

### Mystery of Big Mail Robbery in Bluffs Cleared

Six Men in Custody; Currency Recovered; Bonds Are Burned; Man Who Gave "Tip" Being Sought.

(Continued From Page One.)  
45, 2753 Seventh avenue; T. A. Daly, 2753 Seventh avenue.  
Eight mail sacks recovered, seven empty. Four sacks recovered in Spoon lake, one in Cochran park, near the Eighth Avenue school and one at the home of John Bell, negro, 1502 Eleventh avenue. The sack recovered unopened was found near the scene of the robbery. Ten sacks in all were stolen, two thus remaining unaccounted for.  
Arrest of sixth and last man expected yesterday.  
Mrs. T. A. Daly was arrested following efforts to involve her husband.

Efforts of federal agents now are being centered on the search for the sixth man in a hunt for that part of the loot which is said to have been in possession of Fred Poffenbarger.

Four Have Confessed.  
Federal agents are convinced of the guilt of all five of the men now in custody. Confessions, which at least admitted partial complicity, have been made by four of the men, the two Phillips boys, Poffenbarger and Reed.

Operatives also are inclined to believe the statements of Poffenbarger and Orville Phillips that all of the securities were burned and that only the currency was retained.

Capture of the five men was brought about, agents said yesterday, through the Poffenbarger boy, Poffenbarger "Key Man."

The first clue gained by the operatives was the discovery that Poffenbarger had become suddenly possessed of a large sum of money and was spending it freely.

The subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Poffenbarger and Merl Phillips. The identity of Reed, alleged by some of the government men to be the ringleader in the huge robbery plot, was learned through one of Poffenbarger's confessions.

Orville and Merl Phillips continue to try to save each other in their statements. Orville stoutly denies that Merl was in on the plot and insists his brother tried to persuade him not to enter into the robbery.

Boys Shield Each Other.  
Merl is equally emphatic in his statements that Orville did not take part in the robbery.

Only in minor details do the stories told by the alleged robbers differ.

As now disclosed, the robbery, while apparently executed largely by mere lads, was carried out in a way that would credit to expert criminals.

In Center of Train.  
The car which was robbed was the center of a mail train which left the transfer in Council Bluffs at 7 o'clock in the evening, bound for Chicago. The automobile used by the robbers was driven alongside the train as it began to slow down for an Illinois Central crossing. Almost before the train had come to a full stop the glass in the side door of the car was smashed. Reaching in, the catch on the door was released, one of the men leaped inside, threw out 10 sacks of registered mail and re-entered the auto, all within five or six minutes.

As the car and men drove away from the scene of the actual robbery they dropped off at different places, each taking a portion of the sacks.  
Here it was thought that the daring of the robbers began to fail them and the neatness and dispatch with which they performed the

### Where Loot From Stolen Mail Sacks Was Recovered



Upper left is Mrs. T. A. Daly, 2753 Seventh avenue, "the woman in the case." Her husband is held for complicity in the robbery and Mrs. Daly is under surveillance because of her attempts to shield Daly and H. A. Reed, alleged ringleader of the robbery plot.  
Upper right is the interior of the chicken coop in which a large sum in \$10 bills was recovered. It was in the corner of the chicken coop shown in the picture that a quilt containing the plunder was found buried.  
Lower left shows the robbery scene. This is the barn to the rear of the John Bell home where the automobile remained in waiting while the mail sacks were being thrown out of the car.  
Lower right shows the building in Cochran park in which one of the looted mail sacks was found empty.

actual robbery was lacking in the "getaway."

They blundered. And they blundered again when they discovered the enormity of the amount of the loot. So frightened were they apparently, at what they had done that they hastened to burn all of the securities, keeping only the currency, and tried to hide the empty sacks.

Gradually the score of federal operatives located the greater number of the empty sacks followed their clues closely and soon had the five men in custody.

Negroes Are Released.  
Five members of the family of John Bell, 1502 Eleventh avenue, were released this morning. One of the empty mail sacks was found at the Bell home, but after questioning the three men and two women federal officers released them, convinced that they had no knowledge of the robbery.

F. A. Poffenbarger, father of Fred E. Poffenbarger, was taken to the

federal building this morning for questioning.

It is believed he is being examined in efforts to find out what his son, Fred, did with \$10,000 in currency which Mrs. T. A. Daly said the younger Poffenbarger took from the loot cached at the Daly home, Sunday morning.

She said he told her he was going to get the money changed because he feared it was "marked."

It was this money and Poffenbarger's thoughtless spending that followed which led federal men to suspect him.  
Reed Arrested Last Night.  
Poffenbarger was still at the federal building at 2 o'clock, but it is not believed he will be placed under arrest unless the questioning should unexpectedly reveal that he had any knowledge of the robbery plan.

Reed was arrested at 7:40 last night following his implication in the case by Fred Poffenbarger. After a lengthy grilling he gave information which led to the arrest at 2:40 this

morning of Daly, at whose home Reed lived.

Reed is said to be unemployed. Daly is said in the Bluffs to work at the Omaha Grain exchange.

An automobile believed to have been the one in which the loot was carried off was found last night in a garage at Nineteenth and Fifth avenue. In the car steel dies with numbers from 1 to 10 were found. It is believed these dies were used to change the engine number.

Yesterday federal officers made a search of Omaha for a taxicab driver whom they at that time believed was driver of the robbery car.  
The search proved fruitless, however. Several men were questioned, but all proved perfect alibis. Whether the officers in the search were acting on an erroneous tip, was not revealed today, but indications were that the government men still have hopes of landing a taxi man who they believe will be able to throw still more light on the spectacular robbery.

### \$50 All U. S. Pays on Stolen Mail Package

(Continued From Page One.)

shipping money by registered mail, insure this money and if there were negotiable instruments and currency in the looted mail car at Council Bluffs which was shipped by banks and corporations it undoubtedly was insured," Thomas said today.

"We have a blanket insurance policy in the bank which is filled out for the amount of the shipment, the day the money is shipped. The only requirement made upon us by the insurance company is that on the same mail we ship the money we also send a blanket statement of the amount shipped, the destination and the time of the shipment."

Sends a Bill.  
"Each month the company, usually a marine insurance company, sends the shipper a bill for the

amount due on registered mail shipments."

The rate charged by insurance companies on negotiable instruments, which includes government bonds and instruments payable to bearer, and the rates on currency are the same in Nebraska, Thomas explained. The rate for shipments in the state is 5 cents for each \$1,000.

The same rate is in effect for shipments to Chicago. Currency shipments to New York is 15 cents for each \$1,000 and 10 cents per \$1,000 on negotiable instruments.

A Florida man has combined a comb with a cap in such a manner that when a wearer lifts the headgear his hair is straightened.

### Woman in Case Found By Federal Agents

(Continued From Page One.)

spectors of being the ringleader of the robbery, was arrested early Thursday night.

Tries To Save Husband.  
"My husband knows nothing of the case," Mrs. Daly stoutly affirmed. "Both he and Reed were home the night of the robbery."

She admitted, however, Fred Poffenbarger, the second man held in connection with the case, appeared at the Daly home early Sunday morning and took away about \$10,000.

"I'm going to change this for honest-to-God money," Mrs. Daly quotes him as saying. "I'm afraid this stuff is all marked."

Went to Rear Room.  
Mrs. Daly declared Poffenbarger had taken many packages of currency to her home Sunday morning and, with her husband and Reed, took them into a rear room.

She said she asked them if that was the money taken in the robbery, but said they only laughed for answer.

When she told them she was expecting company Sunday afternoon they took the loot into the garage and concealed it in a sack, she declared.

She said she overheard them say they had burned everything except the currency.

This money which was found by federal agents scattered throughout the Daly chicken coop, was taken to the federal building Thursday night wrapped in a brown leather bag, which showed signs of having been buried in the earth, and a bed quilt sewed together.

Postoffice officials are not yet satisfied with Mrs. Daly's statements to them.

Her exact connection with the case has not been established to suit them yet.

### Suicide Attempted by Recaptured Prisoner

(Continued From Page One.)

the fleeing figure, but he did not halt. The three Kansas City officers left the train at Broken Bow and in conjunction with the local officials immediately organized a posse that pursued him.

He, however, succeeded in eluding pursuit until today. Only yesterday posses were organized at Alliance, where it was reported Chester had been seen, but after a fruitless search of several hours' duration gave up the chase.

Caught in Montana.  
Chester was being returned from Great Falls, Mont., where he was arrested November 8 for the murder of Florence Barton, pretty Kansas City society girl, on the night of October 2.

Miss Barton and her fiancé, Howard Winter, were motoring in Kansas City when they were accosted by three men in an automobile. During an attempted robbery of the couple by the three bandits Miss Barton made an outcry and was shot and instantly killed. Winter was shot in the arm at the same time. Following the murder the bandits jumped into their car and escaped. Chester was later identified by Winter from Bertillon pictures of him in the possession of the Kansas City police.

Last Games Scheduled Today.  
San Francisco, Nov. 19.—Final games of the 1920 Pacific Coast conference football race will be played tomorrow when the University of California meets Stanford university at Berkeley, Cal., and the University of Oregon plays the Oregon Agricultural college at Corvallis, Ore.

### Gov. McKelvie Seeks Much for Paroling, Says M. Andraesen

M. Andraesen, former adult parole officer for Douglas county, declared yesterday that Governor McKelvie is being condemned too much for paroling of penitentiary prisoners.

"The governor has no parole power and does not parole anyone. He is not even a member of the parole board and won't be until January 1, 1921, after which date the parole board will consist of the governor, secretary of state and attorney general."

"The governor, however, has power to give furloughs and pardons to those not eligible to parole. At present H. H. Antles, head of the public welfare department, has the parole power."

"In regard to Ben Marshall, the man sentenced to 30 years, concerning whose proposed release so much agitation was started, he is not eligible to parole. This man, in spite of the terrible nature of his crimes, has been a model prisoner in the penitentiary for 12 years, has not violated any rules and is now 57 years old. I believe, however, that the governor did not know the true nature of Marshall's case or he would not have put him on the list of those to be paroled."

### Accidental Poisoning, Jury Verdict in Case Of Young Kearney Girl

Kearney, Neb., Nov. 19.—(Special Telegram.)—That poison caused the death of Mildred Montross was the finding reached by a coroner's jury here. The verdict held that the girl was accidentally administered, either by the young woman or parties unknown.

Miss Montross, according to evidence, took ill with a severe headache on Tuesday morning. She called on a doctor, according to a statement made prior to death, and was given three tablets for relief of the pain and took them in the presence of the physician. An hour later she was taken violently ill, suffering intense pain and was only semiconscious until death, which occurred shortly before midnight.

No Kearney physician, according to testimony, had seen the girl until called in on the case after she was taken ill. There was nothing to indicate that Miss Montross took the poison with suicidal intent.

### Hubbell Community Will Form Public Welfare Body

Hebron, Neb., Nov. 19.—(Special.)—The Hubbell community is incorporating a community association to look after the recreation, amusement and anything pertaining to the public welfare of Hubbell and community. The corporation is to have authority to buy material, purchase sites and erect buildings necessary to carrying out its plans. One of the first movements of the association as now planned will be the purchase of a site and erection of a community building.

### Kron Cancels Bout

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 19.—Harry Kron, Akron, O., middleweight has called off his bout with Jack Reeves, San Francisco, scheduled here for Thanksgiving day, to meet Happy Littleton of New Orleans, in the city on the same day.

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