

British Robbers Make Record Haul

LONDON (AP) — The known loss in the biggest mail robbery in British history shot up to 200,000 pounds (\$260,000) Thursday, all in bank notes.

It was learned also that the thieves, in their haste, left behind another 100,000 pounds (\$260,000).

Prime Minister Winston Churchill's Conservative government, shaken by the daring coup near the heart of London, promised an official statement on the affair to both Houses of Parliament.

Meanwhile, Scotland Yard called in every available detective to help run down the seven masked men who slugged three mail truck guards and seized the fortune in registered mail a block off busy Oxford street just before dawn Wednesday.

Disclosure of the huge currency loss came when insurance representatives posted rewards totaling 14,500 pounds (\$40,800) for arrest of the thieves and return of the cash.

They said the money, all in soiled but still negotiable one pound and ten shilling notes, had been consigned by three banks outside London to the Bank of England, where it was to have been destroyed in the pulping machines.

The overlooked money was in bags left in the stolen truck.

Brazil has completed its 12th and final airstrip of a string leading from Manaus on the Amazon southeast to Rio de Janeiro.



LIKE CORDWOOD—These freight cars, piled one on top of the other, are part of 30 cars of a 69-car Monon freight train that were derailed at Lowell, Ind. Alcohol in six cars burst into flame and threatened the entire business section before being brought under control. No one was injured in the accident.

Niagara Falls Conquerer Willing To Try Again If 'Dough' Is Put Up

By HAL BOYLE

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y. (AP) — Many have dreamed of winning fame and fortune by going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

Six people have done it. Three lived — three were pounded to death by the waters.

The only surviving victor of the falls now is Jean Lussier, who bounced and floated in a home-made rubber ball over the Canadian side of the cataract on July 4, 1928. He emerged uninjured.

Jean, a rugged former carnival stunt man, now works as a machine operator in an industrial plant here.

He will be 59 years old this year and next Sunday will attend the baptism of his fourth child—a five-week-old boy.

Lussier, who has escaped the bad luck that caught up with other conquerors of the Niagara, says he would like to go over the falls a second time. But with him it's strictly business.

"Show me the dough, and I'll go," he said. "But it will have to be this year or next—after that I'll be too old."

Jean would like to become the first man in history to go over the American side of the falls, which is particularly hazardous because of the rocks beneath.

Sponsor Needed

He already has designed a three-layer rubber ball to be built around an aluminum frame. He now needs a sponsor, willing to put up \$3,000 to construct the ball—and the \$10,000 fee he wants to make the voyage.

"I'll go over any waterfall in the world in a rubber ball," he said. "If the fall is too high, I'll put wings on the ball."

The first person to ride over Niagara Falls successfully was a doughty lady schoolteacher, Mrs. Annie Edson Taylor. Her vehicle was a crude wooden barrel with iron hoops.

According to tradition at the last moment she said "I don't want to go."

But her backers reportedly poured her two water glasses full of Scotch, closed the hatch, and pushed the barrel out into the current.

Dies In Poorhouse

Mrs. Taylor emerged below the falls unscathed, sold souvenir cards of her exploit at a local museum, and died years later in the poorhouse.

An English daredevil, Bobby Leach, floated over the falls in an iron barrel in 1911. He forgot to strap himself in, and when he was pulled out of his metal cask he had a broken jaw and two broken kneecaps.

Leach had a rather unfortunate ending for a stunt man.

While touring New Zealand with his iron barrel in 1926 he slipped on an orange peel—and died.

Lussier was the first man to do the job scientifically. He spent \$7,000 and a year preparing. He constructed his rubber ball himself. He entered the ball at 3:05 in the afternoon, went over the 167-foot falls at 3:55, and came out of the ball at 4:23.

How does it feel gong over the falls?

"I kept bracing for a sharp jar, but it never came," recalled Lussier. "It was like making a ski jump in slow motion. The ball was under the water only a minute and five seconds."

In the next 14 years Lussier made a small fortune touring the world with his rubber ball and telling the story of his 78-minute exploit.

"I'm satisfied," he said. "It paid off for me."

Most residents say his talk of going over the falls again is only verbal dreaming, but little Jean—his five feet five inches tall, weighs 154 pounds — says stubbornly:

"Show me the dough, and I'll go."

Law Overtakes Good Samaritan On Boss' Money

CHICAGO (AP) — Playing the role of a good samaritan came easy for Anthony C. Adams, a \$42 a week messenger-handman whose heart was as big as his boss' bank roll.

When Adams appeared at his favorite saloon on Archer Avenue the boys would start whopping it up. Adams (The Colonel) always would pick up the tab. His tavern pals agreed Adams was a good-time guy.

And, it was disclosed in felony court Thursday, Adams was overly generous away from the bar—with his employer's funds—in some of his friends.

Prosecutors James A. Brown and William Brumlik told Judge Charles S. Dougherty that Adams over a two-year period had spent and given away \$34,300. The total may be higher, they said.

Adams, 43 and a bachelor, was in court on a forgery charge.

Adams was a messenger-handman in the office of William Wood Prince Jr., president of the Union Stock Yards and Transit Company. He took care of many of Prince's personal matters and had access to

company vouchers to draw the money.

The prosecutors said Adams would make out a voucher to a friend and would forge Prince's name on it. A company employe then would make out the check and give it to Adams.

Adams, the prosecutors said, apparently spent little of the money on himself. He turned over his \$42 weekly pay check to his mother and she gave him \$10 a week spending money.

The prosecutors said that once Adams gave nearly \$10,000 to a saloonkeeper "because your kids would like it much better if you fixed up the house."

Another friend, a union official, was given \$9,850 as a friendly gesture because Adams didn't think he was well dressed.

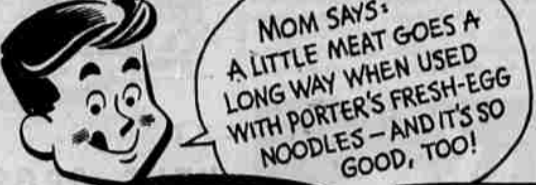
Another union official, the prosecutors said, was given \$5,000 to pay on a mortgage on his home and \$5,000 for an operation.

Brown said Adams was arrested after fellow employes became suspicious upon hearing of his gifts and told police. He was released on \$10,000 bond and the forgery case continued to June 20.

American Indians are so-called because Columbus believed he landed in India when he discovered America.

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