

# Joseph G. Robins Meteoric Career-Trial Of Famous Case Opens

Feb. 26.—Another chapter in the meteoric career of Joseph G. Robins, it is claimed, stole more than \$200,000 from the depositor's institutions, will open here when he is placed on trial for the charge of stealing \$250,000 from the Washington Savings Bank.

Robins' career of frenzied finance has attracted widespread interest in this city. The humble origin of Robins' rapid rise in the world of finance, the disastrous results of his methods, and the numerous arrests since his arrest have all attracted to the publicity of the case.

Three large banking institutions in the hands of the State Banking Department, while deposits aggregating \$20,000,000 are tied up in several concerns which Robins has launched are in the hands of the State, and bankruptcy proceedings are being conducted against them.

The trial comes up tomorrow, and it is expected that Robins' counsel will not get a further postponement of the trial, and should be committed to the State Prison.

The financial jugglery first came to the attention of the public on Dec. 27, 1910, when the Northern



JOSEPH G. ROBIN AND SISTER

Joseph G. Robins, the "skyrocket" financier, in a characteristic pose listening to the arguments of his counsel. Below is his sister, Dr. Louise Rabinovitch.

Dec. 27, 1910—Northern Bank of New York closes its doors revealing the daring financial methods of Joseph G. Robins, who is slipped into a private sanitarium before the crash comes.

Dec. 28, 1910—Robins is turned out of sanitarium, and, in company with his sister, Dr. Louise Rabinovitch, goes to Jersey.

Dec. 29, 1910—Robins is indicted on the charge of the theft of \$200,000 from the Washington Savings Bank, and is placed under arrest at his sister's home in New York. Washington Savings Bank closes its doors.

Dec. 30, 1910—Robins takes poison in the court room, as he is about to be arraigned, but the dose does not prove fatal.

Jan. 3, 1911—Robins and his sister deny recent charges.

Jan. 6, 1911—Seven more indictments returned against Robins, charging him with a theft of \$207,000 from the Washington Savings Bank.

Jan. 7, 1911—Sister's request for lunacy commission denied by New York Supreme Court.

Jan. 7, 1911—Carnegie Trust Company closes as an indirect result of Robins' financial methods.

Jan. 10, 1911—Dr. Louise Rabinovitch, Robins' sister, indicted on charge of perjury. A plea of not guilty to the grand larceny charge is entered for Robins.

Jan. 14, 1911—Several trustees of Washington Savings Bank indicted on charge of perjury growing out of the Robins transactions.

Jan. 19, 1911—W. L. Brower, former vice-president of the Northern Bank, indicted on a charge of perjury.

Jan. 17, 1911—An involuntary petition in bankruptcy is filed against Robins in the United States District Court, and hearing is begun.

Jan. 20, 1911—Frank L. Grant, former president of the Northern Bank, indicted for misdemeanor.

Jan. 26, 1911—Judge Swann orders appointment of lunacy commission to investigate the question of Robins' sanity.

Jan. 31, 1911—Despite the evidence of alienists to the contrary, jury finds Robins sane.

Feb. 10, 1911—Petition for a guardian for Robins denied in United States District Court.

Feb. 14, 1911—Robins trial set for February 27th.

condition. The case came up on February 1st before a jury and evidence was presented by five noted alienists to the effect that Robins was insane and unable to confer rationally with his counsel.

Robins was also placed on the stand and told a rambling story to the effect that he was the victim of the Standard Oil Co. and J. P. Morgan and that some one was attempting to poison him at the Tombs. Despite this evidence, however, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that Robins was sane and should stand trial. Judge Swann complimented them on their verdict and as a result, was severely criticised by Mr. Jerome and the alienists who had figured in the trial. The jurors all said that they were of the opinion that Robins was feigning insanity and Judge Swann backed them up.

All of Robins' concerns are in the

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