Before the

BOARD OF GOVERNORS of the FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

In the Matter of:

TRANSAMERICA CORPORATION

Place of Hearing: Washington, D. C.

Date of Hearing: February 15, 1949

Pages 948 to 1011

Volume No. 13

COLUMBIA REPORTING COMPANY

Official Reporters
631 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

REpublic 3601

EXecutive 1851

CONTENTS WITNESSES DIRECT CROSS REDIRECT RECROSS James C. Smith John C. Horbett EXHIBITS FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD'S FOR IDENTIFICATION IN EVIDENCE Exhibit No. 45 Exhibit No. 46 --000--

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Arms Cohn

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BEFORE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

IN THE MATTER OF

TRANSAMERICA CORPORATION

7

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Room 1202, Federal Reserve Board Building, Washington 25, D. C., Tuesday, February 15, 1949.

The above-entitled matter came on for further hearing pursuant to adjournment at 10:30 of clock a.m.

BEFORE:

RUDOLPH M. EVANS, Member, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Hearing Officer

APPEARANCES:

J. LEONARD TOWNSEND, Solicitor, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D. C., and

G. HOWLAND CHASE, Assistant Solicitor, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D. C., appearing on behalf of the Board

SAMUEL B. STEWART, JR., and HUGO A. STEINMEYER, 300 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California, appearing on behalf of Transamerica Corporation. asc2 949

PROCEEDINGS

The hearing will come to THE HEARING OFFICER: order, please.

MR. TOWNSEND: Mr. Smith, will you take the stand, please?

JAMES C. SMITH

having been heretofore called as a witness on behalf of the Federal Reserve Board, and having been previously duly sworn, was recalled and testified further as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION (Continued)

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

- Q Mr. Smith, when we left off with your testimony last week, we left off at the point where you were telling us certain facts concerning your examination of the business of Transamerica Corporation in 1943 and in that connection you 16 Were discussing the acquisition by Transamerica Corporation of the stock of the Temple City National Bank. had finished introducing into the record such excerpts from letters and letters relative to that acquisition which concerned the participation of officers or employees of the Bank of America N. T. and S. A.: is that right?
- 22 A That is correct.
- Q Resuming on the Temple City acquisition, Mr. Smith, 23 24 did your examination of the records of Transamerica disclose 25 when the stock of the Temple City was acquired by Transamerica

ı

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

	asc3	950					
:	Corporation	on?					
2	A	Yes, sir.					
3	Q	Will you state for the record what your examination					
4	disclosed	in that respect?					
5	A	The books of account of Transamerica Corporation					
6	and related record: indicated that there are two major						
7		(Discussion off the record.)					
8		BY MR. TOWNSEND:					
9	ର	You made transcripts, did you, from the records of					
10	Transamerica?						
11	A	That is right.					
12	ବ	From what records did you take the transcript from					
13	which you	are about to read?					
14	A	From Transamerica Corporation investment ledger.					
15	Q	Will you state for the record what those records					
16	show?						
17	A	It shows there were two major acquisitions of stock					
18		MR. STEWART: I object to the characterization					
19	of "major	, sir.					
20		THE WITNESS: I think that will be developed.					
21		MR. STEWART: Then, develop it factually. There					
22	were two	acquisitions.					
23		May the word "major" be stricken, sir?					
24		THE HEARING OFFICER: Will you read the question,					

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis please?

(Question read.)

asc4 951

MR. STEWART: I move to strike the word "major".

THE HEARING OFFICER: Strike the word "major", then.

THE WITNESS: At this point I might make it more clear and state that there were outstanding in the Temple City lational Bank 250 shares of common stock and 200 shares of preferred stock. On May 16, 1941, Transamerica records indicated that 100 shares of common stock and 40 shares of preferred stock were bought from one J. M. Duvall.

Another entry on June 17, 1941, described the purchase of 133 shares of common stock and 160 shares of preferred stock from a group of stockholders who entered into a joint offering of the stock.

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

- Q Do your notes show the price per share paid for the two separate purchases, Mr. Smith?
 - A Yes, sir.

2

3

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

i 4

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

- Q Will you state for the record what your notes show in that respect?
- A In both instances the preferred stock was set up at \$62.50 per share. The common stock in the case of the acquisition from Mr. Duvall was at \$180 per share and the acquisition from the other stockholders of the 133 shares of common stock averaged about \$301 per share.
- Q Did you give the dates to show the times at which the two acquisitions were made?

asc5 I did, yes. The first was in May, May 16, 1941, Α and the second June 17, 1941. 3 Was there a commission paid on the acquisition of Q the Temple City stock? ũ Yes, there was a commission paid to Nelson, Douglass 6 & Company 7 Do your notes show whether, subsequent to the acquisi-Q. tion of the shares of the Temple City, various of the shares so 8 9 acquired were transferred to directors? 10 Yes, thee were 50 shares sold to directors. Α 11 Q. At what time? 12 On June 17, 1941. A 13 In connection with the shares to directors, at Q. 14 what price were the shares sold to the directors? 15 At \$50 per share. 16 Is it fifty at one hundred fifty dollars? Q 17 A I beg your pardon, 50 at \$150. 18 How many directors were those shares sold to? Q 19 There were five directors, each of whom acquired A 20 10 shares. 21 In connection with the acquisition by the directors, 0 22 was there an option to purchase given Transamerica? 23 A Yes, sir. I have a memorandum that each director 24 executed an agreement with Transamerica, giving it an option to repurchase the stockat the director's purchase cost, plus

asc6 953

5 per cent interest.

Q Following the acquisition of the Temple City, I will ask you whether an officer or former officer of Bank of America became identified with that institution.

MR. STEWART: If he knows.

THE WITNESS: One of the directors who purchased the stock to qualify as a director was a Mr. G. Lumsdon, who, I understand, became an officer of that bank about that time.

MR. STEWART: Officer of what branch?

THE WITNESS: Temple City National Bank.

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

Q Turning your attention now to the acquisition by Transamerica of the stock of the Central Bank of Oakland, Mr. Smith, I will ask you whether, in connection with your investigation in 1943, you examined the records of Transamerica in connection with that acquisition?

A Yes, sir.

Q What records did you examine in that connection?

A In that connection, I examined the records of the stock purchases, as shown in the Transamerica Corporation investment ledger and, also, correspondence in other documents which were submitted to me at my request in connection with that acquisition, at the office of Transamerica Corporation.

Q Will you state for the record what your notes show

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis asc7 954

as to the time which was covered by the acquisition of the stock of the Central Bank?

MR. STEWART: Now, if the Hearing Officer please, I object to that question as improperin form. If the witness is going to give testimony as to what his notes show, the proper way of doing it is to produce the notes and let them be examined and let them be marked. If he is testifying from recollection, then, I am entitled to see what it is that he is using to refresh his recollection. What he is purporting to do is to give testimony, during which he is reading from a sheaf of papers I haven't seen, which have not been identified and we have no assurance as to what they are.

MR. TOWNSEND: Mr. Hearing Officer, this witness has testified that he is one who participated in an examination of Transamerica Corporation in 1943. In that connection, he examined books and records of Transamerica that he was there given access to, that he made transcripts of those records from which he is now giving his testimony in chief. The records that he is talking about are all records which are in the files of Transamerica Corporation and the truth or accuracy of Mr. Smith statements may, therefore, be conveniently checked by Mr. Stewart without great difficulty.

MR. STEWART: Of course, sir, I can check the statement of Mr. Townsend, having a memorandum he prepared making the allegations. What I Object to is the pretense of

7 1

13

15

21

23

gsc8 955

testimony here, when it is nothing but reading some memorandum prepared for the purpose into the record, and, as I looked over Mr. Smith% previous testimony last night in the transcript, it is apparent that it is going to create a most misleading impression on the record nnless we straighten it out at this time.

All I am asking is this: that it be made to appear clearly what it is the witness is testifying about. If all he is doing is reading papers, then, we ought to have the papers marked and know what they are. If he is testifying from recollection, without reading papers, then he shouldn't have this file of papers in front of him with his eyes on them constantly, as he testifies.

MR. TOWNSEND: It is/perfectly normal type of testimony given many, many times in courts under similar circumstances under similar states of fact.

MR.STEWART: I have never seen the witness doing it without showing the papers to opposing counsel.

MR. TOWNSEND: I have no objection to your examining the papers, Mr. Stewart, no objection whatever. Mr. Smith will take out from the file each and every one of the papers from which he is testifying and set them on the table. I am perfectly willing that you should have access to them.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Stewart, the witness is testifying to what he saw at the time of regular routine ex-

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

asc9 956

amination of Transamerica's records. Since the answer itself that he gives can be checked by the access to files of Transamerica, the statements he is making in his capacity as an examiner will be admitted as evidence, and will be checked as to their accuracy at the proper time and proper place.

MR. STEWART: If the Hearing Officer please, before we leave the point, I should like to make one additional objection to this line of testimony, and that is that we have here evidence which is obtained, apparently with a concealment of the purpose for which it was used. Apparently this witness went in to make what the Hearing Officer has properly referred to as a routine examination of the corporation. It also is apparent that the information was assembled and then reworked for the purpose of continuity evidence in support of a charge of this Board which was not disclosed to the corporation at the time that the examination was made. That, it seems to me, sir, is an improper use of evidence, illegally obtained, and I object to its introduction on that ground.

MR.TOWNSEND: Of course, Mr. Hearing Officer, I have to make a statement in reply to that on the record.

Mr. Smith has testified that he was employed in the regular examination of Transamerica Corporation in 1943. I take it there is no question but that under the statute the Board has the power of visitation of Transamerica Corporation and that in the exercise of that power the Board was perfectly entitled

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

asc10 957

to examine into each and all of the affairs of Transamerica which the Board considered relevant to the job of doing its duty under the statute.

Furthermore, in these particular instances, the statute specifically provides that the examination by the Board shall be of such a nature as to disclose fully the relations between the holding company affiliate and each of its subsidiary organizations, including banks. Therefore, any suggestion by Mr. Stewart that the examination by this witness or of the examiners by the Board in the 1943 examination was for an improper jumpose or had an/object and improper view is far from borne out by the facts in this record.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Townsend has indicated the very points I am talking about in my objection. The Board does have a visitation power in pursuance of its duties under the banking power and Federal Reserve Act. There is no visitation power under the Clayton Act, even if the Board has any power under the Clayton Act which I don't deny that it has. The use of evidence obtained in that manner for the purpose of enforcing a penal provision -- and it is penal when the Board is seeking the divestment of stock, the deprivation of property under the Clayton Act...is, I submit, an illegal use of evidence illegally obtained.

THE HEARING OFFICER: On the basis of my former statement, the objection is overruled.

asc11 958

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

Q Mr. Smith, as we go along on this examination, I will suggest that you remove from your file each of the documents to which you refer in giving your answers and set them on the table, so that Mr. Stewart and his associate may have an opportunity to examine them.

Resuming your examination on the question of the acquisition of the Central Bank, I will ask you to state for the record during what period of time the acquisition of the stock of the Central Bank tookplace?

A Prior to 1936 Transamerica Corporation or one of its subsidiaries had a small stock interest in that bank.

- Q Do your notes show how much that interest was?
- A Yes, sir, 598 shares.
- Q How many shares were outstanding in the bank?
- 16 \$ 20,000 shares.
 - Q Very good, sir. Now, will you resume your answer?
 - A I think the answer I just gave of 20,000 shares was incorrect at that particular date.
 - Q If you don't have it readily at hand, we can skip that for the moment. Go right ahead with the answer to the question.
 - A In 1936 there were numerous stock acquisitions beginning with the first one recorded in the ledger as of June 30, 1936, amounting to 2334 shares.

25

2

11

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

22

asc12 959

7	Q Do your notes disclose at what price they were set
2	up on the books of Transamerica Corporation?
3	A Yes, sir. That was a combination of one acquisition
4	of 2314 shares at \$117.50 per share and another acquisition
5	of 20 shares at \$117 per share.
6	Q And that was on June 30, 1936?
7	A Correct.
8	Q Then, when, thereafter, did the Transameric records
9	disclose the acquisition of additional shares?
10	MR. STEWART: Mr. Hearing Officer, I assume that
11	without interrupting each time, I may have an exception to this
12	entire line of questions for the reasons previously stated.
13	THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes.
14	THE WITNESS: In June and July or, rather, in July
15	and August, particularly, of that year there were several
16	miscellaneous acquisitions totalling around 1800 shares,
17	which were acquired at \$450 per share.
18	(Discussion off the record.)
19	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
20	Q Directing your attention to the month of December,
21	1936, I will ask you whether your notes show any acquisitions
22	in that month, and between that month and March of 1937.
23	A There were geveral acquisitions of stock in the per-
24	1od beginning December 17, 1936, which, however, were recorded

25 in the note account of one Kernan Robson.

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis asc13 960

MR. STEWART: I move to strike that out, if the
Hearing Officer please. It is unresponsive to the question.
There were acquisitions of Transamerica Corporation and the
witness gives an answer about some acquisitions by Kernan
Robson.

MR. TOWNSEND: I will connect it up in a few minutes.

MR. STEWART: It should be connected up before on that kind of testimohy.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Proceed.

BY M R. TOWNSEND:

Q First, Mr. Smith, tell us about the note account to which you have referred. Where is that account maintained?

A That account, also, is maintained at Transamerica Corporation and was carried at that time on the books of one of its subsidiaries, Transmerica Service Corporation.

- Q And the account to which you referred, is it not the account of Kernan Robson?
 - A Correct.

:

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- Q When is the first entry in that account, Mr. Smith?
- A The first entry of record is dated December 17, 1936.
- Q And over what period of time are other notations thereon?
 - A They run through March 8, 1937.
 - Q Does the note account demonstrate the use to which

pasc14 961

the money, which was being advanced by Transamerica Service was being put?

- A Yes, sir. That money was being used to acquire stock of the Central Bank of Oakland.
 - Q And how many shares were acquired in that manner?
 - A 7,019 shares.

3

5

٤

7

9

10

13

15

16

17

19

20

21

22

23

24

- Q At what total advancement by Transamerica Corporation?
 - A Approximately \$2,800,000.

MR. STEWART: I would like to see the papers from which the witness has just read the last several answers.

Where are the entries that you read there?

THE WITNESS: Here is a record of the notes of Kernan Robson beginning with the first date, December 17, 1936, and indicating the note numbers and stock delivered in connection therewith as collateral.

MR. STEWART: And where in the record that you examined did you find the indication that the proceeds of these notes were used to purchase Central Bank of Oakland stock? Is there anything in the account that says that or is that just your inference from the fact that it was delivered as security?

THE WITNESS: No, sir, there is an option agreement which I have on my papers which described the reasons for these acquisitions.

MR. STEWART: I would like that produced, please.

962 asc15 MR. TOWNSEND: It will be produced and put in the 2 If the Hearing Officer please, I suggest that, in record. conformity with your previous ruling, that I be allowed to proceed with this witness and demonstrate in its entirety the relation of each and every one of these acquisitions to the over-all program and Mr. Stewart can cross examine in due course over the entire proceeding. 7 THE HEARING OFFICER: The witness may proceed, 8 9 Mr. Stewart, and you can cross examine the witness. 10 MR. STEWART: At the moment, it is only that I am trying to see in thepapers, what they say what he says they 11 12 say and it is very difficult to understand from the papers I 13 have examined. 14 We want you to have full and THE HEARING OFFICER: 15 complete information at all times. 16 I am not getting it, sir. MR. STEWART: 17 MR. TOWNSEND: What was the last question I had, 18 please? 19 (Question read by the reporter.) 20 BY MR. TOWNSEND: 21 And the total number of shares covered by those 22 advancements amounted to 7,019 shares? 23 That is right. A 24 And that was at an average cost of \$400 a share; Q

25

is that right?

asc16 963

Correct, yes, sir. Q Do your papers contain an option agreement covering the shares covered by the note account of Mr. Robson? Yes, sir, they do. Q. Will you produce that, please? The paper that you have handed me contains, among other things, the copy of the option agreement; is that right? Yes, sir. A MR. TOWNSEND: I show Mr. Stewart the copy of the agreement. (Document handed to Mr. Stewart.) BY MR. TOWNSEND: Now, before I ask you to read the option into the record, Mr. Smith, I will ask you if, in connection with the same acquisition by Mr. Robson, there was an agreement entered into between Mr. Robson and the Transamerica Corporation. That agreement was not between Transamer-A No. sir. lica Corporation and Mr. Robson, if you have reference to an agreement between Mr. Robson and the stockholders representatives who made the sale of the stock.

- Q That is right. Do you have a copy of that agreement in your possession?
 - A Yes, sir, I do.
 - Q Will you produce it, please?

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

2

3

4

5

8

9

10

11

12

13

17

18

22

23

24

ascl7 964

MR. TOWNSEND: I show that document to Mr. Stewart. (Document handed to Mr. Stewart.) BY MR. TOWNSEND: Ξ.

ŧ

Q Mr. Smith, I am asking you to read into the record, please, your transcription of the document which you have last identified, which, as I see, bears the date December 3, 1936.

A "In consideration of the sum of \$10 in hand paid by Ira Abraham, Crelin Fitzgerald and James K. Moffitt as the representatives of certain holders of the common stock of Central Bank of Oakland, Oakland, California, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned, Kernan Robson, hereby agrees with said representatives and all holders of said common stock of said Central Bank of Oakland as follows:

"1. To purchase and pay for, at the price of \$400 per share, on tender of the endorsers, all shares of the common stock of said Central Bank of Oakland tendered to him at the Bank of America, No. 1 Powell Street, San Francisco, California, or at the Bank of America, 12th and Broadway, Oakland, California, within a period of three months from and after the date that said Kernan Robson is notified in writing by the president or a vice president and the cashier of said Central Bank of Oakland that all certificates of such common stock, which have been endorsed as follows: The stock evidenced by this certificate is subject to the terms, covenants and restrictions of a certain agreement dated July 22, 1936, between certain shareholders of Central Bank of

Ť

Oakland, and the stock evidenced by this certificate cannot be sold except as therein provided. A copy of said agreement is lodged with the Bank and is available for the inspection of any interested party' -- can be sold to him under the terms of this agreement and that the same will be duly and regularly transferred upon the stock books of said Central Bank of Oakland, free and clear of any restrictions whatsoever, if purchased by said Kernan Rebsen under the terms hereof when presented by him or his duly authorized agent properly endorsed by the record holder thereof.

- "2. All stock transfer taxes are to be paid by the undersigned, Kernan Rebson
- "3. This agreement shall, ipso facto, end and terminate unless the written notice in Paragraph 1 provided shall be delivered for said Kernan Robson not later than 12 o'clock on December 10, 1936, at the second floor at No. 1 Powell Street in the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.
- "4 This agreement shall, likewise, ipso facto, terminate unless at least one thousand five hundred sharesof common stock of said bank shall be tendered to said Kernan Robson for sale under the provisions hereof on or before December 15, 1936.
- "5. This agreement is made for the benefit of all holders of common shares of said bank.

[&]quot; The undersigned agrees to purchase at said price all shares

8

9

10

11

13

14

15

16

17

19

20

21

22

which may be tendered to him hereunder. It is intended hereby to grant to all of said holders of the common stock an irrevocable option, subject to the terms hereof, to sell their stock to the undersigned as herein provided.

"Signed, Kernan Robson."

And added at the foot of the agreement is another paragraph as follows:

"Full performance of all the terms, covenants and conditions hereof by Kernan Robson to be performed, is hereby guaranteed by the Undersigned, Transamerica Corporation, a Delaware corporation, this third day of December, 1936.

"Signed, Transamerica Corporation; by A. P. Giannini and W. L. Andrews, assistant secretary."

Q I show you the document which you first identified, Mr. Smith, as being the option agreement, and I ask you to read that into the record, please.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Hearing Officer, before the witness reads this document I would like to make a suggestion which, it seems to me, would not only make for accuracy in this record, but also shorten it.

When Mr. Smith was on the stand the last time, he read for more than half a day copies of papers and excerpts from papers which he said he took from Transamerica files.

He now appears to be about to embark upon the same procedure for I don't know how much longer.

23 24

25

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Rs4 968

I would like to make this suggestion: That if counsel will hand me, or read into the record, a list of the papers from Transamerica files which he thinks is important for him to provide, I will undertake to get accurate copies of them—which there won't be any question about—produce them, and he can offer them in evidence; and if they are in the files of Transamerica, I will concede it.

It seems to me utterly unnecessary to have the witness.

read a lot of copies of copies when we can get the accurate information without any trouble at all if counsel will only tell me what he wants.

MR. TOWNSEND: I submit, Mr. Hearing Officer, that we are, of course, entitled to put our case in as we see fit. We are doing it in a perfectly regular, and, I think, quite orthodox manner. And I suggest that in the interest of time, if Mr. Stewart is anxious to conserve it, that when letters which are related to the transcripts of Transamerica records are referred to and he is willing to have the originals go in, that he certainly ought not to object if this winess puts them in subject to his later objection.

MR. STEWART: Of course, sir, my objection and my reason for making the suggestion is that they are not being done in the regular way and counsel is not entitled to do it as he sees fit, in spite of his repeated efforts to do things as he sees fit, contrary to the rules.

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

3

٠;

7

8

ċ.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

18

19

20

21

22

23

All I am trying to do is to get some accurate information which we won't have to take weeks of checking to determine the accuracy of.

I submit, sir, that, as the Hearing Officer has overruled all of my objections on the basis of the normal rules as to hearsay, and so forth, the least he can do is give me an opportunity to see that these things are accurate, without all of this waste of time.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The opportunity you request,

Mr. Stewart, will of course be available to you at the proper
time. The objection is overruled.

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

Q Will you read the document, Mr. Smith?

A "Whereas the undersigned, Kernan Robson, owns 2,399 shares of the common stock of Central Bank of Oakland, Oakland, California, and anticipates that he will acquire a large number of additional shares by virtue of a certain contract, dated the third day of December, 1936, in and by which the said Kernan Robsonhas agreed to purchase from Ira Abraham, Crelin Fitzgerald and James W. Moffitt, as representatives of certain holders of the common stock of Central Bank of Oakland, Oakland, California, all the stock tendered by them.

"Whereas, Inter-America Corporation, a Delware corporation, desires to purchase from the saidKernan Robsegan option to acquire not only the shares of stock of the said Central Bank of

25

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Oakland now owned by said KernanRObson but also all shares to be hereafter acquired by him.

"Now, therefore, for and consideration of the sum of \$10 in lawful money of the United States of America, to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I, Kernan Robson, hereby grant to Inter-America Corporation, a Delaware corporation, an option to purchase from me all stock of Central Bank of Oakland which I now own or which I may subsequently acquire by reason of that certain contract dated December 3, 1936, in and by which I agree to purchase from Ira Abraham, Crelin Fitzgerald and James W. Moffitt, as representatives of certain holders of the common stock of Central Bank of Oakland, all stock which they may tender me under said contract.

"The price at which the said Inter-America Corporation may exercise said option is the sum of \$400 per share. The said option shall be exercised by the said Inter-America Corporation by serving upon me a writing stating that the said option is exercised as to all or any part of the stock of said Central Bank of Oakland owned by me, and within 10 days thereafter tendering to me the purchase price fixed in this option. Upon the exercise of the option in the manner aforesaid, I agree to deliver to the said Inter-America Corporation the number of shares specified in said notice of exercise of option, duly endorsed in blank so as to make said stock

transferable on the books of said Central Bank of Oakland to the said Inter-America Corporation or to its nominee.

"Notice of the exercise of this option shall be complete
if the written notice of the exercise thereof is left at
my effice at No. 912 De Grounge Building, San Francisco,
California, and the tender of the purchase price shall be
sufficient for all purposes if the amount of said purchase
price is tendered at my above-named office.

"This option shall continue for a period of two years unless extended in writing by the respective parties hereto. During the continuance of this option, or any extension thereof, I hereby agree not to sell any of the shares of the said Central Bank of Oakland which I now own or which I may subsequently acquire by means of the contract aforesaid; and I hereby further agree not to hypothecate or pledge the said shares, or any interest that I may have therein, with any person, firm or corporation other than Transamericas Service Corporation, a California corporation.

"The stock referred to in this option shall be the common stock of Central Bank of Qakland as presently constituted, and shall include any stock dividend that may hereafter be declared on said shares of stock, and, in the event that any corporate change shall be made by Central Bank of Oakland which shall change the value of said stock as presently constituted, the purchase price herein fixed shall be changed accordingly. In

short, this option refers to the common stock of Central Bank of Oakland as presently constituted or its equivalent after any change in said stock is made.

"It is agreed that this option shall bind my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns and may be excercised by the successors or assignees of Inter-America Corporation.

"Dated this 14th day of December, 1936.

"/Signed/ Kernan Robson."

Mr. Smith, I will ask you whether in March, 1937, qualifying shares were issued to directors of the Central Bank of Oakland and whether your notes disclose at what price such shares were issued.

(Discussion off the record.)

THE WITNESS: No, sir; I don't see any sales to directors in March of 1937.

16

7

8

9

11

12

13

14

15

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

asc1 972

Q Will you check your records to see if you have a copy of an agreement entered into with the directors respecting the subject of qualifying shares?

A Yes, sir, I have an agreement, a copy of an agreement.

- Q Did you make the transcription?
- A I did, yes, sir.

ì

1

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

20

21

24

Q Agreement between whom?

A I have it identified as an agreement relating to directors qualifying shares.

- Q Where did you find the original of that document?
- A It was handed to me at the offices of Transamerica Corporation.
 - Q In any particular file?

A In that respect, it is rather difficult for me to always identify the particular file because when we were in the offices of Transamerica Corporation, it was necessary for us to ask the officers, either Mr. Andrews or Mr. Ponsford, for any particular letters or documents that we wanted, and they would hand them to us in a folder. Now, I have no way of knowing whether that was the entire file, original file or what have you. It was simply given to me in the particular connection for which we requested it.

Q And this original of the document from which you made the transcription was handed to you in that fachion?

asc2 973

A That is correct.

. 2

J

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- Q Will you state for the record --
- A I find that I can angwer one of your other questions as to between whom that agreement was made.
 - Q Will you state what the record shows?
- A March 18, 1937, between Intercontinental Corporation and C. Fitzgerald, T. A. Crelin,, L. E. Hardy, R. W. Kinney, H. H. Whiting, J. P. Maxwell, C. P. Howard, W. A. Starr, and C. F. Wente.
- Q Will you read into the record, Mr. Smith, the option agreement which you have just identified.

A "It is mutually understood and agreed by the undersigned that the 10 shares of stock of Central Bank of Oakland, California, owned and held by --" in that case it would be the particular name of the owner "-- may be disposed of as follows: First, at any time that --" name left blank "-- desires to assign and make delivery of said shares to Intercontinental Corporation, said corporation will purchase and pay for the same on the basis of \$240 per share.

"Second, at any time that said Intercontinental Corporation requests the delivery of said shares, the same will be assigned and delivered to said corporation upon its written request and the payment therefor on the basis of \$240 per share.

"It is further mutually understood and agreed that the

asc3 974

?140?

said price of \$240 per share is the price for said 10 shares as now constituted and that should said 10 shares be increased in number by stock dividends, stock split or in any other manner, such shares additional to said 10 shares and emanating therefrom shall be considered as part of said 10 shares, and without further payment be assigned and delivered to Intercontinental Corporation, simultaneously with the delivery of said 10 shares."

Q Will you state for the record whether the note account of Kernan Robson discloses the transfer of any of the Central Bank shares to the directors who executed this option agreement?

MR. STEWART: If the Hearing Officer please, I have been seeking this morning to determine the purpose and the relevancy of this testimony, so far without success. I object to the question as being irrelevant and any further questions along this line as irrelevant in the absence of a statement by counsel as to his purpose in this line of testimony and a showing of its relevancy to the issues in the case.

MR. TOWNSEND: I am perfectly willing to make that statement, Mr. Hearing Officer. We are now engaged in the process of developing for the record the methods pursued by Transamerica Corporation over a considerable period of time in its acquisition of the stocks of the various banks which are involved in this case, so that on that basis, alone, as

12

13

16

17

18

20

21

asc4 975

background evidence, it would be admissible. However, I have no hesitation in further advising counsel that we will attempt to demonstrate, in the course of these questions, the fact that various personnel officers, directors of the Bank of America, N. T. and S. A., have been used or have participated, to a certain extent, in these matters, all generally going to demonstrate the fact that neither before the transfer of 58 per cent of the stock of Bank of America by Transamerica Corporation in 1937 nor after that date has there been any change in the manner in which the entire organization has continued to function. As I believe I mentioned here the other day, I expect by a whole mound of such instances and other related instances that Bank of America today is as integral a part of this etire banking setup in the Transamerica picture as ever it was prior to the time of the divorcement, so I think those two reasons are sufficient basically to justify the introduction in evidence of this line of testimony.

19

3

5

ij

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

20

21

22

23

24

3	MR. STEWART: Now, sir, on the basis of counsel's
2	statement, I press the objection to the question as irrelevant
3	as it is not shown to be related to any allegation which
4	speaks as of 1948 and not as of 1937.
5	THE HEARING OFFICER: Objection overruled. The
ó	witness may proceed.
7	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
8	note Q' Mr. Smith, does the/account of Kernan Robson disclos
۶	the transfer of any of the shares of the Transamerica stock
10	collateral to the account of the directors in March of 1937?
11	A No, sir; it doesn't. However, I found a letter in
12	the files of Transamerica Corporation which indicates the
13	sort of transaction that occurred at that particular time.
14	MR. STEWART: I object to that and move to strike
15	it out as a characterization of the witness' state of mind
16	and conclusion as to what is indicated as to a character of
17	ef transaction.
18	MR. TOWNSEND: May it please the Hearing Officer,
19	I suppase nothing could be more
20	I will withdraw the statement.
21	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
22	Q Do you have the letter, Mr. Smith?
23	MR. STEWART: That is the way to do it. Do it that
24	way and I won't object.

May I have the last answer stricken, sir?

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Ars10 977

THE HEARING OFFICER: 3 Yes. (Discussion off the record.) 2 BY MR. TOWNSEND: 3 Did you make a typewritten transcript of this? Q I don't recall that I did. 5 A This is the letter that you have just identified, 6 Q and that is your handwriting? 7 8 A It is; yes. 9 And taken from the letter that you referred to in the Q files of Transamerica? 10 11 A Yes. 12 Will you read it into the record, please? 13 MR STEWART: Objected to as irrelevant, sir. There is no showing of its relation to any issue in the case. 15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Objection overruled. 16 THE WITNESS: This was a letter addressed to D. W. 17 Henderson, cashier, Central Bank of OaklandCalifornia, by 18 W. L. Andrews, vice president of Transamerica Service 19 Corporation. It was as follows: 20 "We enclose eight demand notes, all dated March 18, 1937, 21 drawn in favor of Transamerica Service Corporation as detailed 22 below: 23 "T. A. Crelin, \$2,400; 24 "Crelin Fitzgerald, \$2,400; 25 "Lowell E.Hardy, \$2,400;

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Ars11 978

"Charles P. Heward, \$2,400;

"R. W. Kinney, \$2,400;

"John P. Maxwell, \$2,400;

i

2

3

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

"Walter A. Starr, \$2,400; 4 "H. H. Whiting, \$2,400. 5 "Please deliver these notes to the respective holders 6 against payment of \$2,400. 7 "This has reference to our telephone conversation of 8 9 this afternoon. Please acknowledge receipt of the enclosures by signing and returning the attached copy of this letter." 19 BY MR. TOWNSEND: 11 12 Did your examination of the Transamerica files at 13 that time disclose whether or not the notes that were 14 referred to in that letter were received by Transamerica 15 Corporation? 16 I have no recollection of that particular item. 17 In connection with the Central Bank acquisition, Mr. 18 Smith, I will ask you if there came a time in October, 1937, 19 when, from your examination of the records of Transamerica 20 Corporation, you could say whether or not any shares of the 21 Central Bank of Oakland were acquired by Mr. Wente? 22 Yes. The books of account of Intercontinental A 23 Corporation show that on October 18, 1937, there was a sale 24 to C. F. Wente of 10 shares of stock for \$2,400. 25 Q. Does the record show whether or not an option was

Aral2 979

taken to re-purchase the shares from Mr. Wente? MR. STEWART: 2 When you say "the record" I assume 3 you mean the witness' notes. MR. TOWNSEND: That's right. 4 THE WITNESS: He was a subscriber to the option 5 agreement that I read a little earlier, dated March, 1947. BY MR. TOWNSEND: 7 He was one of the subscribers at that time? Q 8 9 Α That's right. Did there come a time when the stock of the Central 10 Q 11 Bank of Oakland was increased by a stock dividend? 12 Yes. There was a stock dividend recorded in Mr. 13 Rebsen's account on March 19, 1937. 14 Q And New much of an increase took place at that time' 15 It increased his holdings from 7,019 shares to 15 11,698 shares. That was an increase of roughly 66-2/3 per cent? 17 Q 18 That is correct; yes. 19 Did there came a time when the shares collateralizing Q the Kernan Robson account were taken over by Transamerica 21 Corporation? 22 The ledger of Intercentinental Corporation records an entry dated October 25, 1937: "bought from Kernan Robson,

And that was the entire number of shares that had been

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

25

11,698 shares of stock.

Q

Ars13 980

up	as	collateral	to	the	Robson	account?
----	----	------------	----	-----	--------	----------

A Yes.

1

2

3

b.

5

6

7

Ð

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Q Did there come a time, after the Transamerica Corporation took over the shares from Kernan Robson, that the Central Bank of Oakland was liquidated?

A Yes. It appears that the Central Bank of Oakland was liquidated in November of1937.

- Q And it was then merged with another institution?
- A That is my understanding; yes.
- Q And it is now known as the Central Bank?
- A Of Oakland.
- Q Does your record show what, if anything, was done with the residual assets remaining inthe Central Bank of Oakland prior to its ultimate dissolution

A Yes. I have a memorandum on that. Do you want me to develop that further?

Q Would you, please?

MR. STEWART: Before you develop it, will you indicate what you are reading from and what its source is, Mr. Smith?

THE WITNESS: These are my work papers, which I referred to at the beginning of my testimony the other day, that I made at the time that I was in the offices of Transamerica in connection with the examination we have been discussing.

980 A Arsl3a

MR STEWART. The source of the material that you are about to put in the record is what? MR. TOWNSEND: Mr. Hearing Officer, is this a convenient time to have a 10-minute recess? THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes. We will recess for ton minutes. (Short recess taken.)

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Ą

2

3

4

5

6

11

12

13

14

17

19

20

21

22

23

	THE HEARING OFFICER: The hearing will come to
	order, please.
	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
-	Q Were you able to find the source of that material,
	Mr. Smith?

A Yes. I find that there was an agreement executed on October 22, 1937 between Central Bank of Oakland, seller, and Central Bank, purchaser, whereby the latter, that is, the Central Bank, agreed to purchase all of the assets except certain particular assets which were listed in the schedules attached to that agreement.

- Q You have a list of those assets, do you, Mr. Smith?
- A Yes sir.
- Q Without stating each and every one of them, unless Mr. Stewart wishes it that way, would you just describe what the assets were, in a general way?

A Out of a total of \$5,490,000 of assets, which were not included, U. S. and municipal bonds were put in at \$4,798,000, so it is obvious that they were the bulk of the assets.

- Q What else was included?
- A There was cash and stock in the Federal Reserve Bank.

MR. STEWART: Could you clarify, were those items which were included or excluded?

THE WITNESS: The assets of which were not included.

2

3

4

5

6

10

12

13

14

15

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

- Q All of which were not included, including the Government's.
 - A That is right.
 - Q To what organization were the bonds sold?
- A The majority of those bonds were delivered to Inter-Continental Corporation as a liquidating dividend and they were, in turn, sold to the Bank of America N. T. & S. A. on November 2, 1937.
- S Will you take out the various papers that you have used in your examination on that bank, please?
- A Including those letters that have already been exhibited?
 - Q That is right.

Now, Mr. Smith, directing your attention further to be examination that you made or participated in in 1943, I will ask you if your notes disclose any of the facts relating to the acquisition by Transamerica Corporation of the stocks of the First National Bank of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona, and the Phoenix Savings and Bank Trust Company, Phoenix, Arizona?

- A I have some information on those banks, yes.
- Q Will you refer to your notes on those banks, please?
 (Discussion off the record.)

BY MR. TOWNSEND:

Q Will you state for the record. Mr. Smith. at what

25

24

21

22

23

3

4

5

6

7

10

14

15

16

19

20

21

22

24

time the Transamerica companies appear in connection with the acquisition of the stock of those banks?

- A In April, 1937.
- Q From what source did you find that information?
- A That was developed from the note records of Transamerica Service Corporation in account with one G. M. McClerkin.
- Q At that time, Mr. Smith, do you know, have you determined whether or not Mr. McClerkin was an officer of the Bank of America Mational Trust and Savings Association?

MR. STEWART: I will stipulate that at that time Mr. McClerkin was vice president of the Bank of America. In fact, maybe I could shorten the whole thing by giving you a stipulation on what I think you want to prove.

MR. TOWNSEND: Maybe you could. You go ahead and stipulate and I will see whether that satisfies me, Mr. Stewart.

MR. STEWART: Very well, sir. I offer to stipulate that in 1936 Transamerica Corporation agreed to finance the acquisition by G. M. McClerkin, who was then a vice president of Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, of stock of the Phoenix National Bank and its affiliated bank, Phoenix Savings Bank and Trust Company, and that pursuant to that understanding, Mr. McClerkin did borrow money and purchase stock in those banks, which stock was pledged to secure such loans; and I further offer to stipulate that Transamerica Corporation subsequently purchased stock from Mr. McClerkin and

7

15

22

reported the acquisition of the stock to the Federal Reserve Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

MR. TOWNSEND: I am afraid that stipulation doesn't go quite far enough, may it please the Hearing Officer.

MR. STEWART: If you will tell me what else you want, maybe I will stipulate that, too.

I want it stipulæed that Mr. McClerkin MR. TOWNSEND: was both before 1937 and after 1937 utilized by Transamerica Corporation as, in effect, a bank buyer; that during those years, both before and after 1937, Mr. McClerkin purchased in the same fashion as he purchased the stocks of the Arizoka banks numerous other banks which will be identified for the record: that in none of those transactions was Mr. McClerkin acting for himself, but was acting at all times with the understanding that he was purchasing the stocks of the banks for the Transamerica interests: that he had no intention at any time of becoming the actual owner of the shares of these banks and that it was so understood in connection with each and every one of the purchases that he negotiated: that Mr. McClerkin. in connection with the stocks of the Phoenix banks, as well as the others that can be identified, executed pledge agreements. received no profit on the transactions, Transamerica agreed to take the dividend payments on such stock, whatever they might be, in lieu of interest on the so-called note account, and that all of such banks were subsequently taken into the

Transamerica banks, including the Bank of America N. T. & S. A., athough I understand that Mr. Stewart could not stipulate that subsequent to 1937 the Bank of America M. T. & S. A. was, in fact, a Transamerica bank within the meaning of this case; that in connection with the acquisition of the Arizona banks, a payment of one hundred thousand dollars was made to the then president of the Phoenix National Bank and the Phoenix Savings Bank and Rust, the two companies being identified in interest, over and above thee payments made to him for the purchase of the shares; that the total proceeds paid by Transamerica in the acquisition of the Phoenix Banks was \$1,359,880; that the pledge agreement used by Transamerica Corporation, in connection with its various advancements, in connection with the acquisition of the stocks of various banks, contained a provision which permitted Transamerica Corporation to cause the stock to be transferred at any time to the names of any nominee of Transamerica Corporation and, therefore, could have been voted at any time under the terms of such pledge agreement.

I will amend that request to include that at a certain date--and I am not sure, myself, what date that is-the pledge agreement used in the Transamerica accounts respecting the acquisition of bank stocks was changed to eliminate that provision.

(Discussion off the record.)

MR. STEWART: If the Hearing Officer please, it is,

11

18

19

22

23

pûδ 986

which to check many of the statements that counsel made in his suggestion. It is also obvious that the statement was indefinite in many respects. He referred to various banks and certain banks and so on, and the stipulation would have to be definite in terms rather than carrying those vague connotations.

It is, also, obvious that to the extent that counsel by a few words, prhaps inadvertently, included in his statement some of the conclusions of law which must be made by the Board in this case, I could not stipulate to them.

To the extent that he wants to prove facts as to who made purchases of certain stocks at certain times, where the money came from with which those purchases were made, where the stocks ended up, I will be glad to get out the records and show them to counsel and stipulate the exact facts, but it is when we get into characterizations that we get into trouble.

I don't know whether that offers counsel a basis on which he thinks he can save some time here or not.

MR. TOWNSEND: It is perfectly obvious, Mr. Hearing Officer, that time could be saved by a stipulation of facts and certainly I would be most willing to attempt to enter into such a stipulation, particularly in the interim between the time we recess these hearings in Washington to the time we go to resume them in California. However, I would not want

7

11

13

18

20

ph7 987

Mr. Stewart to be under any misapprehension. I am sure he isn't in any event.

Our position has got to be in this case that the "purchase" of banks by various persons were not individual purchases for those persons at all, but that they were, in fact, acting under instructions and with the intention of acting as agents for Transamerica.

I can understand that on certain phases of the law, Mr. Stewart's client might not be willing to stipulate that they were agents, in which event it becomes necessary for me to prove by a great number of instances, which demonstrate the same type of conduct over and over again, that they were, in fact, agents within the meaning of this proceeding, even though that meaning could be, possibly, quite different from those which would concern Mr. Stawart's clients.

I am certainly willing to do this: If the Hearing Officer is agreedie, I am perfectly willing to attempt to sit down with Mr. Stewart and Mr. Steinmeyer and my associates in the interim to see how close we would get in attempting a stipulation that would satisfy my requirements and, at the same time, not be of a nature that Mr. Stewart just couldn't agree to.

I might say, further, for the record, that there is a great amount of this material to come, both through this witness and others, that will consume a considerable period

3

7

8

16

20

21

22

ph8 988

of time. I am perfectly willing to tell Mr. Stewart in an informal conference everything that we want to prove and that we expect to prove, and if on that basis he could stipulate it, why, I am sure it would save a good deal of time.

MR. STEWART: My position on that, sir, is just as I have stated before, and I am very glad to have counsel's offer to tell me what he proposes to prove, because that is what I have been trying to get for six months. Anything that is factual, insofar as he wants to build up a series of instances, with names of people who did certain things and the factual statement of what they did. I am glad to try to stipulate with him. Anything that is argument or inference from those facts, I think it is not feasible to stipulate, and it seems to me that when he has the facts with a concession of their accuracy, he is probably in a better position to make his arguments than if we try to mix up arguments and inferences with facts in the fashion in which we have been proceeding here. so I think that counsel's suggestion is probably a god one, if he understands what my attitude is as I have just stated it.

MR. TOWNSEND: I am quite sure that as long as anybody is talking on the record, that there are going to be reservations and expressions of a technical nature brought from Mr. Stewart's standpoint and my own.

MR. STEWART: Perhaps this is good time to go off

5

6

21

h9 989

1	the record.
2	MR. TOWNSEND: That will suit me fine.
3	(Discussion off the record.)
4	MR. STEWART: I understand that Mr. Smith is now
5	being excused without completing his direct examination.
6	MR. TOWNSEND: So understood.
7	MR. STEWART: There is, therefore, no stipulation
8	necessary respecting cross examination at this time.
9	MR. TOWNSEND: Right.
10	(Witness temporarily excused.)
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
2 3	
24	

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

1	MR. TOWNSEND: Let the record show that Mr. Horbett
2	resumed the stand.
3	JOHN C. HORBETT
4	was recalled as a witness by and on behalf of the Federal
5	Reserve Board, and, having been heretofore duly sworn,
6	testified further as follows:
7	REDIRECT EXAMINATION (Continued)
8	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
9	Q When you were last on the stand, Mr. Stewart
10	asked you on cross examination if you would prepare for him
11	the list of sources of the material that went into preparation
12	of Board's Exhibit No. 13 and Board's Exhibit No. 16.
13	MR. TOWNSEND: Will the stenographer please mark
14	these Board's Exhibits 45 and 46?
15	(The documents referred to were marked Federal Reserve Board's
16	Exhibits 45 and 46 for identification.)
17	identilitation.)
18	BY MR. TOWNSEND:
19	Q I hand you what has been marked for identification
20	Exhibit 45, and ask you if that is the source material that
21	was used by you in the preparation of Board's Exhibit 13.
22	A That is correct.
23	Q And I show you what has been marked Board's
24	for identification No. 46 and ask you if that is the source
25	material used in the preparation of Board's Exhibit No. 16.
	e ^a

A That is correct.

2

MR. TOWNSEND:

I offer them in evidence.

3

MR. STEWART:

No objection.

4

5

tofore marked Federal Reserve Board's Exhibits 45 and 46 for identification were re-

(The documents referred to here-

б

ceived in evidence.)

7

RECROSS EXAMINATION

8

BY MR. STEWART:

9

Q I will ask you to refer to your copy of Board s

10

Exhibit 46 which has just been put in evidence. As I under-

11

stand that list, you have used 28 classes of source material,

12

which you have listed in separate numbered or lettered para-

13

graphs in that exhibit; is that correct?

and as I counted there are 28 of them.

14

A You can regard them as 28 classes or sub-classes.

15

As a matter of convenience, I think that they may be regarded

16

as nine different classes with some breakdowns. For example,

17

all the call reports is one class, lat us say.

18

Q I counted each one that you put into a subparagraph

19

20

A I haven't counted them that way, but it is quite

21

22

1

possible.

Q.

22

23

24

of those 28 classes are public information?

25

A In every case I have marked whether they are or are not. I have not counted them, but if you have, I am quite

Also, as I understand your memorandum, only five

asc3 992

sure you are probably right.

1

2

5

7

9

10

11

14

15

17

18

21

22

23

as to the public or non-public character of them. And the other 23 categories are statistics which are available only inside of the bank supervisory agencies or inside the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco; is that correct?

A Just let me look at this a moment, please. If you count each of these items as a separate class, I think that is correct.

Q And in order for me to obtain comparable data, county by county and community by community as to the competing branch banking systems and the states in question, it would be necessary for me to have access to the same confidential sources listed by you, wouldn't it?

A I know of no other place from which you can get the data.

Q Yes. Now, look for a moment, if you will, at your copy of the list which has been marked Board's Exhibit 45.

That list contains 10 categories of source material, of which three are not publicly available, doesn't it?

A That is correct.

Q And in order to prepare comparable data upon the other and competing branch banking systems in the five states in question, it would be necessary for me to have access to those unpublished sources, as well, wouldn't it?

asc4

1

3

1

5

Ó 7

8

9

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

19

20

21 22

23

24

I don't know of any other place that you can get the data, other than the banks, of course, themselves, the individual banks.

- Our competitors. Yes.
- That is correct.
- I hand you Board's Exhibit 16, Mr. Horbett, and ask you if any of the data shown on Exhibit 16 for the years 1924. 1926, and 1928 are available to the public or in published form.

For the particular dates that are shown in here, I don't believe that you could recompile the figures from published sources covering all of the banks in the given county. You could get the amount of deposits in the number of national banks, for example, for 1926 and for 1928 from a published document.

Which columns are those?

That would be Column -- the first column of figures, A the number of banks there and the deposits which are shown in the third column from the end. You could compile those figures covering national banks from supplements published by the Comptroller of Currency to his annual reports.

In other words, that answer refers to two of the ten columns on the exhibit?

A For the moment I am merely talking about those two For the year 1924, you cannot do that because it hap-

5

ó

7

10

13

14

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

pens that the Comptroller published a supplement, not as of December 31, but as of a date in October, as I recall it.

- Q So that actually for one reason or another I cannot get any of that data from published sources, can I?
 - A You mean for the year 1924.
 - Q For the years 1924, 1926, or 1928.

A You cannot get these particular figures from the published sources. You can get part of them, as I said, covering some of the banks.

Q Yes. Mr. Horbett, why did you skip from 1928 to 1933, an interval of five years, compared to the two-year intervals which you seem to have followed elsewhere in this exhibit?

A We were unable to obtain reports from branches in California, or, to be exact, from branches of non-member banks in California for the period December, 1929, until, I think, December of 1935. I will explain presently how we did get the figure for 1933 and 1935, but the reports of branches, compiled by non-member banks with the State Banking Department for the period 1929 to 1935 apparently have been destroyed by the State Banking Department in accordance with the routine schedule for destruction of old records.

Now, to explain how we managed to get figures for 1933 and 1935 --

Q Yes.

????

asc6 995

A -- the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, about 10 years ago, in cooperation with the State Banking Department, made a special compilation of deposits of all banks, member and non-member, national and state, by counties.

We learned of that compilation and we used that as the basis of our own compilation. In so far as the state bank figures are concerned, or, rather, the non-member bank figures in that combination, they were obtained from the branch reports which at that time were available at the State Banking Department.

Q As a matter of fact, Mr. Horbett, you know, from your own experience and expertness in this field, don't you, that that period from 1928 to 1933 was one of numerous bank failures all over the country and consitute rather substantial increases in percentages of deposits held by those that were left by the time 1933 came around?

A That is correct, broadly speaking. Of course, as you know, there were many less failures in some states than in others.

Q Oh, yes, but that was a pretty general condition during that five-year period, wasn't it?

A That is correct, and I think that that is indicated, or the point that you have in mind is indicated in the state figures which show in the other exhibit, but we were unable to comple county figures.

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

2

4 5

خ 7

8

10

9

11

13

14

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

996 asc7

Q Yes. Now, are any of the data from Exhibit 16 for the year 1933 or the years 1935, 1937, and 1939 available to the public in published form?

Some of the data that entered into those tabulations are available, but I don't believe that you can compile the completed figures here, covering all banks.

That is what I mean. Q

ï

2

3

4

5

ó

7

8

9

70

11

13

15

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

From public scurces. A

Now, Mr. Horbett, at page 376 and page 377 of the Q record, in answer to one of my questions, you testified -and I might say you previously testified to substantially the same thing on your direct examination -- that Mr. Townsend's instructions to you, when you started upon your assignment in this matter, were of a general character to develop statistical data that would show the relative growth of the Transamerica Corporation, so-called, and the general banking structure and it was expected of me, I think, in view of my experience here, that I would be able to discover what sort of data, pertinent data, were available, that might be used on that subject. "

quotes?

Mr. Horbett, just what did you mean by the phrase "relative growth of Transamerica Corporation"? Relative to what?

Relative to the growth of the entire banking struc-A 25 ture, that is, all banks and branches in the areas in which

997 asc8

the Transamerica banks and branches are in operation.

That is, those which have been given to you as the Transamerica banks and branches? You did not, yourself, undertake to determine what were so-called Transamerica banks and branches, did you?

That was not a part of my responsibility, no.

Correct. Now, did you, also, consider the relative Q growth of other large banks and their predecessors in each state and county and in those counties where there are no banks in which Transamerica has an interest, but in those five states?

I think so. The relative growth of the other banks and branches, that is, all of them combined, is reflected here, too, as I see it.

That is in the aggregate, but did you consider the relative growth of those banks individually as compared with the relative growth of what you have called the Transamerica banks?

Α I did not.

In other words, you were instructed to dig up some Q statistics that would prove a conclusion that Transamerica had had a relative growth, related to the whole, and that is what you did; is that correct?

- A I wouldn't put it that way.
- Well, how would you put 1t? Q

3 3

3

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

asc9 998

A not to prove anything, but to determine the rate of relative growth of the Transamerica banks and branches, as compared with the total banking structure.

Q I haven't examined this exhibit in any detail, Mr. Horbett, but I am told by one of my associates that in Multnomah County, Oregon, page 75, apparently, you show in Exhibit 16 that in Multnomah, Oregon, Transamerica banks in 1933 had 33.6 per cent of the total deposits and 14 years later, in 1947, had 42.4 per cent of the total deposits.

Isn't it a fat, Mr. Horbett, that some other bank could have increased its percentage of total deposits in that county from even as low as 5 per cent to as high as 50 per cent in 1947 without that fact appearing from your exhibit, as it is prepared?

A I don't know it to be a fact.

Q I know. I don't, either, but that could be the fact and your exhibit wouldn't disclose it, would it?

A Let's see. You say one bank that had --

MR. TOWNSEND: I will stipulate that that is the fact as Mr. Stewart has said.

MR. STEWART: All right. BY MR. STEWART: 2 And you didn't investigate that situation or that 3 possibility in any of the areas covered by the exhibit, is that correct? I did not. Α 6 From the basic sources which you used to develop 7 the information presented in the Board's Exhibits 13 and 16, is it possible to develop similar comparisons for other banks and their predecessors? 10 You have in mind individual banks? 11 Yes sir. Q 12 It is not possible. 13 It is not possible? Q 14 That is right. You cannot determine the relative A 15 grown of any individual bank--16 MR. TOWNSEND: He is not talking about this exhibit, 17 he is talking about the source material that you used, Mr. 18 Horbett. 19 BY MR. STEWART: 20 Q Let me repeat the question, Mr. Horbett. 21 A I am sorry. 22 If the basic sources which you used in preparing 23 Exhibits 13 and 16 were available, as they are to you, but

not to me, wouldn't it be possible to develop the information

hll 1000

comparable to that presented in Exhibits 13 and 16 with respect to other competing banks in the same area?

A I am sorry I misunderstood your question. It is possible, from the basic sources.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Hearing Officer, I should like at this time to say that the charges in the complaint filed in fransamerica here includes the terms "to substantially lessen competition," "to restrain commerce," and "to tend to create a monopoly," and on the basis of the testimony that Mr. Horbett has given, I wish to point out the following facts:

First, that a large portion of the data on which Board's Exhibits 13 and 16 are based--and that includes Exhibits 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19, which, in turn, are based upon the first two exhibits--are not matters of public record and are not available to Transamerica Corporation.

Second, Mr. Horbett has admitted that although exhaustive county-by-county tabulations were made to show the relative growth of Bank of America and the banks in which Transamerica has an investment, no attempt was made to consider the relative growth and development of other branch banking organizations within the counties in which they operate in the five western states, which are referred to in the complaint.

Third, that none of that branch or county data on

25

23

24

5

7

8

11

15

14

16

18

19

20

22

banking offices and deposits for other branch banking organizations and their predecessors are available to me or to Transamerica Corporation, except from the same sources which Mr. Horbett used, which are under the control of the supervisory agencies and not publicly available.

Now, sir, on the basis of those facts, I wish to suggest that if the Board is interested in having an unbiased survey and analysis of the situation, and if it is insistent upon keeping in the record these exhibits prepared by Mr. Horbett, which were admitted over my objection and which at this time I would like to move to strike out, that if that motion to strike is denied, the Board must have comprable statistics upon the growth and development of other branch banking organizations in the same area, otherwise, the Board's evidence will lead to the irresistable inference that the Board arrived at the conclusion, first, and then set out to prove it by devious and incomplete statistical methods.

In view of those facts, I, at this time, demand and move in the alternative either that Exhibits 13 to 19, inclusive, be stricken from the record on the grounds stated in my previous objections, or that the following exhibits or at least the unpublished source material from which they can be prepared, as may be requested by me, be assembled and prepared by the staff of the Board and he made available to Transamerica Corporation at a reasonable time prior to the

5

ó

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

reconvening of the hearings in San Francisco.

The exhibits I request are exhibits comparable to Board's Exhibits 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 for each of the following banks and their predecessors, for each location in which they operate, together with the county totals:

- 1. Security First National Bank of Los Angeles and its predecessors,
- 2. American Trust Company of San Francisco and its predecessors.
- 3. Anglo-California National Bank of San Francisco and its predecessors,
- 4. Citizens National Trust and Savings Bank of Riverside and its predecessors,
- 5. Valley National Bank of Arizona and its predecessors.
- 6. United States National Bank of Portland and its predecessors,
- 7. National Bank of Commerce, Seattle, and its predecessors.
 - 8. Seattle First National Bank and its predecessors.
- MR. TOWNSEND: May it please the Hearing Officer, let's talk about this in the order in which Mr. Stewart discussed it. I freely concede that a good bit of the statistical material that has gone into the record is based upon information which is not generally public material. However,

ph14 1003

anticipating the desire of counsel for Transamerica to be assured of the correctness of the statistics reflected in these various exhibits to which he has referred, I am prepared to make the following offer: Mr. Horbett is right now engaged in the task of personally verifying each and every one of the figures that appear in the various exhibits which were introduced while he was on direct examination.

I, therefore, offer to permit any statistician or assistant that Mr. Stewart may have to go with Mr. Horbett over each and every one of the sources of material that have been used in the compilation of these exhibits, to sit with him in the checking of all of these totals, so that Mr. Stewart can be assured of the correctness of the figures that are there included.

That process, as Mr. Horbett indicates, will take several weeks, but I had hoped that it could be completed between now and the time that the hearing is to be resumed in San Francisco. That, it seems to me, is required out of fairness to Mr. Stewart, so that the figures represented here can be checked as to accuracy.

Point Number 2: Mr. Stewart says that he would like to have material prepared by the Board concerning the growth and development in their respective areas of some eight or nine banking institutions. I don't believe that this is the time for the Hearing Officer to rule on the question

8

9

11

15

ph15 1004

of the relevancy of such statistics, and I think that the appropriate time for that to take place would be when Mr. Stewart is engaged in the presentation of his own case.

At that time I think that if the Hearing Officer, upon a demand by Mr. Stewart, should conclude that such statistics are relevant in this case and should be used in connection with the presentation of the Respondent's defense in this case, then I, too, would join with Mr. Stewart in a request of the Board to make that information available.

I do not believe, however, that now is the time to cross that bridge.

I would make no secret of the fact that if and when such a request is made at an appropriate time, that I probably would conceive it my duty to object to the entire subject matter as irrelevant. It may be that at that time more extensive argument would be in order, but certainly at this time we are concerned solely with the accuracy of the documents which we have introduced and with their relevancy in establishing the charges which are comained in the complaint, and so with the offer respecting the checking of Mr. Horbett's material and the objections to the Hearing Officer considering at this time what might be an appropriate method of presenting a legitimate and relevant defense on the part of Transamerica, I shall conclude.

25

24

20

22

7

10

11

12

Arms Ars14 1005

MR. STEWART: Mr. Hearing Officer, I have three comments to make about what counsel has just said.

In the first place, as to the present relevancy of the material, I think it is quite clear, as indicated in my previous statement, that the material is relevant now with respect to the exhibits that Mr. Horbett has prepared and put into evidence. It is not merely a matter of affirmative defense -- although I freely concede it will be useful when we get to that point, too -- but it is a matter of testing whether these exhibits, even though truthful in the form in which set up, and even though my checks, which Mr. Townsend has offered to make possible, may show them to be truthful in the form in which set up, -- the question whether, in spite of that, the exhibits are misleading because of other facts respecting other comparable banking situations which are varied in totals in the exhibits as now prepared. That is my position as to the present relevancy.

As to the second point, why wait? Why wait? Mr. Horbett has testified to the magnitude of the preparation of these exhibits, and the time and effort that went into their preparation.

I have no desire to hold up these proceedings to have these things prepared. Even if counsel were correct that they would be primarily relevant in any affirmative case,

isn't now the time te set the wheels in motion and get them

25

į

2

3

4

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

ì

in the process of preparation.

And, third, I have anticipated that counsel might say that there was a question as to whether this was a matter that would have to be referred to the Board. I don't know what the Hearing Officer's view of that is, but just so that we can cover that as well as making the application I have already made to the Hearing Officer, I have prepared, and would like now to file, a demand addressed to the Board for the production and preparation of this information which is available only through the Board. I should like to file that demand at this time.

It is, in substance, similar to the statement which I made erally on the record. I will give counsel two copies.

And may I just say this, sir: On the question of relevancy, the Hearing Officer has already ruled that at least one of the banks mentioned in my list, here, is relevant, that having been made during the testimony of Mr Eccles.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The question I was going to ask you, Mr. Stewart, was: Did you comment on Mr. Townsend's offer to make the records available to a statistician?

MR. STEWART: I didn't think that required any comment, sir. He has made the offer, and naturally I would like to avail myself of the opportunity. I think there are some mechanical problems that I can best work out with counsel off the record.

Are16 1007

MR. TOWNSEND: Mr. Hearing Officer, I do object to your ruling on the relevancy of these questions. I don't think that they are an appropriate part of the case, and the best way to illustrate it is as follows: The question at the conclusion of the Board's case will be whether or not the Board has sustained the burden of proof which it has in establishing the allegations of the complaint.

I fully anticipate that at the conclusion of the Board's case counsel for Transamerica will make a motion to dismiss for failure of proof. At that time it will be your duty to assess the relative weight of the evidence that has been introduced into evidence by me to determine whether or not, in your judgment, a prima facie case has been established.

At that time it is the Board's evidence which is to be considered, presumably. I have been making these arguments to you on a number of occasions. The matters that normally rest in the domain of defense testimony would not, then, have appeared in the record.

If the exhibits which have been introduced in evidence by r. Horbett and by myself are of a kind that, themselves, suggest distorted meanings, then this Hearing Officer will, I am sure, ignore those reports if they do not contribute at all to the determination of the motion to dismiss.

Consequently, it is only after the decision on the Board's

Ars17 1008

question that this matter of what they want to show by way of rebuttal of the Board's testimony logically should follow.

Suppose you rule that the Board has not established a case on its own material. Then, certainly, the preparation of the documents which Mr. Stewart has requested would become moot and unnecessary. Therefore I most respectfully suggest, sir, that this is not the time to rule on that question. These documents are in the record for what they are worth. Mr. Horbett knows nothing about his own admission. Anything concerning the growth and development of any of the banks which Mr. Stewart has asked him about—he prepared no such information.

Therefore, the present production of those documents cannot possibly elicit another word or a line from Mr. Horbett at present; and that, I think, confirms more than any other factor that this is not the time for a ruling on that question.

MR. STEWART: If the Hearing Officer please, without withdrawing anything I said before, I would just like to make one comment on counsel's speech; and that is that if everything he said were true, there is at least going to be a tremendous delay involved in the preparation of this material at a later time unless the preparation is commenced now; and I want the record to be clear, and the Hearing Officer to understand, that I am making the suggestion now, in part in order to avoid that delay, and that if that delay should become

1009 Ars18

necessary later by reason of the Board's refusal to go ahead on my demand at the present time the delay will not be one for which I can accept any responsibility.

THE HEARING OFFICER: It is assumed that counsel have agreed that statistical help be available to check the accuracy of the information referred to in these exhibits. Therefore, the motion to deny to strike that evidence from the record.

On the second demand of counsel for Transamerica, you have made your demand to the Board of Governors.

MR. STEWART: I made it both ways, sir. I made it to you, in case you thought you could pass on it, and to the Board in case you thought you couldn't.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Coming that way, I think I would have to refer this matter to the Board. But I want to say this for the benefit of both counsel and the director: That I want to transmit to the Board the arguments that have been made as to the expediency, and so forth, in connection with this, and I will do that.

STEWART: I think, sir, if you will note in the formal demand which I handed up I stated that it is based upon the testimony of Mr. Horbett and the exhibits, so that I believe, pursuant to that, that the transcript of all of Mr. Horbett's testimony and those exhibits should be before the Board when it considers this matter as well as the

1 3

4 5

Ó

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Ars19 1010

statements made by counsel this morning.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The Board will have complete information on the subject, and I think that is probably the best way to leave it.

MR. STEWART: That is all I have for Mr. Horbett at this time, sir, subject to the right of detailed cross examination upon the exhibits after the information has been checked, as we previously stipulated upon the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

MR. TOWNSEND: May it please the Hearing Officer, in the light of the developments I now point out that it would be a convenient place to break until we resume in San Francisco.

On that subject, I would say that we had a meeting of counsel yesterday afternoon and various dates were suggested and the one that turned out to be agreeable to both sides was the date of Monday, March 28. I respectfully request that the hearings be recessed today to Monday, March 28, to be resumed at the office of the Federal Reserve Bank at San Francisco.

Meanwhile, however, I also would like to point out that if the Board acts in the interim on the demand by Mr. Stewart recently argued, that Mr. Stewart should be promptly notified, even though the hearings are not in progress.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The 28th is the earliest date?

Ars20 1011

MR. TOWNSEND: There were other dates discussed, earlier, Mr. Hearing Officer, but it just turned out not to be acceptable to counsel, and I would rather not put the blame on either side. I think it was a matter that we worked

out to the best of our abilities.

MR. STEWART: If the Hearing Officer please, just so that the record will be clear on it, Mr. Townsend suggested the need for his being in certain other activities between now and then-a need which I can appreciate and understand and which occurs to all lawyers on one occasion or another-and I am not disposed to push him any harder than he wants to be pushed on it and so I acquiesced in the March 28 suggestion upon the theory that Mr. Townsend is not yet his resting his case and is still presenting/affirmative case.

Of course I do want it clear that my agreement to that date is withoutprejudice to my application, if I may deem it wise, for such additional time as may be necessary for me, at a later date, to prepare my material for my affirmative case.

THE HEARING OFFICER: We certainly shall accord you exactly the same treatment. Mr. Stewart.

The hearing will then recess until Monday the 28th day of March at 10:30 in the morning in the Federal Reserve Building, San Francisco, California.

(Whereupon, at 1:05 p. m., the hearing adjourned to Monday, March 28, 1949, at 10:30 a.m., in the Federal Reserve Building, San Francisco, California.)

1 2