

PIER UNION BOOKS REPORTED STOLEN

McDonald Aide, Sifting Earlier Files, Voices Concern and Apparent Skepticism

Officials of Local 338, International Longshoremen's Association, A. F. L., one of seven locals being investigated by Kings County District Attorney Miles F. McDonald's rackets bureau, reported to the police yesterday that books and records had been stolen from their office.

The report was received with apparent skepticism by the police, and Aaron E. Koota, special assistant District Attorney, who questioned two of the officials, John Mangiameli, recording secretary, and his brother Joseph, delegate and treasurer.

Mr. Koota, in discussing the matter, referred to the incident as an "alleged burglary." Police Inspector Edward Fagan of the Seventeenth Detective Division said his men had found no evidence of a forced entry to the office, a store in a one-story building at 11 Woodhull Street, Brooklyn.

Door Reported Unlocked

The Mangiameli brothers, whose father, Salvatore, is president of the local, reported the loss. Joseph said he had locked the door at 4:30 P. M. Thursday, and discovered the theft at 7:05 A. M. yesterday. He said he had found the front door closed, but unlocked, and that a further inspection showed the following items missing from a roll-top desk:

Two day books, containing receipts of dues from the 700 members of the local; a ledger listing the membership and the payment of dues by name; a dues book showing daily collection, and 700 index cards bearing the names, addresses and social security numbers of the members.

Unmolested were vacation pay checks sent to the union by the New York Shipping Association, an employer group, the minutes of meetings, and canceled checks.

Earlier Records Sifted

The stolen books and records covered the period from June, 1952, to the present. Earlier records of the local have been in the possession of the Brooklyn prosecutor since last June when they were obtained from the New York State Crime Commission by subpoena. The records, as well as those of the other six locals, are being studied for possible evidence of crime.

Mr. Koota expressed concern over the loss of the data, observing that they "could have a bearing on our investigation." He pointed out that in the last month investigators had questioned more than a hundred members of the union.

He said this was the second "alleged" theft reported by the local, one of six run by the notorious Carmarda family in Brooklyn. Records were stolen in October, 1951, and never recovered.