

ods. This disclosed a series of singular transactions. Among them was the fact that the art connoisseur kept bank accounts in the name of employees.

Employee's Account an Issue.
Ricketts said he gave S. M. Bowers, a salesman for the firm, \$5,000 to deposit to Bowers' account in the People's Trust and Savings bank. Ricketts said Bowers had an account of his own and on the advice of his lawyer he made the deposit.

"All my employees have bank accounts," Ricketts said. "I always advised all my people to save money. The result of this policy is that they all have money except myself. I have none."

Further questioning along this line disclosed that Ricketts had withdrawn \$2,000 from the Bowers account within the last few days, as well as \$500 from the Fort Dearborn National bank. This money and a note for \$21,000, making a total of \$23,500, he had sent to Arthur Tooth & Sons of London as payment on account.

Mr. Geas obtained an order on the People's Trust and Savings bank to hold the Bowers account for the benefit of the creditors. It was said a part of the \$1,000 remaining on this account is Bowers' personal funds.

Debts Around \$100,000.
Ricketts astonished the lawyers present by stating the average of his debts was about \$100,000. He kept monthly track of the notes due, he said, by little slips of paper which he kept in his desk or in his pocket.

"Don't you know how much you have called Tooth & Sons since Jan. 1, this year?" Attorney Jacob Newman asked.

"No, I do not, sir," the art dealer replied, blandly. "I can't tell that without going over the records. I have paid Tooth & Sons upwards of \$1,000,000 in the time I have been in business."

Attorney Geas shifted his questions to the subject of pictures shipped to Peoria.

"What did Judge Siemmons pay for the two Morans you sent him?"
Ricketts said he would not answer that question unless compelled by the referee. The referee was absent and the matter was passed temporarily.

Tells of Pictures Sold.

Ricketts said he thought the titles of the pictures sent to Judge Siemmons were "Mount View" and "Cañon View." The larger of the two was 20 by 30 inches in size.

"What was the market value of these pictures?" asked Mr. Geas.
"Probably \$6,000."

"You sold Judge Siemmons a picture by Wiggins, didn't you?"
"Well, I think I made him a present of it. It cost us about \$100."

"Was that a bonus?"
"No, it was a small picture the judge had admired, and being of small cost, I gave it to him."

The proceedings were interrupted at one point by the arrival of George Lytton, son of Henry C. Lytton, accompanied by his attorney. Mr. Lytton was present to inquire about some pictures he said were given to Ricketts on consignment and he asked that they be marked.

Lawyers Raise Objections.
Attorney Geas and Elmer H. Adams, representing the Fort Dearborn National bank, one of the biggest creditors, raised an objection. They said the receiver will not permit any private marks on any picture belonging to the bank.

It developed that Ricketts carried a joint account called Hills and Kennedy, Peoria. Ricketts owed Kennedy \$10,000, and there had been a transfer on Jan. 13 and an exchange of pictures. Another entry on Jan. 12 showed a cancellation of two notes of \$5,000 each.

"Any connection between these two transactions?" asked Mr. Geas.
"No, sir."

"Isn't it a fact that Hills was the indorser on the notes held by Kennedy?"
"I really don't know, sir."

"Did Hills execute any collateral undertaking or guarantee on the notes held by the Peoria bank?"
"He might have; I can't tell."

"Isn't it a fact that the reason you shipped pictures to Hills and Kennedy was to protect Hills on his indorsements?"
"I can't remember."

After \$65,000 Worth of Art.
Attorney Geas said the receiver will take steps to compel Hills to make an accounting for the \$65,000 worth of paintings supposed to have been sent to Peoria during the last six weeks.

The examination then turned to pictures sent to Ricketts by a Mrs. L. T. Kirby of Jacksonville, Ill. He said these were two Turners and he had sent Mrs. Kirby \$2,500 for them.

"Is this the Kirby represented by Attorney Friends J. Houlhan and Mr. Geas?"
"I don't know," the witness said.

Mr. Houlhan presented a telegram from Rosenthal & Hermans of New York, representing one Aldrich, said to have a claim against Ricketts of \$20,000. The message stated also that John Levy of New York had sold Ricketts several paintings.

"Do you know John Levy?" asked Mr. Geas.
"Yes, I know him well," replied Ricketts.

"I have done a great deal of business with him—probably bought \$400,000 worth of pictures from him."

It developed that Ricketts had sent Levy many pictures in the last few months and Attorney Houlhan said Levy was selling a job lot of seventy-five pictures at a discount of 40 and 50 per cent. Mr. Geas declared Levy has been ordered before a special examiner in New York to testify regarding the pictures.

Houlhan Asks About Pictures.
Attorney Houlhan questioned Ricketts regarding a number of paintings about which his clients were inquiring. These are:
"Glimpse of the Lake," by Innes.
"Winter Scene."
"In Montclair, Albano, Italy."
"Coming Storm," by Innes.
"Dutch Landscape," by Welsenbruch.

Ricketts said he sold "Glimpse of the Lake" to William V. Kelley of Chicago and "Winter Scene" to Mrs. Chauncey Blair of Chicago, but he could give no light on the disposition of the other three paintings.

"Did you send Levy any pictures in the last four months?" Ricketts was asked.
"Well, he had an exhibition here at the Auditorium hotel, and when that was over he asked me to ship his pictures back to New York. One of my men attended to that for me."

Doesn't Know if Levy Paid.
"On Feb. 13 you shipped twenty-two pictures to Levy; did he pay you for them?" Mr. Geas asked.
"I don't know; the books will show. I know when he was here we made a deal and he bought some pictures from us. It's a common practice among art dealers to make exchanges or buy from each other."

"On Feb. 18 you shipped him thirty pictures; what about that?"
"Well, the books will show."

"In Feb. 26 you shipped him two pictures, one by McChord and one by Williams; what do you say?"
"Well, it may have been an exchange."

"You recently shipped forty-four pictures to the Gunther art gallery of Cleveland, O. One was a Corot and one a Diaz."
"Yes, that may be."

"How do you account for the fact that your firm's lot numbers appear on all the pictures you say may belong to Levy and others?"
"I can't account for it, except on the ground that they may have been bought from us originally."

Mrs. Chauncey Blair Interfered.
Ricketts said Mrs. Chauncey Blair and others have a number of pictures on consignment in his store. It developed that M. F.

Boy's Likeness Cast in Fountain.



Ernest Street Stevens

Moses of New York also had shipped Ricketts a number of paintings. Attorney Keehn insisted that all pictures shipped to Ricketts from Levy and Moses were paid for.

Mr. Geas announced the receiver had discovered another creditor, one Frederick Daingerfield, a New York artist, with a claim of \$12,000.

Ricketts testified that at one time he owed M. B. Kennedy Sr. \$10,000, but that later the note was taken over by Mr. Hillis.

"Was an account of your indebtedness kept in your books?" was asked of the witness.
"Yes, I think so."

"Will you turn to that M. B. Kennedy account in the book you hold in your hand?"
"I will if it is here," said the witness hesitatingly. "I never had the key to this book and I do not know what is in it. I never kept books and don't know anything about it."

Ricketts Pauses to "Explain."
Ricketts then stopped the question to "explain," he said, about his dealings with Kennedy and Hillis of Peoria.

"I want it made a matter of record that any dealings I have had with any one—Mr. Hillis or Mr. Kennedy or any one else—have been perfectly honest," he said. "My lack of knowledge of the details of the office is because I believe implicitly in some of the people identified with me and have given my attention to the selling of pictures and left the office to others."

When asked if L. Hillis indorsed the note for \$10,000 held by M. B. Kennedy Sr., the witness said he did not know.

"He would, I know," said Ricketts, "because he is a personal friend of mine; but I do not know what he did."

Mr. Geas handed the witness a long manila envelope.
"Did you ever see this envelope before?" he asked.
"I do not know," replied Ricketts.

"Read what is at the head of it," said the attorney.
"M. B. Sale; R. Ricketts, Personal," read Ricketts.

"Now, did you ever see that before?" persisted the creditors' lawyer.
"I don't know," replied Ricketts.

"Who besides yourself took care of your personal papers?"
"I don't know—I never had very many."

Ricketts said he had deposited to the credit of others money which belonged to him.

Bundle of Checks Lost.
"I used to send my men out of town with checks signed in blank, but once a bundle of these was lost in New York," said the witness. "Ever since when a man goes out of town I instruct him to give his own check for any pictures bought, and to wire the office to deposit that amount to his credit."

When questioned further regarding his sales of pictures to Siemmons and others in Peoria Ricketts protested.

"I don't see why you should dig into my private affairs like this," he said. "There are a few matters relative to my private affairs that I don't want to let all of the newspapers hear."

"I insist on finding out about all of these transactions," returned Attorney Geas. "We want to find out if this witness got rid of \$25,000 worth of pictures in three days within the last week. And it doesn't seem to me the witness should apologize for every statement he makes regarding one of his friends."

Attorney James Rosenthal and Mr. Houlhan, who were requested by clients to make a search for consigned pictures, visited Ricketts' galleries in the afternoon and took a hasty inventory of the pictures on exhibition. They found thirty-six paintings and a large number of panels and engravings. None corresponded to the searchers' list.

WILSON IN PHILADELPHIA
ELBOWS WAY ALONG STREET.

President Recognized by Only Few Persons as He Mingles in Crowds—Goes to See His Oculist.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 7.—A big crowd cheered President Wilson when he arrived today for a two hour visit with his oculist. The president has been having his eyes examined annually for a score of years. His desire to have the same physician look after him brought him to Philadelphia. He was in the oculist's office a little more than an hour.

Accompanied by Secretary Tumulty, and with two secret service men a short distance behind them, the president strolled down Chestnut street and entered a department store. He walked through the place and stopped at a book counter, where he purchased several magazines and went to his car and he stopped several times to greet friends.

Many persons brushed past him or elbowed their way through the moving throngs without realizing the president was near them. At the railroad station, President Wilson purchased several magazines and went to his car and he was reading when the train left for Washington.

City Doctor Seeks Divorce.
Dr. E. L. Brunswick, an assistant city physician, who was recently used for separate maintenance by his wife, filed a divorce through his attorney. Brunswick named as co-respondent Charles Jacobson.

WEST SIDE DEPOT ORDINANCE DRAWN

Subcommittee on Terminals Recommends Draft to the Whole Committee.

ROADS MAY ELECTRIFY.

Must Abolish Smoke; Track Elevation and Through Routing Unsettled.

The two ordinances for the proposed west side railway terminals—estimated to cost between \$35,000,000 and \$55,000,000—were recommended yesterday by a subcommittee composed of Ald. Healy, Fisher, Captain, Bowler and Donahoe.

Only two important features in the ordinances remain unsettled. These are whether the roads shall pay the entire cost of the proposed track elevation connecting the west and north sides, and whether the roads shall be required to through route suburban trains. These matters will be discussed when the council terminal committee takes up the ordinances next Tuesday morning.

Electrification in Separate Bill.
At the same time the subcommittee recommended an ordinance requiring all of the railroads to electrify in Chicago within seven years. The ordinance provides only that the roads shall use a motive power that will abate smoke and prevent noxious gases. It is in effect the same ordinance which Ald. Theodore K. Long has backed for a year. The purpose is to satisfy those aldermen who desire a measure for electrification.

The subcommittee also ordered two ordinances prepared creating a railway terminal commission. The whole committee will decide whether either of them shall be the council committee, headed by Ald. Fisher and Captain, provides that a commission shall consist of Engineers John F. Wallace, the expert of the council; John J. Arnold, the expert of the citizens' terminal committee, and Paul Lazenby, expert for the Chicago plan commission; Attorney Walter L. Fisher for the citizens' committee, and the corporation counsel. The other ordinance simply provides for the creation of a commission.

City Has Gained Much.
In the ordinances for the union station terminal and the Pennsylvania freight terminal the opinion was unanimous that the city has gained much more than was offered in the original ordinance. The Chicago Plan commission had no criticism to make. Mr. Arnold gave the impression that he thought that most of his important recommendations had been adopted. He read each from his report and commented as he went along.

Chief Counsel atorney for the west side property owners, said:

"On behalf of the property owners I want to thank the committee. We now feel certain the union station will be constructed."

W. L. Fisher Makes Criticisms.
Walter L. Fisher took a different view.

"Substantial progress has been made toward a right solution," he said. "The roads have come a considerable distance, but not all the way. I do not feel so optimistic as Mr. Arnold."

"The provision for the river straightening doesn't get anywhere. With it we are fooling ourselves and the community. I can't get any pleasure out of fooling myself. We have not taken advantage of the opportunity to establish the principle of through routing of suburban trains. In that direction we have made no progress."

"On the freight terminal we have gained some tangible and real results, but a comprehensive study of the whole freight situation probably would have brought many more benefits."

Favors Harrison Street.
The site for the passenger station, I think, is a mistake. Harrison street would have been a much wiser choice. With the proposed passenger facilities become inadequate, what will happen? We have no promise that the roads will move to Harrison street or to Twelfth street. To get dock facilities and a river roadway we have made it more difficult—not easier. The provision for public cab stands does not appeal to me."

"The freight terminal we approved before the committee yesterday and made an argument in favor of the railroads paying the entire cost of the proposed elevated concrete roadway connecting the west side with the north side. The roads desire to pay only \$500,000 of the \$1,250,000 estimated expense."

"They have said they will not pay a cent more."

"It is planned to get the ordinances out of the terminal committee so they can be reported to the council March 16."

WOMEN FIGHT DEPOT PLAN

Report, Quietly Prepared, Sent to Utilities Commission.

ASK FOR DEFINITE POLICY.

Want Streets Cleared to Free the Loop of Congestion.

Representatives of some of the leading women's organizations of Chicago last night addressed to the public utilities commission a report which quietly has been prepared on the city terminal situation.

The women urge primarily the adoption by the city of a definite policy for the future in anticipation of the Chicago plan. They believe the streets closed by the railroad lines and yards which choke the loop should be opened by administrative action.

In some particulars the report, which was written by A. T. Cole, takes in conditions not directly connected with the traffic and railroad problems. More boulevards and higher municipal income, particularly by taxes on railroad property are advised.

Better Methods Necessary.
The terminal problem, says the report, "was brought to an issue by ordinances submitted to the city council by the Union Station company for the Pennsylvania group of roads for a new passenger and freight terminal, after various solutions of the problem suggesting intensive development and better methods had been shown to the public."

"It was evident from the plans and ordinance submitted that the concessions asked would greatly increase the already impassable blockade of the loop and would make it necessary to close up more streets and alleys to serve the selfish interests of this one group of roads when the crying need of the city is to have the railroads restore to their rightful owner the streets and alleys which from time to time have been taken away from the public in the past by injudicious donations without considering the best interests of the city."

Chance to Cure Ills Now.
An opportunity is seen to cure the city's ills now when the report says:

"In the history of Chicago there have been three opportunities to provide sufficient street area to meet the needs of the present and future: First, when the city was laid out; second, immediately following the great fire; and, third, at the present time in the solution of this railway terminal problem. The efficiency of the city, of every interest, including the railroads, and every individual, is dependent on our having sufficient street area and the necessary number of arteries for the proper circulation of all traffic between the different parts of the city."

"Sufficient street area is fundamental in providing for the economy and welfare of the population of any city. Likewise water and the protection and development of Chicago's commercial interests."

The organizations which issued the report are the Woman's City club, Independent German-American Woman's club, Woman's Association of Commerce, Arché club, Chicago Woman's club, and the Political Equality league, terminal committee.

FOR SAFETY AT STATION.
Precautionary regulations in the routing of trains in and out of the union station will be made by the state public utilities commission, it was announced yesterday.

The action is the result of the investigation by Commissioner Walter A. Shaw of the head-on collision between a Pennsylvania train and a Chicago, Burlington and Quincy train on Feb. 11.

The three roads using the station agreed to rearrange their schedule and plan to install an interlocking safety device south of Van Buren street.

APPEAL TO BRYAN TO HELP BRITON

Officials Ask United States to Prevent Destruction of His Property.

INQUIRY IS ORDERED.

Mexican Rebels Assert Sixty Federals Died in Nuevo Leon Battle.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—Another British subject is in trouble in the state of Chihuahua and the state department has again been called upon to extend its protection.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice called at the state department today to inform Secretary Bryan that an Englishman named Sydnan had been driven away from his ranch and that his property was in danger of destruction.

Secretary Bryan immediately telegraphed to American Consul Leitch at Chihuahua to make an inquiry and report the facts. If necessary a protest will be made to Carranza or Villa.

Commission Is Held Back.
Technically the commission which was charged to investigate the killing of Benton continues in existence and Secretary Bryan today said that its functions had simply been suspended. There is now, however, little idea that the commissioners will proceed to Chihuahua in the expectation of uncovering any evidence of value, though it probably will be required to carry out its original instructions merely for the purpose of establishing the principle of the right of the United States government to act in this matter. Nothing further has been heard at the state department from Gen. Carranza or his subordinates regarding the investigation which he is making.

Consular Agent Carothers at Chihuahua was directed by Secretary Bryan today to intercede with Constitutional leaders in behalf of Luis Terrazas of the wealthy Mexican family of that name.

Letcher to Warn Rebels.
El Paso, Tex., March 7.—When Consul Letcher left today to return to his post at Chihuahua it is understood that he carried instructions from Secretary of State Bryan with reference to the case of Luis Terrazas Jr., who is being held for ransom by Gen. Villa.

It is said that Gen. Villa and Gen. Carranza will be informed that the state department would construe the threatened execution of Terrazas as indicative of great weakness in the rebel government of northern Mexico.

Sixty Federals Killed.
Brownsville, Tex., March 7.—Sixty Mexican federals, including six officers, were killed in a battle Wednesday in the hills between Monte Marlos and Cadereyta, in Nuevo Leon, according to news received today at Constitutional headquarters in Matamoros.

The rebels said they lost two dead. Seven of their men were wounded, including two officers, Capt. Antonio Choa and Capt. Dionisio Denavides.

Foreign Exchange Rate Rises.
Mexico City, March 7.—The rate for foreign exchange here reached the new high point today of 350 for 100.

The banks were flooded with demands for such exchange based largely on the announcement by the government of the establishment of a bank of issue with un-salable bonds as collateral.

The bank today were offering 330 for 100, and predictions were current that rates would reach 400 to 100 in the near future. Prices of food stuffs and all imported necessities are rising correspondingly.

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ADVERTISE IN THE TRIBUNE.

NOTED NEW YORK ART DEALER KILLS SELF IN OWN GALLERY.

Theron Blakeslee Left Lawyer and Creditor to Commit Deed—Friends Say Headache Caused Act.

New York, March 7.—Theron Blakeslee, 61 years old, a widely known art dealer in Fifth avenue, this city, died tonight shortly after he had been found with a bullet wound in his temple.

Mr. Blakeslee was talking in his main gallery to his lawyer and the representative of a prominent Paris art dealer, who is said to be a large creditor of the dead man, when he excused himself and entered a smaller gallery.

After a while a shot was heard and the visitors and attendants found Mr. Blakeslee on a settee, unconscious but still breathing. He died half an hour later and before his wife could reach him.

Mr. Blakeslee's friends say that a severe attack of headache was the cause of the act.

Several years ago Mr. Blakeslee bought what appeared to be an unimportant canvas for \$850. Upon renovation the picture proved to be a genuine Rembrandt. Mr. Blakeslee was offered \$150,000 for this painting some time ago, but refused to sell.

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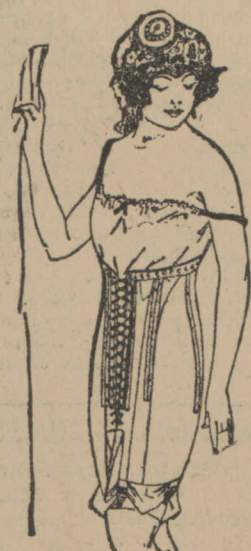
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