

BLACKMAIL BAND NABBED AT CHICAGO

Five Men and Three Women
Who Get \$1,000,000 from
Rich Persons Arrested.

RACE GAMBLING SIDE LINE

Chicago, Sept. 18.—Confession has been made by two members of the alleged syndicate of blackmailers, eight of whom are under arrest here, that operations of the swindlers have netted more than \$1,000,000 within the last year, federal officials announced today.

The confessions, it was declared, disclosed that the alleged hand numbers at least sixty—a third of whom are said to be women—young, pretty and crafty. A dispute over the division of spoils, it was said, led to the confessions. Arrest of a score or more members of the syndicate are expected within a week.

The men who confessed are "Dick" Barrett and Edward J. Thompson, according to Hinton G. Clabaugh, head of the Chicago bureau of the federal Department of Justice. Both are at liberty, he said. They will become witnesses for the government, however, when the eight members of the alleged syndicate arrested in a raid on a fashionable apartment hotel Saturday night are brought to trial.

Fear that they would receive long prison sentences caused Thompson and Barrett to confess, Clabaugh said. He declined, however, to say when they gave him the information that led to the raid.

List of Persons Arrested.

Bail aggregating \$100,000 has been fixed for the eight members of the alleged band now under arrest. They are to be given a hearing tomorrow. Those under arrest and the bail they will be required to give are: Edward Donahue, alias "Doc" Donahue, \$25,000; Mrs. Helen Evers, alias Mrs. George W. Brown, \$25,000; Henry Russell, alias H. J. Russell, \$25,000; Mrs. Edward Donahue, \$5,000; James Christian, alias James Roberts, \$5,000; George Bland, alias Joseph Pearl, \$5,000; Mrs. Frances Allen, alias Mrs. Frances Chapman, \$5,000.

The operations of the band are declared to have extended from coast to coast. Men and women alike have been victims. Persons of wealth were the objects in every case. Five wealthy and socially prominent members of Chicago society are declared to have been blackmailed out of \$20,000. Their names are withheld.

Race Gambling Also Used.

Operations of the syndicate, which now appears to have been of international proportions, were not confined to the blackmail of wealthy men and women, according to information developed today. Among the effects in the office of "Doc" Edward Donahue, one of the men caught in the Saturday night raid, was stationery of the "United Turf exchange" with headquarters in New York and offices all over the world. There were also cipher codes for deciphering messages received by wire, telling what horses to bet on, how much to bet, what races and positions to play.

Fake newspaper clippings detailed the wonderful cleanups made by a young eastern plunger in pool rooms, apparently had been used to lure victims. One letter found in Donahue's room at the fashionable south side apartment house was from the "Horseman's association" of 1468 Market street, Louisville, Ky., signed by J. C. Saulsberry, secretary, and addressed to A. T. Karger. The secretary said he was sorry to hear of "Mr. Karger's" notoriety lately and hoped he wouldn't have another occurrence like that again.

It seemed that "Mr. Karger's" picture had appeared in a newspaper in connection with bookmaking activities at the races.

Turf Exchange Is Exclusive.

According to Department of Justice officials here today, the "United Turf exchange" must have been an exclusive affair. The rules stated that members using the club rooms in the evenings must appear in full dress.

Evidently the "Horseman's association" was known in Louisville as a grain brokerage house. Code books showed how wagers on horse races could be placed, and there was apparently no limit. If the bettor wanted to place \$50,000 on a horse he would order fifty boxes of red, white and blue matches, the color depending on the position to bet on the horse—viz, red, straight; blue, place; white, show. Condition of track was described as follows: Dry, oats; muddy, corn; medium, rye. If all these elaborate systems were not enough to beguile the victim the fake newspaper clipping was flashed.

The headlines of this article state that a "young eastern plunger cleaned up \$80,000 from Seattle, Wash., pool rooms. Identity of man not known to local gambling fraternity." The story then went on that all efforts to get information from him had been fruitless. He had never lost a bet.

Here it was, according to the Department of Justice officials here today, that Donahue broke into the game. He would claim to be the mysterious stranger from the east.

Mann Act Blackmail.

According to the federal officials today, here are some of the things done by the syndicate:

"The fleeced a multimillionaire of New York out of \$40,000 by threatening him with arrest for alleged violations of the Mann act, two of the members of the syndicate impersonating secret service agents for that purpose."

"They frightened a wealthy Philadelphia woman who had been too friendly with a stranger in a cafe into giving them \$35,000. They took \$10,000 from each of five Chicagoans, two of whom are women. They brought about their own arrest, it is alleged, by taking \$3,500 from Mrs. Regina Clippier of Philadelphia and afterward kidnapping her."

It was said today that the organization had worked as a whole since the first of the year and it is believed to have cleaned up in that time \$1,000,000. The government officials say that for one known victim of the syndicate there are probably twenty unknown.

More Arrests Probable.

The eight members of the syndicate so called were still in custody today, awaiting their preliminary hearing before the United States commissioner tomorrow. It was said the

War Summary

THE NEW THRUST BY the French south of the River Somme in northern France, where the important railway town of Chaumont is their objective, has resulted in the complete encircling of the village of Denicourt, the Paris war office announced today. Denicourt formed the center of the wedge the French are driving into the German lines north of Chaumont. Its resistance holding up their advance between Berny and Vailmadovillers, complete encirclement of which villages by the French was announced last night.

FURTHER PROGRESS has been made by the French in this region and heavy counter attacks by the Germans on the northern Somme have been repulsed, according to today's report, which announces that the French have taken 1,500 prisoners and ten machine guns.

THE BRITISH ARE KEEPING UP their forward push north of the Somme, securing their advances, however, at isolated points. Apparently in operations to straighten their line and secure their hold on captured ground, London today reports an appreciable advance on the left bank, where the British line has been driven further toward Le Sars, along the Pottiers-Bapaume road north of Maricourt and east of Courcellette.

ON THE MACEDONIAN FRONT an entente attack in the Struma valley northeast of Salonika was repulsed by the Bulgarians. The Sofia war office announced, a counter attack forcing the entente troops back to the west bank of the river.

FIELD MARCHAL VON MACKENSEN'S forces are continuing to progress in their campaign in the Roumanian province of Dobruja, Sofia reports. Some indication of stronger resistance by the Roumanians and Bulgarians, however, is furnished by the official statement, which reports counter attacks.

head of the organization would be arrested during today.

The band, including five men and three women, was arrested shortly before midnight Saturday in a raid by Department of Justice officials on a fashionable South Side apartment hotel.

The women, according to the authorities, are young and beautiful. The men are well groomed and of a type calculated to impress society women.

Those arrested gave the names of Henry Russell, Edward Donahue, Helen Evers, Mrs. Frances Allen, Mrs. Edward Donahue, James Christian, Frank Crocker, and George Bland. George Irwin, alleged director of the group, is still at large.

Authorities refused to reveal the names of the victims. Some, it was said, are men prominent in political life, who were victimized while at the republican convention here last June.

During the raid, which had been carefully planned for many weeks, an elaborate opium outfit was found in one of the apartments raided.

Federal authorities said that one of the gang, Henry Russell, had posed as a brother of Mayor William Hale Thompson of Chicago and had used this alias in a plot.

The raid was made only after the apartment building had been literally sown with dictaphones. These were connected with an adjoining building, where the detectives hid.

Newsie Takes All Joy Out of Life for Man with Big Heart

(Continued From Page One.)

anyway, I sent them to my daughter last summer. She never got them, and I ain't got money to buy the stuff to make any more. It took me a month to make them, mister."

Before the perplexed auctioneer had time to answer, a large-framed, heavy-jowled man beside her boomed out: "Two dollars!"

The settled the bidding, and when the baby hoods and other articles had been returned to the successful bidder he quickly passed the package to the person beside him, with a mumbled "Here's your things, old lady."

With many a "thank'e," she continued on her way up Capitol avenue, hugging the box and muttering to herself. Her benefactor smiled to himself as one who had done a good day's work.

"Anyone know the old party?" he queried.

"Sure, I know her," vouchsafed a newie.

"It's old lady Flannigan. She lives down on the river front; got more money in her sock than you, I bet. Owns a lot of houses, they say. And say, mister, she ain't got no daughter and never had one."

"What am I bid on this baby coat?" the auctioneer was saying.

But the good-hearted man had decamped, departed and retreated.

Lieutenant Asquith Killed in Battle

London, Sept. 18.—Lieutenant Raymond Asquith, son of Premier Asquith, was killed in action on September 15, it was announced today.

Raymond Asquith, who was in his thirty-eighth year, was a graduate of Oxford and prominent as a member of the bar, to which he was admitted in 1904. He acted as junior counsel for Great Britain in the North Atlantic fisheries arbitration at The Hague in 1907. He was made a second lieutenant in a county of London regiment in 1914, and lieutenant of the Grenadier guards in 1915.

Raymond Asquith was the eldest son of the premier. Two brothers, Lieutenant Arthur Asquith of the royal naval reserve, and Lieutenant Herbert Asquith were wounded in action at the Dardanelles in June, 1915.

Four Persons Killed in Grade Crossing Accident

Erie, Pa., Sept. 18.—Four persons were killed at North Springfield, eighteen miles west of here today, when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by a New York Central train. The dead are: Mrs. Percy Seager, Mrs. K. Shipman, Miss Shipman and the negro chauffeur, all of Pittsburgh.

KELVINIA SUNK WITHOUT WARNING

American Aboard British Horse Ship Says It Was Torpedoed at Two in the Morning.

SURVIVORS AT NEW YORK

New York, Sept. 18.—A torpedo sank the British ship Kelvinia, carrying twenty-eight Americans, according to G. W. Dillard of Richmond, Va., one of the Americans, who arrived here today on the Cunard liner Tuscania.

Dispatches from England left in doubt the question whether the Kelvinia, bound from Newport News, Va., to Glasgow, was torpedoed or sunk by a mine on September 2.

Agents for the Department of State met the Tuscania upon its arrival here and took the depositions of the Americans.

According to Dillard, the Kelvinia was torpedoed at 2 o'clock in the morning without any warning having been given. The vessel listed immediately and as there were not enough boats for both the crew and the Americans, who were engaged as hostlers for the cargo of horses, many of the Americans put on life belts and jumped overboard. They were rescued by a trawler after floating about for fourteen hours.

Dillard said that at the time the Kelvinia was torpedoed he saw nearby a small light which later seemed to disappear under the waves. This, he declared, confirmed his belief that there had been a submarine attack.

FRENCH CIRCLE TEUTON TROOPS IN DENICOURT

(Continued From Page One.)

brought down his fifth enemy machine. This aeroplane fell near Denicourt. The same day Flight Lieutenant Hueteaux brought down his seventh German aeroplane.

"French air squadrons have conducted various bombardments. Twelve shells have been thrown down on the railroad station at Nantillois and thirty-three missiles thrown down at Villers-Carbonel and Horgny from an altitude of 800 yards, caused serious damage."

Britons Report Gains

London, Sept. 18.—In small operations on the Somme front last night the British gained further ground, the war office announced today.

"The general situation continues unchanged," the announcement says. South of the Ancre we improved our position north of Martinpuich. East of Courcellette a minor attack made last night upon elements of enemy trenches was entirely successful. Our line has been advanced appreciably at this point.

"West of Mouquet farm the enemy entered one of our trenches under cover of severe shelling, but was counter-attacked and driven out with loss."

"South of Thiépval we have taken a further portion of the enemy trench system. The enemy heavily shelled various parts of our line at intervals during the night."

Mexican Bandits Take \$62,000 in Gold from Train

Laredo, Tex., Sept. 18.—Bandits held up a passenger train September 12 near Tamasopo, rifled the express car of \$62,000 in gold, robbed the passengers and then pushed the train down the mountainside into a deep canyon, according to an apparently reliable report reaching here today. The passengers were permitted to detain, thus preventing loss of life, the report said.

On the following day, according to the report, a constitutionalist troop train sent out to apprehend the bandits was blown up at the same spot the holdup occurred, resulting in the death of forty soldiers.

German Abandon Two Towns

Berlin, Sept. 18.—(Via London.)—Abandonment by the Germans of the villages of Berny and Denicourt, together with positions between Barleux and Vermandovillers, south of the River Somme, is reported in today's official statement. North of the river, the statement says, the fighting developed favorably to the Germans.

WORK OF THE LIFE AGENT

What is the work of the life insurance agent, and what does it mean directly as to homes and broadly as to society? His direct work is good. There can be no question of this.

Indirectly his work is far reaching. It is because of the premiums paid by the policyholders whom he obtains that the life insurance companies exist; it is by reason of his tireless endeavor that the companies prosper and grow large. Through these companies it may be said that he erects buildings, constructs bridges, helps towns and municipalities in constructive work and puts railroads in places where there were but endless dead stretches of mere landscape. The life insurance agent is an important factor in the development of many enterprises.

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Coupelet, \$505.00 Town Car, \$595.00

F. O. B. DETROIT

STRIKE LEADERS TALK WITH MAYOR

Proposed Sympathetic Strike at New York Awaits Outcome of Further Conferences.

MITCHEL MAY END IT

New York, Sept. 18.—There will be no sympathetic strike of labor unions to aid the striking street railway employees until Thursday, at least, and one may be averted altogether if renewed efforts of Mayor Mitchell to settle the present street car strike in the meantime are successful. This was announced today after a conference between the mayor and five labor leaders, representing the street railway employees, the Longshoremen's union, the Stationers' and Printers' union, the latter appearing for a number of labor organizations whose trades connect with the operation of the traction system.

The leaders told the mayor that the various organizations they represented were determined to strike unless the municipal authorities took some action to compel the traction heads to observe their recent agreements with the railway employees and that they had come to him as the last resort.

Mayor Will Try Again

The mayor promised to make another effort to adjust the differences and said he hoped to give the men an answer by Thursday. The labor leaders promised that they would call a strike if the mayor's action was not deemed advisable. Mr. O'Connor said no decision would be reached before Thursday. No date had been set for the strike of the 3,000 members of the Tidewater Boatmen's union, who have voted to go out. Leaders of these unions denied that the proposed strikes are merely sympathetic and say they are intended to benefit their own members.

William B. Fitzgerald, organizer for the street railway men, says the strike has cost the transit companies \$1,032,000 and that it is costing the public \$600,000 a day, bringing the total up to \$7,200,000.

More Attacks on Cars

Repeated attacks from roof tops were made on passing elevated trains during the early hours today. Stones and bottles crashed through car windows and several passengers were injured. In the Bronx a policeman was hurt while dispersing a crowd of strike sympathizers who were throwing bricks.

Normal service on subway and elevated lines was being maintained today, according to police reports.

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GRAIN TO OMAHA IS INCREASING FAST

More Business in First Nine Months This Year Than for All of 1915.

MORE GRAIN IS IN STORAGE

Omaha Grain exchange has done more business in the first nine months of the present year than it did in the whole twelve months of 1915. Secretary Manchester announces that receipts to September 16 this year were 42,180 cars. The receipts for all of 1915 were only 41,912 cars.

Up to September 16, 1915, the Grain exchange had received but 25,520 cars, just 16,540 less than the receipts to date in the current year.

For a Monday Omaha grain receipts were comparatively light, there being 127 cars of wheat, 25 of corn and 75 of oats on the market. Prices were more steady than last week, with an upward tendency on everything except oats.

Wheat Up a Cent.

Wheat sold a cent up for the best and a cent down for the poorer grades, the prices ranging from \$1.40 to \$1.48 per bushel. Corn was unchanged to a cent higher, selling at 79½ to 81½ cents, and oats at 42½ to 43½ cents, a quarter of a cent off.

With the exception of corn storage receipts continue to show an increase, being nearly 3,000,000 bushels more than on the corresponding date of one year ago.

Grain in Storage.

The figures showing the quantity of grain stored in Omaha elevators now and one year ago follow. This is in bushels:

	Now.	Year Ago.
Wheat	1,932,000	82,000
Corn	71,000	106,000
Oats	1,097,000	176,000
Rye	34,000	6,000
Barley	41,000	15,000

Totals.....3,112,000 284,000

The total increase amounts to 2,797,000 bushels.

Major General Albert L. Mills Is Dead

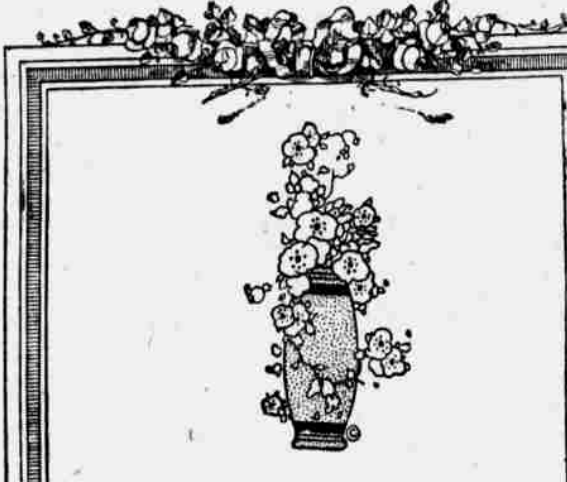
Washington, Sept. 18.—Major General Albert L. Mills, chief of the division of militia affairs, died at his home today after fifteen hours' illness from pneumonia.

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Conceded by all trunk authorities to be the finest wardrobe trunks built. We carry a line excelled by none in Omaha, ranging in prices—\$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00, \$32.00 and up. They have all the patented features. We like small repair jobs.

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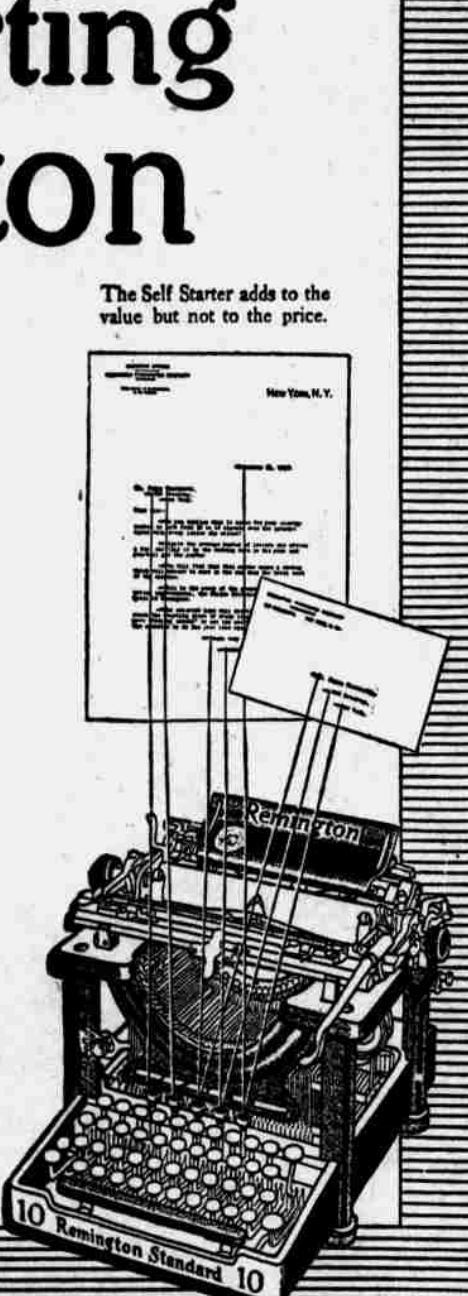
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