

NEGRO ROBBER BEATS MERCHANT WITH REVOLVER

Grocer Gives Battle to Bandit Who Robs Him—Another Store Held Up by Thugs.

A negro who asked for a frosted cake, drew a gun on Andrew Marino, grocer, 1716 South Thirteenth street, about 6:45 Friday night, and commanded the grocer to throw up his hands, as he turned to get the desired cake, according to a police report.

Marino told the police the negro stole \$55 in currency and a check for \$35. As the negro started to leave the store, Marino said he made a grab for the revolver, but the robber was too quick for him and beat him over the head with the butt of the gun and then made his getaway.

About the same time that Marino was battling his negro visitor, two strange men entered the grocery store of Coleman Finkal, 2818 Manderson street, and asked for a "good pot roast."

Finkal told police, that as he stooped to get his meat cleaver, one of the men covered him with a gun with the order to throw up his hands, the other man drawing a revolver on two small boys who were in the store at the time.

Keeping their three victims covered, one of the men went through the cash register and stole \$35.55, the grocer told police.

"Furlough" Inquiry Adjourned to Jan. 6

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others were in a better position to get the gunman than he was.

C. Petrus Peterson of the law firm of Peterson and Devoe, who figured so strongly in getting Senator Bushie to sign the "furlough" order for Kirk's release, was the first witness placed on the stand this morning.

He told in detail his connection with the affair, emphasizing the fact that he was retained by Mrs. Kirk at a nominal fee of \$200 to investigate the records of the case and determine the worthiness of the man for possible furlough.

He pressed the fact that a "furlough" was sought and not a "par-don."

Says Governor "Busy."

In an effort to explain why the order, signed September 8, was not issued until December 2, he said the governor was so busy with speaking dates and so seldom in his office that he took the matter up with Senator Bushie one day on the street.

During his testimony he declared: "If it were not for the conditions which have been brought about by malicious propaganda and glaring headlines, I believe I would have been able to bring this man back to his better self and believe still I can do so in spite of the unfavorable conditions, over which I have no control."

The letter from Attorney Ray J. Abbott and affidavits from Kirk's former employers were displayed in evidence and recognized by Mr. Peterson.

Wouldn't Take Advantage.

"I would hate to think anyone would credit me with taking advantage of personal relationship with any public official to gain a private end. I would not stoop to such depth," he said when questioned as to how well acquainted he was with the governor.

Stress was laid by Mr. Peterson on the conferences with Warden W. T. Fenton, in which the warden told of Kirk's conduct in prison and his theories concerning criminals in general.

He declared he told Senator Bushie all the facts concerning the Kirk case, even to the conviction for the killing of Detective Rooney in Omaha.

He said he took the matter up with Bushie more fully than he did with the governor because the governor was too busy.

Attorney Abbott, on the stand, identified the letter he had written concerning the case as prosecuting attorney.

Ben Baker, an Omaha attorney, testified that he had received no fees in connection with this case. He was paid \$400 when the Kirk case was taken to the supreme court, he said.

Miss Mary Casiday, stenographer in the offices of Peterson and Devoe was the next witness. She testified that records in the office showed that a retainer of \$150 had been paid for an investigation into the Kirk records.

Poor Police Protection To Prove Costly—Increase Burglary Insurance Rates

National Underwriters' Association Points to Omaha's Notorious Unsolved Robber Mysteries as Cause of Action—Citizens and Business Men Will Have to Pay Thousands More.

Inefficient police protection in Omaha is going to cost the business men and private citizens, who carry insurance, thousands of dollars extra in 1920, according to information received here yesterday from headquarters of the National Burglary Insurance Underwriters' association, New York City.

A few of the notorious robbery records here in the last six months which have caused the big jump in burglary insurance, effective with the new year, and which, as far as the local police are concerned, are unsolved mysteries, are the following:

Ten in One Night.
July 13—Ten house burglaries in one night; no arrests.

August 7—"Gentleman Burglar" began operations here, robbing seven residences of an aggregate loot of \$20,000 in a few days. The "Gentleman Burglar" is still working, having completed several successful jobs lately.

September 20—Ralston bank robbery by Omaha thugs when \$4,000 was taken; no arrests.

October 30—Sixteen house and store burglaries; four alleged vagrants arrested.

November 29—Big Hayden Bros. store robbery when \$63,000 was stolen; no arrests.

Many Bold Holdups.
In addition to these there have been numerous bold holdups, and during the past month it is estimated to less than 200 petty robberies have been committed.

Insurance men assert that Omaha is getting into a class by itself, as a city where the highest rates of burglary insurance should be imposed, on both mercantile and residence risks.

The new rates probably will be received within the next few weeks. The burglary insurance underwriters' association keeps an accurate account of the thefts committed in all of the cities of the country and these cities are rated with mathematical accuracy. Reports of all burglaries committed in Omaha during the administration of J. D. Ringer have been carefully tabulated and analyzed by the New York burglary insurance committee, which represents nearly all of the insurance companies of this country.

Big Increase Sure.
Omaha's rating from the standpoint of burglary insurance is not known, but it is confidently anticipated by local insurance men that these rates will be considerably increased for next year, even more than the increase of 20 per cent in some of the big eastern cities.

"Our quota of burglary losses in Omaha has been pretty strong," said Jay D. Foster, insurance man.

"Omaha is considered one of the worst cities in the country and is not improving, from the standpoint of burglary insurance risks," said Raymond Lowe. "Omaha is in a class by itself."

"A year ago we were in the class of cities taking the lowest rates on mercantile burglary insurance. Then this city was placed in the second class, with Chicago taking higher rates. I will not be surprised to hear that we have been placed in the third class, which takes the highest rates."

Eberstein Is Now Real Police Head

(Continued From Page One.)

Captain Pattullo, was made in regard to the filing of charges against Detectives Sutton and Stoley. When asked if he had anything to say in regard to the charges he said: "Nothing, except that whatever Chief Eberstein has done in the matter meets with my hearty approval. I will abide by his recommendations, whatever they are."

The recommendations of the chief are that both Sutton and Stoley be discharged for their recent unlawful raid on the Nielsen home.

This was a decided change in the stand of the police commissioner, who has heretofore used all his influence to whitewash any of his men, especially members of the former morals squad.

Ringer's Only Statement.
The only comment Commissioner Ringer made on the appointment of Captain Pattullo was: "Yes, Captain Pattullo has been appointed inspector of police by Eberstein."

"I think Captain Pattullo will look well in the job and he undoubtedly is well qualified for the post."

"I have no announcement to make at this time, but expect to give out some important information in a few days."

Mr. Ringer declared that he had picked up some good ideas in police affairs while in the east, but that he was not ready right now to make any definite statement.

"Yes," declared Mr. Ringer. "Captain Pattullo should make a good inspector."

Succeeds Wheeler.
Captain Pattullo succeeds Lyman G. Wheeler, acting inspector.

"I have every confidence in Captain Pattullo and regard him as a patriot and a good officer," said Chief Eberstein. "He has had as good or better experience than any other officer on the force. Inspector Pattullo will have complete charge of the police force as to appearance, equipment, etc. He will have full charge of training new men and may select any man or men to give military training."

Never Walked a Beat.
"Andy" Pattullo became a police officer more than 15 years ago. Friends at the police station say he is the only officer on the force who never walked a beat. He became emergency officer in the central police station on his appointment to the force. Two years later he became desk sergeant. On the accession of J. Dean Ringer to the police superintendency, Pattullo was made a captain. Later he was commissioned to work out of Chief Eberstein's office, still retaining his rank of captain.

Pattullo is 51 years old. He was born in Scotland.

Last night the new inspector said he had not decided just what men he would commission to train new officers under his direction. Inspector Pattullo has never had military training.

"I can promise nothing in my new position except that I will do my best," said Inspector Pattullo.

CUMMINS RAIL BILL IS PASSED BY THE SENATE

Now Goes to Conference With Esch Bill, Passed a Month Ago by the House.

Washington, Dec. 20.—With its anti-strike provisions intact, the Cummins railroad bill was passed by the senate. It now goes to conference with the Esch bill, passed a month ago by the house.

The vote was 46 to 30 and followed rejection of Senator La Follette's proposal to continue government control for two years.

After passing the railroad bill the senate late today adopted the resolution providing for a recess of congress until January 5.

Must Raise \$50,000 to Pay for Omaha's New Aerial Mail Hangar

A drive for \$50,000 to pay for the construction of the aerial mail hangar on the Ak-Sar-Ben landing field, and other expenses incurred by the installation of aerial mail service

here, will be launched on December 29, it was decided at a meeting of the aerial navigation committee of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

A preliminary drive will be started Monday, but work of raising the money will not begin in earnest until December 28, according to Harley G. Conant, chairman of the committee. Mr. Conant said members of the committee anticipated little difficulty in raising the money, as business men of the city generally realized the great advantages aerial mail service would secure for Omaha.

Two Fires Cost \$350,000.
Portland, Ore., Dec. 20.—Two fires here caused an estimated loss of \$350,000. The Portland Stone Works was destroyed with a loss of \$100,000, and a fire at the plant of the Palm Olive Oil Co. caused an estimated property loss of \$250,000.

J. R. Bowen Co.

HOWARD STREET BETWEEN 15TH AND 16TH

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The Greater Bowen Store holds everything which will make an ideal gift. Our displays are the largest ever and in addition we have recently received large shipments of the newest and best in furniture, carpets and draperies.

Furniture is a gift that will be permanently appreciated by the recipient. It is only at Bowen's that you will be able to find guaranteed furniture which is everything that the word guaranteed implies. When buying at Bowen's you may rest assured that every piece is truly value-giving and that you will receive dollar-for-dollar value.



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of every kind and description at typical Bowen values await your selection. We have everything that is most desirable in every style, finish and design. We know that you will be able to make a selection. Lamps, complete with all necessary electrical attachments, as low as.....\$12.50

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Table Lamp—Mahogany post, silk shade, for.....\$18.50

Sewing Cabinets

A Martha Washington sewing cabinet is something every housewife will appreciate. We have a most excellent display of them in English brown solid mahogany up from \$22.50.



Period Dining Room Suites

A new dining room suite would make a most excellent gift for the home. We have them in all period designs in mahogany, walnut and golden oak finish.

The suite here pictured is a Sheraton period in English brown mahogany. It is the best and most appropriate obtainable. A typical Bowen value; for seven-piece suite.....\$298.50

Mahogany China Cabinet.....\$62.50
Walnut Serving Table.....\$32.50
Mahogany or Walnut Dining Chair, blue leather seat.....\$ 9.75





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Tea Carts

are something that will add to the charm of every dining room. Our display of guaranteed tea wagons is most extensive. They may be had in Queen Anne and turned oak. They have detachable glass top serving trays with large shelf below and rubber tired wheels for as low as \$12.50



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A Spinet Desk is something that every woman will greatly appreciate. Our display of them is most complete and we know you will be able to make a selection that will satisfy. They may be had in Queen Anne and Colonial designs of genuine mahogany, up from.....\$47.50

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in mahogany and Jacobean oak. May be had in the various period designs and at prices you will want to pay. These are always most acceptable gifts and something that every woman will appreciate owning; up from.....\$11.75

A Columbia Grafonola

—an acceptable Christmas gift. Bowen's display of Grafonolas is most complete and we know that you will be able to make a selection which will satisfy. We have every style and type of machine. Columbia Grafonolas, up from.....\$28.00

Draperies

that will add charm to any home may be had at the Greater Bowen Store. Our staff of home decorators and designers is at your service. We know that you will be able to find that which you desire. We have the newest and best in draperies, hangings, curtains and rugs.



Seaplane That Made Transatlantic Flight Is Reported Overdue

Mobile, Dec. 20.—The Navy department was officially notified by Capt. W. G. Roper, in charge of this recruiting district, that naval seaplane NC-4, which made the first transatlantic flight, was many hours overdue on its trip to this port from Galveston, Tex. The ship is on recruiting duty and is commanded by Lieut. Comdr. C. E. Roper, who was in charge during the flight to Plymouth, England.

The NC-4 was due to arrive here at 1:30 a. m., and when Captain Roper's message was sent the ship was nearly eight hours overdue. Strong winds and fog prevailed during the day over her course. Navy officials are making every effort to locate the missing ship and her crew. They had no information at 9:30 tonight to indicate whether the seaplane had made a forced landing because of the weather or had met with accident.

New Orleans, Dec. 20.—The naval station here reported having heard from the NC-4 by radio at 11:35 a. m. today, the message stating that the seaplane was due in Mobile bay late today and asking directions and wind reports. The ship's position at the time was not given.

Take Precautions Against Attack on Lloyd George

London, Dec. 20.—Precautions are being taken by the Scotland Yard officials against possible attempts to attack Premier Lloyd George or prominent members of the Irish office in London. On Monday there will be a careful scrutiny of persons entering the House of Commons to prevent the possibility of trouble on the occasion of Premier Lloyd George's announcement on the government's home rule measure.

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"The Kid Popcorn Merchants."

P. S.—We will sell bigger orders if you want them at same rate per pound.



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The Price of the Club Player is **\$495**

Join The Christmas Piano Club

Now Or Never

This is our last call—and your last chance! Just read the figures down there on that "Speedometer"—284 today. And then you will realize that unless you ACT NOW you will be too late. Read all the unusual privileges enjoyed by Club members and don't let this golden opportunity of saving \$75 on a Piano or \$155 on a Player Piano slip away.

Do It Tomorrow

Bring Along \$10 With You

\$10 makes you a Club member and entitles you to all the unusual privileges of the Club. The Piano, or Player of your choice will be set aside and delivered at Christmas time or you may have it delivered immediately—just as you wish.



Watch the Speedometer

Watch the Speedometer

\$2.00 WEEKLY pays for The Club Piano

\$3.00 WEEKLY pays for The Club Player

FREE To Club Members

A handsome 6-foot Piano Lamp and Shade (choice of color).

A beautiful Bench. Piano Drape (choice of color).

\$10 worth of Piano Rolls. Specially low terms.

A additional discount of 50c monthly if account is paid in two years.

Description of Club Piano

This splendid new Upright Grand Piano is made in two different models and sizes—beautifully finished in Mahogany (dull or polished), quarter-sawn Golden Oak or American Walnut. They are instruments handsome enough to adorn any home, and their wonderful tone will suit the most exacting musician. You will fall in love with this Piano the minute you set eye on it—and don't forget that the Bench, Piano Lamp and all other extras are included free. Join the Schmoller & Mueller Christmas Club today.

Description of Club Player

This new and beautiful Player is an entirely modern and up-to-date 88-note instrument of "last-minute" design, thoroughly guaranteed, which assures you of absolute satisfaction and protection. Designed along plain lines, yet it is so artistic that it is certain to satisfy the most discriminating buyer. It contains a 6-point motor, noiseless mechanism, METAL TUBING, and all the latest improvements and devices for getting perfect expression—a splendid instrument in every respect.

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