Mr. Taha. That's right. He might check them once every 3 weeks, I say, not visiting once every 3 weeks.

Mr. Rosenthal. How often does he visit the store?

Mr. Taha. He visits the store twice a week.

Mr. Rosenthal. Twice a week?

Mr. Taha. Twice a week. Sometimes if it's maybe a busy time for him or they have a meeting, I might see him once. That's the situation.

Mr. Rosenthal. Yes, sir.

Mr. Alexander. One of the reasons my district manager sees me quite often, we run the meat relief out of my store, and he comes in to set up his schedules for the district out of my store. Any excess help is put in my store, and if a smaller store has a wrapper call in sick, we are to replace him. In the small two-man markets we send men over in the evenings to relieve the meat men to go home. So he actually runs his meat department, meat district, out of my store.

That's the main reason he is there three times a week.

Mr. Rosenthal. And do you categorically deny you have ever raised prices above the book value that Safeway permits you to charge?

Mr. Alexander. Yes, sir.

Mr. Rosenthal. You are permitted to reduce prices on perishable items or excess items, things of that nature?

Mr. Alexander. Yes, sir.

Mr. Rosenthal. Has any district manager or supervisor ever said to you, "That price is above the book price. Let's cut it down"?

Mr. Alexander. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Rosenthal. Now, you could increase your annual salary by raising prices, for example, on the first of the month, if you were that type, couldn't you?

Mr. Alexander. I would say no.

Mr. Rosenthal. Well, can you explain that?

Mr. Alexander. If you was working for me and you know the book value, and I say, "Mr. Rosenthal, raise the price of bananas to 17 cents a pound," right there I lose control of you.

Mr. Rosenthal. Why is that?

Mr. Alexander. If I see you in the back eating a banana, and when I ask you where your sales slip is—well, I don't have a slip. I am selling my bananas 2 cents a pound higher than what they should—I would lose control of you. There would be no way I could control my help. So I would say it would be quite foolish for me to raise prices. I would lose more than I would ever hope to gain, plus if the company would catch me, I would lose my bonus completely. It would definitely affect my bonus.

Mr. Rosenthal. It would probably affect more than your bonus if you were caught?

Mr. Alexander. It would affect my job.

Mr. Rosenthal. Have you ever heard of a manager being caught doing that?

Mr. Alexander. No, sir.

Mr. Rosenthal. Do you mean that the employees in your stores, the people who stamp the prices, know what the book value is?

Mr. Alexander. They should. They write the orders. They make the entries in the book—when the price and decline sheets come