

3 Soldiers Slug Taxi Man, Hurl Him Off Bridge

Assailants Believed to Be Escaped Ft. Crook Prisoners—Driver Identifies One From Photo.

Three soldiers, believed to be fugitives from the Fort Crook guardhouse, Tuesday night slugged W. F. Nelson, 22, taxi driver, 3018 Miami street, robbed him of 50 cents and threw him off the Plattsmouth bridge, escaping in his machine.

Nelson landed 12 feet below, on dry ground, staggered to the toll house and fainted.

He was cared for at the home of Sheriff Quinton for the night and returned to Omaha yesterday morning by Samuel Pigeon of the Nebraska Taxicab company, 1220 Douglas street.

The automobile was found abandoned with a flat tire at Twenty-sixth and L streets yesterday morning by Detective Joe Potach of the South Side police station.

The three soldiers are believed still to be in Omaha. Detectives are on their trail.

Identifies Photo.
Nelson was shown pictures of eight soldiers who escaped from the Fort Crook guardhouse Sunday night and, pointing to one of Claude B. Bond, 27, Peoria, Ill., said he believes Bond is the man who maltreated him in the taxicab.

Police say they have reports Bond is a "bad man." He recently was arrested by Detective Fritz Franks for investigation and is said to have threatened "to get" Franks.

The three soldiers chartered the Nelson taxicab in front of the Millard hotel at 9:30 Tuesday night. "They said it was pay day and they wanted to throw a party," Nelson related yesterday morning, despite his cuts, bruises and blackened eye. "As I was driving toward Nineteenth street and Railroad avenue on the way to Fort Crook, I slowed down for a curse.

Slugged Three Times.
One of the soldiers in the back seat slugged me three times over the head with a leather 'sap' filled with shot. It broke. See, I can still pick shot out of my clothing.

"The other two dragged me over the seat onto the floor and the third took the wheel. The fellow who looked like Bond put his foot on my neck. They drove past Fort Crook. I revived and began to struggle with them. The man at the wheel hit me over the head with a revolver.

"I fell again and one of the pair in the back seat stuck his heel in my right eye and twisted it. As we came to the bridge, one of them said there was no water below it, so they heaved me overboard."

Charlie Chaplin Loses Suit.
Salt Lake City, Utah, May 3.—A verdict of \$4,000 in favor of the plaintiffs in the suit of Samuel A. King and Russell G. Schulder, attorneys, seeking \$25,000 as a fee alleged to be due for advice given to Charlie Chaplin, motion picture comedian, was rendered by a federal court jury. The verdict was reached last night and was sealed and presented to the court this morning.

Sydney Chaplin, brother of the comedian, said he was satisfied with the verdict and Mr. King declared he did not think there would be an appeal.



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Taxi Driver Victim of Soldier-Thugs



W. F. Nelson.

Treasury Building Is Damaged by Fire

Washington, May 3.—Flames which burst from the roof of the Treasury department shortly after 1:30 a. m. yesterday, eating their way through a superstructure and spreading to the central portions of the roof, were brought under control after threatening heavy damage to the building.

Leaping 30 feet or more in the air, the flames lit up a large part of the downtown section and sparks were wafted across the street to the White House lawn. Awakened by White House attendants, President and Mrs. Harding dressed and watched the progress of the flames from a window.

\$200,000 Loss Is Caused by Fire on Douglas Street

Firemen Battle Flames Three Hours—Two Suffer Injuries—Origin of Blaze Mystery.

Two firemen were injured fighting a fire of mysterious origin which threatened the block between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets at 3 yesterday morning resulting in a property loss of probably \$200,000.

The injured firemen are: Clarence Brewer, 1113 North Nineteenth street, fire station No. 4; hands badly cut by falling glass.

Fred J. Blumer, 1912 Dorcas street, fire station No. 12; cut about the hands and face.

Both men were rushed to Lister hospital and after treatment were taken to their homes.

The fire destroyed the building at 1417 Douglas street, which housed the Underland Barber Supply company and Buchler market. Damage also was suffered by the H. Beselin Cigar company, the Megeath Stationery company and the Mandarin cafe.

Beselin's entire tobacco stock was ruined by water and smoke.

The firemen continued fighting until 6, throwing on water at the rate of 5,000 gallons a minute. The street surrounding the building was covered by a network of hose. By 5, the fire was under control. Assistant Fire Chief Dineen said.

Less Home Brew in East

Washington, May 3.—Home brewing is on the decline in New England, prohibition Agent Haynes declared today on the basis of reports from that section. These state, he added, that the demand for yeast, hops and malt had dropped off by half from the peak of "the home brewing fad."

Jack Dempsey Hurries to Paris to Console Peggy

"Bijou Beauty" Desires Quiet Spot—Has Offers to Go on Stage and in Movies—Will Never Marry Letellier Owing to Unpleasant Associations—Will Not Attend Errazuris' Funeral.

By HENRY WALES. Copyright, 1922.

Paris, May 3.—Cancelling his plans to visit historic sights in Berlin and then proceed to London, Jack Dempsey telegraphed to Peggy Joyce yesterday morning that he is leaving Germany on the first train and is due in Paris this morning.

The man she loved is the victim of his own act—her friendship for M. Letellier, the proprietor of the Paris Journal, is shaken through the tragedy caused by Senor Errazuris' jealousy of the publisher. Peggy yesterday seemed to be turning toward the champion prize fighter to arouse her from the depths of despair.

The "bijou beauty" hopes to reach an agreement with Dempsey to make a film together in some secluded spot far away from inquiring reporters and newspaper photographers, gossiping friends and lovers admirers.

Wife at Bier.

All day Madame Maria Edward Errazuris sat with a nun at the hospital where the suicide's body, covered with a white sheet to hide the gaping wound where the bullet tore through his forehead, eyes and nose, lay on a bier flanked with candles.

Floral pieces from the Chilean legation in Brussels, London, Paris, Berne and other cities are all around the bier, but there is none from Peggy.
"I only dozed two hours last night," said Peggy yesterday. "That makes three sleepless nights. The doctor refused to give me morphine because my heart is weak, but I can not stand the tension much longer."
"I can never marry Letellier now. Poor Billy hated him so and if it

were not for Letellier Billy would be alive today. It is not Henry's fault, I know, but I could never accept him as a husband after Billy killed himself for me over Letellier," said Peggy Joyce this afternoon.

"Letellier has acted sweetly since the tragedy and he has told me to consider him as a big brother. He promised to do everything possible for me in my trouble, but I can not consider him any more as a possible husband. I must leave Paris—I can not stand remaining in this hotel where everything associates itself with Billy. I can not return to the restaurants and dance places where I used to go with him. I am waiting until tomorrow, as Jack Dempsey telegraphed me that he will arrive in the morning. Jack wired me condolence over the affair and he seems to be a charming chap.

"Perhaps I will return to America. I am so wrought up over this. I must do something—get back to work to take my mind off this. I am offered a fine position in the movies and on the stage. Still, every one will bother me in America, raking up this affair. I would prefer to go to some quiet spot, somewhere in France or England, where no one will find me, and where I will be left quiet.

Will Not Send Flowers.

"When I think of Billy lying cold in death I long to go to him—to send him flowers—but I don't dare. His wife is there with him, and who loved him and whom he loved, must remain wretched in my room grieving.

"I would like to attend the funeral but that is his widow's place. It would seem too dramatic if I appeared and there might be a scene. I am not afraid that anything might

happen to me—nothing could happen—that would make any difference now.

Bandits Blow Up Bank.

Denver, Colo., May 3.—After firing nine shots of nitroglycerine, which

practically wrecked the frame building of the First National bank at Lafayette, 15 miles from here early this morning, bandits escaped with approximately \$12,000 in currency and Liberty bonds.

Mothers' Day Flag.

The flag will wave over the post-office Mothers' day, May 14, in accordance with instructions received by Postmaster Black today from Postmaster General Work.

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