

"MOVING PICTURE" HOLD-UP PROVES TO BE THE REAL THING

Robber With "Camera" Fools Spectators While Thugs Rob Aged Bank President.

"FOR A PICTURE SHOW."

Kiddies Believe Him and Make No Effort to Stop Attack on George Abeel.

"Cheese it. You'll spoil the picture!" It was this warning, given by a confederate of four hold-up men, posing as a moving picture operator, which made it possible for George Abeel, vice-president of the East River Savings Institution and a wealthy steel dealer at No. 120 South street, to be held up in broad daylight on Water street near James street.

The police believe the robbery one of the boldest ever perpetrated in New York City. Mr. Abeel could hardly talk above a whisper, as a result of his encounter, when an Evening World reporter called at the Abeel home at No. 2 East One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street to-day.

Evidently the thieves had figured on having spectators at the robbery at the time of day of the attempt, so just before Mr. Abeel came along Water street at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon,

as has been his custom for years, one of the gang took a position on the opposite side of the street with an outfit that looked like a camera.

"IT'S FOR PICTURE SHOW," HOLD-UP MAN TELLS KIDDIES.

The four confederates stood on the seven children stood near the bogus camera man as Mr. Abeel approached. "Now, don't open your traps," was the advice the camera man gave the children. "This here is for a moving picture show."

All of this was happening unbeknown to Mr. Abeel, who made his way down the opposite side of the street. The four thugs jumped on the man and robbed him while one of them choked him. When the robbers ran the man with the camera followed. And then for the first time it dawned on the children they were witnessing a real hold-up.

"I suppose they thought I had a lot

of money with me coming from the office, but I didn't," said Mr. Abeel to-day. "All I had was a gold watch and a purse containing \$50. They got that, but as long as they spared my life they are welcome to it."

ASSAILED BY FOUR MEN, HE IS BEATEN UNCONSCIOUS.

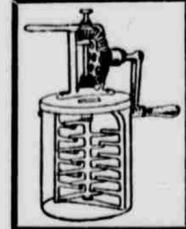
"The details of the affair are all very vague to me. All I can remember is that some one grabbed me from behind and choked at my throat. I became blinded. Then I could feel them tearing at my pockets."

"The next thing I remember I was out in the middle of the street, and when I opened my eyes a lot of children were around me. There wasn't any policeman there though, and I guess the first thing the police knew about the affair was when they were called up from Mr. Abeel's coal yard, where I was held up after the affair, and told there had been a hold-up."

Mr. Abeel, who is seventy-two years old, is the head of one of the pioneer firms in that section of the city.

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