Salesmen Held For Swindling Chicago Concern

Wholesale Grocery Firm Loses $300,000 Through Systematic Frauds Practiced Six Years by Employes.

Chicago, April 5.—A $300,000 swindle of a prominent grocery house, which has been in progress for six years, was bared today by the state's attorney's office after confessions from four of the principal actors had been obtained.

Indictments against the four men will be asked of the grand jury. They are now under arrest.

They are Max Goodman, former chief bookkeeper of the Durand & Kasper Wholesale Grocery company, the company on which the swindle was perpetrated.

J. J. Doctor, salesman.

Grafted Five Years

Alexander Winebarger, salesman.

J. Landola, salesman.

"Five years ago," Goodman said, "my wife became ill and was sent to a hospital. I was broke and desperate.

"I noticed that some of my salesmen were getting away with small amounts of money on credit slips. I then evolved the scheme for which I am now under arrest.

"I made arrangements with certain salesmen to turn their collections in to me. Instead of posting them on the ledger and cash book—where the cashier would see them—I withheld the money, splitting the loot with the salesmen.

"I would then doctor my books to square everything. There were only certain accounts we would monkey with. We made on an average of about $2000 a month."

Auto Was Downfall

For six years everything went well. A few weeks ago police dug up an abandoned automobile from the Chicago river. Investigators traced it to Goodman—he was arrested. The grocery house heard of it and Goodman was summarily discharged. His books had not been "doctored" for several weeks. He knew exposure faced him. He wrote a letter to Miss Elsie Suhring, cashier of the Durand and Kasper company in which he revealed everything.

He begged Miss Suhring to resign, thinking that in that event the company would give him his job back temporarily and that he could then fix up the books.

Turned Letter Over.

Miss Suhring turned the letter over to officials of the company.

Goodman was immediately arrested. He confessed, naming the other men, and they, too, made a clean breast of it.

Goodman was one of the heavy investors in the LaSalle street brokerage firm of Benjamin Marcuse & Co., which fell with a spectacular crash some months ago, the bankruptcy proceedings bringing jail sentences for two members of the firm. Goodman is said to have lost $65,000 in the company.

Railway Men Discuss Proposed Wage Cuts With Chief Executive

Cleveland, April 5.—What is said to be the first break from the national agreement and national labor leaders, and the first step toward direct negotiations with the railroads on proposed wage reductions, accurred today at a conference between representatives of 450 clerks employed in the New York Central's learning house accounting bureau and General Manager A. S. Ingalls of the New York Central lines.

The conference was arranged at the request of the employes, Mr. Ingalls said.

He said he accepted a proposition submitted by those attending the conference, that when the company finds it necessary to reduce wages it make the revision "along proper lines of business practice." Readjustment of salaries will be held in abeyance until the labor board decides wage reductions involving similar employes in other branches of the service, Mr. Ingalls said.

Ex-Council Bluffs Man Is Made Railroad President

Chicago, April 5.—Henry Nutt, former colonel in the United States army who had charge of the transportation offices of the American army of occupation at Coblenz, Germany, today was elected president and general manager of the Monongahela railway and the Pittsburgh, Chartiers and Youghiogheny. The properties are owned by the Pennsylvania railroad and the Pittsburgh, Lake Erie railroad.

Colonel Nutt has held responsible positions with several western roads. He was born at Council Bluffs, Ia.

Woman Seeking Interest In Estate Appeals Case

Lincoln, Neb., April 5.—(Special.)—Susan Hearle Hammond, who failed to establish her right as common law wife to an interest in the estate of the later Peter S. Hammond of Gothenburg, Neb., has filed her brief on appeal to the Nebraska supreme court.

She says she went to Gothenburg as Hammond's housekeeper in 1908, and later she and her daughter and Hammond lived as on family in Omaha, where she had been represented as Hammond's wife, by Hammond himself.

Unskilled Employes of Road to Reduce Salaries

Jackson, Tenn., April 5.—Unskilled employes of the Gulf, Mobile and Northern and The Birmingham and Northwestern railroads have agreed to accept a reduction in wages, effective April 1, officials of the two roads announced here today. Officers of the Birmingham and North Western, it was announced, have notified I. B. Tigrett, president of the road that for the next three months, 10 per cent of their salaries will be voluntarily turned back into the company's treasury.

Just Before She Said "Yes"

By CHARLES DANA GIBSON.
Copyright Life Pub. Co.

Printers Urged to Hold Production

Employes Asked to Work Harder During 44-Hour Week.

Chicago, April 5.—The labor group of the joint conference council of the commercial branches of the printing industry today adopted a resolution urging the membership of the printing trades unions to make every effort possible to give to the employers who concede the 44-hour week as nearly the same amount of work under the 44-hour arrangement as has hitherto been done.

The resolution declares that the 44-hour work week is to become effective in the printing industry on May 1, 1921, and that the international joint conference has not and could not make an agreement as to the wages that should be paid for 44 hours' work.

"The wage question," continued the resolution, "is one to be settled by agreement between local unions and employing printers in the jurisdiction of such unions, notwithstanding the fact that the international joint conference council did recommend that there should be no reduction in wages because of the installation of the 44-hour week."

Radical Deported by Mexico Is at Vera Cruz

Vera Cruz, April 5.—Linn A. E. Gale, an American radical, who arrived here yesterday following the issuance of orders for his expulsion from Mexico, was put on a train bound for Guatemala this morning. Gale, who was accompanied to this city from the capital by his wife and three secret service detectives, begged the Mexican authorities not to send him to the United States, where he believed he would be placed under arrest. Assertions that influential friends were making an effort to secure his freedom were made yesterday by Gale when he was interviewed by The Associated Press. Gale was rather evasive and insisted his name was not Gale, but "Wurtenberfeld."

He declared he was a German and that his wife, whose given name is Wilhelmina, was also of that nationality.

Michigan Man May Testify At Inquest of Sweetheart

Corunna, Mich., April 5.—Forrest Higgins, charged with murder in connection with the death of Lucy Whittum, 19, his sweetheart, may tell his story of the event on the witness stand at the inquest. His attorney, Albert L. Chandler of this city, stated that he would not object if the prosecution called Higgins.

The police are not satisfied with Higgins' story of his knocking the acid out of Lucy's hands. They ask why none of the acid was spilled on Lucy's or Higgins' hands. The police find it hard to believe that Higgins would notice that she had the bottle first in her left hand and then that she picked it up off the ground with her right. They also think it strange that he should be "frightened" immediately after the girl took the acid and then be calm enough after he reached home to work about his machine for two hours and to shave.

Peace Negotiations Between Britain and Ireland Broken Off

London, April 5.—Replying to several questions on the Irish situation, Premier Lloyd George, in the house of commons this afternoon, stated that he is continuing to watch the situation most carefully, but that no useful purpose could be served by adding to what he has already said on the subject. The moment the leaders of Irish opposition are prepared to negotiate or discuss the question of a settlement in Ireland they will find the government quite willing to meet them, he declared. The premier stated definitely that there were no negotiations now going on.

An incendiary fire, suspetced to be the work of Sinn Feiners was discovered in Bromley Common, Kent, this morning.

Sixteen men, mostly Irishmen, were arrested in Manchester, in connection with the discovery of a Sinn Fein arsenal on Saturday containing a tremendous amount of explosives and ammunition.

Oil Firm Promoter Gives Up When He Is Indicted

New York, April 5.—Harvey C. Howard today surrendered to federal authorities when he learned of an indictment pending against himself and others connected with the Ranger Consolidated Oil company, a Texas corporation, charging them with using the mails in the operation of a scheme to defraud investors. Howard, in default of $5,000 bond, was committed to the Tombs prison.

The indictment reveals that the Ranger company was organized in 1919 with a capital stock of $2,500,000, which was increased to $4,000,000 last year. It is charged that false representations were made in sales booklets.

Man Who Took Pal's Glass Eye Promises to Replace It

Fred Roberts, 818 North Seventeenth street, will get his glass eye back. The eye and 75 cents were stolen from him by Edward Johnson, his roommate, who was arrested Monday. Johnson was discharged by Foster after he promised that he would get Roberts a glass eye.

Denby Still Firm For Large Navy

Inspection Trip Strengthens Secretary's Belief in Building Program of 1916.

Washington, April 5.—With worthy sea legs, worthy enough for a tossing, plunging destroyer, a sun-browned countenance and a sailor's cap tilted jauntily on his head, Secretary of Navy Denby returned to Washington today from his first inspection of the Atlantic fleet.

The secretary came all the way from San Domingo to the navy-yard dock at Washington aboard the destroyer Pruitt, a non-stop run of 1,600 miles at an average rate of 25 knots an hour.

"It was some trip," said the secretary as he landed at the dock. "You can't help admiring the destroyer after such a trip as I have had through some pretty stiff weather, too. Sixteen hundred miles and no stops and going an average rate of 25 knots. I guess that won't be beaten for some time. I'm a pretty good sailor, you can see, to stand that kind of a trip on a destroyer."

The navy secretary had nothing but words of praise for the officers and men of the fleet which he inspected at Guantanamo and his trip has left him firm in the conviction that the United States should have a big navy.

"I still insist that we should go ahead to carry out the 1916 building program," he said.

"Have you made up your mind what should be done about the fleet policy; whether it should be continued in the Atlantic or Pacific, or be re-united into one fleet?" the secretary was asked.

"Haven't decided that yet," he replied. "We'll get to that later."

Jugular Vein Severed When Two Cars Collide

Norfolk, Neb., April 5.—(Special Telegram.)—Maurice Carter is in a hospital here with his jugular vein severed and ugly cuts and bruises on his throat and jaw as a result of being thrown through the windshield of an automobile he was driving, when it collided with a taxi driven by Charles Wheeler.

Creditors Name E. W. Exley Hotel String Trustee

Order Issued for Sale of North American Hotel in Scottsbluff at Meeting.

E. W. Exley was named trustee for the North American Hotel company Monday afternoon at a meeting of representatives of 260 creditors before Fremont Benjamin, referee in bankruptcy, in Council Bluffs.

Exley was named receiver at the filing of bankruptcy proceedings in the Bluffs federal court two weeks ago. Appointment of Jesse S. Newton as receiver for Nebraska stockholders was rescinded two days later by Federal Judge Woodrough, at which time the jurist scored attorneys concerned for the appointment of two receivers.

At the meeting before Referee Benjamin Monday the representatives of the creditors elected Exley to be trustee and this action was approved by the referee.

Condition of the company, owners of seven hotels in Nebraska and Iowa, was discussed by the session, which issued an order of sale for the North American hotel in Scottsbluff, one of those owned by the firm.

Consummation of this sale is still in abeyance, Trustee Exley explained, and facts concerning the deal cannot be made public through possibility of hindering the closing of the contract.

He declared, however, the hotel is being sought by a Nebraska group.

Crops Badly Damaged By Sand and Dust Storm

Norfolk, Neb., April 5.—(Special Telegram.)—Heavy damage was done by the sand and dust storm which continued for 72 hours and was general over this part of the state, according to reports here. The gale carried heavy dust and sand which cut or completely covered thousands of acres of small grain and alfalfa fields along the bottoms of the Elkhorn valley. The gale subsided during the night and light rains were general over north Nebraska, Tuesday.

Archeologists Find Ancient Temple of Vintage of 400 B. C.

Athens, April 5.—Greek archeologists have unearthed an imposing temple at Rerras, Thessaly. The structure is in an excellent state of preservation and is stated to be as large as the temple of Jupiter at Olympia.

The bronze inscriptions establish the date of 400 B. C. Numerous tablets have also been found bearing indications of laws and resolutions on ancient civilization.

This is the second temple which has been discovered within a month, the first having been found near the city of Volo. The excavations are continuing.

Big Artesian Well Struck Near Sturgis

Sturgis, S. D., April 5.—(Special.)—Drillers for the Bare Butte Oil Developing company, now operating in the Bare Butte structure near here, struck what is believed to be the largest flow of artesian water ever encountered in South Dakota. The stream was encountered in the Minnekata limestone at a depth of about 300 feet and fills a sluice-box two feet wide and one foot deep, flowing at an estimated volume of 3,000,000 gallons a day.

It is believed to be sufficient it impounded to irrigate several townships of land lying immediately below it.

A theater chair so formed that an occupant can turn to one side to permit a person to pass him without rising has been patented.

Pavilion Co. Plans Stock Show and Corn Carnival

Hebron, Neb., April 5.—(Special.)—Hebron Pavilion company is planning a stock show, corn cornival and base ball tournament this fall. At a recent meeting, M. G. Corliss and Fred B. Mitchell were re-elected president and vice president, respectively; M. C. McMahan and Fred C. Beisner re-elected to board of directors, and W. M. Sharp was elected to fill a vacancy.

The best salesmen—Bee Want Ads.