

Woman, Cobbler Rout 3 Robbers; One Drops \$20

Shoe Man, Wounded in Thigh, Beats Off Bandits With Hammer—Landlady Conquers Thief.

Three robbers were routed Tuesday night by their intended victims, Joe Vodicka, 43, a cobbler, was just closing his shop at 6103 South Twenty-first street, when two youths entered and asked for a pair of shoes they said had been left for repair.

When Vodicka turned his back to look for the shoes one of the youths pulled a revolver and yelled, "Hands up!"

The cobbler turned, picked up a hammer and assailed the robbers. They fired a shot and fled. The bullet entered Vodicka's right thigh. The wound was dressed at South Side police station.

A man appeared at the rooming house conducted by Mrs. Margaret Decker at 1711 1/2 Leavenworth street Tuesday afternoon, rented a room and offered a \$20 bill in payment.

While she was making change he struck her on the head and tried to rob her. She fought and screamed and other roomers came to her assistance.

The thief fled and later the \$20 bill belonging to him was found on the floor.

Tax on Gasoline Nonpartisan Law

Governor Replies to Last of Political Critics—Collection Costs Arizona \$1,000.

Lincoln, Jan. 4.—(Special.)—While Arthur G. Wray and Abe Sorenson, Nonpartisan league leaders, have been telling the people of Nebraska that the proposed gasoline tax was unfair and unjust and threatening to circulate referendum petitions against it in the event the legislature imposed the tax, Governor McKelvie, writing to Governor R. A. Nestos of North Dakota, he received word from the North Dakota governor that a Nonpartisan league legislature passed a gasoline tax law and held the gasoline tax up as one of its methods of relieving the farmers from high taxation on farm property.

"That is the last straw to the opposition," Governor McKelvie said. "First the democrats criticized it and it was shown that the gasoline tax is looked upon as one of the most just and popular tax measures proposed in certain democratic states. And, today we learn the Nonpartisan leaguers in North Dakota had such a tax."

Governor McKelvie received a telegram from Governor Thomas E. Campbell of Arizona, who stated that the total expense of collecting a gasoline tax in that state was \$1,000 a year and the total receipts \$160,000 a year.

Union Pacific Head Addresses Farmers

Lincoln, Jan. 4.—Carl R. Gray, president of the Union Pacific railroad, was among the visitors at the meetings of organized agriculture here today. He was accompanied by Frank M. Myers and J. C. Gilman, also members of the agricultural committee of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and by John W. Welsh, another Omaha present.

The reduction in railroad rates on farm products was discussed by Mr. Gray in a brief address at a mass-meeting of farmers this afternoon. He stated the cut would range from 12 1/2 to 22 1/2 per cent, but that no other industry that agriculture could expect a reduction.

Mr. Gray likened farming to early day railroad, when no cost system was in use and when, though a gain might be made on one class of business most of this would be lost on another. He told of one farmer who had an income of \$1,500 a year. When this was analyzed, he found that in return for a third of his time and material he made an income of \$4,000. In return for two-thirds of his time and material, he lost \$2,500.

Kansas City Police Free Stock Salesman

Lincoln, Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Perry Anthony, stock salesman, charged with obtaining \$6,000 from a Lincoln widow by false pretenses, convinced the Kansas City police that he was the man Diogenes wore out dozens of lanterns looking for and as a result he was freed from jail, according to State Sheriff Gus Hyers.

Perry was arrested Saturday at Junction City, Kan., upon request of Hyers. Junction City police told Hyers they would take him as far as Kansas City so Hyers sent a deputy after Anthony.

Upon the deputy's arrival he was told that Anthony made such assurances to the Kansas City police that he would come to Lincoln to face charges without the expense of an officer accompanying him that they believed him and took him to the Union station and put him on a Lincoln-bound train.

"That's the story they told my deputy," Hyers said. "The only trouble with it is, Anthony hasn't shown up, as yet."

Retail Associations May Testify in Federal Probe

Washington, Jan. 4.—Associations of retail merchants may be given hearings before the Department of Justice in connection with the government's investigation of retail prices for necessities. It was indicated yesterday by Attorney General Daugherty.

Requests from many of these associations for a hearing have been received, Mr. Daugherty said, adding that he would probably give the representatives of several of them an opportunity to be heard.

Bank Cashier Picks Omahan as Robber

Joe Buckley was identified yesterday in Central police court by J. C. Barker, cashier of the Plagah (La.) bank as one of the five bandits who held up the bank the morning of December 23 and made their escape with about \$5,000.

Buckley was arrested Tuesday by Detectives Heller and Vanous at 1502 North Twenty-eighth street, and turned over to Council Bluffs officers. The prisoners asked to be taken to the Central police station before going to Council Bluffs. When he was taken there he announced he would not cross the river without extradition papers.

Cashier Barker picked Buckley out of a group of 11 men lined up before him at the police station.

Iowa officers have taken steps to get extradition papers to take Buckley to Iowa.

Rates Protested by Traffic Bureau

Complaints Filed Against Sugar and Roofing Ma- terials Tariffs.

C. E. Child, manager of the traffic bureau of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce commission yesterday attacking the rates on sugar from New Orleans to Chicago, New York and St. Louis.

Some time ago the rates on sugar from New Orleans to Chicago and St. Louis were reduced, but the new rates were suspended when complaints were filed by eastern and western cities. Omaha complained because the reduced rates into St. Louis were not fair to other cities of the Missouri valley.

A protest was also filed against the proposed raise of 6 cents per 100 pounds on roofing material, which the railroad have ordered to become effective January 15. The traffic bureau asks that this increased rate be suspended.

The protests on both items are important because of the vast amount of sugar and roofing material shipped into Omaha annually. A decrease in rates will mean the savings of thousands of dollars.

Boy Dies of Injury Received in Scuffle

Willie Engelke, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Engelke, 2462 South Seventeenth street, died in St. Joseph hospital yesterday morning at 9, from an attack of peritonitis, said to be the result of injuries sustained while scuffling.

Last Friday the boy's mother sent him to a doughnut shop at Eighteenth and Bancroft streets on an errand and while there, three youths, Carl Belding, 1415 Jefferson street; Paul Elselder, 4740 South Fifteenth street, and Sam Saoris, 2131 1/2 Leavenworth street, employed as bakers, engaged in a playful scuffle with the lad.

When he returned home, he complained of a pain in his chest. This rapidly developed into peritonitis. The three youths were arrested in connection with the affair and were released on bonds of \$1,500 each.

An inquest into the lad's death will be held this morning at the Brailey and Dorrance morgue.

Three Youths Implicated Re- leased on Bonds—Inquest to Be Held Today.

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Lower Hay and Grain Rates to Be Effective January 7

New York, Jan. 4.—Railway traffic officials stated yesterday that the 16 1/2 per cent freight rate reduction on hay and grain products for trans-shipment territory would be effective January 7. The new rate was ordered last month by the Interstate Commerce commission.

The hay and grain reduction already has been effected by the Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads. While governmental authorities estimated shippers would save \$93,000,000 by this reduction, traffic executives of the roads estimate that the saving will be between \$75,000,000 and \$80,000,000.

Harvest Ice at Ord

Ord, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Preparations are under way for the annual ice harvest in which there is much interest this year on account of the shortage last year and the high price charged for imported ice.

Girl Robbed in Fremont Station

Series of Misfortunes Accom- panying Visit of Blair Girl to Grandmother's Home.

Fremont, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Pretty Mable Beedle, 20, of Blair, came to Fremont to visit her grandmother, accompanied by her father, who continued to Omaha. Papa Beedle gave Mable a couple of dollars, expecting his daughter to partake of grandmother's hospitality.

The grandmother was not at home and Mable returned to the station to take a train for home. She had \$1.35 in cash for her ticket, but the last train had departed. With no money to secure lodging for the night and still have money for a ticket, she curled up on a bench at the station and fell asleep.

When she awoke some hours later her money, handbag and few belongings in a suitcase had been stolen. The police were informed and in a roundup three men giving their names as Ed Robbins, John Daugherty and Harry Carpenter, all of Omaha, were arrested on drunkenness charges. The police allege that the stolen possessions, valued at about twenty dollars, were found on Daugherty. His pals were fined for being drunk. Daugherty is being held on a petty larceny charge. City officials contributed a ticket to Blair for Miss Beedle.

President Does Not Think Hays Will Enter Movies

Washington, Jan. 4.—Thought reports that Postmaster General Hays may take direction of a motion picture producers' organization have come to President Harding, it was indicated yesterday he did not think Mr. Hays intended to leave the office. The postmaster general, it was said, has never discussed with the president the possibility of resigning.

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Sole Distributor, Marmola Co., 57 Garfield Bldg. Detroit, Mich.

Former State Senator Dies at Salt Lake City

Fremont, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—John Dern, former state senator and Dodge county pioneer, died at Salt Lake City. He was born in Germany, coming to America at the age of 15. Four years later he was farming in Dodge county in the year 1854 and shortly after purchased a farm on Maple creek. In 1880 he went into the lumber, grain and live stock business at Scribner, and later at Fremont and Hooper. He was one of the founders of the Hooper State bank and very prominent in democratic circles. He served as state senator and was county treasurer for two terms.

While county treasurer he secured control of the Mercur gold mine at Mercur, Utah, and at the expiration of his term moved to that state. Mr. Dern was a member of the state capital commission in Utah and held charge of the construction of their new capital. He was also a trustee of the state university. His affiliations with the university attracted him to a recent football game, where he was suddenly stricken while cheering for the Utah eleven.

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HERMAN KURTZSCH, Milwaukee, Wis.

"When it comes to eating, working and sleeping I'm like a different man from what I was a short time ago," said Herman Kurtzsch, 406 1-2 Norris Place, Milwaukee, with the Northwestern Life Insurance Co. in relating his experience with Tanlac.

"My whole system was about to give way as a result of two years' constant suffering from stomach trouble and I was so run down and worn out I was hardly able to work. I actually dreaded to eat, as after every meal I suffered so terribly from heartburn, and I was so nervous I got little rest day or night.

"If it hadn't been for Tanlac I'm firmly convinced I would have had to resign my place. It came to my aid in the nick of time and I am strong for it. Tanlac was worth at least 50 times what it cost me."

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