

BANK PRESIDENT A GREAT THIEF

Bigelow of Milwaukee Steals Huge Sum.

ALL LOST IN SPECULATION

He Confesses Taking \$1,450,000 From First National.

CAUSES RUN ON THE BANK

Directors Provide Against It by Making Up Deficit—Wall Street and Wheat Corner Causes of Bigelow's Ruin.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 24.—Frank G. Bigelow, until today president of the First National Bank of Milwaukee, was arrested today, charged with the embezzlement of over \$1,450,000 of the bank's funds. His arrest followed his confession to the board of directors that he was a defaulter to the extent of \$1,450,000. He was removed from the presidency of the bank and the facts in the case were laid before the Federal authorities.

The complaint was sworn to by United States District Attorney H. G. Butterfield. It charges that Bigelow as president of the First National Bank embezzled a sum exceeding \$1,450,000. A complaint and warrant identical with those in Bigelow's case were made out for Henry G. Goll, assistant cashier of the bank, but Goll could not be found up to 7 o'clock tonight.

Bigelow was taken before United States Commissioner Bloodgood tonight. He waived a hearing and was held to the Federal jury under \$5,000 bond. Dr. Horace M. Brown and Arthur McGooch certified as sureties and Bigelow was released. The next Federal grand jury has not been summoned, but it is expected it will meet some time this month.

Confessed to Directors.

Bigelow's confession was made at a special meeting of the Board of Directors held Saturday evening and continued yesterday and all of last night. In addressing his fellow directors, Bigelow said he had a painful statement to make—a confession that he had misdirected the funds of the bank and that an examination of his books and a comparison of figures would show that he was indebted to the bank to the amount of over \$1,450,000. This money, he said, had been lost in speculation in wheat and stocks. Not a dollar of it could be recovered and the only sum he could offer toward repaying the bank was personal securities valued at approximately \$300,000.

The confession of Bigelow astounded the directors. Bigelow had been recognized as one of the foremost financiers for many years. He has been associated with the First National Bank in various capacities for more than 15 years and his business connections—trust companies, manufacturing concerns, real estate deals and other similar ventures—number scores. He was honored a year ago by an election to the presidency of the American Bankers' Association and by its members was looked upon as a leader in financial matters.

Speculated in Stocks and Wheat.

In making his statement to the directors, Mr. Bigelow said he had been involved in speculation several months ago. This was in Wall street. Later he had been a persistent bull in the wheat market and recent losses there had added to the heavy reverses on Wall street. From small manipulations of the bank funds he had extended the defalcations until his shortage had reached the present stage. He saw no opportunity nor possibility of making up the amount and therefore confessed.

It is stated that the meeting of the directors, which was almost continuous for 26 hours, was stormy at times. Several plans were suggested for protecting the interests of the bank. One was to accept the resignation of the president, permit him to go to Europe and that the directors make good the amount of his shortage. This would effectually protect the bank. The proposal met determined opposition from directors, who demanded that the defaulter be punished. The plan to make up the shortage was then approved. Bigelow was removed from the presidency and the case was referred to the Federal authorities.

Arrest of Bigelow.

When the Federal Marshal called at the Bigelow residence to serve the warrant, the former bank president was in the library with his wife, Mrs. Bigelow refused to withdraw and the warrant was read in her presence.

"I will be ready to go with you at once," said the banker. Then he kissed his wife an affectionate farewell and left with the officer, the two walking to the Federal building, where a Court Commissioner was in waiting. None of Bigelow's friends was in the courtroom during the brief proceedings.

When the resolution was adopted removing Bigelow from the presidency of the bank, Henry Goll, assistant cashier, was also removed. The removal of the cashier was due to the statement of Bigelow that he was aided by Goll in concealing the shortage in the bank's accounts.

The method adopted was an old one. Collection accounts were manipulated to the extent of 40 and in some instances 50 per cent to make it appear

that the reserve fund was intact and the amount of the increased collection fund was diverted to special stock operations. The reserve maintained in Eastern banks was tampered with, the books of the First National being fixed so that the reserve appeared to be larger by several hundred thousand dollars than it really was. These and other methods were pursued by Bigelow in obtaining money from the bank. In the falsifying of records and the manipulation of the reserves, Bigelow declares he was aided by Goll and two bookkeepers in the bank. These bookkeepers acted on orders of Bigelow and they have not been discharged or suspended, and they will be called as witnesses in the criminal proceedings against the former bank president.

The manipulation of accounts has been going on for months, according to the statement of one of the directors, but so cleverly was the work done that neither the directors nor the National examiners were able to discover that anything was wrong with the funds of the bank. The first intimation that there were irregularities came to Charles F. Pfister, one of the directors, Friday evening. An employee of the bank called at Mr. Pfister's home and told him he had something to reveal regarding the bank. Although his confession was meager, it was sufficient to awaken the suspicion of Mr. Pfister and to start an investigation. Bigelow was taxed with the irregularities and he is said to have admitted his guilt. Then followed the meeting of the directors and the full confession.

Directors Make Up Shortage.

As soon as the directors ascertained the full extent of the peculations, steps were taken to protect the depositors and other creditors. Charles F. Pfister subscribed \$600,000 to a fund to make good the surplus; John L. Biggs, president of the Milwaukee Electric Railway Company, gave \$200,000; William Bigelow, a brother of the president, added \$100,000 to the amount, and other directors subscribed lesser sums, until the amount raised reached \$1,635,000. Then the following statement was prepared and formally issued:

For value received, we, the undersigned, agree to advance and pay to the First National Bank of Milwaukee, Wis., the sum of one million six hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars, to be paid in installments of \$100,000 each, on demand of deposits now in said bank, or which within 30 days from this date may be placed therein. Our claims hereunder for reimbursement shall be subordinate and postponed to the claims of all depositors and other creditors. Charles F. Pfister, \$600,000; Fred Vogel, Jr., \$200,000; John L. Biggs, \$200,000; William Bigelow, \$100,000; Fred F. Goll, \$50,000; George P. Miller, \$50,000; J. H. Vandyske, Jr., \$50,000; J. K. Klipp, \$50,000; Albert G. Truesel, \$25,000; August H. Vogel, \$10,000; William Bigelow, \$10,000; total, \$1,635,000.

Precautions Against a Run.

Prior to this, the directors had been in conference with leading bankers of Chicago and New York. Three Chicago bankers—President Foran, of the First National Bank; Orson Smith, of the Merchants' Loan & Trust Company; and Ernest A. Hamill, of the Corn Exchange National Bank—three of the leading financial institutions of Chicago, came to Milwaukee on an early train and went into conference with the directors of the First National. As a result of this meeting, \$1,000,000 was sent to Milwaukee by Chicago banks, to reach the city before the news of the defalcation was made public. Several hundred thousand dollars in gold was transferred to the First National Bank, so that institution was prepared for the run that was expected. Every precaution was taken to keep the fact of the shortage from the public until the affairs of the bank could be put in condition to meet any emergencies that might arise.

Depositors Clamor for Money.

When the bank closed its doors this afternoon, more than 2000 depositors were clamoring for their money. Nearly \$1,000,000 had been paid out in the course of two hours, and but a small percentage of the customers demanding the closing of their accounts had been served. One of the first callers was a business man, who presented a check for \$100,000, the entire amount of his account. He was followed by the City Treasurer, who drew out \$100,000 of the city's funds. Withdrawals in sums ranging from \$100 to \$100,000 quickly followed. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a line of people stretched from the bank east on Wisconsin street to Broadway, and in the other direction around the corner and north on East Water street. The State of Wisconsin has several hundred thousand dollars deposited in the bank, and it is said it will also be withdrawn at the opening of business tomorrow.

The throngs on East Water street were besieging the Wisconsin Trust Company, the savings bank department of the First National, and here assumed the greatest proportions. When the doors of the bank closed, fully 1000 men and women surrounded the doors of the bank and the trust company, clamoring for their money.

Many Deposit More Money.

But, while many depositors were seeking to withdraw their funds, others who believe in the soundness of the bank were coming forward with deposits. And so persistent were the friends of the bank in offering money for deposit that, when the bank closed, there was a line of depositors in waiting opposite to the line waiting to withdraw money. While the bank could not honor checks, it could receive deposits, and to facilitate the business of depositors, the bank was cleared at the hour for closing and a hole was cut through the plate-glass window on the Wisconsin street front of the building. Receiving tellers were stationed here, and until a late hour this evening depositors were still leaving their money.

The officials of the bank are looking for a resumption of the run tomorrow. A request has been made for a detail of 20 policemen—the same number that was required to handle the crowds today—and an extra force of clerks will be employed to handle the business. Money is on the way from New York to strengthen the reserve of the bank, and the directors expect to be able to meet all demands promptly. They say that the actual condition of the bank has not yet been impaired by the Bigelow defalcation. The statement of the financial condition

(Continued on Third Page.)

CONGRESSMAN KILLED IN RIOT

Prohibition Causes a Deadly Shooting Affray in Hempstead, Texas.

FIVE MEN ARE LAID LOW

Representative Pinckney Shot Down by Opponent of Prohibition, and Fusillade Follows—Gov- ernor to Send Rangers.

HEMPSTEAD, Tex., April 24.—Representative John M. Pinckney and two other men were killed at a mass-meeting here tonight, called for the purpose of petitioning the Governor to send rangers here to enforce the local option law.

J. N. Brown, a leading lawyer and a leading anti-prohibitionist, began the shooting, which became general in an instant. The dead:

THE DEAD:
J. N. BROWN,
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. PINCKNEY,
TOM PINCKNEY, brother of the Congressman.

JOHN E. MILLER, a leading prohibitionist, "Doc" Tompkins, private secretary to Representative Pinckney, and Rollin Brown, son of J. N. Brown, are badly wounded, but how seriously cannot be learned.

There are many armed men on the streets tonight, but it is not believed there will be any more trouble. The Governor will have notified and will send Rangers here.

Miller was a farmer, who had long been prominent in the affairs of the county. When the trouble began, Tompkins was making a speech to a motion. Brown had the floor. He used language which was objected to, and at the same time grasped Tompkins by the coat. Representative Pinckney sprang forward and the shooting began, no one appearing to know who fired the first shot, though it is said that a kinsman of Brown fired and that Representative Pinckney was the first to fall. A number of men appeared to be engaged in the shooting and something like 100 shots were fired.

John McPherson Pinckney, of Hempstead, Democratic Representative from the Eighth Texas District, was born in Brimes County, Texas, May 4, 1846, and was reared near the place of his birth. The only education he received was in the public schools near his boyhood home, and what he secured by his own study. He was a Confederate soldier, serving four years in the Fourth Texas Regiment, Hood's Texas Brigade. He entered upon the practice of law in 1875, and served 10 years as District Attorney for the Twenty-third Judicial District of Texas, and three years as County Judge of Walker County. He was elected to the 18th Congress November 17, 1903, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. T. H. Bell. His district included the counties of Austin, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Leon, Madison, Montgomery, Walker and Waller.

Tom Pinckney, brother of the Congressman, was a leading prohibitionist.

Rollin Brown, son of J. N. Brown, is badly wounded, but how seriously cannot be learned.

John E. Miller, a leading prohibitionist, was also wounded. He was a farmer, who had long been prominent in the affairs of the county. When the trouble began, Tompkins was making a speech to a motion. Brown had the floor. He used language which was objected to, and at the same time grasped Tompkins by the coat. Representative Pinckney sprang forward and the shooting began, no one appearing to know who fired the first shot, though it is said that a kinsman of Brown fired and that Representative Pinckney was the first to fall. A number of men appeared to be engaged in the shooting and something like 100 shots were fired.

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GREAT STORM IN ROCKIES

Snow Covers Mountains and Ranges From Texas to Wyoming.

DENVER, April 24.—The storm which began early yesterday morning continued until noon today. The downpour changed from rain to snow about midnight, and the plains of Eastern Colorado were covered with about six inches of snow this morning. The precipitation in Denver was 2.30 inches, and has been exceeded only four times since 1875. Telegraph wires north, west and south of this city were generally unserviceable this morning.

The storm extended from the panhandle of Texas to Central Wyoming. Livestock on the ranges is in good condition, and as the temperature is not low there will be little loss. The benefit to grass on the range is incalculable.

Even if the snow is followed by frost, as is usual in April in Colorado, the fruit trees are safe, for the cool weather of the past two weeks has kept back the buds from opening. So far is reported to railroads. Trinidad reports a dangerous rise in the Purgatory River, which last fall went on a rampage and washed out all the bridges for miles up and down the stream. Pueblo is looking for a rise in the Arkansas. The storm abated during the forenoon and the snow melted rapidly.

Train service on practically all roads in Colorado is delayed by the storm. A slide in the Royal Gorge, on the main line of the Rio Grande, covered the track and delayed traffic for several hours. In the Cripple Creek district the snowfall was extremely heavy and trains were operated with great difficulty.

TRINIDAD FEARS A FLOOD.

Purgatory River Threatens the Railroads and Washes Out Bridges.

TRINIDAD, Colo., April 24.—Two feet of wet, heavy snow covers this section, and the indications tonight are that the storm is not yet over, as the weather is still threatening. The Purgatory River, which overflowed its banks last fall and caused damage to the Santa Fe Railroad, is estimated at half a million dollars, is rising rapidly, and grave fears are entertained that the result may be repeated. Some sections of the road recently repaired were damaged today by the overflowing of the river. A small bridge on the Colorado & Southern Railroad was washed out today, delaying traffic several hours. Owing to the destruction of the water main supplying Trinidad, the business section of the city is entirely without water. The main cannot be repaired until the river recedes. A temporary foot and wagon bridge connecting North and South Trinidad has been wrecked. Many

bad rock slides are reported to have blocked traffic today. Telephone and telegraph lines have suffered considerably.

Santa Fe Tied Up by Flood.

GALLUP, N. M., April 24.—No through trains have run in either direction on the Santa Fe line for the past 24 hours and the prospects for the immediate repairing of the break in the line between Blue Water and Grants are very poor. It is believed here that it will require at least two days to restore through traffic. The track for nearly half a mile was washed out. It has been raining almost continuously for the past 60 hours with indications of continuing.

Wires Down in Salt Lake Valley.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 24.—Last night's heavy wind storm caused an almost complete suspension of telegraphic service in the Salt Lake Valley from midnight until near noon today. The storm was one of the most severe experienced here in ten years. The damage, however, was of a minor character. Scores of telegraph poles in the valley were blown down, carrying down the wires and for several hours both Salt Lake and Ogden were completely shut out from the outside world.

Landslide Blocks Union Pacific.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 24.—The landslide at Edison, which caused the wreck of a Union Pacific freight train on Saturday night, lies a cut 25 feet long and 25 feet deep. Sixteen passenger trains and an immense amount of freight are stalled. A temporary track will be completed tomorrow morning. Mails and passengers are now being transferred by wagons. A heavy snow is impeding the work of the wrecking crews. The cut will not be clear for 30 days.

STANDS BY THE THIEVES

CUBAN HOUSE REFUSES TO EXPOSE CONGRESSMEN.

Search for Stolen Documents Forbidden—Widens Breach Between Congress and President.

SPECIAL CABLE.

HAVANA, April 25.—That the House of Representatives does not intend that public documents stolen by a party of five Congressmen on April 14 shall be returned was shown tonight, when the petition sent to the House and signed by all of the Justices of the Supreme Court, asking that it be authorized to search for the missing documents, was tabled by an almost unanimous vote. The members of the House, despite the assertion that the missing papers show conclusively that certain public officials have misused public funds, are inclined to stand by their fellows and permit those who now have the documents to keep them.

Incidentally the house today administered a slur to President Palma when it adopted a resolution introduced by Congressman Marqueti, a negro, calling upon the President to furnish a list of all employees of the present government who have been dismissed from the service and to give the reason why they were removed. President Palma has strenuously opposed the making public of any such information, and the action of the House today is expected to result in the widening of the breach now existing between Congress and the Chief Executive.

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Nan Patterson loses on hearing case opened against her. Page 4.

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Miss Helen E. Tingle is appointed Market Inspector. Page 10.

GATES DUMPS HIS WHEAT LOAD

Another Huge Decline in May Option Sends Chicago Market Crazy.

ARMOUR NOW BUYING JULY

Gates Believed to Have Combined With Armour to Organize a Corner in July Option—Lost Millions on May.

RANGE OF MAY WHEAT PRICES.
Open, 96@97c.
Close, 95c.
High, 95c.
Low, 92 1/2c.
Highest point reached February 16, \$1.21 1/2.

NEW RURAL CARRIERS.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 24.—Rural carriers appointed: Oregon—Baker City, route 1, John W. Elliott; carrier, Fred Van Patton substitute; Sublimity, route 1, Bert S. Branch; carrier, Arthur W. Branch substitute.

Washington—Coupeville, route 1, Alfred Nuttall; carrier, A. T. Nuttall substitute.

Pope Ordered to Seattle.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 24.—First Lieutenant Francis A. Pope, corps of engineers, now at San Francisco, ordered to Seattle to take a station that places his report to Major John Mills, corps of engineers, for duty.

WILL AWAIT THE FAMILY

Jefferson's Body to Repose in Vault
Till All Assemble.

BUZZARDS' BAY, April 24.—It was learned today at "Cora's nest," the home of Joseph Jefferson, that the body of the aged actor would not be brought directly here from Palm Beach. Arrangements have been made to place the casket in a receiving vault at Boston until members of the family who are scattered over the country and abroad can come together. The body then will be brought here, and will be buried in the Bay View Cemetery.

His Son Cancels Engagement.

CLEVELAND, O., April 24.—William Winter Jefferson, a son of the actor, heard of the death of his father while passing through the apartments of Mrs. D. Gilmore, in Twentieth street, and at the muzzle of revolvers robbed Mrs. Gilmore and Edward Groux of \$2500 worth of diamonds. The victims were then bound and thrust into a closet and the door locked on them. After the robbers had departed, Mrs. Gilmore tugged at her bonds, and released her husband and Groux, who were half-strangled in their narrow quarters. Groux, to get a breath of fresh air, kicked open one of the panels in the door. He attempted to crawl through this, but the opening was too narrow. Another panel was then broken, and Mrs. Gilmore crawled through. She secured a duplicate key and released Groux. About 10 o'clock of jewelry sought by the robbers, was overlooked.

LONDON'S TRIBUTES TO JEFFERSON.

LONDON, April 24.—The death of Joseph Jefferson is the occasion for the publication in London newspapers of lengthy tributes to the American actor.

BOUND, ROBBED, LOCKED IN

Exciting Experience of Man and Woman in Chicago.

CHICAGO, April 24.—On the pretext of serving a search warrant, three men gained entrance to the apartments of Mrs. D. Gilmore, in Twentieth street, and at the muzzle of revolvers robbed Mrs. Gilmore and Edward Groux of \$2500 worth of diamonds. The victims were then bound and thrust into a closet and the door locked on them. After the robbers had departed, Mrs. Gilmore tugged at her bonds, and released her husband and Groux, who were half-strangled in their narrow quarters. Groux, to get a breath of fresh air, kicked open one of the panels in the door. He attempted to crawl through this, but the opening was too narrow. Another panel was then broken, and Mrs. Gilmore crawled through. She secured a duplicate key and released Groux. About 10 o'clock of jewelry sought by the robbers, was overlooked.

SEE MOUNTAINS BY DAY

President Refuses to Change Plans at Denver's Request.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo., April 24.—Secretary Loeb today conferred with a delegation representing the Denver Chamber of Commerce in regard to the arrangements for the reception of the President on May 15. The delegation was composed of J. Stemple and C. H. Reynolds. The purpose of their visit here was to induce the President to leave Glenwood Springs during the night of May 14 in order to give an entire day to Denver. Mr. Loeb said there will be no change in the plans, which are for a night trip through the mountains of Colorado.

MOVE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS

Meeting in Chicago Pushes Public Ownership Along.

CHICAGO, April 24.—Agitation to establish municipal ownership of gas works as well as street railways in Chicago was inaugurated in earnest today by a public meeting in the City Council Chamber, which took steps to hasten the passage of the Chicago gas bills.

Narrow Escapes From Big Fire.

PUEBLO, Colo., April 24.—Fire tonight almost totally destroyed the entire stock of Bergerman Bros. store, one of the largest furnishing establishments in the state, and greatly damaged the building. The stock was valued at \$25,000, fully insured. The fire is supposed to have originated from a gasoline-power engine blowing up. There were several narrow escapes from the flames, several women being carried from the building in their night clothes.

Don't Believe Diana's Crew Escaped.

PARIS, April 24.—The Foreign Office at noon said that no confirmation had been received of the reported cannonade out-

side of Kamranh Bay during the night of April 22, the day Admiral Rojestvensky left the Coast of Adum. The officials here discredit the report that the crew of the interned Russian cruiser Diana, now at Halifax, joined Admiral Rojestvensky previous to his sailing, as the official advice show that a daily rollcall is made for the purpose of preventing the departure of any members of the crew.

ALL BIDS PROVE TOO HIGH

Hitchcock Finds School Buildings in Alaska Cost Money.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 24.—Secretary Hitchcock today rejected all bids recently submitted for erecting public school buildings at various points in Alaska, because they were too high. After revising the list of buildings, he directed that bids again be invited for school buildings at Wrangell, Haines, Yakutat, Jackson and Ketchikan. There is \$50,000 available for these buildings.

It was decided to abandon the idea of erecting buildings in extreme Northern Alaska by contract at this time and have them built later by the Commissioner of Education.

Pope Ordered to Seattle.

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LONDON'S TR