

Books of Teamsters Union 'Falsified,' Mundt Charges in Rackets Investigation

Washington—(U.P.)—A Senate labor rackets investigator charged today the Teamsters Union "falsified" its books.

Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R-S.D.), a member of the Rackets Committee, pounced on an entry in the books of Teamsters Joint Council 37 which listed payment of a \$241.50 hotel bill for Thomas E. Maloney, Portland. The check was listed under expense allowances of union officers and delegates.

Mundt said the books had "obviously been falsified." Either the books had been "deliberately falsified," he said, or the union was "paying Maloney for his activities in Portland, which I believe to be racketeering activities."

The committee has heard testimony that Maloney was one of two Seattle racketeers sent to Portland by union officials to take over vice and gambling.

Records Destroyed
Mundt voiced his charge during testimony by R. R. (Reg) Mikesell, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Joint Council 37.

Mikesell testified that certain financial records subpoenaed by the committee have "gradually been destroyed" because a union vault was "terribly crowded for space." He said all records available have been supplied to the committee. He agreed under questioning that those records are, for the most part, contained in one red-trimmed account book.

Mikesell, who said he lives in Vancouver, Wash., identified himself as secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 501 there. He said he holds the same position in Joint Council 37, centered in Portland. That city has been the focus of the committee's current investigation.

Mikesell said Maloney, a fat

Seattle gambler and friend of West Coast teamster boss Frank W. Brewster, was neither a union officer nor a delegate.

The records he said that were destroyed would cover the period when Maloney and another Seattle gambler, Joseph P. McLaughlin, were in Portland.

Questioning of Mikesell by counsel Robert F. Kennedy disclosed that the committee had subpoenaed financial records dating back to Jan. 1, 1934. Mikesell said certain of those records have been destroyed.

but he said he thinks records covering the 1937 to 1934 period are still intact.

Chairman John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) commented that Mikesell, when he became pressed for vault space, started "destroying from the new"—rather than the old—records.

"That's a little strange to me," the chairman said.

Meanwhile, in Seattle, Teamsters President Dave Beck said he was ready to appear promptly before the Rackets Committee, which is interested in his

\$160,000 home and in his personal finances.

The union chief hinted, however, that he might take refuge in the Fifth Amendment, if his lawyer so advised.

McClellan read off a list of records which the committee had requested. They covered bank statements, checkbooks, canceled checks, journals, expenditure vouchers, and other records detailing expenditures to various individuals that have figured in the committee's Portland hearings.

The names listed included Brewster, president of the Western Conference of Teamsters; the late John J. Sweeney, former conference secretary; Clyde

Portland 'Dead,' Investigators Told

Washington—(U.P.)—Senate investigators had the assurances of an expert today that Portland "is dead as far as vice is concerned."

"Any rouser, prostitute, pimp, gambler, informed citizen or any of the policemen not politically involved" would agree, according to Lt. W. W. Nelson of the Portland police vice squad.

"The high prices paid here to 'call girls' for prostitution, \$100 to \$500 a night... is witness to the scarcity of prostitution," Nelson said in a report on the city's current vice situation.

Mayor Terry D. Schruck offered the report Tuesday to the special Senate committee studying rackets in labor and industry. He said he thinks the situation in Portland is pretty much like that in Washington, D. C.

While he did not say how much he knows about vice in the nation's capital, Schruck testified solemnly that "I received a call in my Washington hotel... soliciting."

C. Crosby, Oregon teamsters organizer; Multnomah County District Attorney William E. Langley, Portland Mayor Terry D. Schruck, and others including Maloney and McLaughlin.

As McClellan went through the list of subpoenaed documents, Mikesell said bank statements for the period had been destroyed as had canceled checks. He commented that the records could be obtained "from the bank."

Finally McClellan had Mikesell identify as "our book of entries" a wide, black account book trimmed in red. McClellan then asked if the book was not

the only "record, instrument of document" which Mikesell had supplied.

The union official said that

was "correct," except that certain audits were also made available and the committee was given access to the old records.



NO COMMENT—Dave Beck's son, Dave Jr. (left), keeps a tight grip on his father's coat as he leads the Teamster Union boss toward a waiting auto at airport in Seattle. Returning from a tour of Europe, Beck refused to answer questions on whether he will co-operate with the Senate Rackets Committee which would like to have his personal records and first-hand information about Teamster affairs.

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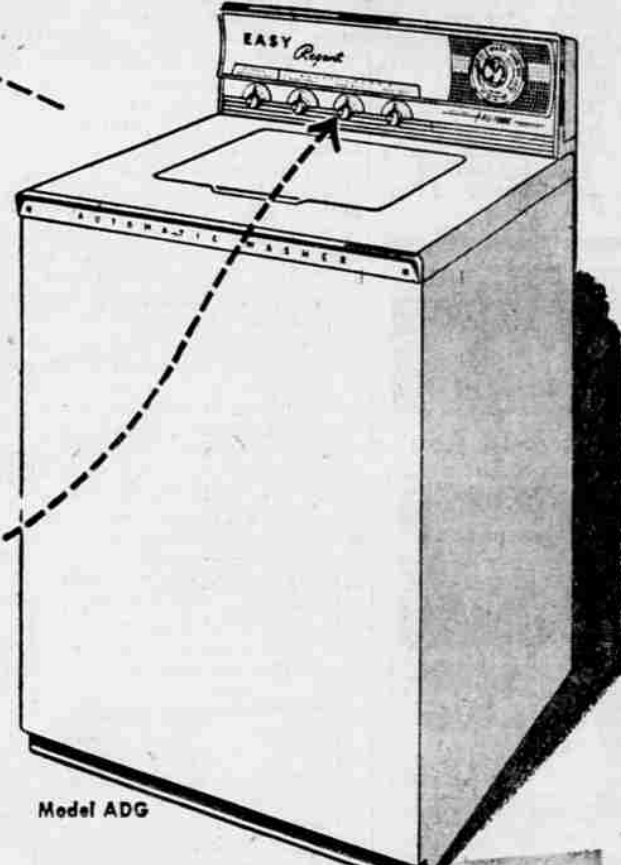
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