Insurance Men May Demand New Mail Plot Probe

Representatives of Insurance Companies Dissatisfied With Confessions Made by Keith Collins and Accomplices.

Fred E. Poffenbarger, 19, and Orville Phillips, 17, confessed leaders in the $3,500,000 mail robbery in Council Bluffs, November 13, started their terms of 18 and 13 years, respectively, in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., yesterday.

Young Phillips was taken direct from Des Moines to the prison yesterday. Poffenbarger was in Council Bluffs Friday night and left in the custody of Deputy United States Marshal Fred Shoemaker at 9:34 yesterday morning for his new home.

Poffenbarger was brought to the Bluffs Friday night in an effort to further substantiate the confession of Keith Collins, now serving a 15-year sentence in Leavenworth for driving the loot car in the robbery, that the millions of dollars worth of bonds taken in the crime were burned.

Twelve-Page Confession.

Collins signed a 12-page confession in Des Moines, where the three boys pleaded guilty to federal grand jury indictments.

Poffenbarger's visit to the Bluffs was caused by deep expressions of doubt on the part of insurance men that the bonds had been destroyed.

Insurance men, one of them representing a London, England, firm, which held $1,250,000 insurance on a single consignment of foreign bonds, declared if the securities were burned the robbers should be able to point out portions of iron and metallic bands with which they were wrapped and locked in the pounches.

Reveals No Information.

Poffenbarger failed utterly to reveal any knowledge of these metallic bands, according to Postoffice Inspector Claude Glenn of Council Bluffs, and was taken at once to the prison.

The youth did not see his relatives while in Council Bluffs, the inspector said.

Merle Phillips, the fourth member of the robber band, is still held in Des Moines pending arraignment on federal grand jury indictment. He pleaded not guilty before the United States commissioner.

Collins' confession also declared more than $500,000 worth of bonds were dropped by him in a suitcase weighted with rocks into the Missouri river from the Douglas street bridge.

Dragging of the river by officers since Collins' arrest has continued, but without success.

May Demand New Probe.

The London insurance man declared officials of his company, as well as officials of other insurance companies suffering from the robbery, are not satisfied with the confessions of the youthful robbers and may yet demand a renewed investigation, it is said.

Five American companies beside the London firm are involved in the loss, according to records in Des Moines, and their combined losses from the robbery will total more than $3,000,000.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Daly, Hugh Reed, Fred A. Poffenbarger and Clyde Poffenbarger are still in the Pottawattamie county jail waiting trial on charges of concealing money they knew was stolen from the United States mails.

Worthless Checks Are Passed in Plattsmouth

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Spe-(Special.)—A bad check— artist worked several of the local business men, including City Clerk B. A. McElwain, for small sums aggregating $50 and made his getaway without being apprehended. In every instance a small purchase was made and the remainder received in cash. Mr. McElwain was among the heaviest losers, his check being drawn for $20.

Whisky an Outlaw, Judge Says; Prisoner Dismissed

Alliance, Neb., Dec. 11.—Charles R. Wierman, accused of stealing whisky from a freight car, was acquitted in the district court today, when Judge Westover instructed the jury to discharge the defendant. Judge Westover held whisky, "being an outlaw, has no value."

Prospects of Embargo On Grain and Wool Remote at This Time

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—Prospects of an embargo on imports of wool or wheat at this session of congress appeared remote when Representative Fordney of Michigan, chairman of the house committee on ways and means, expressed doubts of the advisability of any such action. Mr Fordney made known his views during a hearing for the ways and means committee on the proposal for an embargo on wool. Professor W. C. Coffey of Urbana, Ill., secretary of the National Wool Growers' association for the eastern section of the United States, was on the witness stand at the time.

"Whether an embargo on the importation of any commodity would be wise is a question in my mind," said Mr. Fordney. "Wouldn't it be the forerunner of greater trouble? Wouldn't it anger the people of other countries and the reatcion be harmful to the very interests we seek to help by its enactment? That seems to me to be the danger we are confronted with."

Undesirable Alien Held; Birthplace Is Unknown

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Fritz Detil, Plattsmouth's undesirable alien, who was recently shipped east to be deported, is still being held at Ellis Island, while immigration officials are endeavoring to secure a record of his birthplace in Germany, as the Swiss consul requires this documentary evidence before he will issue the necessary passport. Immigration officials have visited distant relatives of the man residing in Cass county in an effort to obtain this information.

Plattsmouth Woman Sued By Injured Omaha Girl

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Suit has been filed in district court here by Rosine Allen of Omaha, against Grace Vallery, a resident of this county for $25,000 damages, which she alleges is due her as a result of being struck by the automobile of the defendant in Omaha November 20.

Switchman Hurt in Accident Sues Railroad for $50,000

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Clarence L. Beal, switchman, who met with an accident on July 29 that caused him to lose his leg, has filed suit in the federal court at Minneapolis for $50,000 damages, against the C. B. & Q. railroad. The case will come to trial the latter part of this week.

American-made motor vehicles are now exported to more than 90 countries of the world.

Eleven Boys to Spend Holidays In Riverview

One of Lot Finds Home Brew In Daddy's Cellar and Passes it Around on Mason School Grounds.

It may be a white Christmas or it may be a green Christmas for Omahans in general, but for 11 little Omaha lads it's going to be a dark blue Christmas.

The unhappy 11 are pupils in the Mason school and their grief sprang from a bottle of "home brew" which one of them found in the cellar of daddy's home and passed around to his playmates on the school grounds. The wild scene which ensued landed them in juvenile court, where Judge Willis G. Sears yesterday decreed that they should spend the glorious holiday season at hard work in Riverview home.

Eleven heads bowed in unison as the devastating sentence was pronounced. Some of their mothers, however, smiled, evidently pleased that it was not heavier.

They Take "Pulls."

John Lehman, 1008 South Twenty-second street, was arraigned, charged with bringing intoxicating liquor on the school grounds. With him were 10 companions ranging in ages from 10 to 14.

The school janitor, who volunteered the information against the boys, said that the boys, after they had taken several "pulls" from the bottle, "were having a lively time."

"One bottle was passed to one little boy, who, after taking a swallow, took a firmer hold on its neck and commenced to run," the janitor said, "The others gave chase, whooping and yelling."

"Where From?"

"Where did this come from?" Judge Sears asked, holding up a bottle partly filled with a wicked-looking dark brown liquid, which fizzed and foamed at every motion of the bottle.

John could only say that he got it in a "cubby hole" in his father's cellar. He didn't know anything about it previous to that.

"I brewed the stuff last Sunday," said George Lehman, coming to the aid of his son. "It wasn't intoxicating, as I drank two bottles soon after it was made and two bottles Monday. I didn't allow it to ferment. If that stuff had been allowed to ferment it would have blown the necks off the bottles."

Tastes Stuff.

George Pratt, assistant state prohibition officer, in his official capacity, tasted the stuff and pronounced it "cider and harmless." Others, and there were many who wanted to test it, said it was "brew."

"A good thrashing wouldn't be amiss here," said Judge Sears after he sentenced the boys.

The other lads involved were: Fred Weyerman, 1016 South Twenty-seventh street; Silas Skinner, 2567 Mason street; Abraham Holzberg, 819 South Twenty-fifth street; Herbert Rumsey, 2227 Dodge street; Julius Digilio, 1032 South Twenty-third street; James Currie, 2232 Mason street; Joe Barabe, 1314 South Twenty-fourth street; Earl Ryan, 1348 South Twenty-fifth street; Simon George, 715 South Seventeenth street; Darell Honet, 2416 Pierce street.

An important market for motor vehicles has developed in Algeria, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunis.

Autoist, Speeding To Injured Father; Wrecks His Car

Loses Control and Machine Crashes Through Glass Front of Bluffs Laundry —Is Jailed.

While speeding to the bedside of his unconscious father, who was injured in an altomobile accident Friday night, Emery D. Eakin, 20, lost control of his automobile in front of the Eagle laundry, Seventh street midnight Friday and the car crashed through the plate glass front of the Wardrobe Cleaning works next door.

Escapes Injury.

Young Eakin escaped injury. The cleaning works and automobile were wrecked. Eakin was arrested for reckless driving and speeding and was released on $25 bond.

He was arraigned in Council Bluffs police court yesterday and charged with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated when the arresting officer testified he smelled liquor on the youth's breath at the time of the accident. His band was set at $100 and his case continued to December 18.

In Critical Condition.

His father, J. L. Eakin, 412 Curtis street, lies in Mercy hospital in a critical condition as the result of deep gashes in the head and back received when he was struck by an automobile driven by Oscar Lee, R. F. D. No. 2, at Park avenue and Broadway Friday night.

Lee reported to police headquarters and was released under $500 bond. In police court today his case was continued indefinitely pending the death or recovery of the injured man.

Wages of Farm Workers at Stanton Take Big Drop

Stanton, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—Farmers of the Canadian settlement have cut all farm laborers' salaries to $50 a month. Many farmers were paying their men, who had families, $100 a month, furnishing free house, giving them milk, potatoes and fuel as well as allowing them to keep a flock of chickens. With the present slump in prices, farmers have decided upon the new wage scale, $50. Likewise, with cornhuskers, it has been impossible to hire them for less than 8 cents, and now with lots of corn in the fields, pickers can be had at 7 cents or less.

Class of 20 Initiated By Plattsmouth Elks

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Plattsmouth lodge No. 739, B. P. O. E., initiated a class of 20 members. District Deputy E. R. Hurst of Falls City addressed the membership. A luncheon was included in the evening's entertainment. This is the fourth large class to be initiated in the past few months.

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See Page 11-A, Section C, for the answer