

Council Bluffs Mail Robbers to Again Be Tried

**Rearrested on Release From
Leavenworth; Now Held
on Indictment Hitherto
Concealed.**

(Continued From Page One.)
of way, investigated and found that the sealed registered mail car had been looted.

That began one of the greatest searches for mail robbers in the history of the country. The robbers were gone. There was no trace of them to be found.

Then Quinby thought of Phillips and the ride through Council Bluffs. He mentioned the fact and the postal inspectors arrested Phillips. After hours of grilling the boy broke down and admitted the part he had played in the robbery. But he refused to implicate any others. He didn't know them, he said.

Army Captain Led Gang.
Gradually the long arm of the secret service closed about the principals in the robbery and suspects until eight were being held in the Council Bluffs jail. But the leader, the man who was said to have planned the robbery, could not be found.

Then came a girl, Ella Peterson of Omaha. She said that Keith Collins, her fiancé, a captain of aviation in the United States army, had suddenly acquired wealth. Her love for the smiling, happy youth was great, but her love of right and wrong was greater.

A hue and cry was raised for Collins. He disappeared. His mother, heart broken because of the error of her son, attempted to end her life. A brother insisted that Keith could not have been one of the robbers, "he wasn't that kind."

Then Keith was arrested in Oklahoma and brought back to Council Bluffs. He confessed. Some of the other suspects confessed. The case was completed and the trials began. But a few thousand dollars of the loot was ever found. The 10 registered sacks which had been stolen had contained Liberty bonds, French bonds, a little jewelry and a few thousand in cash.

Bonds Burned.
Five of the sacks had been loaded into the automobile in which Keith Collins waited. The other five had been emptied and hidden. The bonds, all of the suspects declared, had been burned or thrown into the Missouri river because they were considered worthless.

Four of the men admitted that they had stood over a stove in a Council

Bluffs home a few hours after the robbery warning their hands over a five built of large denomination negotiable bonds.

When the trials of the men began indictments charging mail robbery were presented against them. Throughout the trials the men "sat tight" and insisted that the bonds were destroyed.

To Be Returned Here.
But Uncle Sam's men had quietly obtained a second indictment against Poffenbarger and Collins of which they never told. These men refused to believe that the loot had been destroyed. They believed that it was carefully hidden and would be recovered.

Then, when word came that the two were about to be released from the penitentiary, the indictment was sent to Kansas City with orders to pick up the men.

Once again the youths, the boys who believed they were heroes after their arrest, the imitators of the notorious Carlisle, are in jail. Their liberty was short and, because of that, the more sweet.

Scottsbluffs Urges Retention of Land Office at Alliance

Scottsbluff, Dec. 11.—Scottsbluff's forum department of the Chamber of Commerce that includes representatives of all civic organizations in the city, has gone on record as favoring retention of the United States land office at Alliance, and sent a telegram to Congressman Simmons, asking him to use his influence to kill the bill that would abolish the office. It also endorsed the candidacy of H. G. Taylor for appointment as interstate commerce commissioner. The forum also extended an invitation to the Nebraska State Irrigation association to hold its 1925 meeting in Scottsbluff.

Legion Sponsors Humboldt Municipal Christmas Tree

Humboldt, Dec. 11.—Humboldt American Legion post No. 289, will sponsor a municipal Christmas tree. Children inaccustomed to much of the joys of Christmas will receive first consideration. The best musical talent of the city will participate in the program.

Student of Rail Outlook Predicts Traffic Increase

**Foresees Greatest Business in
1925 Since 1916; Urges
Greater Net Returns
to Roads.**

New York, Dec. 11.—The railroads of the United States will be called upon in 1925 to handle the greatest increase in freight business since 1916, Samuel O. Dunn, editor of Railway Age, tonight told members of the Railway Business association in convention here.

Since 1920 freight has been in a state of arrested development and railroads of the country have devoted their attention to improvement in service rather than to the handling of traffic, he said, but general conditions now point to a resumption of traffic growth commensurate with the 15 years prior to 1920.

"There has been a substantial increase in freight business in the latter part of 1924, and such an increase in the latter part of a year almost invariably has been followed by a record-breaking business during the next year," he continued.

"The temporary increase of business in 1923 was halted principally by the inability of the farmers of most parts of the country to make normal purchases because prices of their products were too low compared with the prices of the things they buy. The recent advance in farm prices has largely restored the purchasing power of the farmers."

"The recent spectacular advance in the stock exchange prices of securities must be, as it almost always has been in the past, an harbinger of a general increase of business activity in all lines."

"There never has been within the last quarter century a year of record-breaking freight business except 1923 when freight business was less than

15 per cent greater than it was five years before; and the increases in five-year periods usually have ranged from 35 to 50 per cent.

"The experience of the last quarter century indicates that for the railroads to handle in 1925 a freight business 15 per cent greater than that of 1920 would require 12 per cent more locomotive tractive power and 9 per cent more freight car capacity than they had in 1920.

"These estimates, which are conservative, indicate that the freight business which is in prospect will tax the capacity of the railroads to the utmost, and that they must go on making improvements in and additions to their properties even more rapidly and investing even more new capital in them than they have been during the last two years. It seems entirely probable that the new capital required will continue, at least for some years, to exceed \$1,000,000,000 a year."

"A large majority have been unable to sell stock because the annual net income available for paying dividends has been much too small. A substantial increase in net operating

income is vitally necessary. Without it the railway managers cannot possibly go on making necessary improvements and additions to the properties.

"Employees are entitled to reasonable wages and shippers are entitled to reasonable rates, but the public is also entitled to good and adequate transportation service, and it cannot long be furnished by a railway system which is not allowed to earn a return and to pay dividends which will make its stock attractive to investors."

"The future of the railroads is in the hands of the public. The large business and railroad interests of the country have been within recent year far more articulate than they formerly were. The policy of telling the public the facts about big business, how it is managed, what it does, and why, in the public interest, it must be allowed to earn reasonable profits, has been widely adopted. That policy must be continued and broadened for the safety of the political and industrial institutions of this country."

Gift of 200 Pairs of Shoes Is Made

**And 37 Pairs of Rubbers Are
Given to Free Shoe
Fund.**

Previously reported:
Marjorie and Richard Miller..... \$261.00
Mrs. Katherine Street..... 2.00
A. Friend of the Kiddies, Ashland, 5.00
Mrs. Jackson Walker..... 1.00
Total..... \$272.00

When the G. H. Nelson Paint company moved into the building formerly occupied by the Hayward Shoe company Mr. Nelson had to buy 1,800 pairs of shoes left over from the stock of the former occupant. He has given 200 pairs of children's shoes, included in this lot, to the Free Shoe Fund. A magnificent gift!

The Douglas Shoe company sent 37 pairs of rubbers.
Thus does "business" show that it

has a soul and a heart that can be touched by the plight of helpless children.

A continual procession of pitiful youngsters comes to the office of J. B. Carver to get the coveted slips which provide the new shoes. The cold weather and the snow and slush under foot are a real menace to the health and lives of these boys and girls whose misfortune it is to be started in life at a handicap. Checks may be made out to the Free Shoe Fund and mailed to The Omaha Bee. Cash or money orders may be sent likewise.

Bloomfield Business Men Ask for Night Watchman

Bloomfield, Dec. 11.—A committee of local business men petitioned the city council to employ a night watch during the winter months. They showed that all other towns in this section have an officer on duty during the night. They maintain that

a night watch is of direct benefit to most of the citizens and indirectly to all and should be paid by the city and not through voluntary contributions from business men.

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MONEY SAVERS**
Men's Lisle Handkerchiefs... 50c
Women's Lisle Handkerchiefs... 30c
Fancy Christmas Garters... 1.00
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Fun from the first— for the years

A Kodak is one gift that everyone wants, for picture-making is fun from the first—and for the years.

But which Kodak? Your problem is speedily solved at the Kodak counter. Our complete stock is ready for your selection; our salespeople's intelligent suggestions will be a genuine help. You'll find that the shopping trip has proved a pleasure.

Kodak, Brownie and Graflex cameras of every style and equipment always in stock.

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Give Furniture for Christmas

... (text partially obscured) ...

**Leather
gloves \$2 to 6**

Don't let these low prices keep you from buying, because remember in gloves, as well as all other things we sell, Pray's Policy of "small profits many times repeated" enables us to offer quality gloves at these low prices.

**Buckskin Gloves
Are Popular**

and as every man knows, serviceable too. They are soft and pliable; fit the hand nicely and wear all other leathers. At \$3.50, \$4.50 and \$5.00, we know of no other gift that would be so well received as a pair of genuine Buckskin Gloves.

Individual Gift Boxes
Without Additional Charge

PRAYS

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1509 Farnam 1908 Farnam

3 Unparalleled CHRISTMAS Phonograph Offers

**Pay Only \$5
Down**

These three remarkable values have been selected expressly for your Christmas buying. They represent the utmost in tone, quality and finish in the world of phonograph perfection.

Pay only \$5.00 down and then small monthly payments. Make this Christmas a happy one for ALL the family by bringing to them the world's best music. See these instruments this week. Your old instrument accepted as a substantial part payment.

VICTOR CONSOLE With 12 Record Selections. Complete Outfit	\$114.50
COLUMBIA CONSOLE With 12 Record Selections. Complete Outfit	\$93.50
OUTING PHONOGRAPH With 8 Record Selections. Complete Outfit	\$40.50

Pay Only \$5 Down

Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co
NEBRASKA'S OLDEST & LARGEST MUSIC HOUSE
1514-16-18-Dodge St. - - - Omaha

The map shows the path of the sleet storm extending from December 3 to 7, which swept through sections of our Company's territory in Iowa and Nebraska, breaking down 8,669 poles and putting 105,000 miles of wire out of service.

Telephone Service Rapidly Being Restored Despite \$540,000 Damage in Sleet Storm

Telephone service is rapidly being restored despite the \$540,000 damage in the sleet storm which during Dec. 3 to 7, swept a pathway more than 500 miles long and nearly 90 miles wide through Iowa and Nebraska.

A survey of the destruction of telephone property shows:

- 5,724 poles on long distance lines broken down or destroyed.
- 2,945 poles on farm lines broken down or destroyed.
- 105,000 miles of wire out of service.
- \$540,000 property loss.

When storms of this character destroy our property, service is at first restored with temporary construction until the broken poles can be replaced and new wire and cross arms attached. This work is being carried on as rapidly as possible by more than 1,100 repairmen, most of whom have been on the job constantly since the storm.

We want to thank our patrons for the splendid way in which you accepted this interruption of telephone service, and assure you everything possible is being done to hasten the reopening of communication.

If you desire to talk to any point to which service was shut off by the storm, please ask "Long Distance" if the lines are open yet. Almost every hour some line is being restored to service.

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A High Grade Coal -- Clean and Efficient. Can be controlled more easily than any other fuel on the market. Will hold an even steady fire to the last ounce of coal.

See Samples of This Coal at Hayden's Grocery Dept.

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