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COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS HELD FOR OFFENSES

Okeechobee Commissioners Charged With Malprac- tice in Office

OKEECHOBEE, Nov. 2.—(AP)—
The chairman and two members of
the Okeechobee county commission
were under arrest tonight charged
with malpractice in office. Bond
for the trio, W. W. Potter, chair-
man, and S. A. Hair and Hugh J.
Bass, was set at \$750 by County
Judge G. C. Durrance.

Durrance said that the men were
charged with returning to D. R. Mc-
Neill former president of the Peo-
ple's Bank of Okeechobee, bonds
valued at \$50,000 which the bank
had put up as security for deposits
of county funds.

He explained that the bonds had
been given by the bank to protect
a certain amount of deposits but
that the bank had apparently re-
quested that they be returned be-
fore the deposits had been remov-
ed. The request was made at a
meeting of commissioners on May
6, 1929. Later, Judge Durrance
said, according to information pre-
sented to him, Potter, Hair and
Bass, meeting as the county board,
ordered the bonds returned to the
institution. At the time of return,
Judge Durrance said, the county
had \$91,000 in the bank.

Trials of the men have been set
for the December term of Okeecho-
bee county court.

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