on several occasions during his employment as a clerk in the County Clerk's office under Deane. I loaned him money as I do many others employed by the city, but at no time during or immediately before the campaign did I contribute or loan him any money. I don't know Crimmins and would

not know him if I met him on the street. I have no agreement with County Clerk Mahony to get all the business out of his office. Some of the employees of the office do business with me, but there is no agreement between myself and Mahony or myself and Crimmins compelling them to bring their business to me."

James McNair, a Kearny street saloon-keeper, was given a clerkship in Mahony's office, but he is far from being satisfied with the job. McNair is one of "Philly" Crimmins' organization men. He conducts a resort known as the "Brooklyn" at 82 Kearny street. It is one of those places where women dance with sailors at night and in the day time it remains closed. McNair, who is "close up" to Crimmins, thought he could hold down the clerkship in the Justice Court.