

SALOON-MAN SHOT BY MASKED BANDIT

Intruder Fires When North Thirty-ninth Street Man Fails to Raise Hands

VICTIM IS UNCONSCIOUS

A series of hold-ups and robberies in this city reached its climax early today when a masked bandit twice shot Harry Devine, a saloonkeeper, at 622 North Thirty-ninth street.

Devine is at the Presbyterian Hospital in a serious condition, with a bullet wound in his stomach and a cut made by a second bullet in his scalp. He became unconscious after telling how he had been attacked.

Devine had walked to the rear of his place to fasten the door, and believes that the robber slipped in through a side door and waited in a small back room until he could surprise the saloonkeeper.

As Devine returned toward the bar the man sprang from his hiding place and shouted:

"Throw up your hands, or I will kill you."

Before the astonished saloonkeeper could obey, the man fired two shots. One entered the left side of Devine's stomach. The other grazed his left temple.

Then the man ran from the place. Mrs. Devine, who heard the shots, ran down stairs. Her husband was trying to telephone to the police.

"It's all up with me," said Devine to his wife, as he sank to the floor. "They've got me."

Mrs. Devine had a glimpse of the robber from a window as he fled from the place. She says he was about five feet eight inches in height and weighed about 135 pounds. She says his face was covered with a black mask.

It is not believed the man took anything from the saloon. There was \$400 in the safe.

Mrs. Mary Latkov, fifty-nine years old, of 148 Noble street, is in Roosevelt Hospital, with a fractured skull, caused by blows with a blackjack when burglars entered her house. The thieves, after a brutal attack upon the woman, took a purse containing eighty cents.

Two men called at the house, pretending to have business with a family living on stairs. When Mrs. Latkov opened the door they attacked her. When she was found, after the robbers had ransacked the house, she was bound in a chair, with a rag stuffed into her mouth.

Michel Is Arrested in North Penn Crash

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and a new straw hat. His light hair was neatly combed and brushed back. The prisoner, in the absence of Mr. Logue, was represented by Henry J. White. It was explained to Michel that he was accused of conspiracy, and that it would be necessary for him to furnish bail. The man did not utter a word in the private office, permitting his lawyer to do the talking.

Public Is Not Admitted

Shortly after 4 o'clock the magistrate's hearing room was opened and Michel was ushered to the prisoner's dock. James Gay Gordon, Jr., assistant district attorney, represented the state. No persons, aside from newspaper men, were permitted in the courtroom. Michel first sat down, but hastily arose when Magistrate Pennock appeared.

Assistant District Attorney Gordon, speaking for District Attorney Rotan, said that the state was willing to waive a hearing, and requested that bail be fixed at \$10,000. He asked that a further hearing be scheduled for two weeks from today. Michel's attorney said this was agreeable.

The only words spoken by the prisoner in the court room came when he was questioned by the clerk. He simply said that he lived at 3042 Diamond street.

It was explained in the district attorney's office that Michel and Gabel are accused on criminal charges with Meyer. The wording of the affidavit on which they are arrested first charges that they "conspired with Ralph T. Meyer and other persons who are not known to receive deposits in a bank known to be insolvent." The second charge is that they actually received deposits in an insolvent bank.

To Arrest Politicians

The politicians will not be arrested until Attorney General Schaffer reaches the city. The attorney general is hastening to the city from New York state, where he has been on an automobile tour, to confer with District Attorney Rotan regarding the arrest of the former officials. The warrants would have been served today, but Mr. Rotan was not sure of

his ground on the question of jurisdiction. When the politicians became implicated in the North Penn transactions, they were in office at Harrisburg and the question arises as to whether the district attorney of Dauphin county should prosecute them. Mr. Schaffer is to make the decision. Efforts to obtain the names of the former state officials failed. None of the state probers would divulge the names, and the district attorney's office was silent.

To Push Ambler

Definite action will be taken against Charles A. Ambler, former speaker of the House and insurance commissioner under former Governor Brumbaugh, unless he reimburses the wrecked North Penn Bank in the immediate future for enormous losses.

Colonel Pusey has decided to push the Ambler end of the bank failure. This politician deposited more than \$400,000 state funds in the bank and then negotiated enormous personal loans. Judgment had already been planned against Ambler's effects and another course can be pursued, but further information must be obtained from the district attorney," added the colonel.

"Is it true that Ambler owes the bank \$150,000, and that \$75,000, as has been reported?" the colonel was asked. "I cannot state the amount. Ambler owes other banks large sums of money and if he pays those notes his obligations to the North Penn will be decreased."

No Definite Time to Pay

"Have you fixed a definite time for Ambler to pay?" "I have fixed a time in my mind."

"Is it true that you are prepared to enter judgment against him?" "I have already done that," and then he added the sentence regarding the district attorney.

"When do his notes mature in the bank?" "In January, but that has nothing to do with the case. I have made a demand for the money."

Soon after the bank failed, Ambler announced he would pay what he owed the bank "within a few days" after receiving a statement of his debts. The statement eventually was furnished Mr. Ambler, but the promised payment did not materialize.

"I have nothing to say," or "I have no statement to make," invariably were the former commissioner's replies to all questions put him about the bank. The answer became so much of a habit that when asked if he knew James J. Boland, insurance company owner, who figures prominently in the scandal, Mr. Ambler gave his stereotyped reply.

Mr. Fisher said in Harrisburg today that he was not at liberty to name the man who first called his attention to the precarious condition of the North Penn Bank. He endeavored to reach him last night but failed.

"You may say," he added, "that he is connected with the auditor general's office. I will give his name just as soon as I see him."

Mr. Fisher will not return to the city for several days. He will spend Sunday at his home in Indiana and on Monday proceed to Oil City where his presence is needed in connection with a financial institution which is in difficulty.

"Everything is in the hands of Mr. Rotan. I cannot discuss it further."

Colonel Pusey today received a telegram from an attorney representing James J. Boland, president of the defunct New York National Insurance Company and the Seneca Fire Insurance Company. The colonel described the message "as a lawyer's telegram" and said he did not quite understand it. He glanced, however, that Boland will come to this city next week to see his affairs in connection with the bank.

Frederick L. Homsher, of Strasburg, Lancaster county, today took charge of the probe at the bank, replacing James W. MacBurney, who was relieved as state banking representative by Banking Commissioner Fisher.

"Go-Between" Now Known

Mr. Fisher said he had learned the identity of the "go-between" who acted in the transactions between Meyer and Boland. He is not the "young man in the wool business," whose name was mentioned on the previous day and whom detectives sought to locate when the liquidation of the New York insurance company was ordered by the New York courts. According to Mr. Fisher, the man who introduced Meyer to Boland in a fashionable club in this city was "the young man in the wool business." Although the introduction had a business purpose, the intentions of the clubman were honorable, and it

was through another man that the big loans were later negotiated. The name of W. R. Jones, of Scranton, who was connected with the defunct fire insurance concern, has been mentioned as a "go-between," but Mr. Fisher was not inclined to believe that it was he who filled that role. The name of a politician, high in authority under Governor Brumbaugh, was similarly mentioned. State investigators said that the name of the individual involved would eventually be made public.

Montgomery Goes to New York

James T. Cortelyou, chief of the detective staff of the district attorney's office, was in New York yesterday, presumably for a talk with Boland. William Morgan Montgomery, counsel for Meyer, took a hasty trip to New York also and succeeded in locating Boland.

Mr. Montgomery announced last night that officials of the wrecked insurance company had attributed the responsibility for the liquidation to the failure of four bonding companies promptly to cover the losses of the New York National. These bonds were supplied to protect the several hundred thousand dollars placed in the North Penn Bank several years ago.

Mr. Montgomery expressed confidence that the affairs of both insurance companies would be successfully adjusted. He predicted that all of their losses would eventually be replaced. The Seneca, he said, was about to receive financial help so that its liquidation would not be necessary, as in the case of the New York National.

Two expert accountants of the James J. Boland Company, of New York, appeared at the bank this morning. They requested admittance, but this was denied. The men then proceeded to the office of Colonel Pusey.

It is understood that they wished to go over the books of the bank in an effort to straighten the tangle of the Boland interests. They refused, however, to be interviewed.

A meeting of the North Penn Debtors' Association will be held tonight in a motion-picture theatre at Twenty-ninth and York streets.

Wilson Asks Food Law Extension

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The President, referring to his plea for early ratification of the treaty so that the country may be turned back from a war basis, "or may be held long in abeyance or may not be enforced because of divisions of opinion among the powers associated against Germany, it is idle to look for permanent relief."

Dealers eager to reap a harvest of rising prices who had accumulated hoards, the President said, would now "see the disadvantage as well as the danger of holding off from the new processes of distribution."

The normal operation of the laws of supply and demand, the President said, had been set at naught in the case of many necessary commodities. He cited the figures of the federal trade commission showing rising prices in the face of greater stocks of food than were on hand in the country a year ago.

Supports Security Issues Bill

The pending bill to regulate security issues, the President referred to as a measure which "would do much to stop speculation and to prevent the fraudulent methods of promotion by which our people are annually fleeced of many millions of hard-earned money."

Besides asking for the remedies he proposed, the President called on Congress and the public to deal with the subject deliberately. He appealed to merchants and others to deal fairly with the people and to housewives to exercise "a greater vigilance, a more thoughtful economy."

Leaders of organized labor, the President said, he was sure, "will presently yield to a sounder sober thought and like the great mass of his associates, 'think and not like Americans.'"

Wants Strikes halted

Strikes, undertaken at this time, the President said, would only make matters worse, and he expressed his confidence that the labor men would realize it.

"No remedy is possible while men are in a temper," said the President, "and there can be no settlement which does not have as its motive and standard the general interest."

The President warned Congress, however, that no complete and immediate remedy was to be found in legislation or immediate action.

Process of supply and demand would not operate of themselves while

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the country was neither at peace nor war, the President said.

World on Operating Table

"Where there is no peace of mind there can be no energy of endeavor," said he. "Politically, socially, economically, the world is on the operating table, and it has not been possible to administer any anesthetic."

"There can be no confidence in industry, no calculable basis for credit, no confident buying or systematic selling, no normal restoration of business, no hopeful attempt at reconstruction or the proper reassembling of the dislocated elements of enterprise until peace has been established, and so far as may be, guaranteed."

"This, the President said, in connection with his appeal that the peace treaty should speedily be ratified.

Retailers Share Blame

Speaking of retail prices, the President said:

"There can be no little doubt that retail prices in part—sometimes in large part—responsible for exorbitant prices."

It was practicable, the President said, to supply the public through established governmental agencies and through publicity with information on which it might judge what profits should be. Congress should provide necessary funds for these agencies, the President said.

Must Pay for War Wastage

The world, of course, the President reminded Congress, must pay for the vast wastage of the war and take the results of food fields turned to battle-grounds. At the same time it must help Europe back to her normal state.

"We, and we almost alone hold the world steady," said the President. "It is in this supreme crisis—this crisis for all mankind—that America must prove her mettle."

The House earlier today adopted a resolution for the joint session of Congress at 3 o'clock this afternoon to hear President Wilson.

A point of no quorum had been made by Representative Hinton, Democrat, Texas, when the chair refused to recognize him for the introduction of a measure, but a roll call developed that a quorum was in attendance.

Farmers Want More for Wheat

Repeal of the government price guarantee for wheat, to enable farmers to secure higher prices, was urged at a special meeting today of the Senate agriculture committee. Action by the committee was deferred.

Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, proposed repeal of the price guarantee, and T. C. Atkinson, Washington representative of the National Grange, endorsed it.

"That is exactly what the farmers are praying for," said he. Senator Norris, Chairman Gronna

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and other committee members said the wheat price guarantee law has not been carried out. The \$2.26 guarantee, they declared, was intended by Congress to be the minimum price with a higher price possible under the law of supply and demand. Instead, they asserted, the United States grain corporation had made the minimum guarantee the maximum price for the farmer.

Will Get \$1.50 a Bushel

Mr. Atkinson told the committee that the farmer would receive an average of only \$1.50 per bushel for wheat this year. He and Senator Gronna declared that had the government not fixed the price, farmers would receive much more than the guarantee because of the prospective wheat shortage and world demand.

Mr. Atkinson testified that the grain corporation had made large profits from wheat sales that the farmer should have received.

Subsidy to City Population

The grange representative said the proposal to have the government buy all wheat at \$2.20 and sell it to the consumer at \$1 a bushel would be "a subsidy to our blessed city population."

Complaints against grading of wheat were made by Senators Curtis and Capper, of Kansas, Republicans. Senator Curtis said he had complained to President Barnes, of the grain corporation, without result.

Senator Poindexter, Republican, of Washington, referring to President Wilson's plan to ask Congress for additional legislation to lower the cost of living, said the difficulties of the situation were "due largely to government action as war measures."

"The President," he said, "was vested with almost absolute powers to handle the food situation. I am of the opinion that it will not be possible for

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Congress to devise any additional legislation to give the President any greater powers than he has at present to deal with the situation now.

"The President has dictatorial powers. I think they ought to be repealed, but the fact is that they are not repealed and ought to be used now in this emergency."

Transfer Hearing September 9

Hearing in the Northwest Business Men's Association protest against the exchange ticket system of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, will be held in City Hall, September 10. The place and date were announced by the Public Service Commission, following a conference at Harrisburg today.

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THREE MEN FALL INTO RIVER FROM FERRY; ONE LOST, IS BELIEF

Two Rescued When Three Others Leap After Them. Victims Jolted From Rail

Three men in a crowd of workmen who were crossing from Philadelphia to Camden on the ferryboat Fearless, today, fell into the Delaware river. It is reported that one of them was drowned. The other two were rescued.

The workmen were on their way to the New York Shipbuilding Company's yard. As the ferryboat was crowded, some of the men sat on the rail surrounding the deck.

When the boat reached the Camden wharf it struck against the piling and three men were jolted from their perch on the railing. They fell into the river.

Frank McHade, William Wallace and George Grimshaw jumped into the water and succeeded in helping two of the men to the wharf. No one knows what became of the third man.

Captain Jeremiah Marshall, of the ferryboat, thinks the man climbed to the wharf, but escaped notice in the excitement. Workmen who were on the boat, however, believe the man was drowned.

The men who were rescued were hurried away to the shipyard before their identity was learned.

Harper's Ferry Excursion SCENIC POINT OF 3 STATES Sunday, August 10 \$3.00 Round Trip (INCLUDING TAX) Special Train—Leave 24th & Chestnut Sts., 8 A. M. Returning, Special Train, Will Leave Harper's Ferry 5:30 P. M. BALTIMORE & OHIO R. R.

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