

Youth Admits 50 Robberies of Last Year

Hat Dropped in Flight Under Gunfire Year Ago Leads to Arrest; Names Accomplices.

Mike Mercurio was rescued from slumber Saturday morning to face what he has feared to face for the last year, the "law."
Detectives Treglia, Cummings, Fielding and Summit constituted the reception committee which waited while Mercurio put himself into his clothes, frustrating his effort to jump out of a window.
Officers have been keeping an eye on his home, 2216 Pierce street for months.
A year ago Detective Andrew Trapp came upon three men trying to break into a drug store at Leavenworth and Thirty-fifth streets. Two leaped into a car and escaped. The other ran. Trapp fired two shots. The fellow dropped, but rose again and disappeared. He dropped his hat. From this he was identified.
Police say he has admitted a number of burglaries in the last year here and in Sioux City with profits of only about \$300.
Mercurio is 17. He admitted police say, to 50 robberies in Omaha in the last year, declaring that Feno Cullia

Youth Who Admits 50 Robberies in Omaha



Mike Mercurio

and Nick Damato, now said to be in jail at Falls City, were accomplices. He said one of the first robberies was at 1037 South Twenty-third street, where Mercurio lived at the time.
At Twenty-fourth and Bancroft streets, one night, they went into a grocery store after Damato broke the glass with a hammer, he said. They drove away in a coupe which they stole.
They used the hammer to break into a grocery store at Thirtieth and Fort streets, also, he said.
Mercurio gave a dozen locations from which he said he stole automobiles.
He made a specialty of gum machines which he took to a place near Ralston to break open. Once, he asserted, he took \$50 in pennies to a South Omaha bank and got currency for them.

14 Above at 2; Temperature Rises Slowly

Mercury Goes Above Zero First Time Since Wednesday; Colder Weather Reported Out in State.

7 p.m. 0 5 a.m. -1
8 p.m. -1 6 a.m. -2
9 p.m. -1 7 a.m. -3
10 p.m. -1 8 a.m. -4
11 p.m. -1 9 a.m. -5
12 p.m. -1 10 a.m. -6
1 a.m. -1 11 a.m. -7
2 a.m. -1 12 noon -8
3 a.m. -1 1 p.m. -9
4 a.m. -1 2 p.m. -10
5 a.m. -1 3 p.m. -11
6 a.m. -1 4 p.m. -12

For the first time since Wednesday the official thermometer at the local weather bureau registered a temperature above zero—4 above zero at 11 a. m. Saturday.
Although Meteorologist M. V. Robins said the forecast was continued cold tonight and Sunday, he expressed belief that the thermometer Saturday would probably register 9 or 10 above zero during the day.
Indications are that the severe cold weather records will change, he said. A similar stretch of zero weather was recorded in December, 1917, when

Worst in 40 Years.

Kearney, Neb., Dec. 20.—Pioneer residents of this vicinity fail to recall a December, in 40 years, of such severe winter weather as now being experienced. Fourteen inches of snow fell on December 5, four inches followed two days later and high winds virtually closed all roads to travel.
One week ago the mercury slipped down to zero and it has hovered there since, setting a new unofficial low record for December today when 19 below was reported at 6 a. m. The mercury has hovered around 10 below for the past 48 hours.
from December 6 to 14 the minimum temperature was zero or lower.
On account of continued cold in Canada and points north in the states it is probable that the temperature may drop to zero again during the night.
At Swift Current, Canada, a report was made of 23 degrees below zero and at Calgary 16 below.
Coldest point in Nebraska during the night was 18 below at North Platte. Lander, Wyo., reported 26 degrees below zero.
Five below at 7 a. m. Saturday, was the coldest in the past 24 hours in Omaha, according to report from the local weather bureau. Six below was reported at 6 and 5 below again at 3 a. m., with a slowly rising temperature.
The forecast is fair and continued cold tonight and Sunday.

CONDAMNED EGGS GIVEN REPRIEVE

Owners of five tons of bulk eggs, held in Omaha cold storage houses, under municipal condemnation seals, will be given a few days in which to make their own chemical tests.
This decision was reached after a conference in Mayor Dahlman's office, where an attorney for the owners asked that the local health department make tests.
"We have positive information that the federal bureau of chemistry tested these eggs and that they are bad," said Dr. C. C. Hall of the health department.
"I will not interfere with the action of the health department," said the mayor.
The health department planned to destroy the eggs next Monday morning.
Eight local and four outside concerns own the eggs.

PINCHOT FOR U. S. HAND IN SHOALS

Washington, Dec. 20.—Opposition to leasing Muscle Shoals to private interests that would operate the power properties except under the control of the federal power commission, was voiced today by Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, in a conference with President Coolidge at the White House.
Pinchot said Muscle Shoals was the "key to the whole industrial development of the south" and that it should be so developed that it could be hooked up with other power projects throughout the country.

CHICAGO HIT BY FAKE RACE TIPS

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Investigation of alleged schemes to defraud by an organization styling itself the "United Riders of America," and trading on the names of prominent jockeys has disclosed that Chicagoans have been victimized to the extent of \$50,000 a week for the last two months by swindlers dealing in fake tips on races at New Orleans, La. Juana and Havana.
The "United Riders" organization, under investigation by federal authorities in Louisville, Ky., was said to be only one of several similar concerns operating here, in New York, San Francisco and other cities.

MINIMUM CASH TO GOMPERS' WIDOW

Washington, Dec. 20.—The will of the late Samuel Gompers, filed today for probate, left the bulk of his estate to his sons and his granddaughters and directed that only "the minimum amount allowed by law" should be paid the widow.
Two wills were filed. The first, dated September 21, 1921, which left the bulk of the estate to the widow, had written across its face, in Gompers' characteristic handwriting: "I cancel and revoke this will."

CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKE

Northrup Jones
309 S. 16th, Just So. of Farnam

Students Charter Hearse to Take Them Home

Palo Alto, Cal., Dec. 20.—Somewhere between here and Los Angeles a hearse slowly wended its way today.
It carried the bodies of seven Stanford students, all very much alive, however. Michael J. Lavelle, law student, promoted the unique trip.
He purchased the hearse for a "song" and his six companions are paying him \$3 each for the trip south for the Christmas holidays.
Lavelle hopes to sell the hearse in Los Angeles.

NEW YEAR'S BALL FOR FUND PLANNED

This year's charity ball will be given on New Year's eve at the City auditorium by the activities committee of the Elks' lodge. Music will be furnished by the Omaha Musical union band of 26 pieces, under direction of Professor Pluhacek. The band will give a concert from 8 to 9 p. m., and will play dance music until 1 a. m. Amusement features will be provided.
The charity ball will close this season's campaign for funds to equip and maintain the Omaha Elks' "Kiddie camp" for undernourished children during the coming summer.

Gas Flames Rout Guests From Hotel

Early Morning Fire Creates Near Panic in Sub-Zero Weather; Four Other Alarms.

Flames were discovered in the basement and first floor of the Commercial hotel, operated by Anna Kindlad at 2310 M street, just before 5 Saturday morning, by William Kindlad, son of the proprietress.
He roused his mother and they gave the alarm to the guests.
There was almost a panic. Some of those in the first floor rooms broke windows instead of opening them and leaped out to escape the rapidly spreading flames.
Barefooted in Street.
Sparks from the furnace are believed to have ignited a pile of rubbish in the basement. This melted the gas meter connection and gas escaped in large volume, causing the floor to be burned through.
Though the hotel is a frame structure, firemen checked the flames before they had ruined the building.
Mike Kindlad, 9, a son of Mrs. Kindlad, was picked up by firemen as he stood barefooted in the street and taken to the Star bakery, 4510

'T'd Mary Again,' Says Man in Jail

Dewey Spencer, in Matrimonial Tangle, Declares for Wedded Bride.

"I don't care how long they keep me in jail now," declared Dewey Spencer, 25, Saturday.
Spencer is serving five months on a charge of aiding and abetting the delinquency of a minor.
Friday, the bride he married in Council Bluffs on December 2 filed a petition for divorce. Helen Spencer, 25, declares that after she married Spencer she learned her first husband had not secured a divorce as she was notified he was attempting to do.
Mortgages Get 'Em.
"We never lived together after our marriage," said Spencer. "A week after the ceremony I began to serve my sentence."
"I was working for an express company when I was 'ragged' the first time," he declared. "Then I went to work at a restaurant and was thrown in jail again."
He declares the two cars and two lots he owned in Council Bluffs have been eaten up by the mortgages by which he raised money to pay attorneys' fees and police court fines.
"You Bet I Would."
Recently Jailer Joe Sherry received an order to hold Spencer after

DEATHS FOR WEEK NUMBER ONLY 40

SHOALS VOTE AFTER HOLIDAYS

Washington, Dec. 20.—With all thought of a vote on Muscle Shoals before the Christmas recess abandoned, the senate today settled down to consideration of amendments to the Underwood and Norris bills.
Three of these were of infants, less than one year. Three adult deaths were of tuberculosis and two of pneumonia.
The death rate for the week was unusually low, particularly for this season of the year.
During the week 10 cases of small pox were reported; also 19 cases of chicken pox, three cases of diphtheria and two of scarlet fever.

KIWANIS TO AID CRIPPLED TOTS

Eighty-five members of the Kiwanis club, at the weekly luncheon in Hotel Rome yesterday, pledged \$975 to the Munroe Home for Crippled Children. J. A. Munroe, founder, and Miss Clara Elder; Mrs. Arthur Smith, president of the Society for the Disabled; and Mrs. Fred Metz, a former president, were guests of honor.
Three children from the home were presented by Miss Greta Paulsen, visiting nurse, Dr. Robert Schrock, orthopedic surgeon, explained each case. Dr. E. H. Jenks of the First Presbyterian church spoke of the crippled children work.

WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL FEAST

W. F. Baxter will preside at a dinner to be given the evening of December 23 at 6:30 in Hotel Fontenelle as a memorial to Woodrow Wilson. Dinners will be given simultaneously in other cities. Addresses will be made by Bishop E. V. Shayler, Rev. Ralph Baily and Dr. Olga Stasney.

Christmas Time Is Candy Time

Tempting candy to make your Christmas more enjoyable! Unique candy favors to give a distinctive touch to your holiday party.

- Homs Salted Nuts
- French Caramels
- Kiddie Kandies
- Fruit Cakes
- Candy Animals
- Homs Made Candies

Our candies are wholesome and pure. Made of pure cane sugar. No "substitutes," no "compositions." All mail orders filled the day received.

Mrs. Hunter's Candy Shop

Elks Building 112 S. 16th St. Mrs. Robt. Hunter Phyllis Hunter

RUM AGENT SLAIN; JAIL MOUNTAINEER

Bakersfield, Cal., Dec. 20.—Louis Lowe, a mountaineer, is in jail today charged with the slaying of William W. Wiles, chief of the prohibition agents for Kern county, California.
Wiles and three deputies went to Lowe's place where it was alleged Lowe was running a still and as they neared Lowe he began firing. One of the three shots passed through Wiles' heart.
In a signed statement the officers say Lowe admitted the shooting.

C. DARROW WILL ADDRESS AD-SELL

There will be no meeting of the Omaha Advertising-Selling League Monday night.
The next meeting will be on January 5, when the league will celebrate its seventh anniversary. The speaker will be Clarence Darrow, Chicago criminal attorney.
Bee Want Ads produce results.

Child's Manicure Set \$1

An attractive 5-piece set in leatherette case. Street Floor

Imported Perfumes \$1

Purse flaconettes of finest imported perfumes. Street Floor

Boudoir Slippers \$1

Quilted satin with soft padded soles. In black, old rose and blue. Just the thing for a desirable Christmas gift. Street Floor

"Kayser" Fabric Gloves Pair \$1

Strap wrist style; oak, mode, covert and brown; 3-row embroidery.

Sateen Sports Bloomers \$1

A Christmas gift for the outdoor girl and a great value.

Infants' Dresses \$1

Hand made of fine nainsook, with a touch of real hand embroidery. Second Floor

\$1 Lingerie Caps

in both cap and band styles of silk and satin, most of them lace trimmed. \$1

Very dainty batiste gowns with colored stitching for a trim, Peach Orchid and Flesh... \$1

Outing Gowns make a practical gift for cold weather. Are mostly slip-over styles, pink and blue striped... \$1

Dollar Gift Day

This is the year of inexpensive gifts when everyone is remembered. To aid in the happy gift-giving, this store has prepared for Monday a day when Dollar Gifts will be featured. We invite you to purchase, knowing full well that "the gift from Thompson-Belden will be appreciated."

Charles C. Belden

Serving Trays \$1

Mahogany or walnut finish trays and glass covered. Second Floor

Evening Hair Bands \$1

Gold or silver leaves or rhinestones with ribbons. Street Floor

Madeira Doilies 6 for \$1

These are 6-inch size and are daintily embroidered by hand, and so pretty when boxed for Christmas giving. Street Floor

Pequot Pillow Cases Pair \$1

A happy gift for the housewife or girl with a hope chest.

Fancy Turkish Towels 3 for \$1

Heavy quality, very absorbent and large. White with stripes.

Initialed Handkerchiefs 10 for \$1

Women's handkerchiefs of fine white lawn and very nicely embroidered. Street Floor

\$1 Gift Handkerchiefs

No woman ever had too many handkerchiefs. These are all great bargains... \$1

All linen handkerchiefs, white or white with colored embroidery... \$1

Women's plain all linen handkerchiefs with the popular narrow hem, \$1

Thompson-Belden

"The Best Place to Shop, After All"

An Announcement by Haas Brothers

—No. 1—

Coming Dec. 26th

A sale which we predict will surpass any similar event ever attempted in local retailing: A sale that is the first of its kind ever held by Haas Brothers.

It will include without a single exception every coat, suit and dress in the Haas Brothers' stock, and no specially purchases sale merchandise will be involved.

Watch for our announcement in Christmas Day Papers and plan now to be here early Friday Morning.

Haas Brothers

"The Shop for Women"
16th and Douglas

This \$1,625 STEINWAY

Style O, Mahogany

\$1125

This beautiful Steinway Grand was taken in trade from Mrs. Ben Wood, jr., on a new

Steck Duo-Art Grand

This is the only store in Omaha where you can buy brand new STEINWAY, WEBER, STECK and AEOLIAN DUO-ART PIANOS.

Call or Write **OAKFORD Music Co.** 419 S. 16th Omaha