

SHOOTS JEWELER EDHOLM

G. O. Porter, a World-Herald Reporter, Attempts a Murder.

BECOMES ANGRY ABOUT A CUFF BUTTON

Fires a Shot at Mr. Edholm, Inflicting a Flesh Wound in His Left Arm and Later Surrenders.— Check Without Provocation.

Albert Edholm, jeweler, 107 North Sixteenth street, was assaulted with a pistol at noon Thursday in his place of business by G. O. Porter, a newspaper correspondent whose headquarters are in the World-Herald editorial room.

Dispute over the loss of a cuff button, worth probably a few cents, led to the assault. This is the story told by Mr. Edholm and corroborated by eye-witnesses.

Porter's conflict as to whether Porter elbowed his victim with the butt of the weapon or fired a shot, Edholm declares positively that he was shot, while Porter is emphatic that he struck the jeweler with the pistol, but did not shoot him.

Immediately after the assault Mr. Edholm exclaimed: "Why did you shoot me?" "I allow no man to call me a liar," Porter retorted, and then he fired a shot, which struck the jeweler in the left arm.

The injured man was given immediate medical attention, and his wound will probably not prove serious, although it is very painful. He retained a reporter for The Bee his version of the affair.

Porter entered the store about noon, and said Mr. Edholm, "and asked for a cuff button which he said he had left with us for repairs about two weeks ago, and that he had called for it three weeks ago, and that we were unable to find it, but that we told him we would look it up, that that may be true; I don't remember about the button, but in any event we were unable to find it for him today, and after searching for some time, I told Porter to bring me the mate to the lost button and that would be of assistance to us in looking up it." He replied that he would not search things that he wanted him immediately. I explained to him that I could not do impossibilities. Just then, without a moment's warning, he drew his pistol and fired. It was a shocking surprise to me, for I had no idea that he was in the humor to commit a tragedy.

Mr. Edholm discussed the affair with remarkable calmness, despite the pain he was suffering. He had given Porter every assurance that his loss would be made good, it is said, in case of final failure to discover the button.

The assault was witnessed by Miss Jessie Lawrence, Miss Beattie Cowles, C. C. Hahn, a World-Herald reporter, a Chicago traveling man by the name of Wertz and others.

Miss Lawrence is employed in Mr. Edholm's establishment and her experience was intensely thrilling, for she stood almost directly within range of Porter's weapon. When he first entered the store he asked Miss Lawrence to get his cuff button and she looked for it several minutes before calling the attention of Mr. Edholm. Miss Lawrence continued her search and was standing behind the counter beside the proprietor when Porter committed the assault. Miss Lawrence displayed remarkable nerve and instead of hurrying from the exciting scene, as most women would have done, she assisted other witnesses in calling a doctor and looking after the wounded man.

Mr. Wertz, the Chicago salesman, stood near Porter when the trouble occurred. He made a motion as if to intervene, but the shining barrel of the deadly weapon caused him to desist. If he had such idea, and Porter backed out of the store much after the fashion of the conquering border hand, as he is said to have done.

At the noon hour North Sixteenth street was thronged with shoppers and other pedestrians, the report of the weapon having immediately drawn a large crowd. Mr. Edholm remained in a rear room at his store until after the doctor had dressed his wound. He then went to his home in a carriage. Had the bullet ranged a little higher, the victim's eye would have been ruined.

As a result of the wound the left eye of Mr. Edholm's face is swollen to three or four times its natural size, and blood constantly oozes from the puncture.

Jeweler Edholm is of slight build, middle-aged and is not given to indulgence in quarrels, so say those who know him best. Porter's action cannot be accounted for. He appeared to be in full possession of his senses when he entered the store and talked calmly but firmly up to the moment before he fired the shot.

The police say that Porter has been drinking to excess late, and this is the only theory on which his strange action can be explained.

Calm After the Storm. While the young women employed in the store conducted themselves like heroines, there was considerable flurry among the elegantly attired shoppers who thronged the adjacent sidewalk looking at pretty window displays and discussing Christmas bargains.

As an instance showing the extraordinary nerve and calmness of Miss Lawrence it may be stated that within thirty minutes after the shooting she was busily engaged in rearranging trays of jewelry in a show case, and business was moving along in the Edholm establishment just as though nothing out of the usual had happened.

Porter's Career in Omaha.

Porter has been in Omaha about twenty years. He was first employed on the old Republican, going from there to the other papers. Later he became assistant in a private newspaper correspondence bureau.

John Shannahan, who formerly kept a saloon in South Omaha, is on trial in Judge Baker's court on the charge of killing Ed Joyce July 30 of this year. It is alleged that at the same time Shannahan killed Ed Callahan, but separate trials will be held for the two murders.

The double tragedy occurred in Shannahan's saloon. His plea of defense is that he was attacked by his victims and that he acted for self-protection. An effort will be made by the defendant's attorneys to prove that the deceased were disreputable characters, but the prosecution will combat that theory. Numerous witnesses are to be examined.

Marrriage Licenses. The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: John Smith, Omaha; 27. Sophia Johnson, Omaha; 27. Henry Jackson, Omaha; 27. Nellie Turner, Omaha; 27. Seth P. Barnes, Omaha; 27. Margaret Taylor, Benson; 27.

Dizzy? Then your liver isn't acting well. You suffer from biliousness, nervous constipation. Ayer's Pills act directly on the liver. For 60 years the Standard Family Pill. Small doses cure. 25c. All druggists.

SALVATION HEADQUARTERS

Division Offices of Army Will Be Bought from Des Moines to Omaha.

BRIGADIER AND MRS. J. TOFT IN CHARGE

Important Change in the Division Plans Iowa and Nebraska Under One Command—Work Branching Out in This City.

The rapid growth of the Salvation army in the last year has made it necessary to change the headquarters of the division and the result is that Omaha will be made division headquarters for the army in the near future and Brigadier and Mrs. James Toft will be stationed here in office in one of the large buildings of the city.

Up to a short time ago Nebraska was a part of what is known as the southwestern division of the army, which extended from the South Dakota line to the Gulf and comprised Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The work progressed so rapidly that it was decided to make change and the states of Iowa and Nebraska and the Black Hills district of South Dakota were incorporated in a new district.

The headquarters, which have been at Des Moines, will be moved to Omaha and all the business will be transacted from this point. Captain Stanley, in charge of the Omaha section, said in talking of the proposed change that it would bring to Omaha about sixty officers twice a year and would mean the gathering of a good many members of the army at different times when councils were held. It will also make the city the focal point for the visits of all national officers and near the vicinity of the city of many men and women prominent in this religious movement.

This new division will comprise thirty-six corps, or that many cities with branches of the army located in each. The correspondence will be handled here and several innovations in the work will be begun. There are two corps in working order in this city at the present time, with a residence home in connection with each. Work has already been commenced on a "shelter" at 418 South Thirteenth street, patterned after institutions of the kind in large cities which have been operated so successfully.

Establishment of a Shelter. The "shelter," as it is called, will be in reality a lodging house—a room to men who have no homes and who have but little money. There will be good, clean beds—baths in connection—and each man as he comes in will be compelled to take a bath. His clothing will be cleaned and his room, where it will be given a clean night-shirt to sleep in. In the morning his clothing will be returned and he will be sent on his way rejoicing, all for the sum of 10 cents.

Another worthy branching out of the work will be begun as soon as the headquarters are permanently moved to Omaha, and that will be a sort of "slum poet," as it is called in the army. The soldiers and take rooms in the poorest part of the city, where poverty and degradation abound, and will go from house to house looking up cases of destitution and assist in every way possible the people who are in need of money and kindness. In fact these women will be "little sisters of the poor," and will not wear the Army uniform; simply dress in plain gingham gowns and go into the houses to scrub floors, wash and make the beds and comfort the dying. Women who do this work come from the wealthiest families and there are many college-bred women at the present time working in this manner to relieve the sufferings of the poor.

Christmas for the Poor. The Omaha corps, under the direction of Captain and Mrs. Stanley, has already begun to make preparations for Christmas and will follow the plan outlined by the national commander at New York. There the Salvation Army has obtained Madison Square Garden for the day, and the Omaha corps will distribute early Christmas morning, each one to contain a turkey and all accessories to a dinner for five persons. In the evening dinner will be served to 4,000 deserving poor at one time. Captain Stanley will endeavor to send out 100 baskets from the headquarters at 1711 Davenport street. He says this plan will do away with much of the trouble that has been experienced before by the attendance of burns and the underserving. He has organized the Omaha charities and to the county commissioners and obtained a list of the deserving heads of families. They will be given baskets containing either turkeys or chickens, potatoes and vegetables. The turkey will be distributed early Christmas morning, so there will be time to cook the contents for dinner. In order to carry out this plan it will be necessary to have a large amount of food donated, and the Omaha corps is invited to communicate with Captain Stanley.

The county commissioners have lent their aid to the movement, and the Associated Charities have assured that they will be attended, most of the federal, state, county and city officials at Des Moines being present.

The building inspector has granted a permit for alterations to the building to be erected at the Illinois Central at Fourteenth and Farnam, amounting to \$2,000. The alterations include the removal of the corner of the building on the southwest corner of Sixteenth and Dodge, amounting to \$200.

The contractors doing the carving on the stone of the postoffice building are crowded with orders for the removal of the weather. About one-half of the work on the front of the building has been completed. The contractors will have the work on the Sixteenth street side well advanced by the end of the week.

The annual Christmas ball of the elevator conductors will be held on the evening of Monday at the Hotel Des Moines. The ball will be used for the occasion and several hundred invitations have been accepted. The entertainment will be under the management of the local elevator conductors of the city.

Deputy Sheriff Straker, who was sent to Alma to secure custody of Clara Dodd, one of the women who were in the custody of the local police, has returned to Omaha. He has a letter from the little girl, but they refused to disclose her whereabouts. The girl's mother, Mrs. Craig, today also involved in the habeas corpus case.

Due to the ruling of the first assistant postmaster general that married women should not be employed in the post office, the Omaha office has been advised to discharge the married women in the office of the post office, but the ruling of the post office is creating a great amount of uneasiness.

D. E. Frances, a Carroll, Ia., attorney, is in the city on business. C. L. Alexander, a prominent Hastings merchant, is in the city on business. Ed Gittinger, a traveler for a Philadelphia house, is in the city for a few days. J. D. Der, the brewer from Kansas City, is in the city with his wife for a few days. E. D. Hurst of Cynthia, Ky., is in the city on business.

George A. Brooks, a banker and miller has temporarily resigned the post office of the Second Reformed Dutch church, of Harlem, New Jersey, and acting upon the advice of his physician, will spend the winter in Texas. Until seven years ago Dr. Harscha was the pastor of the First Presbyterian church in this city and has many friends in Omaha, who hope for his speedy recovery. He is now located at Oakdale Park, where he is engaged in the winter in evangelical work. Dr. Harscha is the son of Rev. Dr. W. W. Harscha of the Omaha Theological seminary.

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The contract was let to Mr. Boyles without advertising for bids and no other proposal was entertained by the board. This action was in violation of section 41 of the rules governing the board, which reads: "Bids for furnishing either labor, materials or supplies, or for selling school sites or other real estate, shall be invited by the sale of bonds of the school district, shall be open to competition and shall be invited by advertising in such daily papers and trade journals as shall be selected by the board."

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When the board cared for its own desks, hiring painters by the day, it was found necessary to revitalize only about 2,000 desks annually. The entire reason for the expense of \$2,000 yearly, or \$1.25 per desk, was that the employees of the board could be induced to finish only five desks a day, whereas working by the piece they are able to clean and revitalize sixteen desks a day. It is estimated that if faithful workmen could be secured the expense would not exceed 40 cents per desk.

Mr. Boyles' contract has now expired and an effort was made last Monday to renew it on the same terms. Two of his workmen, however, recognizing the large profit involved, made lower proposals, in spite of the fact that bids were not invited from the public. The low offer was made by Oscar Peterson for 34 cents, the price still affording him a handsome profit. Member Johnson, of the board, a brother-in-law of the contractor, made an earnest plea that a contract should be signed by the board in preference to the work being done by day's work under the board's supervision. The contract was so awarded on Wednesday night, no public proposals having been invited, and only three having been received, all from Boyles or his employees.

Gov. Harscha in Texas. Following indications of pulmonary troubles Rev. Dr. William Justin Harscha has temporarily resigned the pastorate of the Second Reformed Dutch church, of Harlem, New Jersey, and acting upon the advice of his physician, will spend the winter in Texas. Until seven years ago Dr. Harscha was the pastor of the First Presbyterian church in this city and has many friends in Omaha, who hope for his speedy recovery. He is now located at Oakdale Park, where he is engaged in the winter in evangelical work. Dr. Harscha is the son of Rev. Dr. W. W. Harscha of the Omaha Theological seminary.

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The contract was let on December 7, 1898, and the monthly amounts paid the contractor are as follows: December, \$481; January, \$523; February, \$462; March, \$462; April, \$543; May, \$200; June, \$565; July, \$1,326; August, \$1,102; September, \$724; October, \$482; November, \$280 and the total \$8,234. The expense is increased to \$4,200 by a bill for repairs not included in the contract.

Excessive Industry of Contractor. There are 19,000 desks in the public schools of Omaha, and of these 8,000 were sent to the workshop during the last twelve months. In the opinion of several members of the Board of Education there is no necessity for overhauling the desks more than once in four or five years, and teachers in many cases prefer the desks after one occasion the seats were removed from the Walnut Hill school under the supervision of the principal, who believed that they were in a perfectly serviceable and sanitary condition. The official entrusted with the inspection of seats is Superintendent of Construction Barker.

When the board cared for its own desks, hiring painters by the day, it was found necessary to revitalize only about 2,000 desks annually. The entire reason for the expense of \$2,000 yearly, or \$1.25 per desk, was that the employees of the board could be induced to finish only five desks a day, whereas working by the piece they are able to clean and revitalize sixteen desks a day. It is estimated that if faithful workmen could be secured the expense would not exceed 40 cents per desk.

Mr. Boyles' contract has now expired and an effort was made last Monday to renew it on the same terms. Two of his workmen, however, recognizing the large profit involved, made lower proposals, in spite of the fact that bids were not invited from the public. The low offer was made by Oscar Peterson for 34 cents, the price still affording him a handsome profit. Member Johnson, of the board, a brother-in-law of the contractor, made an earnest plea that a contract should be signed by the board in preference to the work being done by day's work under the board's supervision. The contract was so awarded on Wednesday night, no public proposals having been invited, and only three having been received, all from Boyles or his employees.

Gov. Harscha in Texas. Following indications of pulmonary troubles Rev. Dr. William Justin Harscha has temporarily resigned the pastorate of the Second Reformed Dutch church, of Harlem, New Jersey, and acting upon the advice of his physician, will spend the winter in Texas. Until seven years ago Dr. Harscha was the pastor of the First Presbyterian church in this city and has many friends in Omaha, who hope for his speedy recovery. He is now located at Oakdale Park, where he is engaged in the winter in evangelical work. Dr. Harscha is the son of Rev. Dr. W. W. Harscha of the Omaha Theological seminary.

Contractor Enjoys Huge Profit in Privilege Conferred in Secret.

SCHOOL BOARD IS EXCESSIVELY CLEANLY

It is Found Necessary to Revitalize Nearly One-Half of School Seats During Year, Involving Large Expense.

The contractors engaged in cleaning and revitalizing the public school desks, apparently a humble occupation, have been drawing such