

"I Understood That I Was Buying a Political Boss."—Testimony of A. B. Blanco of the Poodle Dog

signally to shake their testimony given on direct examination. By Blanco, the last witness for the day, Heney proved that by whatever name the fund raised by the French restaurant men may have been known, the contributors did not consider it a lawyer's fee, but the price of official immunity.

The testimony of Charles Skelley, secretary of the police commission, served only to put in evidence the official records of the board, which in every instance were confirmatory of the testimony of the other witnesses.

Little not already in the possession of the public was elicited from the witnesses. Their testimony was merely formal confirmation of the confessions that Ruef and the men who were black-mailed had made to the grand jury.

During the cross examination of Reagan, Campbell arose, and with a pained apology written on every feature, addressed the court. As counsel, he said, "I am compelled to perform my duty to my client. I—ah—ah—regret that I am compelled to ask some questions that are unpalatable—may be most painful for ladies to hear."

"If—the ladies remain—I must proceed. It was no longer a hint, but a request. There was a distinct rustle in all parts of the room.

During the afternoon the presence of Joseph Miller, poet of the Sierras, served as a slight diversion and attracted the momentary interest of Schmitz. The nave of the big Bush street temple was crowded at both sessions.

The witness. "There was some newspaper talk about it." "Did you take any action?" "I went to the mayor."

"What did you do next?" "There was Malfanti of Marchand's and Pierre Pieret of Delmonico's. We went to the mayor's office. It was two or three days after New Year."

"What was the purpose of the payment?" "This from Heney brought Campbell to his feet with an objection. 'There was a brief on the table and the witness was permitted to answer.'

"On cross examination Blanco said he had never been subjected to any threats of the loss of his license if he did not employ Ruef, but on the redirect examination he testified that had he wanted a lawyer's services he would not have employed Ruef."

"I would not have paid the \$1,175 if I was afraid that I would not get my license," he said. "I understood that I was buying a political boss."

"On the redirect examination Blanco knocked down another of the pegs on which the defense hoped to hang the 'fee' theory. He denied that to his knowledge the proprietors of the French restaurants had formed an association, and insisted that if there had been such an organization he knew nothing of it and had never attended any of its meetings."

Dr. Joseph F. Pohelm, former president of the police commission, and Antonio B. Blanco, formerly proprietor of the Poodle Dog restaurant, who gave sensational testimony against the defendant in the Schmitz trial yesterday, and were not shaken by the rigid cross examination conducted by counsel for the defense.



"There was a general discussion of the French restaurants. The mayor said it was bad politics to hold up the licenses. Those people had a lot of money invested and they should have their licenses. Ruef asked him if Reagan would vote for the licenses. The mayor replied that he would not compel Reagan to vote for them. Then he said to us: 'You will have to give those people licenses. If we can't do anything else, we will have to remove Hutton.'"

"Did the mayor give any reasons for wanting you as president of the police commission?" queried Heney. "Yes. He said I had more time and he wanted some one whom he could give his orders to."

"Did you discuss the removal of Hutton with Ruef?" "I did. I took the papers of removal from Ruef's office to Schmitz' office, where I delivered them, either to the mayor or to Pete Fanning, the police sergeant on duty there. Ruef and I laughed about the charges. We also discussed the regulations which Ruef submitted at the meeting on February 1, when the licenses were renewed. We laughed about them. They spoke for themselves. They did not provide for change. The regulations provided the any sleeping rooms must be above the second floor or that only dining rooms might be maintained on the second floor. This did not affect any one but Adler of the Bay State, who ran a cheaper place."

"Cross-examination failed to show that Pohelm's retirement from the glassware business was in any way connected with his resignation from the police board or that his resignation was not entirely voluntary. This witness also denied that he got his appointment through Dr. J. W. Ward, president of the board of health."

"The unfortunate cross examination of ex-Police Commissioner Thomas Reagan brought out the fact that the mayor had been advised of the corruption fund raised by the restaurant men and an emphatic denial that the union labor party was considered by the mayor. Schmitz exhibited his disapproval of Reagan with black scowls, but neither his frowns nor the efforts of his chief counsel served to weaken a single link in the chain of guilt forged by the ex-commissioner."

connection with the extortion case for which he is now on trial, instead of being forced to spread this care out over the appalling array of other cases resulting from the numerous indictments which have been returned against him. Yesterday afternoon the mayor was to have answered 14 indictments in connection with the gas rate bribery and the 14 growing out of the trolley franchise deal, but on motion of his counsel the cases were continued by Judge Lawlor until a week from Saturday. The continuance was allowed by the prosecution without protest and was based on the fact that the entire attention of both prosecution and defense is now centered on the extortion trial.

President Patrick Calhoun was excused by the court yesterday from personal attendance Saturday morning to answer the 14 trolley bribery indictments, and his attorneys will appear for him in this matter. Calhoun requested the court to permit him to be absent that he might go to Sacramento to meet members of his family, who are expected here Saturday, and Judge Lawlor granted the request with the understanding that no testimony is to be offered by his counsel at that time.

The cases against Eugene de Sable, John Martin and Frank G. Drum of the gas company will also be called for answer at 11:30 o'clock Saturday morning in Judge Lawlor's court. The time set for Ruef to answer both the gas and trolley indictments is 4:30 o'clock this afternoon in Judge Lawlor's court, at which hour the court will also hear the testimony of Secretary G. G. Burnett of the grand jury in connection with the motion of the attorneys for Louis Glase that the indictments against him be set aside on constitutional grounds. The argument in this and the Halsey matter is to be heard at 8 o'clock tonight by Judge Lawlor and Judge Dunne sitting en banc.

COMMITTEE OF TEN WAITS FOR RETURN OF GILLETT Will Take No Action in the Absence of the Chief Executive of the State

The committee of 10, composed of representatives of the five large commercial organizations, held no meeting yesterday, preferring to await the return of Governor Gillett before taking action. The committee has not yet put forward a candidate for the vacancy on the police commission, but expects soon to hear from the mayor on the subject.

MAYOR'S CHANGE OF MIND

"When was your next conversation with the mayor?" "In January, 1905. I went over the whole matter with him. I told him what the board had done in the Tortoni matter, and also about the allegations."

"What did the mayor say to you?" "He was more familiar with them than I was. He told me that he knew they were all bad places and should be closed," replied Reagan, as a wave of laughter swept round the room. "I visited the mayor at least once after that, and he told me then that he was afraid it would hurt him politically to refuse the licenses. He said many prominent people patronized those places and that they had been to him with urgent requests to renew the licenses. He asked me twice in the week preceding January 10 to vote for the licenses. He said: 'I want you to support those fellows, Tom, and grant them their licenses.' The second time was at the city hall, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. I told him there was a sack there and that there would be a scandal. I said: 'Mayor, you should not ask me to vote for them.' He replied: 'Well, Tom, I want them to get their licenses.' He said they had existed long before his administration, and that many people were interested. His reasons were wholly political."

GAS CASE CONTINUED

To Confine Schmitz' Attention for Present on Extortion Charges For the present Mayor Schmitz is to be allowed to do all his worrying in

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HETCH HETCHY PROJECT IS GIVEN FEDERAL AID

Phelan Wins in Work for Government Support to Water Supply

Continued from Page 1, Column 1 sell its plant to the city for \$24,000,000. With Phelan's return the Hetch Hetchy project will come up for consideration. This water supply is located in the federal reserve in the Sierra range, and is claimed by Phelan and his associates to be ample to supply a city many times larger than San Francisco. When Phelan first undertook to obtain the rights in the Hetch Hetchy for San Francisco he encountered opposition from E. A. Hitchcock, then secretary of the Interior. An antagonism between the two developed and reached the point where Hitchcock said that he doubted Phelan's sincerity, but since the big stick of the district attorney's office has supplanted the wand of Ruef, the supervisors have decided to ignore the Tevis plan.

The Hetch Hetchy rights, it is stated, will be granted to San Francisco with- out cost, but an extensive pipe system will be necessary to bring the water from the mountains and distribute it throughout the city. It is said that even with the Hetch Hetchy project he would be unable to purchase a large part of the Spring Valley plant.

GRAFT RESTAURANT IS CLOSED

Marchand's restaurant, 1424 McAllister street, well known to frequenters of San Francisco night life, closed its doors yesterday on account of the management's statement of loss of patronage due to the car strike. It is also suggested that its implication in the graft charges now engaging the public's attention had cost Marchand's many former patrons. The Edward said last night that the restaurant would remain closed at least two months, or until the labor situation clears.

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