

The Chicago Gangster Situation

(New York World) The angle that is Chicago and that touched wheat, hogs and railroads and turned them into skyscrapers, a great art museum and symphony orchestra, has touched returned here into blackmail and most appalling series of gangster murders that this country has ever seen.

And this week an outsider was murdered—someone not of the underworld. He was the forty-third person to meet a violent death so far this year. Ten have been slain in eleven days.

The Chicago newspapers say that the city is aroused to a determination to end the Chicago murders at all costs. By and large this is not true. Only the press is aroused, for the last man slain in the street is cynical and therefore apathetic. He heard the same thing last time an outsider was slain by gangsters.

On June 9, Alfred "Jake" Lingke, police reporter for the Chicago Tribune, was assassinated from behind in the midst of a crowd in a subway station. A young man with whom he is believed to have been walking off for a moment and then sneaked up behind him and dropped him with a bullet through the back of his head. It was a mad murder—one of the most daring ever undertaken in Chicago. It set officialdom back on its heels. There is much newspaper clamor for a gangster cleanup.

The newspapers and the man in the street say that gangdom is protected by the police and the judiciary of Chicago. Whether there will be any sort of an effective cleanup at present is doubtful because no man of sufficient courage, standing and honesty is willing to undertake the job.

The old crowd is still on hand at City Hall. There is endless bickering and muck-raking. The gangster situation is the only one in the country that is difficult to persuade them to come back to Chicago and be arrested. Many cartoons appear in the papers depicting Chicago a muscular fellow in a ten-gallon hat rolling up his sleeves. The police howl about the city dragging in Halsted Street bums and unemployed men from the country. Later, discharges for lack of employment. "Big Bill" Thompson, the mayor, is out of the picture. Nobody knows where he is half of the time and nobody cares. Nobody even thinks to blame him for the situation. The swinging haymaker that he threatened to heave in "the snoot" as he put it, of King George of England has ceased to intrigue Chicago. "Scarface" Al Capone (Capone pronounced his name in two syllables, by the way) is nearer "Big Bill" than physically, and since Thompson is not "interested" in punching his snoot, Chicago is not interested in "Big Bill."

The gangster situation has not changed much in Chicago in recent months except in the matter of added horrors in connection with the manner in which men are murdered. North of Chicago lies scores

New J. Hockenjos, et ux to Newton Building Co., W. D. to lots 23, 24, 25, 26, 9, 10, 11, 1 block E. Hockenjos sub. of lot 1, block 7, Cottage add. to Medford, 10.

J. L. Shaughnessy, et ux to J. F. Arnold, et ux, W. D. to lots 4, 5, 20 and 21, blk T. of the Railroad Add. to Ashland, 10.

J. G. Love, et ux, to State of Oregon, W. D. to part of lot 15, Grand View Add. to Central Point, 10.

Dunn & Baker to State of Oregon, W. D. to SW of sec. 17, Twp. 23 S., R. 2 E., 41.

Edith Offutt et vir to The Jackson Co. Bldg. & Loan Assn., W. D. to lot 1 and the SW of lot 2, blk. 6, Orig. town of Medford.

Edward T. Merrill et ux to Henry Lumber Co., Q. C. D. SE 1/4 of sec. 4 and the SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of sec. 19, and the NW 1/4 and W 1/2 of NE 1/4 and NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 and N 1/2 of SW 1/4 and W 1/2 of SE 1/4 and SE 1/4 of sec. 16 in Twp. 29 S., R. 3 E.

Florence Ewers, et ux, to J. C. Strong, deed to lots 7, 8 and 9, blk. 3, Gray's add. to Medford, 10.

Harry C. Skyrman to J. C. Strong, deed to lots 7, 8 and 9, blk. 3, Gray's add. to Medford, 10.

Edward W. Gerwig, et ux, to L. Pennington, et ux, W. D. to lot 12, JoJack sub., not recorded, 10.

H. C. Bare, et ux, to G. H. Skeate, et ux, W. D. to lot 7, Wing sub., unrecorded, 10.

G. H. Skeate, et ux, to Everett Moore, et ux, W. D. to lot 7, Wing sub., unrecorded, 10.

G. H. Skeate, et ux, to Everett Moore, et ux, W. D. to lot 10, blk. 1, Page add. to Medford, 10.

City of Central Point to A. H. Webster, deed to lots 1 and 2, blk. 1, Grand View add. to Central Point, 10.

ilities from an extraction process which makes use of radioactive ores that are found in almost unlimited quantities in California.

Although alligators devour some kinds of fish, they are friends to the small constables, or whatever they call them, know much better than to cross men with armed revolvers in their backs and the will murder in their minds.

Here the murderers deport themselves. They go fishing in little skiffs and drink bottled beer in the middle of syvan lakes, their collars off and their front collar buttons displayed as a tribute to their desire to relax.

Bleary bums tripping in cheap Chicago speakeasies find themselves besieged into patrol wagons in what the newspapers delight to call "gigantic police dragnets." Not one of them would have the wit to organize a crap game, let alone an alcohol racket. The gang leaders have to do with the American legal system are partly responsible for this. There have been times when the authorities would have liked to slap Capone and "Boss" Moran into jail, but have lacked the proper evidence, or indeed any evidence at all. You've got to have something on a man before you put him in jail.

The federal authorities have been able to do little to aid the local authorities in the gangster situation. The veteran, E. C. Yellowley, prohibition administrator for the district including Chicago, has made the usual number of raids which have been trumpeted abroad. Capone, Moran and others continue to divide the city between them. Capone is not a legend—convenient flange upon which the newspapers pin the Robin Hood tales that gather around the criminal. He is probably the most powerful man in Chicago. His brother Ralph is his henchman and he has the more picturesque and sinister "Bugs" Moran have concluded a truce which does not, however, prevent their followers from falling out and murdering each other early and often.

The temper of these gangs is shown by an incident that happened a few weeks ago. One of Moran's bodyguards banks the lot of one of the city's banks. "The bank" had been persuaded him to buy some bonds they had for sale. He bought \$15,000 worth. In a few weeks he needed the money. When they wouldn't give it to him immediately (there is usually some delay necessary in those matters) he sought out his chief. The next day he returned and again demanded his money. Again he was refused. The bank officers were in terror, and the next day the bank was full of policemen. The bodyguard walked into the bank and up to the cashier's cage and thrust a pistol through the bars.

"Get my money on the line, bum, or I'll give you the works!" Detectives came forward and demonstrated. They persuaded the gangster to cease his attempts to move big business along with the aid of a pistol. They even arrested him. He was released in \$5,000 bail a few minutes later. The charge is still pending and the chances are 100 to 1 that nothing will ever be done about it.

Sick pearls, like sick persons, go under the surgeon's knife in a London hospital for damaged jewels.

Fish have been taught to distinguish letters of the alphabet after painstaking effort by professors of a German university.

Asthma is being successfully treated in Berlin with a mask similar in appearance to the gas mask used by mine rescuers and others.

Certain forms of bacteria are able to do the work of poisonous gases in extracting vegetable oils from many varieties of seeds and nuts.

Cheaper radium and larger quantities of it are regarded as possible.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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6-ROOM modern house, good out-buildings, 5 acres, fine garden soil, 1 acre irrigated, balance subirrigated, \$3500; \$500 down, bal. terms. 881-R

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FOR SALE OR TRADE—\$2000 equity in 5 acres on Ross Lane; good house and garage; just 3/4 mile from Jackson High school; want about 3 acres clear with some improvements, close to Medford. See owner at Motor Electric Co., 6th and Riverside, 29

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