

CRIPPLED 'L' THIEF SAYS JEERS MADE CRIMINAL OF HIM

17-Year-Old Robber's Cap, Which He Dropped, Led to His Capture.

DRAGGED FROM HIS BED.

Never Could Hold a Job, He Says, Because Boys Mocked His Deformity.

A crippled seventeen-year-old boy, who, though his feet are misshapen and he walks with a hobble, has muscular arms, chest and legs, made the murder-ous attack upon David Von Bromen, second avenue "L" ticket agent at Allen and Grand streets, who was beaten over the head with an iron bolt and robbed early last night.

Just before daybreak this morning, after a night of running down clues that had their original source in a cap picked up in the "L" station, Detectives Julius Cohen and Daniel Lonergan dragged Harry Magnus, the crippled boy, from his bed at No. 35 Clinton street.

"Don't beat me," snivelled the lame robber, as he landed on the floor, before the detectives mentioned the crime. "I done it all right. I'll take a plea."

Young Magnus made a complete confession at Police Headquarters, where the detectives declared that they had never encountered such a specimen of criminality. The boy has a weak face, abnormally weak. He weighs 120 pounds and is about five feet six inches in height. He is cross-eyed and spay-footed and hobbles along in his walk so much that it is surprising that he was able to run away from the scene of his crime.

GAVE UP JOB WHEN BOYS JEERED AT HIS DEFORMITY.

"I have been a cripple from birth," he told the police, "I couldn't go to school and so didn't learn much. The boys were always making fun of me and calling me names. They called me 'Cock-eyes.' I lived with my folks but had to support myself for the last few years. I was working with the Western Union as a messenger at 135 Broadway until three months ago. I couldn't stand the abuse of the boys any longer and got into a fight and lost my job. I know there wasn't much at home and went to live with my aunt near No. 25 Clinton street. My aunt was kind to me, but I knew she couldn't afford to keep me. I knew I was a burden to her, but I tried to get a job, looking for one every day. They wouldn't give me work on account of my appearance. Then I decided that I would rob somebody and get out of New York so I wouldn't be a burden to my folks any more. I walked along the "L" for two months looking for a man weak enough for me to tackle. Finally I picked out the man at the Grand and Allen streets station. I thought I could tackle him and I hope I didn't hurt him too much. When I left him I ran into Orchard street and from there watched the crowd hunting for me. Then I went home. I didn't have an auto and nobody helped me. I did the job alone."

When the boy was told that he might have a long term ahead of him in prison he said:

"Well, I won't be a burden on anybody any more, anyway. All I hope is that they won't make fun of me in prison."

Von Bromen is night ticket agent on the downtown side. When he relieved the day man last night there was a youth waiting in the station. The day man gave Von Bromen \$30, of which Von Bromen placed \$70 in a safe and the other \$10 he laid near the window to be used as change.

BEAT AGENT SENSELESS WITH AN IRON BOLT.

Von Bromen, suspicious of the youth in the station, asked him what he was waiting for. The stranger replied that he had "a date with a girl." Von Bromen slipped off his coat and put on a uniform jacket. In the pocket of his street coat was \$90 of his own money.

Half an hour later the robber slipped up to the agent's booth and stood by Von Bromen a blow in the head with an iron bolt he had kept concealed till that moment. Von Bromen reeled as long as his strength held out, but repeated blows and choking finally rendered him unconscious and he sank to the floor.

The robber grabbed \$450 from the counter at the window and hobbled down, disappearing through a hallway at No. 79 Allen street. He left the iron bolt and his checked cloth cap behind.

Detectives Cohen and Lonergan found the name "Harry" on the inside of the cap; also the name of the maker, J. Sobel of No. 18 East Houston street. Sobel was shown the cap.

"Yes," said the man who remembers selling that cap to a boy named Harry, who was crippled and used to live at No. 255 Houston street.

The detectives learned that Harry's mother still had rooms at No. 152. They showed her the cap and she said, "Yes, that belongs to my boy, but he doesn't live with me—we're too poor. I don't know where he is now."

She gave the detectives half a dozen addresses where, she said, the boy might be found. Among the addresses was No. 35 Clinton street.

Hickey Waives Extortion.

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 25.—Counsel for J. Frank Hickey, who was arrested last week at Whiting, N. J., in connection with the death of Joseph Joseph, a boy, at Lackawanna, N. Y., to-day withdrew his application for a hearing on the question of the extradition of Hickey and it was announced that Acting Gov. Prince would sign the papers permitting the New York authorities to take the prisoner to Lackawanna.

"L" AGENT'S ASSAILANT WHOM TAUNTS DROVE INTO LIFE OF CRIME.



HARRY MAGNUS

FIREMEN OVERCOME TO-DAY AT THE RUINS OF SULPHUR PLANT

Police Captain Shaw of the Bedford avenue station and Superintendent Masters of the Union Sulphur Company united to-day in declaring that, despite rumors, none had died in the great fire which swept away the Union Sulphur Company's plant and the sulphur house of the Eastern Terminal Company on the Williamsburg waterfront yesterday afternoon.

The official list of those injured and treated by the ambulance surgeons was placed at twenty-four, one of the injured being in such a serious condition that his death is expected.

George Osmond, an electrician of No. 35 Woodlawn avenue, and Charles Waddell, an electrician of No. 41 East 81st street, the two men who were reported as missing and who were at first believed to have been burned in the ruins of the sulphur works, were found at their homes last night. John Kenner of No. 92 North Seventh street, Williamsburg, whose skull was fractured when he was hurled against the ceiling on the main floor of the sulphur mill by the first explosion, is the only sufferer in the Williamsburg Hospital whose life is in danger.

Early to-day three firemen were over-

BIG FACTORY BLAZE ROUTS OUT HUNDREDS ON LOWER EAST SIDE

Fireboat Helps Fight Flames in Cherry Street—Horses in Peril.

The two upper floors of the three-story brick factory building occupied by the National Bedding Company, in No. 56 Cherry street, were swept early to-day by fire which spread to the roof of the five-story brick building adjoining, occupied by A. Schloss & Company,

manufacturers of chairs, &c. The fire, under control within an hour and prevented the flames getting into the Schloss factory.

Patrolman Knowles of the Madison street station saw smoke issuing from the heavily shuttered windows of the bedding company's building and sent in an alarm, also notifying the firemen on the first and second floors, moored at Grand street, half a block away.

Seventy-nine horses in the barns of Grand and Madison street car lines were taken out by the police and volunteers.

Police reserves were sent to the place, where, despite the early hour, hundreds thronged and visited the fire.

CHAMPION WOMAN ARCHER IS FOUND SHOT DEAD.

Julia Sullivan Was Also Noted as a Skater and Chicago's First Female Chauffeur.

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Miss Julia Sullivan, aged forty-two, champion long-distance shot in archery in the United States, also holder of several championships in rifle shooting in Canada, was found dead shot through the heart to-day in her room at No. 361 East Fifty-ninth street.

Miss Sullivan was the first woman chauffeur in Chicago. She was an expert in handling an automobile. Little more than a year ago she trained 28 girls as chauffeurs.

In their investigation of the suicide, detectives held, without making a charge, Mrs. J. E. Loh, proprietress of a South Wabash avenue boarding-house, who was in Miss Sullivan's rooms at the time of her death. Mrs. Loh said that Miss Sullivan asked her to stay with her because she was lame. She had left the room for a few minutes to-day, she said, when she heard a shot. Running to Miss Sullivan's bed, she told the detectives, she found her dead, the revolver lying beside her.

POS-LAM HEALS AND CLEARS AILING SKIN

Of course you can be rid of that disagreeing skin affection, if you will. Pos-lam is ready to do the work for you.

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POS-LAM SOAP, medicated with Pos-lam, is unequalled for the skin, not only when disease is present, but as the safest and most beneficial soap for daily use, toilet and bath. Soothes tender skin, never irritates.

All druggists sell Pos-lam (price, 30 cents) and Pos-lam Soap (price, 25 cents). For free samples, write to the Emergency Laboratories, 92 West 25th Street, New York City.

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