

POLICE POUR SHOTS AT RAIL BANDITS IN WILD 35-MILE DASH

Volleys Rip Rear From Fleeing Motor—Four Escape After Chase Over Sleazy Roads

SURPRISED LOOTING CARS BY GUARD AT WHITEMARSH

Four bandits, operating in a big motor, held up and robbed a Pennsylvania Railroad freight train at the St. Thomas Pumping Station, near Whitemarsh, at 3:45 o'clock this morning and escaped after a sensational running fight of thirty-five miles with railroad detectives.

The bandits abandoned their machine at Monastery and Ridge avenues, Roxborough, at 5 o'clock after the detectives, armed with riot guns and following in a smaller machine, had blown away the rear of the bandit car with charges of buckshot.

Just before the bandits leaped out, one of the rear wheels collapsed and the car skidded into the side of the road. It is not known whether any of the bandits were wounded, but all escaped in the rain and darkness.

Tracks Heavily Guarded

Only a week ago an attempt was made to rob a freight train at this same point, and Superintendent J. C. Harper, of the Pennsylvania Railroad police, had put a special detail of men on the tracks in the neighborhood of Whitemarsh.

An outbound freight train slowed down to take on water at the pumping station this morning. As the brakes were on the bandits leaped at the engine cab and an open door of a freight car, swinging about and covering the crew with guns.

As the train stopped they began a quick examination of the cars, looking for valuable merchandise.

The bandits went quickly from car to car. They broke open one of the cars and were tossing out boxes when the railroad detectives, on patrol duty, came along to see why the freight was stopped so long.

As the bandits glimpsed the three detectives, armed with sawed-off pump guns, they jumped off the train and dashed for the hills nearby. They had their car hidden there, and sprang back.

The detectives blazed away with their shotguns as they pursued the bandits up the hill. The four robbers returned the fire with revolvers, but the bullets missed.

The three railroad men, with riot guns, were Detectives Toner, Rayson and White. Toner had his own small car, in which the three had been doing petty work for some time. They worked in the vicinity, and when the police saw the bandits climb into their machine they ran for Toner's car to follow.

Race Through Snow and Sleet

Then began a wild pursuit through the snow and sleet. The high speed machine started with a lurch and a roar, the cut-out open, in the direction of Barren Hill, heading for Roxborough. The bandits followed close behind, their little car skidding crazily as they took turns at break-neck speed and fairly leaving the road as they hit the high snow.

As the two cars roared up hill and down in the long hard chase through the broken country around Whitemarsh, the bandit Hill both the bandits and the detectives kept up a constant fusillade.

The bandits covered in their car at the scattering bushes from the road. They broke open one of the cars, one of them would jump out, and when at the tires of the pursuing car.

All their shots went wild. The little bandit car, however, cutting up the road, steadily closed the gap between the two. Toner was driving the detective car, and the bandits, giving her the gas and striking his neck and the necks of his party at every turn.

As the detectives crept up on the machine, riot guns began to damage the machine and the bandits.

Standing up in the leading car, the detective pumped charges after charges of lead into the bandit car, and the bandits fled.

The chase lasted for an hour, and over roads that were slippery with ice and snow, over high hills and by a circuitous route to Roxborough.

Finally there was a sharp explosion as a charge of buckshot tore through the fabric of one of the rear tires of the bandit car, and the heavy machine skidded over and kept rolling on the side of one wheel. In a few minutes the fire had cut the tire, and the bandits fled. The chase lasted for an hour, and over roads that were slippery with ice and snow, over high hills and by a circuitous route to Roxborough.

At Monastery and Ridge avenues, the rear wheel collapsed and the car banged about, but the chase was over.

Almost before they stopped, the four bandits sprang out and ran, splitting in four directions. The detectives stopped their car and jumped out. They followed the bandits through the brush from the Roxborough station, and when they had seen the bandit car, they dashed from a half square's distance.

The noise of the shots had brought railroad police were alerted to the fact that the bandit might sound innocent persons.

The bandits, slipping and falling as they ran over the ice and sleet, made off in pairs. The one is believed to have been stolen.

Stork Santa Claus Pays Visit to Police Station

The stork must have been pinching for Santa Claus this morning, for he brought a baby boy to the Twelfth and Pine streets police station.

ASYLUM RESENTS STATE "DICTATION" BY WELFARE BOARD

Officials of Penn Home for Widows See Attempt to Take Over Institutions

An attempt at dictation by the State Welfare Department is being made by the managers of the Penn Asylum for Indigent Widows and Single Women, Belgrade street and Susquehanna avenue, as a reason for refusing a State appropriation.

A check for \$800, a quarterly payment on a \$3000 appropriation, was returned to State Treasurer Snyder last week by the asylum managers, who alleged that the strings attached to it made acceptance impossible.

Dr. J. M. Bably, State Commissioner of Welfare, was absent today from his office at Lancaster, and Bromley Wheaton, his assistant, refused comment further than to say that the department had no desire to dictate to any institution.

Dr. Yeager Explains "Dictation"

Dr. George C. Yeager, a member of the asylum board, and for many years interested in the work, explained the return of the check today.

"As we have \$2000 a year might be paid," he said, "the managers feel, and I believe they are right, that it would be the best interests of the home to face the money with all the strings that are attached to it, and to get enough money to make up the difference.

"There is no disposition on the part of the managers of the home to resign, and to resent examination of the institution's funds by the State. I believe that that should be done in every instance.

"In this case, however, the questionnaire which was sent with the check indicated that it was the intention of the Welfare Department not only to supervise the financial features, but also to take over the entire management of the home.

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None Too Poor to Miss Spirit of Xmas Giving

A little boy stood on the street corner waiting for his particular green car. He rubbed the shabby top of one shoe against the other, and blew on the little fellow.

"Pretty cold today, sonny." A prosperous-looking old gentleman, also waiting for a car, bent over to talk to the little fellow.

"Yes, sir, it's cold," and the boy pulled his green sweater tighter around his neck, and shifted his large newspaper package from one arm to the other.

"Looks as though you have your Christmas dinner in that bundle." The old gentleman raised his cane and tapped the edge of the papers.

"Christmas dinner? No, sir." The boy's eyes glared seriously from under his long gray curls. "No, sir, these are the tips of my fingers."

"These are Christmas presents; they're shoes for the poor boys."

CHURCH GUILTY OF MURDER; SLEW TWO AUTO SALESMEN

Young Man Sentenced to Death After Double Slaying

Chicago, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Have a car, and for many years interested in the work, explained the return of the check today.

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PERSONAL ISSUES PROMPT FIGHT ON TREATY IN SENATE

Shafts to Be Aimed at Hughes and Lodge—Amendment or Reservation Forecast

PERIL OF AGREEMENT ON PACIFIC EXAGGERATED

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger

Washington, Dec. 23.—The so-called peril of the four-Power treaty, of which much is said in Washington dispatches, is, as Mark Twain said of his obituary, greatly exaggerated.

It is true that the treaty will have to be amended or else have a reservation attached to it, but either course will make the acceptance of the treaty sure, unless some new development of the Conference presents new difficulties.

The opposition to the treaty in its present form is largely personal. The situation in this respect recalls that which arose over the Versailles pact, when one-half the opposition on the bill was directed at President Wilson himself.

President Harding's declaration that he did not interpret the four-Power agreement to cover the home islands of Japan has given license to Senators who wish for various reasons of their own to put Secretary Hughes and Senator Lodge in the line.

If the agreed meaning of the pact had been revealed at the moment of its adoption, and if it had been accepted by President Harding, nothing would have been heard from various Senators who are now rushing forward with demands that the instrument be amended by amendments or reservations.

EMBEZZLER OF STATE FUNDS KEPT FROM TRIAL AS 'FAVOR' TO SNYDER'S POLITICAL ALLY

Ex-Judge Shay, Employee of Treasurer, Is Defendant's Lawyer

MAN ON PAYROLL DESPITE OLD RECORD

Brendle Not on Bail and Case Is Not Even Listed Yet, Prosecutor Admits

"WHEELS WITHIN WHEELS" IN NEW HARRISBURG ANGLE

Auditor General Tries to Unravel Jumble of Figures That Began "Appropriation Orgy"



Here is the third of the series of articles in which Colonel McCain, of the Evening Public Ledger staff, is turning inside out certain amazing conditions at Harrisburg.

AUTO KIDNAPPER KILLED

Companion in Chicago Jail May Be Train Robber

Chicago, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Victims of the bandit who robbed one of the Baltimore and Ohio cars Tuesday night, today called at the police station in an endeavor to identify Claude Thomas, thirty-three, of Seattle, who was captured last night after his companion, Carl Gilbert, thirty, of Omaha, had been killed by a policeman.

Thomas and Gilbert had kidnaped Mrs. James J. Callahan, wife of the former manager of the Chicago American League baseball team, her daughter, Margaret, sixteen, and George Hardin, her brother, just after they had stepped into an automobile in front of their home on the South Side.

Thomas, according to a solid zig-zag drive through the streets of the South Side, which ended when the Callahan car was wrecked by the robbers in attempting to turn sharply.

MORSE YIELDS ON PROBE

Withdraws Objections to Grand Jury Inspection of Books

Washington, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Charles W. Morse, who is under \$200,000 bail to await action of the Federal Grand Jury on a charge of conspiracy growing out of his transactions with the Shipping Board, today withdrew the objections which he had filed in the Elastic Supreme Court to the inspection by the Grand Jury of the books of his company.

Irvin Morse, son of the shipbuilder, told Chief Justice McLean that his father was willing to submit any and all evidence which the Government desired.

The books of the C. W. Morse Company and the Steamship Operating Company, both of New York, are in the hands of United States Attorney Gordon under a subpoena.

Tracked Heavily Guarded

Only a week ago an attempt was made to rob a freight train at this same point, and Superintendent J. C. Harper, of the Pennsylvania Railroad police, had put a special detail of men on the tracks in the neighborhood of Whitemarsh.

CHARGED WITH FRAUD

A nickel-plated model of a "spring motor," the product of a dream to revolutionize applied mechanics, ran for three minutes today, before Federal Judge Dickinson and a jury who are trying D. W. Colvin on a charge of using the mails to defraud.

Judge, Jury and Lawyers Gaze as Colvin Demonstrates Contraption

Colvin is the inventor of the "motor," which is described as a self-increasing and horse-power machine, although Colvin repudiates the suggestion that he hoped to solve the problem of perpetual motion, an idea that has haunted scientists for a century or more.

Wife Has Deserted Man Who Served Twelve Years, Although Innocent

When Sebastian De Masi leaves the Eastern Penitentiary tomorrow on Christmas Day, paroled after twelve years' imprisonment for a murder of which he is now said to be innocent, his wife will be waiting to greet him.

SISTER TO GREET DE MASI WHEN HE LEAVES PRISON

Six months ago he brought her from Italy with money he earned in prison by making beaded bags. She is the only relative he has left. His mother, also several years ago, he wife deserted him after he was sentenced to be hanged.

TRAPPED IN BOSTON TUBE

Christmas shoppers Caught When Subway Power Halts

Boston, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Traffic today for two hours today and thousands of commuters and Christmas shoppers were trapped in trains underground when a main power cable in the Cambridge subway grounded and exploded.

TRAPPED IN BOSTON TUBE

Confusion ensued in the vicinity of the explosion between Chauncey street and the South station, when volume of passengers jammed the tube. The rail extended to adjoining subway systems, but the traffic there was only temporary. Subway officials said there were no casualties and the damage was slight.

TRAIN ROBBER CONFESSES

Pal of Dead Bandit Admits Several Hold-ups

Chicago, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Frank Timmons, whose companion, Earl Timmons, was shot and killed last night after he had kidnaped and murdered Mrs. James J. Callahan, her daughter and brother, confessed to the police today that he and his partner had participated in a number of hold-ups.

ANYHOW, IT WAS FUN

Roaring Fire Engines Great Sight for Xmas Shoppers—False Alarm

Christmas shopping was temporarily halted shortly before 7 o'clock today when fire engines raced along Market street to answer a fire alarm sounded at Third and Market streets.

NO SNOW FOR XMAS

But Maybe There'll Be Skating, Then Again It Might Rain

The chance of a white Christmas is slight, according to the new prediction of the weather man.

FIRE DAMAGES TOWN

Three Families Driven From Homes, Four Stores Destroyed

Moonsa, Pa., Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Fire of unknown origin at Moonsa, north of here, last night destroyed three buildings in the heart of the town, occupying a block known as the "Three Families" block.

FARMER'S SON BURNS TO DEATH

Robert L. Lipp, four-year-old son of Roy Lipp, West Cain farmer, was burned to death. The boy's clothing became ignited from a wood stove in the kitchen of the house while his mother was occupied in a room upstairs.

BEGIN TODAY
Ruby M. Ayres'
Gripping New Story
The Fortune Hunter
Page 29

THE JOB YOU ARE LOOKING FOR MAY BE FOUND IN THE HELP WANTED COLUMN ON PAGE 27.

PERHAPS THE VERY ARTICLE YOU ARE INTERESTED IN IS IN THE FOR SALE COLUMN ON PAGE 27.