

Brink's Robbery Still Baffles FBI, County and City Policemen

(Editor's note - A gang of highly professional crooks last month pulled one of Chicago's slickest holdups in years - the precision-planned looting of a Brink's armored truck. The loot was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars and the

gang escaped. Following is an in-depth report of the mechanics of a grand larceny.)

By MORT J. SULLIVAN
United Press International
Chicago -UPI- At 5:45 p.m. Christmas eve, a Brink's

armored truck pulled up in front of a suburban bowling alley on its last money pick-up of the day.

At 5:50, the truck was looted of \$250,000 in Christmas eve collections.

What happened in those five minutes? The Federal

Bureau of Investigation, Brink's, the Cook county sheriff's police and the Chicago police department are still trying to find out.

Who did it? Police don't know - except that the hooded bandits who commandeered the armored truck, handcuffed veteran driver Frank Neuberger, 57, and whisked 37 money bags into a waiting car were "all-stars."

They were the top men in their chosen field of crime, investigators said - the one-shot-for-a-big-score breed. And investigators fear their gamble may have paid off.

The Christmas eve heist ranked as Chicago's biggest hijacking in recent years. In precision and planning, investigators compared it to the \$1.5 million Plymouth, Mass., mail truck robbery last Aug. 14 and the historic \$1.2 million Boston Brinks robbery in 1950.

Christmas eve around Chicago last month was a snowy, blustery day. It was a busy one for Neuberger, a Chicagoan, and his partner, William Link, 40, of suburban Prospect Heights.

Their armored truck wound methodically through north-west Cook county suburbs

and the northern fringe of Chicago, stopping at at least two banks and 40 business places.

At each stop they took on

money - more money than usual because of the holiday.

Both men gave passing thoughts to the day and smiled in the knowledge that,

for the kids, Christmas day would be a white one.

Neuberger, with Brink's 19 years, pulled the steel plated, bullet-proof truck to a stop in front of the River Bend Bowling Alley in Des Plaines. Neuberger settled back in the driver's seat and scanned the passing throng of last minute Christmas shoppers while Link, his gun drawn, left the truck.

All three doors of the vehicle opened suddenly. Too suddenly.

Handcuff Driver
"All in a flash," Neuberger told investigators later, some men grabbed him, pushed him to the floor, handcuffed his arms behind his back and put a gunny sack over his head.

The next thing he realized was that it was quiet. After some squirming, he managed to get the sack off his head. He was in a brickyard, a mile from the bowling alley.

"It took less than three minutes," he said. As the snow continued to fall, Neuberger made his way to a warehouse and called police.

Neuberger said three hooded men wearing black, zippered jackets accosted him in the truck.

See 4 Gunmen
Other witnesses reported seeing as many as six persons, four gunmen and the drivers of the two escape cars.

All the valuables in the truck were taken, police said. The gunmen left in two cars, one a 1961 blue Pontiac and the other a yellow Ford, believed stolen.

A statement by Neuberger opened up one of the few new avenues of investigation. "They must have had keys," he said. He said this was the only way the three doors could have opened simultaneously.

Authorities turned their attention to a northwest side public garage where the truck had been parked nightly with three other Brink's vehicles for the past six years.

Detectives said the bandits might have gone to the garage and taken impressions of keys from which duplicates were made to open the truck's doors.

Keys to the stored trucks were left in the doors of the vehicles to conform to fire department regulations, garage owner Lynn Knott said. He said it was possible for someone to walk into the garage and make impressions of the keys while the attention of the attendant on duty was distracted.

Keys, Chief Clue
Aside from the key clue, authorities admitted they had little else to go on. A fingerprint lifted from one of the truck doors proved

to be that of a Brink's employee.

Lie tests administered to both Neuberger and Link confirmed their accounts of the robbery.

Neither of them had ever fired a gun in anger.

Brink's ordered a top-to-bottom rehaling of its security system, but would make no statement about the robbery or the exact amount taken.

All parties to the investigation operated on the theory that the bandits were professionals who prepared a minute - by-minute timetable and followed it completely.

The quick, bloodless success indicated months of preparations and rehearsals, they said.



HI-JACKED TRUCK—Brink's Co. armored truck is shown in the brickyard where it was taken after being hi-jacked by a gang of masked gunmen near suburban Des Plaines. F. Neuberger, one of the two Brink's guards, was found handcuffed in the backseat of the truck. The gang escaped with \$250,000. (UPI)



VIEWS EMPTY TRUCK—Brink's guard William Link looks into his empty armored truck after it was robbed of \$250,000 near suburban Des Plaines. (UPI)

Dennis the Menace

"I TAKE TAP ACROBATIC AND BALLET AND PIANO LESSONS!"

"THAT'S TOUGH."

CP Building Permits Valued at \$695,900

Central Point - Building permits for construction totaling \$695,900 were issued by the city of Central Point during 1962.

The total included permits for 69 single family dwellings valued at \$647,900, one two-family dwelling at \$16,000, and one four-family dwelling at \$32,000.

The 1962 figures represented a boost of more than 50 per cent over 1961, when permits for new construction totaled \$412,000. Constructed in 1961 were 42 single family homes, two two-family homes and one motel.

Building permits issued during December, 1962, were to Virgil Ladd, dwelling, 102 Princes way, \$10,000; Holly and Logan, dwelling, 1000 Comet ave., \$10,000; W. L. Moore, construction, 209 Kings way, \$11,000; W. L. Moore, construction, 730 South Fifth st., \$10,500; Dale Bush, dwelling, 100 Princes way, \$8,000; McGonagle construction, dwelling, 903 Comet ave., \$10,000; McGonagle construction, dwelling, 211 Windsor way, \$10,000; Lloyd Thornton, dwelling, 415 Ninth st., \$5,000.



HUBERT J. SOHER To Discuss Economy

State's Economy To Be Discussed By SF Consultant

What's ahead for the Oregon economy will be discussed by Hubert J. Soher, nationally-known San Francisco industrial consultant, at the luncheon meeting of the Medford Kiwanis club Wednesday, Jan. 30.

The speaker recently concluded a one-year-long survey of the economy of the state, and his recently published report, entitled "Oregon Today and Tomorrow," will provide the theme material for his speech.

His discussion will include a review of the significant factors creating opportunities for continued growth in southern Oregon.

Soher has had a long career in the field of industrial and financial consulting and investments, and is the senior partner in the consulting firm of Hubert J. Soher Company, which lists many of the nation's leading business and financial firms among its clients.

Former Editor
A former financial editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, he later became a general partner in the stock brokerage firm of Manheim, Dibern and company, San Francisco. Following his retirement in 1928, he became public relations director for the Bank of America in 1931, and two years later re-entered the investment banking field as a partner of H. R. Baker and company, which merged in 1945 into Watson, Hoffman and Goodwin, members of the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1953 he was appointed by President Eisenhower to a team of 55 American businessmen to study the Foreign Aid Program, and was assigned to Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg. He recently returned from an extensive European trip, where he studied the impact of the European Common Market on the affairs of eastern Europe.

He has been a frequent speaker before the Commonwealth Club of California in San Francisco, one of the foremost civic and business forums of the West Coast.

State Gas Chamber Having Impact on 1963 Legislature

By ZAN STARK

Salem - (UPI) - The cyanide caprice associated with the Oregon gas chamber is having its impact on the 1963 legislature. Sen. Don Willner (D - Portland) has submitted an anti-death penalty bill, and proposed that persons sentenced to life be required to stay in prison at least 15 years.

Sen. Thomas Mahoney (D-Portland) introduced a bill to make it harder to commute life or death sentences. Mahoney's plan would require supreme court approval before a governor could grant a pardon or commutation. The Portland senator said he wanted to make a life sentence mean something, and he wanted to take pressure off a governor.

Some of the emotional fervor may have been dampened by the stay of Jeannace June Freeman's Jan. 29 date with death.

But Larry West Shipley, 21, of McMinnville, is scheduled to enter the gas chamber on Feb. 28.

A plan to appeal Shipley's case to the U.S. Supreme Court already has been announced by the American Civil Liberties Union.

It was Miss Freeman's second stay. An appeal for Shipley could result in a stay for him.

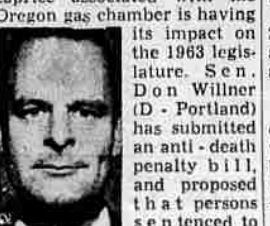
There is a similarity in both the Freeman and Shipley cases.

Miss Freeman's companion in crime and mother of the two children killed, Mrs. Gertrude Nunez Jackson, was sentenced to life in prison.

Shipley's companion in the slaying of 16-year-old Linda Jean Stevens, Glen Douglas Dixon, was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life.

Many legislators and officials are on record in opposition to the death penalty. But the voters have disagreed.

Gov. Mark Hatfield, Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton, and



Stark

Warden Clarence T. Gladden have openly opposed execution.

In 1958 the people voted 276,487 to 264,434 against abolishing the death penalty - a 12,000 vote margin.

The voters did abolish the death penalty - by a slim 157 votes - in 1914. A series of brutal murders followed, and in 1930 the death penalty was reinstated - by 17,000 votes.

The hangman claimed 40 lives in Oregon before the gas chamber was built in 1937.

Since then 18 persons have taken their last breath in the tiny chamber at the state penitentiary - the latest on Aug. 20, 1962, when Leeroy Sanford McGahuey was executed for the 1961 slaying of an infant.

Former Gov. Robert Holmes commuted three death sentences and the gas chamber was unused for seven years prior to McGahuey's execution.

The pattern seems the same. Preceding each scheduled execution there is a last-minute frantic scurry to appeal, to win a stay, to fight for time, to hope for commutation.

Each pending execution sweeps a tide of public reaction into the governor's office. There are letters, personal visits, tearful pleas.

Each time a stay is granted the tide recedes, only to come back again as the next execution date nears.

The Freeman and Shipley cases cannot help but affect legislative reaction.

Writer of Hit Songs Dies in New York

New York - (UPI) - Otto A. Harbach, famed Broadway librettist who wrote the lyrics for such all-time hits as "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" and "One Alone," died in bed at his Manhattan apartment Thursday.

Harbach, 89, wrote the words to more than 1,000 songs and the lyrics of numerous operettas, including "Desert Song," "No, No, Nanette," "The Firefly," and "Roberta."

TO ALL OWNERS

Of Falcon - Valiant - Rambler - Corvair

ABOUT TO BUY A NEW CAR:

Are you unhappy with lack of room in your compact? Has performance failed to live up? Do upholstery, seat springs and trim leave something to be desired?

Then step up to the car you wish your compact were! '63 Lark. It's lavish with quality... a lot more car for your money. With exhilarating performance, generous roominess and true big car comfort and ride. Yet as parkable as any compact.

26 brilliant models. Lark's price is low - giving you America's best dollar-for-dollar value - and you stay ahead dollar for dollar as you add extras, too. Such exclusives as Lark's Beauty Vanity are standard. Options include caliper disc brakes • sunroofs • Twin-Traction • 4-speed stick shift. You can even have the Avanti supercharged engine for only \$17* or so more a month! Look into Lark at your Studebaker Dealer today.

*36-mo. payments.

'63 LARK Dollar For Dollar America's Greatest Car Value

JAY ALLEN CO.

Oregon Ltd. Medford

1078 Court Street

U of O Enrollment Reaches 8,966 Mark

Eugene - (UPI) - Winter term enrollment at the University of Oregon has reached 8,966, registrar Clifford L. Constance announced Friday.

Constance said a few more students may be admitted, but the enrollment will be under 9,000 for the term. It represents a 6.5 per cent drop from fall term registration of 9,621.

RED CARPET TREATMENT

... That's what you'll receive from your creditors when you consolidate your bills with a loan of up to \$1500 from Crater Finance.

MONEY FROM CRATER FINANCE IS LIKE MONEY FROM HOME.

CRATER FINANCE
135 PINE CENTRAL POINT 664-1273

117 S. CENTRAL 773-7301

3-DAY SALE!

Just Arrived Another Carload

WARDS SPUN ROCK WOOL

INSULATION

99¢

ON SALE MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

While It Lasts

BAG U-Haul

Sensational Value!

BIG 13 cu. ft. 2-door NORGE REFRIGERATOR

with separate 111 lb. FREEZER

now only **\$228⁸⁸** with trade

- NEW COLD-LOCK MAGNETIC DOORS
- DEEP HANDIDOR STORAGE
- TWIN PORCELAIN CRISPERS
- RUGGED, DEPENDABLE GOLDEN HEART COMPRESSOR

NORGE Golden Heart Refrigerators start as low as \$179⁹⁹

FREE DELIVERY

EADS FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

123 S. FRONT Phone 772-7121

EADS TRANSFER AND FURNITURE CO.

LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE MOVING

WAREHOUSES FOR FURNITURE PACKING CRATING SHIPPING

TERMS