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DARING HOLD-UP IN LINCOLN HOTEL STILL BAFFLES POLICE

Burke States in His Letter to Goldsmith That His Motive for the Crime Was to Recover $2,750 Taken From Him at Strand, but Story is Doubted

C. G. Burke robbed Mose Goldsmith of $2,750 in the Lincoln hotel yesterday afternoon because he had been "touched" for the same amount in the Strand theater, owned by Goldsmith, last Wednesday night.

That, at least, is the satement which Burke makes in the letter which he handed to Goldsmith at the time of the robbery, the exact contents of which became known for the first time this morning.

Burke thought it was the only method by which he could get his money back. He claims to have had $1,200 of his employer's money in one pocket and $1,550 in another when "touched" by one of the dance hall girls with whom he was drinking. He states that he can identify the girl that took the money.

It is said that the Thursday morning following the alleged robbery at the Strand, Goldsmith deposited $3,000 at the Scandinavian-American bank.

The letter has been turned over to Chief Delaney. It consists of three pages. Burke says he was obliged to resort to extreme measures in order to protect his employers and the good name of himself and family.

MOSE GOLDSMITH.
Owner of the Strand and Arcade dance halls and victim of startling robbery in Lincoln hotel yesterday afternoon.

IS HOLD UP MAN THE NOTORIOUS SILVERBERG?

Is Harry Silverberg, alias J. Carlyle Drayton, "double" to the New York millionaire of the latter name, in Seattle?

The bold high-class holdup perpetrated at the Lincoln hotel yesterday, whereby Mose Goldsmith was compelled to hand over $2,750, looks very much like the work of Silverberg, who is one of the cleverest confidence men and all round crooks in the United States, and who is known by a dozen aliases all over this country, and in Europe as well.

The man who held up Goldsmith was of medium size, slender, well dressed, and had dark eyes and black hair tinged with gray. He declared himself a former newspaper man, and showed himself familiar with newspaper work and with various newspapers, particularly in Montana. He told Goldsmith also that he was a Butte mining man of wealth, and discussed Butte conditions fluently.

Descriptions Fit.

This description fits Silverberg, or Drayton, perfectly, as his hair is jet black, with tinges of gray, and he is of slight build. Silverberg is also a dapper dresser and is a newspaper man of brilliant talent. While operating in Montana he was editor of Senator W. A. Clark's paper in Great Falls. Subsequently, it is claimed, he was entrusted with a $10,000 sack of gold by a Montana politician for the purpose of manipulating a political convention at Kansas City, but that he decamped with the sack en route, and subsequently entertained Portland society resplendently while masquerading as the original J. Carlyle Drayton for two weeks, suddenly leaving the city in the midst of a banquet given in honor of the mayor.

Silverberg was thoroughly conversant with conditions in Montana, and fleeced many prominent people. His criminal career has been of the most brilliant, so that he has seldom fallen into the toils of the law. Once he was confronted by the real Carlyle Drayton at the Auditorium in Chicago, where both were registered under the name, but carried off the situation so well that he escaped punishment.

Other Crimes.

Two years ago in Minneapolis, while running a purported school of spiritualism, he was arrested for fraud. He feigned consumption by biting his tongue and appearing to cough up blood, and succeeded in getting released under bonds put up by relatives from Wisconsin. He then "skipped" his bonds, and was later heard of in Denver, where he was gathering capital for the organization of a mining syndicate when exposed.

It is about time for Silverberg to "turn another trick," and those who know him best say that yesterday's holdup at the Lincoln would be a job to Silverberg's liking and suited to his criminal talents.

GOLDSMITH TELLS HIS SIDE OF THE STORY

In his suite on the top floor of the Estabrook building, southeast corner of Union st. and Second av., Moses Goldsmith, theatrical agent and proprietor of the Strand and Arcade music halls, told the story of how one of the boldest and most calculating hold-up men in the country forced Goldsmith to pay him $2,750 in cash, in a room yesterday afternoon in the Lincoln hotel.

"Thursday afternoon, at about 1 o'clock, I received a telephone message in my office in the Marion block, from a man who said his name was Burke and that he was stopping in the Lincoln hotel. The man said he wanted to see me on very important business, and that I was to come to him at once.

Meets Mr. Burke.

"I went to the place with my partner, A. E. Cohen, and got there about a half hour later. I introduced myself to the man, who called himself Burke, and he in turn introduced himself to me. He is a man of medium size, probably five feet seven inches tall and weighed about 145 pounds. He is about 40 years of age, with a heavy black

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PENNSYLVANIA IN COLLISION

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 30.—The steamer Pennsylvania, of the Northwestern Steamship company, of Seattle, bound from New York to Seattle, ran into the schooner Prescott Palmer on the Delaware river this morning. The Pennsylvania's prow was imbedded in the stern of the Prescott Palmer for 25 feet.

No report of the accident has been received at the local office of the steamship company.

LAND SWINDLERS SENTENCED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—A. A. McKean, district court clerk of Yuma county, Colo., was found guilty of fraudulently securing timber culture entries in the Akron land district.

He was sentenced to two years in Leavenworth prison.

Stearns and Morsanell were found guilty of securing fraudulent entries for lands in South Dakota. Each were given prison sentences and fines.

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