

was necessary for me to go to Washington, I went and presented the matter to the Controller of Currency. He refused to approve the plan, unless all the depositors agreed to it. He felt that he could not force those who were opposed to come into the reorganization. Mind you, the reorganization cases were never determined upon their merits, but were decided upon technical law. The Supreme Court of this state specifically stated that they were not passing upon the merits of the plan. When the plan was rejected by the Controller of Currency, I returned to Nevada and reported to the Court. My associate counsel and I know there was only one way in which the plan could be put across, and that would be to get private capital and private concerns to provide the funds. I went to San Francisco and presented the plan to the Fleishacker interests and to the Transamerica Banking Corporation. I received a letter, which is available to the people of this state, from Transamerica, which stated in part, "Before we will be in a position to give a definite reply to your proposal and inform you what, if any, part we shall be able to take in the matter, it will be necessary to have our auditors make examinations of the assets involved," and the auditors came to Nevada and examined the assets of the Wingfield Banks, and they told me in the presence of witnesses, whose names I will be glad to give, that they found the assets as represented. Then, I went to Transamerica again and stated that we were ready to complete the deal, when they told me in the presence of witnesses, whose names I will be glad to give that they could not complete the transaction because there was too much opposition from people in the State of Nevada. So I came back, and in open Court made that statement, and, quoting from the transcript, I read as follows:

"The principals are not interested in accepting the proposal that was made by the plaintiffs. They gave as their reason that they had received objections from the people—from various people in the State of Nevada to their coming into this field. The information that I obtained was that the assets were satisfactory, but that they did not desire to become involved in the controversy with reference to the closed banks, so-called Wingfield chain; that they had received the objections and, under the circumstances, did not desire to accept the proposition that was submitted. They asked further that—or they stated further that they might submit a plan in the future, but it was not such a proposal, and not sufficiently definitely to represent to this Court that it will be submitted, so we are now back where we started from with reference to outside capital coming into the State of Nevada."

So far as I was able, I had done all possible to accomplish reorganization. That reorganization would have meant this—that there would have been paid to the seventeen thousand depositors of the Wingfield Banks, Three and one-half million dollars in cash immediately, one million coming from Transamerica for the good assets sold to them, two million dollars from the R. F. C. on a plan that they had agreed, in writing, to make, and \$500,000 from our friends in California who desired to see reorganization, and the depositors would have retained in their own control Twelve Million Dollars of the slow and doubtful assets. That Twelve Million Dollars worth of slow and doubtful assets has

paid a good portion of the dividends that have been paid under the receivership. It included good assets like homes that were slow pay. The people lost that Three and One-half Million Dollars in cash because of the opposition to our plan, and they lost the chance to get their banks open because of the same opposition. The surprising thing is, and I am stating facts, that within a short period after the receiver was appointed, Mr. Kirman's bank, the First National in Reno, sold to the very people with whom I had been negotiating, and that institution was taken over by Transamerica and Bank of America, and the closed institutions were left to their fate. It is one thing to come into the State of Nevada to help out closed banks, and it is an entirely different thing to come into the State of Nevada, make an advantageous purchase of one bank and then open banks where the closed Wingfield banks were located. I refer to the new bank in Reno; I refer to the bank in Carson City; I refer to the bank in Winnemucca; I refer to the newspaper statements that a branch will be opened in Tonopah; I refer to the statements that were made of the opening of a Bank in Elko; I refer to the proposal that was made to put a branch in Ely outside of the Wingfield chain. I am stating facts—you draw your conclusions. Mark you, Morley Griswold is stating facts—let the people of the State of Nevada, and the depositors in the closed Wingfield banks, draw their own conclusions as to whether or not I was right or wrong, particularly when we see the amounts that have been paid to the depositors of the closed Wingfield banks. The amounts that would have been paid on reorganization had the approval of the accountant forms of Hood & Strong and McLaren, Goode & Co., Mr. Patrick representing them. I am going to give those figures as to what reorganization would have paid you depositors, and I am going to repeat them in each case the second time so that you will be able to understand what has happened to your money, through no fault of mine, and against my will, and in spite of six months of my time, fighting for you and expending over Three Thousand Dollars of my own money.

How do you depositors of the Reno National Bank like the amount of money you have received, which is the sum total "nothing." Under that reorganization I would have given you \$20.20 immediately for every \$100 you had on deposit. I presume that you depositors of the Bank of Nevada Savings and Trust are satisfied with the Five Dollars that you have received when the reorganization would have given to you \$20.53 for every \$100 you had on deposit. I presume the depositors of the United Nevada Bank are happy at not receiving anything, when they were assured of \$33.86 immediately on every \$100 deposit on reorganization; and the Riverside Bank depositors you would have received \$65.33 immediately and had your bank opened, with the chance to make a profit, in place of which you have received \$55.00 of every \$100. The First National Bank of Winnemucca would have paid \$41.83 on every \$100, and, to date, you have received Thirty-five Dollars, a difference of over \$6. per \$100. You depositors of the Bank of Sparks would have received \$42.06 for every \$100 on deposit, and to date, you have received \$37.00. Mind you, I am talking about the amounts that would have been paid immediately on reorganization, and, mind you, you would have had your banks open as go-

ing concerns. Certainly the Carson Valley Bank depositors must be jubilant. If the reorganization had gone through, you would have immediately received on every \$100 deposit in the bank, \$30.18, and, to date, you have received nothing, and you have a foreign bank in your midst which will be in competition if you ever try to reorganize your closed bank. The Tonopah Bank depositors must be extremely happy at not receiving a cent as yet when the reorganization would have given them \$32.78 immediately on reorganization; The Virginia City Bank would have received \$18.53 on every \$100, but to date, its depositors have received nothing. Mind you, I hold no brief for the conduct of those banks prior to the time of their closing. If there is anything that has been criminally wrong, or, if there are any acts for which the directors and stockholders should be held responsible, then those responsible should be sued or prosecuted. If those banks were conducted improperly, I am not responsible. I was not a director or a stockholder in any one of them, and had no knowledge of them. I deposited my money the same as every other man and woman and lost it in the same way.

And now we come to two banks in which Morley Griswold had the confidence of the depositors. I refer to the Henderson Bank and the Wells Bank. I noted in the Reno Evening Gazette last Saturday night, that I was attorney for those banks. I think, probably after my next statement, you depositors in the Reno National Bank, the United Nevada Bank, Carson Valley Bank, Tonopah Bank, and the other banks in the Wingfield chain, will be sorry that I was not attorney for all of them. I took the Henderson Banking Company out of the receivership, and formed a depositors corporation, and there now is available to pay to the depositors of that bank, \$30 on every \$100 deposited, and they can open their bank in addition, and make it a going concern. Henderson Banking Company under reorganization would have received only \$26.03 for every \$100 deposited. Some difference between the Henderson Bank that would have received \$26.03 and the Carson Valley Bank that would have received \$30.18. The Henderson Bank depositors have \$30 now to their credit. What have you in the Carson Valley Bank to your credit; or you in the Reno National; or you, in the United Nevada Bank. The United Nevada Bank would have paid \$30.86, as I have said, and they have received nothing, and where are you going to receive anything? I note in the papers that you of the United Nevada Bank, are trying to do now what was objected to so strongly in the bank reorganization cases. You are going to the R. F. C. to try to get a loan. I tried to do this very thing for you months ago, but the statement was then made that that would be pulling you up by the boot straps, and you have been deprived of this money all these long months. All these figures are available to anyone who may desire to see them. These figures are facts. Friends, these statements may sound egotistical—I certainly dislike being forced to make them. If there had been carried in the self-styled "most powerful newspaper in this state" these facts, I would not have to embarrass myself to give them from my own lips. If I am slinging mud, then Morley Griswold cannot say "Good morning" on the street to a friend without being equally guilty. As a prediction, we, in the State of Nevada, will live to see the

time when it will be known who was right and who was wrong? whether or not it pays to let personal animosities warp our good judgment. And, the little Wells State Bank—I had something to do with putting that bank on a new basis, and taking it out of the receivership. It is a small concern—a small bank—but it has paid Twenty Dollars on every \$100 on deposit, and the depositors have an open bank. I am informed by that bank that it is now making expenses and not costing the depositors a cent. I say again, that it is too bad that Morley Griswold didn't have the co-operation of the small group of depositors in the rest of the Wingfield chain, because, if he had had that co-operation the same as he had it in the Henderson and Wells Banks, there would not have been a single bank in the chain that at this time would not have paid more than \$20 on every \$100 deposited, and be open and going strong. Let's be fair about this, irrespective of what you may think of me personally—give me credit for the things that I have accomplished. All that I ask is fairness and an investigation by anyone of the figures that I have given you. All that I ask of the people of my native state is that they accord to Morley Griswold the opportunity of giving true facts. Certainly, up to the present time, that privilege has not been accorded. What I have said, friends, is a true outline of facts from my own knowledge of the closed Wingfield banks and the efforts to bring about their reorganization. Notwithstanding those facts, friends, I have been made the target for constant misrepresentation, insinuations, rumor, and newspaper articles of every description, in an attempt to blacken my reputation. I have been held up to scorn to the people of my native state. I am going to give these facts from every platform in the State of Nevada. I offer to furnish proof for every statement I have made, and nothing that I have said should be constructed in any way being other than complimentary to the present receiver of the closed banks. He has done a remarkably good job for a receiver, and nothing stated herein is meant to be detrimental to the Court handling this matter. The Judge who tried the bank cases never had the opportunity of passing upon the merits of those cases. We know it could have been done legally, because I did do it in the Henderson Bank and in the Bank of Wells, but we couldn't do it with the legal opposition that was raised in court by a small group of other banks, who raised legal technicalities which deprived the people of this state of several million dollars. I am an attorney, and believe in fighting for my clients, and I don't blame the attorneys who were involved on the other side. That was their business, and they were paid for it—at least, I hope they were, but I do criticize the resort to propaganda and misrepresentation by newspapers when it hurts an entire state in order to satisfy the personal animosities or grudges of the editors of those newspapers. If this be throwing mud, then I must accept that as a true statement, because I cannot raise my voice in my own defense without being thus guilty; and because I cannot state a fact that is displeasing to the editor of an opposing newspaper without being guilty of such a dreadful crime.

Now let's consider something more pleasant. For eight years I have been Lieutenant-Governor of Nevada, working without salary.