

## BANDITS LOOT THE MAMMOTH NATIONAL

Carry Off \$8,000 Worth of High-Grade— Battle With the Robbers.

The Humboldt Star of yesterday prints the following account of the robbery of the high-grade ore from the National Mines company:

National, the only mining camp in the world with ore rich enough to cause bandits to hold up the miners while at work in the stopes, was the scene of another daring robbery last night.

Twice last year was the property of the National Mines company held up by bandits, who the first time secured a sack of high-grade valued at \$3000. The second time, according to the reports of the company officers, the robbers did not get any ore, but overlooked \$8000 worth of high-grade.

Last night the Mammoth National company's property of the National Mines company, was the sufferer. It was the biggest forcible robbery yet committed in the camp, the value of the loot being estimated at \$8000.

### Battle With Bandits.

Telephone accounts received here this morning from National say the robbery was committed at 9:30 last night by two masked bandits. Two sacks of high-grade were stored in the Mammoth company's assay office at the mouth of the No. 3 tunnel. The ore was under guard of the company assayer, John Flanders, and a watchman, both, it seems, being unarmed. The robbers, with leveled revolvers, confronted the guards and marched them into the tunnel. One robber stood guard over the watchman and Flanders, while the other, supposedly with the help of accomplices, carried off the two sacks of high-grade. The robber who was on guard then backed out of the tunnel, warning the two men not to follow him. But Flanders paid no attention to the warning and the alarm was given almost immediately. Mrs. Flanders ran to Judge Shea's house, aroused him and reported the holdup, while Flanders armed himself and followed close behind the robbers. He was joined in a few minutes by Judge Shea and they trailed the robbers to a point about half a mile distant from the mine, where the latter made a stand behind a protecting ledge of rocks. As Shea and Flanders approached the robbers called upon them to stop, but the command was not obeyed. When Shea and Flanders got to within about 50 feet of the cliff behind which the robbers were concealed, the latter then opened fire and the pursuers answered back with their guns. In the darkness there was no certainty of aim and in the fusillade which followed neither Shea nor Flanders was hit, though several of the bullets were uncomfortably close. With the last shot in his gun Shea fired with the flash from the rifle of one of the robbers and it is believed the bullet found its mark, as blood was found upon the rocks this morning.

The battle ended when Shea and Flanders had exhausted their ammunition and the robbers made

their escape in the darkness.

### Suspect Under Arrest.

This morning a miner named Porterfield was arrested at National upon suspicion of having been concerned in the robbery. He has been working for the Mammoth National company.

It is reported that a man named Erickson has also been arrested on suspicion.

Constable Williams this forenoon found the two ore sacks which had contained the high-grade. The sacks were picked up at a point about 500 yards from where the battle between Shea and Flanders and the robbers occurred.

It is naturally believed that the robbers transferred their booty to some better mode of conveyance, probably putting the ore into saddle bags and carrying it away on horses.

It is believed that there were more than two men concerned in the robbery and that it was committed by persons who were very familiar with the operations at the Mammoth National and who knew that the high-grade ore was on hand. The ore was to have been brought to Winnemucca today in an automobile and shipped to San Francisco.

Mammoth National has been maintaining the utmost secrecy in regard to the striking of high-grade in the property and the shipments that have been made, this information having been first given to the public by this paper in Monday's issue.

Considering the secrecy that has been maintained, it is naturally assumed that the robbers had a pretty fair knowledge of conditions in the Mammoth National. The Mammoth National is being operated under lease and bond by prominent San Francisco and Los Angeles capitalists, including Alfred Hanford, Gus Eisen, Clarence Berry and W. L. McGuire.

Sheriff Lamb was notified this morning of the robbery and he immediately chartered E. A. Smith's auto and left for National, where he will make an exhaustive investigation.

### HEAVY RETURNS ARE REPORTED FROM COMSTOCK

At the present rate of production the mines of the Comstock district, those being worked under lease and on company account, are taking out and shipping ore at the rate of \$225,000 per month, which, if maintained until the end of the year, will give the Comstock a record for the year that has not been equalled for a long time. The prospects are that the extraction will show a gradual increase from now on, so that 1911 will set a new mark of achievement for the latter day revival of the old camp.—Chronicle.

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## BOOKS ADMITTED AS EVIDENCE IN STATE BANK CASE

Since last week argument has been carried on in the suit against the directors of the State Bank in the district court before Judge Langan. Attorney Mack for the receiver offered a number of books in evidence to show that the bank was insolvent at the time of the last dividend. The attorneys for the defense have argued this point to a finish, as well as insisting that the documents had not been properly identified to be entered as evidence. The argument practically took up the entire week.

Monday afternoon Judge Langan, from the bench, rendered a decision in which he cited the authorities quoted him, thoroughly reviewed the case and then ordered the books admitted as evidence.

In his opinion, which was read from the bench, he stated that the books had been sufficiently proven to be those of the bank and in the use of the directors in their work, even to the time of the declaring of the dividend. The books were ordered admitted as part of the exhibits and testimony in the proceedings.

The lawyers for the defendant directors immediately ordered objections to the ruling, which were entered in the court minutes.

The case was then taken up with the books in hand and Receiver Wildes will go on the stand and recite his end of the story.—News.

## CLINGS TO LEVER DURING THE FIRE

One of the heroes developed in the Ely mine horror of Wednesday night was L. A. Sorenson, engineer in the hoist house. He was at the lever when the danger signal of nine bells sounded from the 1400. He knew that there was something wrong; and was in suspense from that moment until the cage was landed at the top. A cage is always at the bottom, for the cages work on a counterbalance, the weight of the descending cage operating in favor of that which is being raised when they are in motion. While the cage was being raised through the flames and smoke, the grease on the steel hawser caught fire, and as a rope, passed into the engine house, it brought with it dense volumes of suffocating smoke. The air became so thick that it was with difficulty that Sorenson could catch his breath, and he could hardly make out the different levels recorded on the indicator.

He clung to his lever to the very last; stayed there until the cage was raised above the smoke coming from the shaft; remained until the cage was lowered again, and the men removed to safety, and was still there to run the cages up and down twice more in the hope that some of the miners might still be alive. Exhausted, and almost asphyxiated, when it was all over, he had to be carried out of the shaft house.—White Pine News.

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### COTERIE OF ACTS SUPERIOR.

As the seasons come and go, and the people depart from the circus tent, they may be heard to give expression of their amazement by saying: "Well, what won't they do next?" The question is invariably answered when the Great London shows come next time.

The many features with the Great London Circus this year are creating great attention, from the fact that there are so many new and truly wonderful acts offered. Among the coterie are the marvelous Eddy Family, acrobats extraordinary; the startling Jackson troupe; the Riding Walleys; the wonderful Mary McPhail; Flora Perigina, and a score of other premier acts, together with hundreds of arenic performers. Will be in Tonopah September 11.

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