

WALSH UNDER ARREST

FORMER CHICAGO BANK PRESIDENT ACCUSED.

Government's Bill of Complaint Alleges That He Juggled Returns to Comptroller and Converted Large Sums to His Own Use.

Chicago—John R. Walsh, president of the defunct Chicago National bank, which closed its doors December 18, 1905, was taken into custody on a federal warrant which charges him with violation of the national banking laws in making false returns to the comptroller of the currency, and also asserts that he converted to his own use without proper authority funds of the bank amounting to \$3,000,000. He was released after giving bonds of \$50,000.

Date of Alleged Wrongdoing

The complaint alleges in specific terms that on November 18, 1905, the Chicago National bank transmitted to the comptroller of the currency a statement of the financial condition of the bank at the close of business on November 9. In this statement "the said John R. Walsh unlawfully made certain false entries to the effect that at the close of business of the 9th day of November the amount of loans and discounts of the said banking association on which the officers and directors thereof were then liable either as payer or endorser was \$245,000, whereas in truth the amount of such loans and discounts was \$3,000,000; and another false entry to the effect that the amount of loans and discounts of the said association on which the officers and directors

were not liable as payers or endorsers was \$10,658,226, whereas in truth the amount of such loans and discounts on which officers and directors were not liable, was much smaller, namely, \$7,500,000."

"Intent to Defraud"

Another section of the complaint alleges that Walsh had in his possession funds and moneys of the bank amounting to \$3,000,000 "with intent to injure and defraud" the bank. The \$3,000,000 mentioned in this section of the complaint is, however, identical with the amount specified as being loaned to officers of the bank.

It is further alleged that John R. Walsh and John M. Smyth and William Best directors of the bank, "and other persons too numerous to mention," unlawfully misapplied this money by converting it to the personal and private use of John R. Walsh without any proper authority whatever.

The arrest of Mr. Walsh came as the direct result of the last examination of the books of the Chicago National bank made by Special Bank Examiner Arthur L. Curry, sent to Chicago from Washington. The data furnished to the treasury department in Washington was sent to District Attorney Morrison in this city, with instructions to take proper steps in the matter.

Mr. Walsh Denies Charges

After being released on bail, Mr. Walsh made the following statement: "The charge in effect is that as president of the bank I signed a report to the comptroller, which report, it is now alleged, is false. The report in question would ordinarily have been signed by the cashier, but by reason of his temporary absence it was signed by me as a matter of course. The report referred to, however, was undoubtedly correct in every particular. These facts will be clearly established by the evidence if the case reaches a stage when evidence is produced. I believe, however, that a more thorough investigation of the facts by the Department of Justice and a comparison of the report with the bank books will convince the government that its action is uncalled for and cannot be sustained.

"Any inference that might be drawn from the complaint that there has been any misappropriation of funds in any way is absolutely false."

The preliminary hearing of Mr. Walsh before United States Commissioner Foots was set for March 10.

Pope Orders Peace in Church

The pope has expressed his determination to restore strict discipline not only in the lower orders of the clergy, but in the episcopacy of the United States. Bishop Beaven of Springfield, Mass., who is in Rome, has been earnestly recommended to avoid dissensions with the clergy of his diocese. Similar recommendations will be addressed to others, chiefly Bishop Bonacum, of Lincoln, Neb., and Bishop Matz of Denver, Colo.

McCurdys Sail for Europe

Richard A. McCurdy, former president of the Mutual Life Insurance company, and several members of his family sailed on the steamer Amerika for Europe. The McCurdy party boarded the steamer at night at the pier in Hoboken. They received no visitors before the vessel sailed. The party included, in addition to Mr. McCurdy, Mrs. McCurdy, Louis G. Thebaud and Mrs. Thebaud. Mr. McCurdy's daughter. Mr. Thebaud is a member of the firm of Raymond & Co., formerly general agents for the Mutual Life Insurance company.

Grain Company Answers

The Duff Grain company, Nicholas A. Duff president, filed a joint and several answer in the supreme court to the petition of Attorney General Brown asking for a mandamus to prevent this company, with other grain companies, from combining to re-

strict and control the grain markets of Nebraska. The answer admits the Duff Grain company is a corporation doing business in Nebraska and that it owns about twenty-five elevators. The answer denies each and every allegation charged in the petition filed by the attorney general.

Czar Wants Arctic Regions

The Russian czar is bound that Uncle Sam shall not extend his domain into the unknown Arctic regions. Following the announcement that Captain Mikklesen, a Danish explorer under private American patronage, planned to seek an island supposed to exist to the north and west of the Beaufort sea and if found plant the United States flag there, the czar made haste to oppose the scheme. He sent the following order to the governor-general of East Siberia: "Prevent by all means at your disposal Captain Mikklesen from hoisting the American flag on any continent or island which he may discover in the Arctic ocean north of East Siberia and Wrangel Land and the Perry Islands." The Russian theory is that all land that can be discovered north of Siberia is Russian.

Sale of Elevators

Fremont, Neb.—The Crowell Lumber & Elevator company has bought the lines of the Torpin Grain company at Colon, Nickerson, Crowell and Verdigre. Messrs. Harry Torpin of Oakdale, manager of the Torpin company, and Al Linderholm of Blair, auditor for the Crowell company, were in the city on business connected with the changes. Mr. Phinney, who had charge of the Torpin business at Nickerson will stay with his former employers and will be given another position. In making the deal the Torpin company had the object in view of keeping its interests centralized, those at the towns named having been remote from the main group of elevators.

Stock Show Company

A new stock company is being formed to perpetuate the annual live stock show that has been carried on the last three years in Wisner and the expenses will be met by popular subscription. The capital stock is placed at \$5,000, to be expended in rental of grounds and the erection of suitable sheds and buildings.

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