

BILLINGS HELD AS BLACKMAILER

Prisoner Also Is Accused as Talkative Burglar.

EXTRADITION IS WAIVED

With End of Trail Reached, Events Leading to Suspicion and Arrest Are Revealed.

(Continued From First Page)

He parked at the meeting place, a man, he later identified as Billings, rushed up to the machine.

"Say, a funny thing just happened," spoke up Billings to Mr. Nelson. "A fellow handed me a half dollar and this note and told me to give the note to you."

Mr. Nelson opened up the note and read: "By mail tomorrow."

He took this to indicate that the ring would be returned the next day by mail if the \$25 were given to the messenger.

Mr. Nelson told Billings that he did not believe the story and asked for a receipt from the man who had handed him the note.

Man Is Described. "He was a short fellow and wore a short navy overcoat," replied Billings. This answered the description of the "talkative burglar."

About an hour later, Billings went up to Mr. Nelson's office in the Yeon building and handed him another letter signed by the "talkative burglar."

In this letter, the fellow pleaded for the \$25 and promised he would reform and pay back both the \$100 which he procured before as well as the \$25 and the diamond ring. Mr. Nelson believed his story and gave him the money.

In one of the telephone conversations the "talkative burglar" told Mr. Nelson that he had sought for his country in the navy during the war; that he had a wife and two children, was out of work and needed the \$25 to pay his rent and grocery bills.

"If you will give me the \$25 I will consider it as a loan and pay back every cent," he promised in the telephone conversation. "I will have a job in one of the shipyards to start next week and if I can get by this week I will be all right."

Mrs. Nelson Meets Woman. While these negotiations were in progress Mrs. Nelson met a little woman near the corner of Sixth and Alder streets, at the entrance of the Meier & Frank store, and recognized her diamond engagement ring upon the woman's finger.

The woman had two small children and was at home that night. Mrs. Nelson spoke of meeting the woman who she thought certain was the burglar. She had a job in one of the shipyards to start next week and if I can get by this week I will be all right."

After he took up the chase, Sergeant Day directed his efforts toward locating the place where the man was working during his stay in Portland. After he had procured this last money from Mr. Nelson, Billings failed to put in an appearance at the play at the clove theater, where he had spent part of his time before.

Later, through the aid of a private detective agency, Sergeant Day learned that Billings had been living at 127 1/2 Twelfth street. The place where Mr. Nelson was asked to drop the first envelope was in front of 127 1/2 Twelfth street, where Billings was at that time living. Mr. Nelson likewise recalled that a man was watching from a bedroom window while he dropped the envelope.

Billings Already Gone. When the police detectives went to the place to take Billings into custody they learned that he had left the place a week before, and every effort to locate him met with failure.

Sergeant Day then telegraphed to Representative Patterson at Washington, D. C., to get information concerning Billings' navy record. It was learned through the navy department that Billings had been given a discharge in the navy, but had been given a dishonorable discharge because of bad conduct. Upon his discharge he had been given transportation to Seattle.

At the request of Sergeant Day the navy department also sent the fingerprint records of the man. As soon as the fingerprint records arrived, Sergeant Day sent them to the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., where the man's complete criminal record was forthcoming.

It was learned by this means that Billings' criminal career first started in Portland when he was 19 years of age. He was first arrested here early in 1906 for stealing money from telephone boxes. After he had served a local sentence he went to Denver, where he was arrested for theft from a number of hotels, where he had been employed as a bellhop.

Arrest in 1910 Revealed. The Leavenworth record further disclosed that in 1910 he had been arrested in Butte county, California, for larceny and sentenced to four years at San Quentin prison. In 1916 he was arrested in Kansas City, Kan., for attempted burglary and served a year. A short time later he was arrested at Kansas City, Mo., as a suspect and served a sentence for vagrancy.

It was likewise learned that upon his last visit to Portland he brought with him his wife and two small children. They were living for a time at an east side address. Shortly after the burglary, early morning burglaries, Billings sent his wife and two babies to his wife's home. The location of Mrs. Billings is for the present being withheld, as the police do not believe she was in any way implicated with her husband.

Although Mr. Nelson reiterated yesterday that he was unable to take the witness stand and identify Billings as the "talkative burglar," Mayor Baker, Chief Jenkins, Sergeant Day and others who worked on the case are confident that his identity as the daring and conversational criminal can be positively established. His known record as a burglar, they say, is against him at the very outset. Then, it is asserted, the "talkative burglar" used a little navy blue skull cap, such as is worn by "goats" aboard ship. Billings is known to have had one of these caps in his possession in Portland and is known to have left his rooming-house late at night wearing one, it is declared.

Description Is Given. It is also asserted that Billings answers the same general description of the "talkative burglar." He is about five feet 7 inches tall and weighs around 150 pounds. He has brown hair and is 31 years old. This

MAN SUSPECTED OF BEING "TALKATIVE BURGLAR" AND "THE SHADOW," ARRESTED IN SEATTLE BY PORTLAND POLICE.



George Billings, ex-convict, burglar and vaudeville actor.

LABOR RULE IS PROPOSED

GIOLITTI TO PRESENT BILL AFFECTING INDUSTRIES.

Workmen in Italy Would Get Share in Plants, Electing National Council of Nine.

ROME, Jan. 24.—The bill soon to be presented to parliament by Premier Giolitti, under which workers would receive a share in the management of industrial plants, provides that the employees in each industry shall elect a national council composed of nine men.

Each political or syndicalist organization will have a job represented in the council by one or more members, in proportion to the membership of the organization, the bill provides.

Under the bill each national council would appoint two representatives for participation in the management of each factory, their power to extend to technical, financial and disciplinary arrangements, including the fixing of prices and the purchases of raw materials. Special commissions would be appointed to provide employment for those out of work, according to the precedence on the list of unemployed.

The employers, in declaring their opposition to the bill, assert that it would deprive them of technical independence, which they say is indispensable to successful operation of the plants.

The communists, led by the millionaire Terracini, oppose both the government and the employers, asserting any participation by the men in the management of industries must be purely destructive, that participation by the men must not assist but hinder development of the life of the factories.

Signal Given to Autoists. "The Shadow" announced he would be in waiting some place along the Base Line road, and that the package should be dropped when a roadster signal was seen from the roadster. Police detective drove the car which had been fitted up with two spotlights and two rear lights as demanded by the extortionist, and when the flashlight signal came from the darkness they jumped from the machine and gave chase. The man eluded them.

Again the following night, "The Shadow" demanded that Mr. Ladd leave the money. If he failed this time, the man gave solemn assurance that all members of the Ladd family would be killed. Once more the police drove the car while a dozen other officers trailed the car containing the package.

The flashlight signal was again given and shots were exchanged between the officers and "The Shadow." An all-night search was conducted through the woods east of Montavilla, Lake county, and the car was changed shots at close range from the man.

From that day the identity of "The Shadow" was shrouded in secrecy, but with the arrest of Billings the police believe that the dual mysteries can be cleared.

WIFE RUES JAILING MATE

Battery Charged, but Woman Reports Complaint; Spouse Home.

"Another love spat" characterized patrolmen when they received an order from Judge Rossman to release George Hennings, arrested last night on complaint of his wife who charged him with attack and battery.

Police said that Mrs. Hennings swore to a warrant for her husband's arrest, reported her action and then notified her spouse that she had gotten him into trouble and would do her best to aid him to obtain his release. Bail was set at \$500, but the couple, after reconciliation, telephoned to Judge Rossman, who ordered Hennings released on recognizance.

LIQUOR TRACED 60 MILES

Hunt Ends When Homeowner Is Fined \$50 for Having Still.

RENO, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—A long liquor trail which began in Bend and led 60 miles to Fleetwood, in Lake county, ended here this afternoon when James Fink, a home-steader, in whose cabin a still was found by Special Agent Nixon and Deputy Sheriff Stokoe, was fined \$25 and costs. The case was heard by County Judge Sawyer.

James Allen, who was followed to Fleetwood by the officers and arrested on suspicion of being connected with moonshining operations in that section, was discharged by the court.

WATER CHARGED WITH THEFT.

Charged with the theft of table silver from the University club cafe, Fred F. Popham, waiter in the dining room, was arrested late last night. The larceny complaint was filed at the request of B. O. Heinke, in charge of the dining room.

S & H green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co., Main 353, 560-21.—Adv.

I'M GOAT OF POLICE, DECLARES BILLINGS

All Charges Denied; Hounding Out of Jobs Alleged.

CAPTURE EASILY MADE

Suspect Is Taken Into Custody by Detectives in Waiting When He Calls for Mail.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—George Billings, alias Joseph Brady, cabinet entertainer 32 years old, was arrested in Seattle this afternoon by Portland detectives on suspicion of being "The Shadow," blackmailer of Seattle's wealthy residents, and also of being the "talkative burglar." Brady was taken to the city jail tonight and will be returned to Portland tomorrow night unless he changes his mind and attempts to fight extradition.

Billings was arrested when he called at the postoffice for mail and was taken into custody by Lieutenant of Detectives Goits and Inspectors Lamson and Heller of the Portland detective department. They were waiting for him. The three officers were assisted by Postoffice Inspector Walter C. Donahue. Billings surrendered without trouble.

The Portland detectives came to Seattle Sunday night to take up the search for the "talkative burglar" and "The Shadow." A search of Seattle cabarets was made Sunday night in company with Detective Waechter of the Seattle police department. A search of the Grand Pacific hotel, 1115 1/2 First avenue, was made.

Billings tonight denied any connection with the Portland burglaries or the attempted blackmailing and said he was being hounded by the police because of his prison record.

"They drove me out of Portland because they would not let me make an honest living," he said in his cell. "I have a job in the Northwest Steel company's shipyards but the police were not content to let me alone and told my employers that I was a burglar and they discharged me. I got work and succeeded it was but a matter of a few days before the same stunt was pulled and I was again out of a job."

Billings was able to reach the fellow they were after and decided to use a goat to protect themselves. And they picked me out. But they can't prove any of these jobs on me because I can show that I lived straight in Portland. I came to Seattle almost broke and had to go to work as a waiter in the Grand Pacific hotel at the cabarets as an entertainer.

"I've got a wife and this is going to hit her hard. She knows I've been in prison and she's been waiting for me at Monroe. I haven't been able to hold a job long enough to give her a living because the police won't leave me alone. They've got me out of work because I was successful as a burglar of society homes."

Billings signified an intention of fighting extradition if he could obtain legal counsel and aid, but said he was without funds to pay for an attorney and may decide to go back to Portland to face the charge against him.

Billings Slightly Deaf. Billings is slightly deaf because of an injury to his ear drums while standing too close to a forward turret on a battleship when the battery of forward guns was fired, he says. J. J. McConnell, Rev. Mr. McConnell of Seattle on April 7, 1917, the day war was declared, he said. He served overseas in the blockade squadron and where he was shot in the ear.

Billings was born in Parsons, Kan. Before the war he resided in Hoquiam, Aberdeen, Seattle and other cities of the northwest, working as an entertainer. Aside from his wife, he said, he has no living relatives.

Billings admitted that he had a prison record and said he served four years in the California state penitentiary at San Quentin for grand larceny, being sentenced in 1910 from Oroville. Detectives who arrested him said that he served a term in Portland in 1905 for burglary, but Billings denied this.

AD CLUB TO STUDY MAILS

Direct Advertising Will Be Discussed at Luncheon Today.

The efficacy of "direct-by-mail advertising" is to be determined by members of the Portland Ad club who will hold their regular luncheon tomorrow noon at the Hotel Belmont. The day has been designated as "direct-by-mail advertising day" and speakers will explain this method of enthusiastic propaganda.

Among the principal speakers will be A. C. Ackerman, advertising manager of Montgomery Ward & Co.; A. A. Patterson, manager of the Alderton company; and J. T. Crossley, advertising manager of the Brownsville Woolen Mills. Robert C. Paulus, representing the Oregon Fruit Growers association, will tell of the rapid rise of the "poor prune" in the state market. The Royal Rosarian quartet will sing.

1500 ATTEND CONCERT

Negro Orchestra on Return Engagement Scores at Auditorium.

Fifteen hundred people attended the concert of the American Synopated orchestra, negro, last night in the public auditorium, and by their enthusiastic applause and calls for extra numbers showed that they enjoyed the concert. The management was under direction of Lawrence A. Lambert of Portland.

When these orchestra men last played here they were greeted with a snow storm, and yesterday when they fell for several hours and then stopped, the musicians just missed the same weather.

This time the orchestra returns better than ever, and otherwise improved in personnel and programme. There are about 30 people in the lit-

PRICE PROBE IS FACED

RISE IN FARM IMPLEMENTS MAY BE INVESTIGATED.

Company Officials Welcome Action, Declaring Justification of Scale Will Be Revealed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Investigation of complaints that the international Harvester company had announced its intention of increasing prices of some of its farm machinery products was called for in a resolution introduced today by Representative Jones (dem.) of Texas. The resolution would direct the house interstate commerce committee to conduct an inquiry and if prices have been increased to find out why.

Miss Cornelia Marvin, state librarian, asked for an appropriation of \$74,600 with which to conduct the affairs of that institution during the biennium. Of this amount, she said, \$58,860 would be necessary to defray the operating expenses, \$20,400 for improvements and \$4,900 for replacements.

Representatives of the Portland Baby home asked for \$20 per capita per month for the institution for a month for all babies in the institution and an additional \$5 per capita per month for babies under one year of age. Based on the present population of 55 babies the appropriation would total \$26,400 for the biennium.

J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, urged appropriation of \$64,013.05 to carry on the work of vocational training in public schools. This sum, under the existing laws, will be matched dollar for dollar by the federal government, swelling the total funds to carry on the work of this department to \$128,026.10.

L. M. Gilbert, superintendent of the state training school for boys, asked for appropriations aggregating \$137,200, or approximately \$10,000 more than was authorized for the last biennium. The committee on the industry was formed here Saturday at a meeting of oil men and others, numbering more than 400, from all parts of the state. Glad Kahl of Wenatch was chosen president.

The organization headquarters will be in Lewistown. At the present time there is a great oil boom on throughout Montana with wells being brought in and new fields developed at a rapid pace.

Centralia Reports Three Crimes. CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—Thieves broke into the Standard Hardware company's store and stole four rifles and a revolver Saturday night. The daughter of W. L. Hoyt discovered a prowler in a bedroom of her home Sunday. Pointing a revolver at the girl and ordering her to keep still, the man made a hasty exit. Sunday night a man named White was attacked by a robber on First street. Knocked down and relieved of \$3.

Girl of 7 Accuses Man of 61. Walter Messner, aged 61, was arrested late last night and charged with an attack on a 7-year-old girl. The complaint was filed by the girl's mother. Messner is alleged to have enticed the child into a house and then attacked her.

Brading, embroidery, neatmaking. Booth's Morgan Building.—Adv.

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS CALLED FIRE TRAP

18 Who Sleep on Third Floor Said to Be in Danger.

\$72,500 IS SUM ASKED

Librarian Seeks \$79,660; Baby Home Pleads for \$20 Per Capita Per Month.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—That the present state industrial school for girls is inadequate to meet needs for which it is intended, is almost entirely devoid of fire protection and under existing conditions is a menace to more than 18 girls who are obliged to sleep on the third floor of the structure, was the statement made before the joint ways and means committee at a meeting here tonight.

Mrs. Lola Baldwin, chairman of the advisory board of the school, informed the members of the committee that 47 girls were housed in the school, despite the fact that there were accommodations for only 25. To care for this number of girls, she said, it had been necessary for the superintendent to place beds in the attic.

To remedy this condition properly, Mrs. Baldwin appealed to the committee to appropriate from the funds of the state \$72,500 for a new building and an additional \$12,500 for maintenance during the present biennium. This money, she said, should be appropriated in addition to \$47,300 needed to defray the general operating expense of the institution and \$6340 for replacements.

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THE COFFEE CUP LUNCH ROOMS. Look for the Steaming Cup. A Regular Lunch FOR 20c That's a Wonder CHOICE OF MEAT OR FISH PIE OR PUDDING COFFEE OR TEA. The Most for the Least Three Appetizing Places.

124 BROADWAY 133 PARK & ALDER 332 WASHINGTON. \$5.50 MEAL TICKETS \$5—SAVINGS OF 10%. Special Breakfast 25c Ham or Bacon and Egg Potatoes, Toast, Coffee. All Other Dairy Lunch Dishes at Correspondingly Low Prices. A Co-operative Business—And a Progressive Business in a Progressive City. NO CHARGE FOR BREAD. We Make and Bake Everything We Use. Most Talked of and Best Thought of Eating Places in the City. THE MAN WHO DOES NOT ADVERTISE MAY KNOW HIS BUSINESS, BUT NOBODY ELSE DOES.

MANY EYES. Go for years without the need of glasses. Others, due to some refractive error or continued close application, need glasses early in life. Whatever the reason for your need of glasses, my experience of more than twenty-one years in sight testing and the use of scientific instruments will enable me to determine your exact needs. Perfect-fitting glasses made in my own shop will meet your every requirement. DR. WHEAT. Eyesight Specialist. Second Floor, Morgan Building.

PRE-WAR PRICES. \$1 Up. NEW PERKINS HOTEL. Portland, Oregon. (Special.)—Bond dealers appearing before the senate banking commission urged passage of the Eddy bill, which placed bond dealers under the control of the corporation commissioner. The Eddy bill received the support of the bond dealers because they said that it gave wider protection to the investors and did not provide a monopoly for a few dealers, as did the Koreski bill, according to their claim. The Koreski bill, which places bond dealers under the control of the state banking department, was supported by its author alone.

Have soft, fluffy, beautiful hair and have it more abundantly by using Neubro's Herculicide. Keep Your Nose Clean. Common colds are infectious and dangerous—check them at once by using Mayr's Pine Needle Balm. A pure, natural product of the northern pines. The many flu and pneumonia cases in the last few years should be a warning to take precaution against colds. Cold germs will not thrive in a nose that is kept clean and wholesome. Mayr's Pine Needle Balm is as soothing and refreshing as a breath of pine forest mountain air. Catarrh, which is usually the result of neglected colds clears up quickly when this beneficial pine fragrance is used. Sold in two sizes—30c and 60c tubes. Free trial by writing Geo. H. Mayr, 219 W. Austin ave., Chicago. Mayr's Pine Needle Balm is for sale by Owl Drug Company and druggists everywhere.—Adv.

The United States National Bank. "One of the Northwest's Great Banks". PLACE your bonds, notes, deeds, contracts, mortgages, insurance policies and other important papers under lock and key behind steel and concrete in the great Safe Deposit Vaults at the United States National Bank.