

ROBBERS ARE FOOLED

Hold Up a Passenger Train All in Vain.

THEY DYNAMITE THE WRONG CARS

Express Car Containing \$50,000 Is Unharmed—Trainmen Are Shot At.

Chicago, Aug. 1.—The Baltimore & Ohio passenger train from the east was held up by five masked men at 8 o'clock last night between Edgemoor and Grand Calumet Heights, Ind., thirty-one miles out from Chicago. One of the mail cars, which contained no money, was dynamited and wrecked. The attempt was probably unsuccessful for the two mail cars were not detached from the train and ran a quarter of a mile ahead. The failure of the robbers to make a rich haul was due to the fact that the express car, which contained the train's treasure, was in an unusual place. It was the third car in the train.

The only loot they carried away was the gold watch of the engineer. Most of the trainmen were shot at but had narrow escapes from the bullets. No person was injured either by the dynamite or firearms.

The train was running at high speed as it passed Calumet Heights, and immediately after passing out of sight of the station Engineer J. W. Collins saw directly in front of his engine a large fire, on which he immediately stopped. He slowed down, and as he did so three men wearing masks jumped into the cab and covered Collins and his fireman, James Whipple, with revolvers. Just before climbing into the cab the three men commenced to fire with their revolvers in order to frighten away all assistance.

The shots produced the liveliest kind of a panic in the sleeping cars, where the passengers made every effort to hide their money and valuables before the robbers could get at them. No attempt was made, however, to rob any of the passengers.

After mounting into the cab of the engine the robbers, covering the engineer and fireman with their revolvers, made them slow down and go back the length of two cars. They ordered the men to uncouple the fire engine, which was done. They then hustled the two trainmen back into the cab and, still keeping the engineer covered with revolvers, directed him to pull up some distance from the rest of the train.

Collins ran up 200 feet and was then directed to stop. He did so, and while one of the men remained to guard him, the others jumped out of the engine and ran to the door of the car, which they judged to be the express car, burst open the door. Hastily climbing in to get at the safe they were astonished to find that they had broken into a mail car.

They threatened the engineer with death if he had uncoupled them or expressed any resistance, and ordered him to return at once and uncouple the next car behind the baggage cars.

Climbing once more into his cab Collins backed his engine down, coupled onto the third car and the trainmen were made to uncouple at the rear end, and, with the muzzle of the revolver at his head, Collins was ordered to run down the track as before.

He drew away from the rest of the train and the robbers, still leaving him under the charge of one of their number, made for this car. When they reached it they found, to their surprise, that the safe they had attacked another mail car and that it contained no money.

The train had been delayed now fully thirty minutes, and, fearing that if they delayed any longer the train would be stopped, the robbers gave up their attempt to rob the train, and, jumping down, ran into a thicket of scrub oaks at the side of the track and disappeared. The train was hastily made up and came on to Chicago, arriving here somewhat late, a stop having been made at Whiting to report the robbery. Officers were at once sent after the robbers, and an hour after the robbery a large posse was on their trail.

Local express officers refused to say to-night how much money there was in the car.

It is estimated that \$50,000 was stored in the express car and it is believed the money and valuables were all in the car.

After leaving the train the robbers turned toward Lake Michigan. It is believed they made their escape in a boat.

REWARD OFFERED.

As soon as the attempted robbery was reported to the railroad officials in Chicago, a special train was made up and a fast run made for the scene of the robbery. The train carried officials of the road, special detectives and officers of the Chicago police department. Bloodhounds were secured from Long Beach and these aided in the search for the desperadoes. It is the firm belief of the police that the robbers escaped in a boat which they had concealed under the bridge at the lake. Police patrolled the shore from the vicinity of the hold-up to as far north as Evanston on the lookout for any craft in which the men might have escaped, and the life-saving crew sent a boat out on the lake. A reward of \$500 has been offered by the officials of the road for any information that will lead to the arrest of the bandits and it is said a greater amount will be offered for their capture.

Last Saturday night an attempt was made to hold up the same train at a point eighty-one miles from Chicago. A steel cable was stretched across the track. The trainmen removed the cable, but the robbers did not appear. This attempt was

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