

22 Years Behind Prison Bars Is Slayer's Record

First Convicted in 1895, Otto Cole Has Spent Most of His Time in Penitentiaries.

The police bureau of identification furnished to County Attorney Shotwell before the trial the following, which the bureau declares is the criminal record of the man called Otto Cole:

As Richard Proctor he was sentenced to three years in Columbus, O., penitentiary for burglary. Discharged June 25, 1898.

He was arrested in Baltimore, Md., 10 days later when he was caught in the act of burglary. He escaped from the city jail August 8, 1898, at 2 in the morning. He gave his name as Richard Vanscourt on that occasion.

Goes Back to Crime.

A few weeks later, October 18, 1898, he was arrested in Chicago and was sentenced to the penitentiary at Joliet, Ill., for robbery. Paroled in March, 1903, he used the name James Renner.

He went right back to crime, according to the record and was arrested that same month in Red Wing, Minn., on a charge of burglary, and was sentenced to the reformatory at St. Cloud, Minn., October 23, and then transferred to the Stillwater penitentiary for violation of parole January 15, 1907. He was paroled again January 27, 1910. He called himself E. E. English.

As Edwin English he was arrested in Chicago, April 21, 1910, on a charge of robbery and was sentenced to Joliet. He was paroled July 28, 1914. He was returned on July 28 for violation of parole. Discharged September 25, 1916.

Total 22 Years.

One month later, October 26, he was arrested in Chicago on a charge of carrying concealed weapons. He was fined \$100.

On October 15, 1917, he was sentenced to Joliet penitentiary on a charge of operating a confidence game. Escaped from Joliet, May 24, 1920.

This is a total of 22 years in prison since 1896.

This record was not introduced into the trial because Cole refused to take the stand.

Life Imprisonment Sentence for Cole

(Continued From Page One.)

want to make a motion for a new trial," he said.

"If you wish it, I will order the public defender to draw up this motion in a proper legal form for you," said Judge Leslie.

Cole hesitated as he stood before the judge. He seemed to reflect. His effort to be his own attorney had only resulted in getting him a life term in prison.

Should he try a lawyer? He decided.

"I wish you would do that then, your honor," he said.

Then he was returned to jail.

Although Cole has exhibited the bitterest feeling toward Chief Deputy County Attorney Coffey, who took little part in prosecuting him, he has the best of feeling for County Attorney Shotwell.

"That argument of his was a wonder. I didn't think he had it in him," Cole said this morning.

Real Name English.

Cole's real name is said by police to be English.

He has told interviewers various stories here. One is that he married a girl, 17, in Chicago last fall.

He informed another interviewer that he told his wife to get a divorce from him if he is sentenced to prison in the present case.

But in the next breath he boasted that none of his relatives know a thing about his trouble here and that "they couldn't stand it."

No Legal Shark.

Cole's reputation as a lawyer has dropped much since the first days of the trial.

"He is an ignorant man undoubtedly who has picked up a few big words and legal phrases, and by being in courts a good deal has learned the chief points of court procedure," District Judge Trump said.

Second Attempt to Wreck Train Is Made at York

York, Neb., April 21.—(Special Telegram.)—The second attempt to wreck the Chicago & Northwestern passenger train was tried in identically the same place as Wednesday evening. A large pole was laid across the track with a rock placed beneath to hold it firm. Mrs. H. F. Chapin, who happened to be near the wicket, discovered the log on the track and screamed. At this moment a man from behind a tree dashed out of sight into a nearby grove.

Lincoln Firm Gets Contract for Paving at Deshler

Deshler, Neb., April 21.—(Special Telegram.)—Roberts Construction company of Lincoln got the contract for 16,650 yards of brick paving at \$3.19 a yard and 4,800 yards of reinforced concrete paving at \$2.10 a yard. Paving district No. 1 outfit will be shipped, from Lexington. Work will be started next week and completed by August 1. Deshler will sell the contractor sand and gravel from its own beds.

Missionary Society Holds Its Convention in York

York, Neb., April 21.—(Special.)—The 35th annual convention of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society of the Hastings district closed a two days' session in this state.

Officers elected are: President, Mrs. Ernest Ormsby, Trumbull; first vice president, Mrs. T. G. Lewis, Hastings; second vice president, Mrs. B. N. Kunkle, Harvard; recording secretary, Mrs. M. H. Pirtle, Chester; treasurer, Mrs. Scott Wilson, Inland; secretary, Miss V. Shawkey, Fair-

In Solitary, Unlighted Cell, Otto Cole Writes Own Story of His Life

Sitting in his solitary cell just after he had heard the verdict of the jury sentencing him to life imprisonment, the man who chooses to be known by the name of Otto Cole, wrote a statement of his life and beliefs for The Bee.

He bent himself in the dim light of the cell and with pencil and scratch paper wrote this statement:

By OTTO COLE.

The trial is over; the verdict is life in prison.

What shall I do? I have not decided, but it is probable I shall not weaken and continue to maintain the barrier I have always guarded for the protection of my relatives and friends when I am in trouble.

What of my past? As a boy I had a good home with every advantage any child should have. Perhaps my parents were too liberal with me. I was always quick tempered. I attended one of the best private schools in New York City and another in Richmond, Va. I injured one of the professors with a slate, ran away from school and an indefinite suspension followed. My father gave me a severe beating for this and my pride and spirit aroused I left home and went to sea.

I liked the old sailing ships, the sailor's life and saw much of the world.

Returning home, my father took me into the machinery works of which he was the superintendent, and was sentenced to a junior in the drafting department.

Returns to Sea.

I liked that, but the call of the sea, scent of the lands in the southern seas drew me back to the sailor's life again. The last time I saw my parents was a boy was in July, 1895, and I never saw my mother or sister again until 25 years later.

In the last 27 years I have been through more adventures than can be referred to here. It would take several books to cover my experiences. It is possible that I may write a history of my experiences if the opportunity presents itself in such a way as to be a lesson on guarding against the misfortune that have befallen me. I cannot refer to my own relatives beyond saying that I have consistently sacrificed my own interests whenever anyone needed help.

I have held good positions but the inability to hold onto the money and use it for my advantage has always held me short of starting into business.

Expert Draftsman.

There are few better draftsmen or machinists than I am, probably because that is an inherited capacity.

Last summer I completed the design and superintended the erecting of a very large special machine, used in the mining industry. After its successful test I was offered a good position, but because I saw there was more money in running whisky across the Canadian border than being at regular employment at from \$250 a month, I refused the position.

This explains my presence in Omaha—booze running. I was shot through the left leg and six cases of Scotch whisky were stolen.

My money gave out, and I was again injured, but friends maintained me until I got in touch with other booze runners in Michigan.

My Views on Religion.

Mr. Shotwell evidently misconstrued my meaning with reference to what I believed. I don't believe there is a person living with a more clean and confident conception of the divine or supreme power than I have. There is a power. Call it God, or what you will.

The human mind can define God or the Infinite power. Christ is a reality, and if you, if I, follow the dictates of conscience, not clouded by mental disorder, we can be as good and pure in thought and actions as Christ himself, and I am convinced we are, every one of us, no less divine than Christ himself, but I do reject the man-made idea of heaven or hell as a certainty, and most of these religious creeds are based on a fear of the hereafter and hope for the future.

Penalty is Shock.

The penalty afforded me by the jury is a shock, but if any one thinks I am a coward they are mistaken. I shall use every opportunity afforded me to rise above this calamity and develop to the utmost my manhood, and some day I will have the respect of all men.

I still think, in fact, that I shall make my mark in the world as a peer in the field of mechanical engineering. I have the ability. All I need is concentration and opportunity. I shall fight to rise above every difficulty. It may be a slow process, but I'll win.

Crookedness does not pay, unless you can rob a bank from the inside, and sometimes that is a mistake. The act of one man causes the suffering of many innocent persons.

Widow Zander's Failure to Lead Bimbo to Altar Costs Drummer \$10

That Zander-Gump affair cost some of the boys some real cold cash.

Harry McCormick, traveling salesman for the Field-Hamilton-Smith Paper company, will testify to that.

Harry was sitting in the lobby of the leading hotel in Albion, Neb., the evening of April 12, talking things over with several other drummers.

Naturally, conversation turned to the next day when Bimbo Gump was scheduled to lead the wily Widow Zander to the altar.

One of the drummers spoke up: "Why that old Bim is just fool enough to marry that vamp."

"Oh no he won't after finding that diary," chirped another drummer, and the argument was on.

Russians Willing to Pay All Their Debts

(Continued From Page One.)

sians, therefore, the Russo-German negotiations were resumed, and resulted in the signing of the treaty at Rapallo Easter Sunday.

The German delegation believes that this treaty does not violate the spirit of the conference and indeed contributes to its supreme aim—pacification of the world and the reconstruction of Europe.

No Reason for Participation.

The note admits that, after the conclusion of this treaty, the German delegation has no reason to participate in the work of the first commission, dealing with Russian affairs, but says it will willingly participate in the other work of the same commission dealing with European and German interests.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy will arrive in Genoa tomorrow to visit the conference.

He will receive the authorities at the prefect's palace and give a luncheon aboard the dreadnaught Dante, to which all the delegation have been invited.

Delicate Position.

It is not known whether the Russian delegation has accepted the invitation to the luncheon, which has created a delicate position for them. Italian communists are urging them to abstain from meeting the king, maintaining this would produce a bad impression among the Italian communist masses, which conceive communism as anti-monarchical.

Germany and Russia, asserted the Cattidino today, have agreed with the Turkish nationalist government at Angora on a common program of foreign policy. This, it argues, will constitute a grave menace to the other powers, especially the Balkan states.

the submission of 10 members on Russian affairs, Germany now being eliminated, met the Russian delegates this afternoon and informed them that their reply was satisfactory as a basis for discussion.



Otto Cole.

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County Attorney Charges Graft in Road Building

Richardson Official Says State Engineers Pad Payrolls—Objects to Testifying Under Oath.

Lincoln, April 21.—(Special.)—R. C. James, county attorney of Richardson county, appearing before the highway investigation committee this morning, charged graft in the building of state highways.

"Will you go under oath and make this statement?" Governor McKelvie asked.

James refused to go on oath and continued: "State engineers have padded payrolls."

"Just a minute," said Attorney General Davis. "This is the first man who has appeared before this committee and refused to go under oath. I'll issue a subpoena for him right now."

The subpoena was issued and served forthwith.

Objects to Testifying.

George Johnson, state engineer, said he wanted to ask James questions under oath.

"I will refuse to answer them," James said.

The committee permitted James to place E. W. Duerfeldt, Richardson county commissioner, on the stand. Duerfeldt read an official document which, in short, was as follows:

"J. E. Mullen, engineer, employed by the state, charged \$325 for an automobile hired from John W. Powell, his father-in-law, while the county records fail to show that Powell ever took out an automobile license; that in one month Mullen charged \$2 per day for sustenance and lived at his father-in-law's home; that while employed by the state Mullen received \$3,300 for engineering work done in the cities of Falls City and Humboldt."

Johnson's Explanation.

Johnson's explanation follows. Mullen's father-in-law purchased the automobile for Mullen, but the automobile license was in his name, Swanson's name, and it was lawful for them to put in an expense account for the use of an automobile. The law provided engineers on a job \$2 a day for sustenance. Mullen was a local engineer, living in Richardson county. Before he took the contract he told Johnson he had contracts to do some work at Falls City and Humboldt. Johnson told him that if he hired an engineer to do this work for which he had contracted at Falls City and Humboldt it would be all right.

"Mullen didn't work a day on the

other two jobs after he began working for the state," Johnson said.

Shortage of Engineers.

"An engineer in the state's employ at this time could not do such a thing, but at that time engineers were scarce and we had to accept such an arrangement in order to get the work done. When engineers became more plentiful I issued an order that such employment would not be countenanced longer."

At the request of Johnson, Attorney General Davis was asked to prepare a written opinion as to whether the statutes give 5 per cent engineering cost as the limit on each job or the average on all work done in the state. This point was raised again by Richardson county complainants who object to engineering charges on one of their projects.

The committee requested H. K. Bishop, chief construction engineer of the federal bureau of roads, to examine the field note books, with Dean Stout, another engineer, and report their findings on the books by tomorrow, if possible. These are the books given to T. W. Hamilton, former state project engineer, which disappeared from Johnson's office and was located while the committee was making its outstate investigation.

Probe Sandpit Deal.

At Johnson's request that every man implicated in the sale of the Ashland sandpit to the state be called before the committee, further investigation of this incident was carried on. E. F. Ballou, Ashland; Leon S. White, Ashland, and Roy Swanson, Homer, formerly of Ashland, were the three witnesses.

White testified he purchased the land for Swanson in his name. Swanson was the principal witness. Briefly his testimony follows:

Denied he purchased land on which sandpit is located for \$16,000, following a tip from a state employe that state contemplated purchasing a sandpit. Said he gave White \$100 for making purchase for him. Said Powell ever took out an automobile license; that in one month Mullen charged \$2 per day for sustenance and lived at his father-in-law's home; that while employed by the state Mullen received \$3,300 for engineering work done in the cities of Falls City and Humboldt."

Would Take It Back.

"If the state desires I stand ready tomorrow to buy that pit back for \$18,000 and resell it to a private concern and make even more money," Swanson said.

George Wolz, Fremont banker, presented copies of Dodge county real estate transfers to show that gravel and sand companies were paying as much and more per acre for gravel land now than the state paid for the Ashland pit in anticipation of a big demand in the future for gravel for hard surfaced roads.

Refuses to Appear.

J. W. Robertson, former democratic state senator from Holt county, who had made numerous public statements against road building by the state in that county, was requested a week ago to appear be-

fore the committee with his complaints. A letter from Robertson declining to appear was read.

However, L. E. Skidmore, chairman of the board of supervisors, appeared and declared citizens as a rule, who understood the principles relative to federal aid, were satisfied with work done there.

"Isn't it a fact the county board refused to put one of those roads in front of Robertson's place?" Johnson asked.

Didn't Get Road.

"Yes, that's the cause of all the trouble. He has been sore at the county board and state highway de-

partment ever since," Skidmore replied.

The Cherry county commissioners wrote the committee two weeks ago they had a complaint. The committee instantly invited them to appear here today. One of the officials said he would appear Monday, which means about \$200 more expense for the committee in remaining over Sunday and Monday.

Duerfeldt, Richardson county commissioner, and County Attorney James admitted when questioned that the county wasn't complying with the law in distribution of its road dragging fund, declaring such compliance was impractical. Duer-

feldt said he knew this several weeks ago, told the remainder of the board about it and they decided to continue handling the fund in the same old way. The hearing will be continued tomorrow.

Petersburg Farmers Have Cattle Ready for Market

A consignment of 36 head of well finished steers was on the market, brought in by George Kettleson of Petersburg. He got \$8.10 a hundred for his shipment. Mr. Kettleson said there was quite a number of well finished cattle in the feed lots around Petersburg that will reach this market soon.

Thompson, Belden & Co.

Gloves for Present Wear

Kayser's milanese quality washable silk gloves in black, white, gray, beaver, mode and pongee, with Paris point embroideries. Sixteen-button length, \$2.75.

Novelty silk gloves, also sixteen-button length are \$3.25 to \$4.

Chamoisette sixteen-button length gloves in beaver, sand and covert are \$2 and \$2.25.



Bright Sunshiny Days Call For New Spring Hats

Fashionable models in fine, soft straws—delightful combinations of straw and taffeta or straw and crepe with trimmings of flowers, fruits, hand embroideries or smart bows of moire ribbon. Tailored, dress and street hats in all the lovely shades of spring—

\$5 \$7.50 \$10

Sport Hose in Tweed Shades

A fancy ribbed silk and lisle stocking is colored in all the new shades to match the fashionable tweed suits. Price \$1.50.

Main Floor

New Slippers From Sorosis

A new sandal style has a patent leather vamp and a sand ooze quarter. The low block heel is obze covered to match the quarter. A very attractive slipper.

for \$10

A new sports model of white leather has a wide apron of patent leather. The heel is low and flat, the plain soft toe slightly rounded.

for \$8.50

Spring Haberdashery The Men's Shop

New Selections of Neckwear

Knits, \$1 to \$3.50. Grenadines, \$1 to \$3.50. Silk four-in-hands from \$1 to \$3. Bats, 50c, \$1, \$1.50.

Shirts You'll Like

Manhattan, Eagle, and Emery have contributed their best styles to our spring display. (Sizes 13 1/2 to 18 1/2.)

Sonia Hairnets

In all shades of cap and fringe styles. Single mesh for 50c a dozen. Double mesh for 65c a dozen.

Main Floor

Inexpensive Dress Cottons

Batiste of a fine, sheer quality in colorful new plaids, checks and stripes. 40 inches wide and 50c a yard.

Dress gingham in pleasing new checks, stripes, plaids and plain shades. 32 inches wide and only 35c a yard.

Second Floor

Tailored Lines

Cannot be obtained without the aid of a well-fitting bandeau or brassiere.

We recommend Warner's brassieres and bandeau brassieres to all women who desire a fashionably trim, smooth contour under a tailored blouse or coat.

A number of moderate prices for your approval.

Second Floor

Value You Can Be Sure About



WE try to tell you exactly what you are getting and what you can expect of shoes you get here. Our customers know they can always "take our word for it."

IT'S that spirit that makes so many "regulars," who come here every time they need shoes. We would like to show you our new Spring styles.

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