

OTT CLAIMS LOCAL OFFICER HELPED HIDE THE SWAG

San Francisco Crook's Astounding Charge.

YOUNG DEGENERATE BUSY CONTRADICTING HIMSELF

Man Who Stole \$1,100 From Room-mate Says He Hid It in an Albuquerque Stable.

John H. Ott, the young man who was arrested here for grand larceny on telegrams from the San Francisco police, is evidently an all-around crooked proposition. According to the San Francisco papers, Ott has accused the Albuquerque police of aiding and abetting him in concealing the \$1,100 which he is charged with stealing from a room-mate named Johnson in the coast city.

It will be remembered that Ott was arrested and held here nine days awaiting the arrival of a San Francisco officer, and that he was finally taken west a few days ago by Detective Freel.

Upon his arrival in San Francisco, when Ott was asked about the disposition he had made of the stolen money, he intimated that Policeman Jordan of this city had aided him in hiding the swag, which he asserted he had buried "under Jordan's stable."

Policeman Jordan was astounded and somewhat wroth when a clipping to this effect from the San Francisco Call was shown to him by the Morning Journal reporter last night.

Ott's Astonishing Allegation. The article in the Call is as follows: "The police believe that John H. Ott, who was brought back from Albuquerque yesterday by Detective Freel, has cached the greater portion of the \$1,100 he stole from Frank Johnson in the city where he was captured."

On the return trip he hinted to Freel that Special Policeman Jordan, who captured him helped to conceal the money.

Ott told Freel that he had buried the money in Jordan's stable. He was permitted by his captor to go into the stable, and while there, he claimed, he "planted" the loot. The local police are confident that he had the money with him when he was caught in Albuquerque.

Freel had great difficulty in getting the prisoner. Jordan at first positively refused to surrender him until the reward of \$250 was paid. After much bickering Freel finally wired to Chief Dinan for the money. The peculiar fact that Ott had only \$180 when arrested roused Freel's suspicions. He remarked upon it to Jordan. The special finally let Freel take the prisoner without paying the reward.

Ott contradicted himself several times after reaching this city. Chief Dinan is somewhat in doubt as to whether his accusation against Jordan is true. He will wire Albuquerque and have the matter sifted to the bottom.

Ott, who is a bricklayer, robbed Frank Johnson, a brother-in-law, of \$1,100 in this city several weeks ago. The chief of police received a letter from his wife in the east last Friday asking him to locate her husband. She is ignorant of his plight. Most of the money taken by Ott was in bills.

Jordan Is Indignant. As was stated in the Morning Journal at the time, only \$186 was found upon Ott's person by Chief of Police McMillin, after the prisoner had been stripped and thoroughly searched. Mr. Jordan was detailed to keep Ott under surveillance, and accordingly took charge of the young man for over a week, until the officer arrived for him.

"It is the most astounding piece of ingratitude I ever heard of," said Jordan last night. "Ott was taken from the limited train here by Night Marshal Kennedy and Policeman Wagner and three days afterward the city marshal instructed me to keep him under surveillance. The boy appeared to be rather delicate and as he said he couldn't eat in a restaurant, I took him to my own home and fed him and made him comfortable."

rather inclined to think the boy was imposed upon, until one day he said to me: "Supposing I was found guilty of stealing that money, what could they do to me?"

"Oh, you might get ten years in the penitentiary," I replied.

"Supposing the money was never found, what then?" asked Ott.

"That's enough of that," I said to Ott. "If you want to make any confession, you'll have to go to the city marshal." And that was the last he said on the matter.

"I might say further," said Mr. Jordan, with a smile, "that I haven't a sign at a stable or in my coop or even a dog house on my premises."

While Ott was here he refused to divulge to the police what became of the money he was alleged to have stolen, and protested his utter ignorance of any such theft. He told a Morning Journal reporter upon the night of his arrival that he "didn't know a thing about it." He is evidently a young degenerate if he made the statements attributed to him by the San Francisco police, who claim to have him dead to rights on the larceny charge.

Received No Reward. The statement that we got a reward for Ott's capture from the San Francisco authorities is wrong, said Chief McMillin last night. "We never got a cent for his capture and Freel didn't even offer to pay the young man's board, after we had held him for nine days and kept a man guarding him. As it is customary to pay a reward in such cases I wired to find out if one was offered for Ott. When I got a negative answer Ott was immediately turned over to Freel."

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Eugenio Romero, territorial coal inspector left for his home at Las Vegas last night after having been in the city for the past several days attending the case of William McIntosh vs. Eugenio Romero and the commissioners of the Chilli land grant. The arguments in the case were closed in the district court yesterday afternoon and Judge Abbott took the case under advisement. He will probably not arrive at a decision for some three or four days. The case involves a large acreage of timber and a considerable amount of money.

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