QUARTET OF BAD MEN CAPTURED BY POLICE

Believed to Have Been Implicated in the Latest Series of Hold-Ups and Robberies—Identification of the Yeggmen Seems to Be Complete.

Merle West, Edward Christopher, E Parsley, Roy Stewart and Joe Cohen are in the tanks at the police station, held on various charges, but supposed to be either actual participants in the various holdups which have occurred during the past 10 days or else yeggmen who are only waiting for a good chance to stick up the belated and unwary pedestrian.

West was arrested by Detectives Coleman and Price Saturday afternoon and was brought to the station and booked on the charge of vagrancy. This, however, was really to hold him until the officers should be ready to place against him a much more serious charge, and this morning he was served with a warrant sworn to by Detective Coleman, charging him with highway robbery. He has been positively identified as the man who held up and robbed the saloon of Erick Huseby at 406 Hawthorne avenue late on the night of October 3. This is inself is a grave enough charge, but Coleman and Price are confident that they will be able to connect him with the murder of Officer Young.

One Suspect Escapes.

Christopher was arrested by Officer Van Overn at the corner of Grand avenue and East Morrison at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. He was acting in a suspicious manner, and when brought to the station and searched was found to have a revolver on his person. Van Overn came upon two men who had a suspicious look to them, and he followed them for several blocks. Finally he caught up with them, and drawing his revolver, ordered them to throw up their hands.

After a second's hesitation they obeyed. But the two men were about 20 feet apart, and as Officer Van Overn seized Christopher, the other man turned and ran. Christopher called to him to stop, and as he did not obey, the officer fired twice. But the men were only suspects and for that reason, as well as because there was a house in line and some innocent person might be shot, Van Overn fired low, and the fellow escaped.

Van Overn led his prisoner to a patrol box and called up the station. While he was waiting for the wagon, a man named F. C. Monnon, of Fifth and Taylor streets, came along and reported that he had been held up at Seventh and Burnside streets by two men and robbed of $8 in money and an Elgin watch. He positively identified Christopher, Van Overn's prisoner, as one of the men in the job.

Held Up on Bridge.

This was only one of several jobs pulled off by these two men. At 2:15 yesterday morning Albert Nelson was held up on the Madison street bridge by the same two men and robbed. One of the men hit him on the head with a pistol, but he was not seriously injured. Nelson later visited the police station and identified Christopher as one of the men who stuck him up.

The two yeggs pulled off at least one, and possibly two other jobs before they were caught, all of them within a few minutes of one another. Before holding up Nelson on the bridge they held up Ben's restaurant, 306 First street. This was at 1:40 o'clock. The two men, masked, entered the restaurant and at the muzzle of a gun compelled Mrs. Cain, the wife of the proprietor, to open the cash register. However, they got little for their pains, as there was only about $2 in the register. Three men, John Carlson, Peter Bue and Frank Suttler, were sitting at the table. Each of these was tapped on the head with a blackjack to intimidate them, but no money was secured from them. A night watchman who was in the kitchen ran out to give the alarm, as did several other men as soon as they could, but the highwaymen made their escape for the time being.

Sure of Their Men.

The second of the two highwaymen was captured by detectives Hellyer and Maloney at 33 Franklin streets at 6:40 last night, and gives the name of E. Parsley. The detectives are sure of their man, for Officer Van Overn has positively identified him as the man who got away from him Sunday morning at the time he arrested Edward Christopher. And as Christopher has been identified by several victims as one of the men who robbed them, there is no doubt but that Parsley is the second of the duo of bad men.

A third important capture was made by Detectives Coleman and Price yesterday afternoon when they arrested Roy Stewart in room 306 Ohio house, Madison and Front streets. He has not yet been identified as having been connected with any of the jobs pulled off, but if he was not concerned in any of them, he was evidently preparing to enter the holdup game.

Coleman and Price found a mask and revolver in his room. Stewart, say the detectives, is the third member of the trio that pulled off 11 holdups last year. Two of the fellows, Cobb and King, were captured and given six years each on conviction. Stewart got away. But he is now tangled in the meshes of the police net.

Still another arrest was made by Detectives Coleman and Price yesterday, and they regard it as important. Joe Cohen, who, the detectives say, is known as the "king of the yeggmen," was taken into custody at Second and Washington streets. He served a term in Walla Walla penitentiary and has had an arm shot off.

Coleman and Price and Hellyer and Malony are trying to clean up the town of actual or possible hold-up men before the gentle art of highway robbery becomes a popular pastime. Already they have gathered in a number of dangerous yeggmen and are keeping their eyes open for the others who intend to make Portland their headquarters and the scene of their operations during the winter. Holdups are already becoming regular Sunday and Saturday night events and unless the gangs that are drifting into this town are broken up it will be as dangerous to be out after night as it was last winter.

WOLFF'S GLOVES FOUND

(Continued From Page One.)

at the old people's home. He said he fell on his head about six months ago and since that time has been subject to nervous spells. He was too nervous to repeat the story that he had told the district attorney last Saturday and was temporarily excused.

A. H. Olson, watchmaker, who worked for Nathan Wolff for five years, leaving his employ on April 27, three days before the murder, said that Wolff wore a cravenette with a touch of gray in it. He did not see it very frequently. When shown the coat Martin had with him when arrested, the witness said it was "very similar" to the Wolff coat.

Identifies Rifle.

Olson next identified the heavy rifle that was found near Wolff's body, stained with blood. This gun, said the witness, was in a rack on the south side of the store, and to reach the rack a person would have to go through the little gate near the entrance and turn down the aisle toward the rear for several feet.

Olson was also shown the Ewing gun, pawned at the Wolff store and later found with the bloody overcoat in South Portland. He could not be sure this was the rifle pawned by Ewing, but thought it was.

On cross-examination, Olson said Wolff was about five feet tall and weighed 140 or 145 pounds. Other witnesses have put the weight at 175. The witness said he had never had any trouble with Wolff. He left Wolff's employ because Wolff wanted to make a change. He could not recollect that Wolff had any recent trouble with customers, the effort of the defense to introduce a possible element of revenge as a motive being a failure. There were two locks on the pawnshop door and two keys were required to open it. The witness had two keys while he worked there, giving them to Wolff when he quit.

Eubank's Testimony.

E. C. Eubanks, manager of the clothing department of Ben Selling's store, made a strong witness in identifying the overcoat worn by Martin when he was arrested. He said: "I sold this, or one identically like it, to Nathan Wolff."

The witness said he knew Wolff four or five years and sold him colthing several times. In February he sold Wolff a cravenette, charging it to the pawnbroker's account. He identified entries made at the time. The coat sold to Wolff is manufactured by a New York firm and handled exclusively by Ben Selling in Portland. No two makes of coat, the witness explained, are just alike. There is always some difference in style and makeup.

The witness was shown an unsold coat of the same make, which had sale tags attached, and both coats were then admitted in evidence. From the coat found in Martin's possession the tags have been removed, but there are threads still clinging to the cloth, showing the size of the removed tags. The witness testified that the tags taken off were of the same size as those on the unsold coat of the same make. The coat had been little worn since the tags were cut away, in the judgment of the witness.

Size of Overcoat.

Eubanks said that the coat worn by Martin was probably 36 or 37 chest measure. About five coats of these sizes were sold from the store. The witness thought none other of the Selling stores sold these cravenettes, but could not be sure. Nor could he say whether or not stores in other towns have sold coats of the same make.

Detective Hellyer was recalled to identify the collar taken off Martin at the time of his arrest. This, he testified, is of the same style and make as the bloody one found in the pawnshop. The collars, including one removed from Wolff's body, were passed to the jurors for examination and were inspected with great interest. Police Captain Moore took the stand to trace the collar from Hellyer to Detective Tichenor, who took charge of the articles to be used as evidence.

Searched the Place.

Tichenor was called to complete the tracing of the collar. Then he was asked about his visits to the Martin home in Sellwood prior to the defendant's arrest, going first on the afternoon of May 4, and again at midnight. He and other officers searched the place with the assistance of Mrs. Martin. He testified to finding a collar, which he took charge of, because it was the same make and size as the blood-stained one found in the Wolff shop.

After Martin's arrest, said the witness, the defendant told him how he bought three shirts from Max Drey, and told the witness the other shirts were in the bottom drawer of the dresser at home. He had previously searched that dresser with Mrs. Martin, and there were no shirts there, nor did a careful search of the premises at any time disclose any.

As to the scars on his face, Martin explained to the witness that a cat scratched his face and bit his thumb. He said an ax flew from the handle and gashed his forehead. The witness searched the premises for an ax and found one only. It was in good condition and he split wood with it for Mrs. Martin, satisfying himself that the ax was not loose on the handle. The defense asked Tichenor if he did not find a hatchet with a broken handle, and he said he did not. Martin told him there were several axes or hatchets around the place. He searched the woodshed, but could not say whether or not the house has any basement. The ax found by Tichenor was introduced in evidence. It is an ordinary wood ax.

Cross-Examination.

The witness said that Martin denied that he had borrowed a gun from Mrs. Grub. Cross-examination as to Tichenor having been in the reform school came next. He was later recalled to testify as to receiving the Martin suitcase from the clerk at the Belvedere. He identified the gloves and other contents as articles contained in it when he first saw it.

William Schultz, who said he is wine clerk at the Turn Halle cafe, failed to add anything to the case. He knew Martin, but had not seen him on the day of the arrest, Martin having first learned from a Journal extra that he was wanted while in the Turn Halle.

With the testimony of Webb, the hotel clerk, the testimony of the morning was closed. This afternoon the state will tie up the loose ends of its testimony, and call Mrs. Wolff to identify the gloves and overcoat found in possession of Martin that are alleged to have been the property of Wolff.

MYSTERY OF BULLET FOUND ON SHOW CASE IN WOLFF'S STORE

In every great murder mystery there are circumstances that defy reasonable explanations. There are apparently unsolvable puzzles in some of the things connected with the killing of Nathan Wolff—things that neither side has a good explanation for.

The bullet hole through the glass wall case, with a mark on the wall behind where the pellet struck, is one of the mystifying things. This bullet is the one that is supposed to have entered the neck of Nathan Wolff at the beginning of his fight for life. It pierced the glass case at a point only half way back from the front of the store, just opposite the place where two large showcases that rest on a counter came together. Between these cases, on the counter, was found a flattened bullet, and an empty shell was on the floor close by.

Is this the bullet that passed through the glass case? There is only one hole in the case, and the measurement of the course of the lead from the point at which it struck the glass to the point where it struck the wall shows that it was fired at a downward angle. When it bounced from the wall, therefore, it would take about an equal angle downward from that point, if the unexpended energy were sufficient to carry it back. That it could bounce back through the same small hole it entered is unbelievable and impossible under the laws of physical action. Patrolman Inskeep, when he testified about the bullet, said he thought it must have bounced back through the same hole, but his theory was greeted with a skeptical burst of merriment by the spectators. Their skepticism was justified.

No bullet was found inside the glass case. Since the bullet did not bounce back through the hole by which it entered, it must have been removed by human hands. It had been removed before the officers came, therefore it would seem that it was removed by the murderer, intent on removing possible evidence as to the caliber of his weapon. But if that were the case, would he have been foolish enough to throw the bullet on the counter outside, where it was just as certain to be found?

This opens still a wider field for speculation. One possibility is that the murderer had with him a flattened bullet, fired at some other time, and that he left this on the counter to add mystery to the case, carrying the bullet that struck Wolff away with him. But, if his purpose was to add mystery, why did he not place the substituted bullet inside the glass case and thus complete the delusion?

Just one other explanation that fails to explain has been offered. This is that two shots were fired. This "theory" will not stand examination. It leaves the bullet hat entered the wall case still unaccounted for, and it supposes that another bullet could have been fired and badly flattened without leaving any mark on building or fixtures, for no other marks were discoverable.

Apparently the bullet is destined to remain a mystery. It is in evidence, but it will play no important part in the case, except that it confirms the fact already proved, that Nathan Wolff was shot.

ALLEGE M'CROSKEY'S JOBS MERELY AIR

E. P. McCroskey, an employment agent doing business at 21 North Second street under the name of E. P. McCroskey & Company, was arrested this morning by Sergeant Cole on four warrants, two each sworn to by E. F. Rose and J. W. Coe, laboring men, who accuse McCroskey of defrauding them.

McCroskey, it is alleged, took fees from the two men for finding jobs for them, gave them no receipts as is required by law, and sent them on a wild goose chase to Carrolls, Wash. When they got there they found there were no jobs for them and that there had been no probability of there being any.

Rose and Cole returned to Portland and went to McCroskey and demanded back their fees of $2 each, which they had paid him, as well as the money they had expended for transportation and which the law says the employment agent shall repay. But they had no receipts and McCroskey refused to make good. So they went to the police station and swore out warrants for his arrest.

IMPORTANT MATTERS BEFORE PARLIAMENT

(United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Oct. 12.——With the customary observances in both houses, parliament opened today. Measures of utmost importance, in view of social and industrial strife and the troubles in the near east, will occupy the attention of the legislators. The entire ten weeks' sitting will be occupied with government measures, the most important of which is the licensing bill.

Cable Treaty Signed.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Oct. 12.—The Chinese-Japanese convention regarding the Port Arthur-Che Foo cable treaty, was signed here today.

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In less serious skin affections, such as pimples, rash, herpes, blackheads, acne, barber's itch, etc., results show after an overnight application, only a small quantity being required to effect a cure. Those who use poslam for these minor skin troubles can now avail themselves of the special 50-cent package, recently adopted to meet such needs. Both the 50-cent package and the regular $1 jar may now be obtained in Portland at the Skidmore Drug Co., and other leading drug stores.

Samples for experimental purposes may be had free of charge by writing direct to the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West Twenty-fifth street, New York City.

KIRCHNER WANTS TRIAL BY JURY

The trial of Charles Kirchner, one of the proprietors of the Turn Halle cafe, and the five women, all victims of the raid on the place by Officer Fuller last week, will be held in the police court Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

John F. Logan, attorney for the defense, appeared before Judge Van Zante this morning and on behalf of Kirchner demanded a jury trial. The case is bound to be appealed, for Logan and Kirchner say that if the verdict goes against them they will carry the case to a higher court and will not stop fighting until they win out or have exhausted every recourse of appeal, while Deputy City Attorney Sullivan states that if he loses, he, too, will appeal.

NAUGHTY BOYS AND NAUGHTY CIGARETTES

There were probably 500 boys in Portland who smoked cigarettes yesterday but it was not a noteworthy event with most of them. They do it every day.

But George Fitzgerald, Willie Gordon, Oscar Kuhns, Jimmie Colter and Ed Smith were unlucky. They fell into the hands of Officer Harms, one of the stern safeguards of the life, liberty, property and happiness of the city of Portland. The officer promptly arrested them and marched them to the police station, where he entered a charge against them of smoking cigarettes, contrary to the law and the statutes provided.

The five boys did not look like dangerous criminals, even if they had been driving coffin nails into their own biers, so they were allowed to go on their own recognizances. This morning they appeared before Judge Van Zante, outwardly, at least, contrite, and owned up to having dallied with the forbidden weed. The judge looked at them sternly and read them a lecture on the evil of their ways, after which he discharged them and told them to go home and not to do it again.

CALIFORNIA BANKERS PROPOSE NEW LAWS

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Oct. 12.—A disagreement as to the proposed new banking laws of the state prevented any action being taken on the draft of the proposed laws at a meeting of the California State Bankers' association today. A draft of the proposed laws, compiled by Judge Sturtevani, was received by the committee yesterday but no action was taken today because of the new laws were not in a form to be accepted or rejected by the association without further debate.

The bankers today expressed their desire that a commercial bank be established by the United States governmnt with a portion of the capital in the national treasury.

The next meeting of the association is to be held November 9.

Three Mexicans Charged.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Albuquerque, N. M., Oct. 12.—C. Garcia, Thomas Garcia and Jullo Fierro are under arrest here today, charged with the murder of Jesus Hernandez, a wealthy stockman and pioneer of Socorro, N. M., who was killed Sunday. All three deny the charge.

Exonerates Slayer.

Bakersfield, Cal., Oct. 12.—After being shot through the abdomen Saturday by Mary Costello, at Delano, Frank Romero died today. He exonerated the woman in an ante-mortem statement.

LUNATIC OPENS FIRE ON CROWD

Ohio Man Gets Bullet in Leg —Girl Has Narrow Escape.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Salt Lake, Utah, Oct. 12.—John Wolf, a resident of Plain City, Utah, walked into a gun store here today and, asking to see a Winchester rifle, secured the weapon, loaded it, ran to the door and fired point blank at the pedestrians on the opposite side of the street. Two persons were injured and the crowd was thrown into a panic.

Richard Brone of Zanesville, Ohio, was shot through the leg and a girl's curls were cut off by another bullet.

The store is situated on West Temple and several hundred persons were on the street at the time. After the crazy man had fired three shots the magazine became jammed and he was overpowered by clerks in the store.

PAIR OF MATCHES ARE NOW ON MAT HORIZON

'Twill be "Strangler" Smith and Eddie O'Connell on the mat November 6, with Dick Hart, an easterner unknown to Portland, sandwiched in between. O'Connell gave Hart the first date, October 30, agreeing to take on Smith two weeks later.

But there is one drawback that might crop out, even in this triple arrangement. Smith declares that he should have had the first match with O'Connell, since the local fans practically demanded that a local man be sent against the new wrestling instructor of the Multnomah club. In view of this fact, he may decline to meet O'Connell, provided Hart beats the Yale man, on the ground that his drawing powers will be diminished. In that event, the "Strangler" would have to meet Hart, if the "unknown" can be prevailed upon to stay in Portland.

Tommy Tracey, who was acting for Smith, O'Connell states, was not prompt enough in giving him a date, and in view of the fact that Hart is anxious to move southward, he concluded to give Hart the earlier engagement.

On the other hand, Tracey intimates that O'Connell is developing a case of frigid extremities and wants to put off meeting Smith.

At any rate, from a drawing standpoint it looks as if the Smith-O'Connell match would prove the more popular. If Hart beats O'Connell, it might hurt the attendance, but then Hart is some 10 or 15 pounds heavier than the young instructor. O'Connell and Smith are very evenly matched, and each has a large following.

SALOON MEASURE TO MAKE ROOM RING

Dr. Cottel declared this morning that there would be a warm time this afternoon when the subject of amending the Cellars' saloon ordinance comes up before the health and police committee. This has resulted in a much more sweeping reform than its fathers intended it should and the chances are that the amendment will largely nullify the effect of the ordinance if it is passed.

MARINE NOTES.

Astoria, Oct. 12.—Arrived at 6:45 a. m. and left up at 11 a. m.—Steamer State of California, from San Francisco. Arrived at 7:30 and left up at 8:30 a. m.—Steamer Quinault, from San Francisco. Arrived at 10:15 a. m. and left up.—Steamer Rosecrans, from Monterey. Sailed at 11:25 a. m.—Steamer Eureka, for Eureka and way ports.

San Francisco, Oct. 12.—Arrived at 8:30 a. m.—Steamer Roanoke, from Portland.

Astoria, Oct. 11.—Arrived down during the night and sailed at 6 a. m.—Steamer Alliance, for Coos Bay, and steamers J. Marhoffer, Jim Butler and Northland, for San Francisco. Arrived at 8:30 and left up at 9 a. m.—Steamer Breakwater, from Coos Bay. Arrived at Knappton at 9 a. m.—Steamer Yosemite, from San Francisco. Arrived down at 12:40 p. m.—Steamer R. D. Inman. Arrived at 3 and left up at 4:30 p. m.—Steamer Yellowstone, from San Francisco. Arrived at 7:30 and left up at 9 p. m.—Steamer Falcon, from Seattle.

San Francisco, Oct. 11.—Arrived at 11 p. m.—Steamer Nome City, from Portland. Arrived at midnight—Steamer Rose City, from Portland.

Honolulu, Oct. 11.—Arrived and sailed—German steamer Nicomedia, from Yokohama for San Francisco and Portland.

Astoria, Oct. 12.—Condition at the mouth of the river at 8 a. m., obscured; wind southeast, 30 miles; weather, light fog.

Tides at Astoria Tuesday: High water—3:14 a. m., 8 feet; 2:58 p. m., 9.2 feet. Low water—8:26 a. m., 2.4 feet; 9:05 p. m., —0.1 foot.

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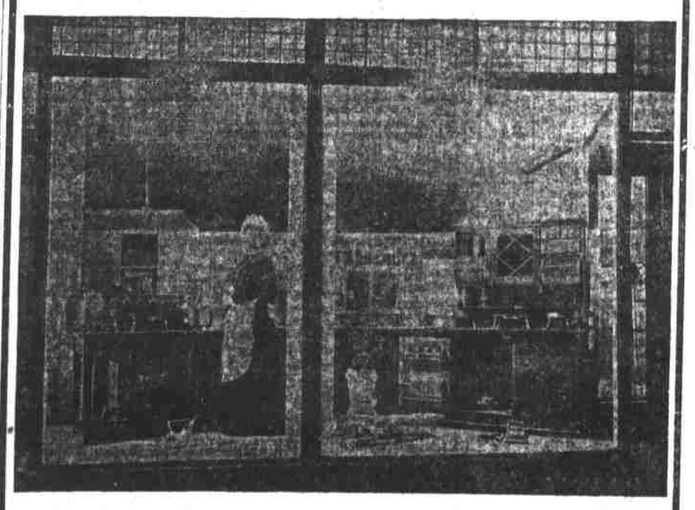

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