

# HISTORY OF THE LOOTING OF A BANK

Cashier Hering Tells How President Stensland Worked The Scheme.

NOTES WERE THE BASIS OF IT.

Cannot Say They Were Forgeries. As Signatures Good Enough To Deceive Him.

Some Weeks Ago Concluded Something Was Wrong—Great Abundance Of Notes Worried Him.

Chicago, Aug. 9.—The Tribune today says: Henry W. Hering, cashier of the Milwaukee Avenue State bank, looted by Paul O. Stensland of over \$1,000,000, is in Chicago. He has not been out of Chicago since Monday morning.

The police department can call in its circulars, take its detectives off the trail and rest assured in the belief that at 1 o'clock today, or rather, one minute after 1, Mr. Hering will be in the custody of Inspector Shippy. Hering intends to give himself up, and is absolutely confident that in a short space of time he can show to the satisfaction of every one concerned that he had no part in the robbing of the \$2,000,000 depositors of the wrecked institution.

CASHIER TELLS STORY.

From 9 o'clock until 11 o'clock last night a reporter and this inspector sat on a bench in one of the city's parks. In these two hours Mr. Hering told the story of his career with the bank from the time of his employment, 17 years ago, until he closed his safe last Saturday.

The cashier does not think he can be correctly described as a fugitive from justice. It has been stated that he ran away from town last Saturday, and various surmises as to his whereabouts have been put forward by the police.

TOOK DAYS' REST.

As a matter of fact, when Hering left the city on Saturday, he simply went up the lake for a day's rest. He reached Chicago Monday morning, got on a car, and rode straight to the bank. When the car stopped at the corner he jumped off, carrying his heavy grip. Just as he reached the edge of the sidewalk he saw a man passing the notice of the closing of the bank on its doors. Instead of ascending the stairs he backedtracked and headed down town.

The passing of the notice on the window proved the culmination of suspicions aroused in his mind six or eight weeks ago that things in the bank were not right.

This suspicion was intensified by the unexplained prolongation of the 10 days' absence that President Stensland had been going to take when he left three weeks ago last Sunday and had not returned a certainty when he saw the mob of excited depositors around the bank's door.

Hering thought he would like a few hours to think affairs over before he jumped into the financial wreck and he went to the home of a friend.

SAYS HE HAD NO MONEY.

Mr. Hering is insistent in his statement that he had absolutely nothing whatever to do with any speculation of the bank's funds. He swears he had not received a penny by the irregularities brought to light. He asserts that although cashier of the bank, he was merely a clerk for Stensland; that all he did was to carry out Stensland's orders.

He declared that Stensland's instructions were such that there was no way in their face of determining that any crooked business was going on; it was only the culmination of a number of suspicious incidents and the piling of notes and handed them to him or sent them to him in the regular routine of business. Later, generally the next day, they were returned to me duly signed by various people or at least they had the alleged signatures of various people.

While defending himself with the utmost vigor, he made no real accusations against Paul O. Stensland; he simply told what he said in a plain, unvarnished statement of the rise of Stensland and his downfall, brought about by a mania for real estate investments.

Mr. Hering swears he has no knowledge of the whereabouts of the notes said to be forgeries were signed by Stensland.

"As a matter of fact," said he, "at this moment I do not know they are forgeries. The signatures were good enough to deceive me."

Whenever Stensland needed money to bolster up his operations he worked as follows:

STENSLAND'S METHOD.

"Mr. Stensland would come to my desk," said Mr. Hering, "and say to me: 'Mr. Hering, please make out a certain number of notes (the number of which he would give me) for these amounts,' he giving me a memorandum of the amounts. I then made out the notes and handed them to him or sent them to him in the regular routine of business. Later, generally the next day, they were returned to me duly signed by various people or at least they had the alleged signatures of various people."

"Mr. Stensland then ordered me to place them to the credit of his personal account, and would then draw checks on his personal account for the various enterprises which dragged him to ruin."

"Did he ever utilize the names of any of the employees on these notes?"

"I only know of one instance. Before the last report of the state auditor there was an overdraft of \$25,000 which had to be taken care of in some manner. He got two employees of the Co-operative store, which was the chief millstone around his neck, to sign notes for this amount, and this paper was used to conceal the overdraft."

"When did you first become suspicious that something was wrong?"

BECAME SUSPICIOUS.

"My suspicions were aroused some time ago, but I made up my mind that

# NEW EVIDENCE IN THAW-WHITE CASE

Florenz Ziegfeld, Anna Held's Husband, Tells a Very Strange Story.

INVOLVES CHORUS GIRLS.

Called to Bid White Goodbye, One Remark, "Say Mrs. Thaw Called."

New York, Aug. 9.—The Herald today says: New and important evidence providing a plausible motive for the killing of Stanford White has lately come in to Dist. Atty. Jerome's possession. The details were conveyed to the district attorney from Florenz Ziegfeld, a theatrical manager, who is the husband of Anna Held, and who is at present living in Paris. The story is that Mr. White sent a note and a basket of flowers to Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw the afternoon of the shooting, and that the tragedy grew out of the thoughtless mischief of three chorus girls.

Mr. Ziegfeld met one of his New York theatrical friends in a railroad station in Paris a little while ago, and the conversation drifted to the Thaw tragedy. Mr. Ziegfeld expressed surprise that the authorities had not yet got hold of evidence which would go a long way toward clearing up the mystery heretofore cloaking the motive of the crime.

"The tragedy occurred some days prior to my last trip from America," said Mr. Ziegfeld, "and I was full of it on my way over. It was the principal subject of conversation on deck and at table. Among the passengers was a young woman very well known to the amusement loving New York public, who was a prominent member of the chorus in one of my productions. Naturally we chatted and the Thaw tragedy was touched upon. I found that she knew something which the district attorney would give a great deal to know."

"She told me that she accompanied two other members of my old company to pay a doctored denouement to a dozen future denouements which might arise out of Mrs. Thaw's vicious call. Next day Mr. White, according to this girl, sent a note to Mrs. Thaw, expressing his regret at his absence at the time of her call and dispartate remarks. She said she saw a basket of roses to her address. My informant believed that Thaw saw the roses, read the card attached and perhaps read the note which accompanied them."

It is known that this young woman is now in New York having returned, it is said, at the request of Mr. Jerome. It is believed she will be one of the most important witnesses for the people.

PAPERS TURNED OVER.

New York, Aug. 9.—Harry Thaw's counsel, Clifford W. Hartridge, received yesterday from Black, Olcott, Gruber & Bonyng practically the last batch of documents and reports obtained by the firm as counsel for Mrs. William Thaw, who employed them to get all the evidence they could that might at any time help her son. When Mrs. William Thaw dismissed the firm, she said that she wanted everything she could obtain, obtained turned over to Mr. Hartridge.

COLORADO RIVER SITUATION.

San Diego, Cal., Aug. 8.—The proposition to call a convention of those interested to discuss the Colorado river situation will be considered by the chamber of commerce directors at Friday's meeting. The original call was for a meeting here today, but it was postponed.

COLLECTING BANK'S ASSETS.

"I am collecting the assets of the bank, not running business enterprises," said Receiver Peter yesterday. "This store will be closed. The \$200,000 in co-operative store bonds turned over by Cashier Hering were discovered in the bank's vault yesterday."

Receiver Peter declared that the first statement of cash in hand at the bank was \$300,000 too high. It was said to have been \$1,000,000 cash in hand. Instead, there is only about \$750,000. "This does not necessarily mean a loss," Mr. Peter explained, "but there were many items carried on the bank's books as cash that were not so in reality."

ANOTHER WARRANT.

Another warrant charging violation of the state banking laws was sworn out today for the arrest of Theodore Stensland, vice-president of the suspended bank. Vice-Pres. Stensland will not be arrested on this warrant today, according to the police.

Charles Habel, the complainant, charges Stensland with violation of the banking laws inasmuch as he permitted him to deposit \$125 in the bank on Saturday last when Stensland knew the bank to be insolvent. Stensland was arrested last Monday on a similar warrant.

Bank Examiner Jones, in an interview wherein he declared that only a bank examiner who was a mindreader could have foreseen the impending crash, said that part of Cashier Hering's published defense he believed to be true. Other parts he said he knew to be untrue. He declined to be more explicit. He pointed out that Hering, as cashier, was under heavy bond, while Stensland, the president, was not, as far as Mr. Jones has been able to learn.

Inspector Shippy today sent a detective to Barnum, Wis., to interview a woman who is said to be well acquainted with the missing president, and who is believed by the police to have some knowledge of his whereabouts.

Vice President Theodore Stensland was taken into police custody at Shippy's office during the day and questioned for nearly an hour. A stenographer and notary public were present during the interview. Before entering the inspector's office, Vice President Stensland was asked concerning his father. He declared that he has not heard from him and knows nothing of his whereabouts.

Although the police had fully expected Cashier Hering would appear at 1 o'clock this afternoon to place himself under arrest, at 1:30 o'clock none of the stations had reported his arrest.

BRITT AND HANLON HAVE BEEN MATCHED.

San Francisco, Aug. 9.—The Bulletin today says that Jimmie Britt and Edie Hanlon have been matched for a glove contest on Sept. 16. None of the details of the match has yet been given out.

TORONTO CARPENTERS STRIKE.

Toronto, Ont., Aug. 9.—Over 1,000 carpenters went on strike today for 35 cents an hour and recognition of the union.

# CHZAR IS GOING TO TSARSKOE-SELO

Will Remain There Five Days. Which Will be a Time of Festivities.

WILL FIGHT REVOLUTIONISTS.

Much of Agitation Among Sailors at Cronstadt Was Through University Girl Students.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 9.—In view of the improvement in the situation a number of the guard regiments have already returned to their summer camp at Tsarskoe-Selo. The emperor has arranged to go there Saturday and spend five days. These imperial visits to the guard's camp are gala occasions and are always marked by festivities, theatricals, banqueting and toasting among the various regiments. The empress' yacht Alexandria, which has been under repairs for two years, steamed to Peterhof last night, leading to the belief that the imperial family will soon make their proposed visit to Finnish waters. The court is greatly relieved by the prospect of a period of calm which will give the government an opportunity to inaugurate its program.

The Russia today says it is the intention of the government to fight counter-revolution with the same energy it has been waging war against the "enemies of society" and expresses the hope that moderate public opinion equally hostile to both extremes will grow rapidly.

The Novaya Vremya, taking as its text the failure to employ summary executions as a deterrent to mutinies, complains that for years it has been felt that the government has not understood how to employ firmness. "Instead of the iron hand in the velvet glove," it says, "the government has put on an iron glove, which irritates everything it touches without having any power behind it."

The Bourge Gazette makes the startling charge that much of the revolutionary agitation conducted among the sailors at Cronstadt was through university girl students who frequented public houses patronized by the sailors in order to bring them under their influence.

SITES FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT LOGAN AND PROVO.

(Special to the "News.")

Washington, D. C., Aug. 9.—Bids were opened by the supervising architect of the treasury department for sites for public buildings at Provo and Logan, Utah. At the last session appropriated \$60,000 for a site and construction of a building at Provo and \$50,000 for a site and building at Logan. Bidders at Logan, where the government wants a site at least 120 by 120 feet, follow: Logan Real Estate & Loan company, southeast corner Utah and Second streets, 120 by 120; Melvin K. Ballard, east side of Main street, between First, Second and North streets, 120 by 120; Jacob West, northwest corner Center and First West streets, 101 by 148, no price given. A. E. Crumery, academy corner Utah and Second streets, 120 by 120; \$7,000.

There were six bidders at Provo, where the government wants a site 120 by 120, and each of the six bidders will sell their respective sites at \$1 each, which amounts to a gift of the sites to the government. The entire appropriation of \$60,000 will be expended in the construction of public buildings. The bidders at Provo were Wilson H. Dusenberry, northwest corner Center street and First East streets, 120 by 120; George H. Brimhall, northeast corner Utah and Second streets, 120 by 120; Thomas N. Taylor, southeast corner Center and Third West street, 125 by 120; City of Provo, southeast corner Center street, and Academy street, 120 feet on Center by 120 on Academy street; 120 feet on Center by 120 on Academy street; also by City of Provo, southwest corner Center and Fifth West streets, 120 on Center and 126 on Fifth West, or 120 on Center by 120 on Fifth West.

TEAMSTERS' REGULAR SLATE FOR OFFICERS.

Chicago, Aug. 9.—Confronted by the certainty that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters would re-elect President C. P. Shea and his chosen ticket, the insurgents who bolted the regular convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters yesterday, kept up their "crisis" today against the Shea contingent. Overtures were ignored by the bolters who proceeded to organize a convention of their own and planned to adopt bylaws and a constitution. They insisted that they would not recognize the rule of the President Shea. Officers slated for election by the "regular" faction today are: President, C. P. Shea, Boston, vice presidents, Ed Muller, Chicago; J. H.

QUARREL OVER BLACKBERRIES

Young Boy Shoots Neighbor's Son in One.

Frederick, Md., Aug. 9.—At the command of his father, Fred Debold, 12 years old, son of John Debold, shot and killed George Smith, son of the neighbor, Edward O. Smith, near here last evening. There had been bad feeling between the two families, and yesterday's quarrel over blackberries that the Smiths had picked on Debold's land.

"Shoot him," said Debold to his son, pointing at the younger youth.

The boy fired a load from a shotgun which struck Smith over the heart, killing him instantly. Both Debolds were arrested.

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Government officers took possession of the work and outfit of Pendergast and Clark on the Shoshone dam today. This is the largest structure in the west. This firm is also unable to secure men and financial backing to carry them through many discouragements. Bids for this work were opened Sept. 5, 1905, and an award made on an estimated basis of \$515,750. The next lowest bid was J. G. White & Co., New York, at \$558,835. Gerard H. Matthews, engineer of the reclamation service, was assigned to the Shoshone dam project, Idaho, to have charge of the maintenance and operation of the canal system near completion. Matthews graduated from Massachusetts institute of technology in 1905, and has had considerable experience as instrument man and inspector of construction work. He built a large number of bridges in Oklahoma and was subsequently transferred to New Mexico and has been engaged in various capacities which peculiarly fit him for the position to which he has been assigned.

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