

NABS LOCAL MAN UNDER INDICTMENT ON ARSON CHARGE

Officer Kell Arrests Bert J. Goff, South Island, Wanted for Quincy Job.

IS TAKEN TO SPRINGFIELD

Confesses to Assisting in Burning Up R. C. Cox Residence to Secure Insurance.

The local police, in conjunction with A. H. Bogardus, Jr., deputy fire marshal of the state of Illinois, made a good catch yesterday in the person of Bert J. Goff of South Rock Island, who is under indictment on the charge of arson at Springfield, for an offense committed on the night of Sept. 5, 1912, in Quincy. Mr. Bogardus took his prisoner to Springfield last night at 7:25, where he will be tried. Goff is 41 years of age and unmarried.

Goff is the third man of an arson gang which set fire to the palatial home of R. C. Cox on Locust boulevard, Quincy. One of the gang, Harvey Six, is now doing time in the Joliet penitentiary for the act, and U. H. Brady is now under arrest at Springfield. R. C. Cox, owner of the property, is at liberty on a heavy bond.

Cox's residence was valued at \$12,000, and he had it insured for the amount of \$15,000. According to confessions of the men, Cox hired them to burn his property in order to collect the insurance.

On the night of Sept. 5, 1912, the residence, barn and pump house were set on fire at the same time.

Hard to Fire.

The interior of the residence was beautifully constructed with mahogany stairways and hardwood floors, wall boards, and other furnishings, which made it hard to set on fire. Neighbors discovered the blaze in the barn and turned in the alarm. The auto fire trucks of Quincy responded

too quickly to suit the members of the gang and they barely escaped. The barn and pump house were burned to the ground and the residence badly damaged. Evidences of arson were found and the state fire marshal began an investigation of the case. Six was arrested shortly afterward, as was Cox, and Brady was picked up several months ago by the state authorities. For a long time the third member of the party was not known, until Six's wife turned state's evidence, connecting Goff with the crime. The authorities have secured several letters Goff wrote to a friend in Decatur under the name of Bert James, in which he referred to the job, in one instance, by saying, "Toot, toot, look out for the autos."

Arrested by Kell. Goff was arrested yesterday afternoon by Officer Dick Kell on the corner of Fifteenth street and Second avenue. Mr. Bogardus got wind some time ago that Goff had relatives living here, and came to Rock Island Tuesday, when the local authorities went to work on the case.

At first he denied any knowledge of the crime, stating that he had never been in Springfield or Quincy in his life, but when confronted with letters and other evidence, he finally confessed to his part in the job to Mr. Bogardus and Chief Brinn.

In the confession Goff stated that he met Six in Peoria and that they went to Springfield together. There they met Brady, and several days later R. C. Cox, owner of the property. The plot was hatched in the capital city. Goff was to receive \$100 for his part in the job, Six \$100, and Brady \$250. In case the job was a failure they were to receive no money. Goff told how the three of them left Springfield together on a noon train, Sept. 5, taking with them a suit case filled with kerosene.

Never Were Paid.

The party arrived in Quincy at 4:45 in the afternoon and proceeded to a spot near the Old Soldiers' home, where they waited until 10 o'clock that evening. The Cox residence was only a short distance from the home. Brady was to do the work and he set fire to the barn while Six and Goff kept a lookout. He admitted that Brady had some trouble in setting fire to the house. When they heard the clanging of the fire wagons he stated that they ran to the railroad yards, and later beat it out on a freight.

Goff says that the gang separated and that he never saw them again. He also claimed that he never received one penny for his part in the job. Goff is already indicted on an arson charge at Springfield.

FAY HAWES CAMP HOLDS ANNUAL INSTALLATION

Faw Hawes camp No. 251, Royal Neighbors of America installed officers at a meeting held last night at Math's hall. Mrs. Hada Carlson acted as installing officer. After the business session a short musical program was rendered, the following taking part: Miss Esther Malmrose, solo; Miss Rose Kinney, recitation; Miss Nellie Freeman and Miss Nellie Fuller, piano solos.

The list follows: Orator—Mrs. Mary Cary. Past Orator—Mrs. Ella Frazer. Vice Orator—Mrs. Mary Coleman. Chancellor—Mrs. Emma Sheesley. Recorder—Mrs. Agnes Simpson. Receiver—Mrs. Ella Fuller. Marshal—Mrs. Nettie McKinney. Inner Sentinel—Mrs. Ella Gutzweller. Outer Sentinel—Mrs. Ellen Callahan.

Managers—Mrs. Johanna Wagner and Mrs. Mary Devine. Pianist—Miss Nellie Freeman. Physicians—Mrs. Ella Petrie, J. E. Souders and W. D. Snively.

FIVE PAIR OF PHEASANTS ARE SENT INTO COUNTY

Charles O. McConnell, Fred Jenkins and Alfred Lawrence and Hedley Peterson of Milan have each been presented a pair of English pheasants by Edgar F. Olson, a former Rock Island county boy, who is now cashier of the Franklin Trust and Savings bank of Chicago. The birds were secured by Mr. Olson from the state game farm, which has been abandoned. The pheasants have arrived at Milan. When the time seems propitious they will be liberated in nearby timber. Pheasants are protected by law in Illinois until 1920.

RECORD OF BRAVE OFFICER PRAISED BY FORMER CHIEF

Phil Miller Gives Interesting Reminiscences of Christian Metsch.

AN OFFICER WITHOUT FEAR

Discovers Murder of Joseph Rosenfield and Captures One of the Guilty Men.

"The bravest policeman the city of Rock Island ever had" was the tribute which Phil Miller, former city marshal today paid to the memory of Christian Metsch, veteran officer whose funeral services were held this afternoon.

"From 1875 to 1885 he was on the force," continued Mr. Miller, while in his reminiscent mood, "and captured some of the most noted criminals in the history of the local department."

"Standing about 5 feet 11 inches in height and weighing about 220 pounds when in his prime, he was an ideal officer. He did not know the meaning of the word fear. He did not depend upon his revolver and like all capable officers, used it only in extreme cases. It was his good right fist that he often brought into play in handling the vicious and the toughs of this section had a whole-some regard for his wallop."

Rosenfield Murder.

"Perhaps the most remarkable work he did was in the capture of Bernard Heeney, one of the murderers of Joseph Rosenfield, a brother officer, who was killed about one o'clock on the morning of March 12, 1879, at the corner of Sixth avenue and Eighteenth street near a vacant lot where Dr. Eli Bradford's house now stands."

"About 1:30 on that morning Policemen Metsch and Gorman met on Twentieth street near Gorman Connelly's residence. They heard some one approaching along Sixth avenue and concealed themselves until the parties came up. They saw four men and heard one of them say 'I gave it to him.'"

"When the two officers came out into the street the men started to run, two going south on Twentieth street and the other two in opposite directions. Metsch started after the two and succeeded in getting one of them, bringing him down with his cane. Gorman caught two of the men, only to have them get away."

Finds Body.

"Up to this time, Metsch did not know for what crime his man was wanted. As he took his prisoner past the corner at Sixth avenue and Eighteenth street, Metsch noticed somebody lying in the road. He asked Heeney if it was one of the party. 'No, that is a policeman,' was the reply. The officer investigated and found that Rosenfield had been terribly beaten over the head, death ensuing in five minutes."

"After summoning aid, Metsch took his man to the city jail where Major C. W. Hawes, then marshal, was summoned. Heeney confessed and implicated his brother Pat, Dublin Jack Cavanaugh and Tom Ross, all of whom were soon arrested, except Ross who gave himself up to me later."

"A burglar by the name of Paddock was also caught by Metsch some time later, for the robbery of the Peter Fries home. Paddock was picked up by the officer before the latter even knew he had committed a crime."

A Clean Catch.

"Metsch saw him coming from the yard at the Major Connelly home. He put him under arrest and at the station it was found that he had broken into both the Fries and the Connelly residences. Major Connelly had been awakened by the prowler and when he showed signs of fight, the young fired and the bullet went into the wall. Thoroughly alarmed Paddock beat a hasty retreat and ran into Officer Metsch who had that beat. Paddock was given eight years in Joliet for the Fries job but after he had been there six months broke out. He was later recaptured. It had been the plan to have him tried for the Connelly theft as well but the idea was not carried out."

"In 1880 when I was city marshal, P. L. Cable called me up one night and told me his home had been burglarized. He said that some one had set off the burglar alarm in the basement by lifting a window and offered the suggestion that who ever had attempted to crawl into the window must have cobwebs and dust on their hats."

Cobwebs Evidence.

"By the time I arrived at the station, Officer Metsch was there with two men. On his beat, he had heard two revolver shots coming from the Cable home, when the daughter Lucy had heard the men in the basement and fired out the window to frighten them. Metsch made it his habit to stop every man in his district whom he did not recognize. Acting upon his plan, he soon ran into two strangers and he immediately took them to the station."

"The first thing I noticed was that both prisoners had cobwebs on their caps. I suggested when the men were being put in the cells that they leave their coats and hats behind, which they did. I noticed one of the men try to slip something under the stove and after they were locked up I investigated and found it to be a chisel,

TO THE VOTERS

After due and timely consideration, and upon the personal advice of friends, (including many of our prominent citizens) I have decided to announce myself as a candidate for the office of city commissioner. The encouragement received from these gentlemen, together with those whom I have met, gives me good reason to believe I will be a contender in the race at the coming primaries and election.

My platform will be one of honesty and efficiency. It is my candid opinion that our city should be governed on strictly business principles.

From a successful business experience of twelve years in your city, together with the fact I claim it as my birthplace, this of itself should qualify me for the position desired.

Being a property holder gives me further reason to ask your consideration, as I hold the best interests of our city at heart.

I assure you of being under no obligations to any person or interests whatsoever. If elected it will be solely upon my merits. I seek no votes from those who expect compensation for favors shown me.

My campaign will be free from slander or abuse so far as my friends or self are concerned. Should you deem me worthy of your support I will be indeed grateful to you for any assistance extended me from this date.

Respectfully, WM. M. BEAL.

Primaries, Feb. 25. Election, April 6.

1600 Second Ave. Res., 1030 Twenty-first St.

POLITICAL ADVERTISING.



Of Rock Island

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Special Friday and Saturday

Choice any fancy Boy's Suit, sizes 5 to 18, in all the season's nobby styles, regular values up to \$7.50, at

395

Two Day Special Clearance Sale FRIDAY and SATURDAY Only

In the

Boys' Big Daylight Section

Mothers—Take Advantage of this Sale. Bring the Boy in with You

Special Friday and Saturday

Choice of any fancy Boy's Suit, sizes 5 to 18, every one representing genuine \$7.90 to \$12.00 values, for

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Special Friday and Saturday

HALF PRICE

..On..

Boys' Overcoats and Balmacaans
\$2.95 Coats for\$1.48
\$3.95 Coats for\$1.98
\$4.95 Coats for\$2.48
\$5.95 Coats for\$2.98
\$6.95 Coats for\$3.48
\$7.95 Coats for\$3.98
\$8.95 Coats for\$4.48
\$9.95 Coats for\$4.98
\$10.95 Coats for\$5.48
\$11.95 Coats for\$5.98
\$12.95 Coats for\$6.48

Boys' and Children's Sweaters
\$1.00 Children's Sweaters50c
\$1.50 Boys' Sweaters75c
\$2.50 Boys' Sweaters\$1.25
\$3.50 Boys' Sweaters\$1.75
\$4.50 Boys' Sweaters\$2.25
\$5.50 Boys' Sweaters\$2.75
\$6.50 Boys' Sweaters\$3.25
\$7.50 Boys' Sweaters\$3.75
\$8.50 Boys' Sweaters\$4.25
\$9.50 Boys' Sweaters\$4.75
\$10.50 Boys' Sweaters\$5.25
\$11.50 Boys' Sweaters\$5.75
\$12.50 Boys' Sweaters\$6.25

Boys' Mackinaws
(Sizes 3 to 12)
\$3.95 Mackinaws for\$1.98
\$5.95 Mackinaws for\$2.98

Boys' Winter Caps
Any 50c Cap with Fur ear warmers25c

Prices Will

Not Go

So Low Again

This Season



An

Opportunity

That Comes

Just Once

PLOW BOYS WIN FROM R. I. CLUB

Trailends Rally and Win Last Game of the Series—Colts Take Three Straight.

STANDING OF TEAMS.		
	W.	L.
Klove Colts	34	17
R. I. Plow	29	25
C. & S.	23	28
R. I. Club	18	36

The Rock Island Plow team of the Commercial league won two straight games from the club quinter at the club alleys last night. Sanford rolled the high single game of 212. At the St. Julien alleys the Colts took three straight from Clemann & Salzmann's team. The furniture men dominated the third game and the Colts rolled it out for averages.

The scores:		
Rock Island Plow.		
Swanson	180	151
Grove	145	190
Volkman	179	158
Johnson	132	157
Thoms	163	104
Totals	592	871

Rock Island Club.		
Normoyle	136	157
Hampton	154	138
Bassett	170	139
Sanford	1376	188
Harms	148	122
Sharpe	151	106
Totals	784	832

Klove's Colts.		
Dr. Embery	176	132
F. Erickson	169	135
Bill Warren	154	109
H. Erickson	171	159
A. Vierich	190	137
Totals	830	835

Clemann & Salzmann.		
Taher	199	144
Steinhauer	172	195
Salzmann	143	135
Clemann	190	168
Jensen	126	158
Totals	740	701

An unexpected fish dinner was enjoyed by some of the German troops around one of the Mesurian lakes in East Prussia recently. The Russian batteries were shelling the German position. Many of their shells dropped into the lake, where they exploded and stunned or killed great numbers of perch and pike. They rose to the surface and were collected by the natives in boats.

Why Wait? No Reason Say We

Why carry along winter's incurring debts? You probably have many places to pay and can do justice to none. Put them in one place. See us for what you need. Loans on furniture, pianos and live stock up to \$100.00. Payments weekly or monthly, as your income permits. Phone R. I. 253.

Reliable Loan Co.

212 People's National Bank Bldg. Rock Island, Ill.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD PLAN AN ENTERTAINMENT

At meetings held Tuesday evening at Math's hall by Camp No. 85, W. O. W. and Grove No. 27, W. C. F. four candidates were obligated by Camp No. 85 and six were initiated by Grove No. 27. Several applications for membership were received by both orders. On Friday evening the Camp and Grove will entertain their members and friends at the Odd Fellows' hall, an excellent program having been arranged.