

Bandits Below 'Dead Line' Rob 2 Messengers

Young Woman Cashier Loses \$875 When Men Blow Powder Into Her Eyes; Highwayman Gets \$3,500

Daring Amazes Crowds Guards Accompanying Aged Clerk Arrested, Charged With Hold-Up Conspiracy

Bandits operating below the "dead line" in broad daylight yesterday held up two payroll clerks, one of them a woman, and escaped with \$4,375. One of the robbers was captured by civilians and is said to have confessed to the police. Thus far none of the money has been recovered.

Michael Dobbins, an aged messenger employed by the Burns brothers' Coal Company, was held up by a lone highwayman at the point of a revolver in Cedar Street and a money bag containing \$3,500 snatched from his hands before two guards who accompanied him knew anything was wrong. The money was being sent to pay off employees of the coal concern at Communipaw, N. J.

James O'Neill, of 450 West Sixty-fourth Street, and Thomas J. Geary, of 809 Willis Avenue, Jersey City, were arrested by Detective Dobbins last night and booked at the Old Slip station. According to the blotter entry, they are charged with conspiring with an unidentified man to cause the hold-up. Both are employed by the coal concern.

The bandits in the other case threw powder into the eyes of Miss Gladys Cohen, cashier for the Casino Trucking Company, of 153 Watts Street, and seized \$875, which the young woman had drawn from the bank to pay the Casino employees. The screams of the girl attracted the attention of truck drivers and they chased the thieves. After running eight blocks a man who gave his name as John Simonelli was captured and beaten by the truckmen. He was rescued and taken in custody by Detective Gubinski.

Makes Escape Easily The bandits who attacked Dobbins pressed a revolver against the cheek of the aged messenger, grabbed the money bag from under his arm and dashed through the street and made his escape through a building before the startled victim or the amazed crowd could give the alarm.

Dobbins left the offices of the coal firm at 50 Church Street a little after 4 o'clock. He carried \$2,500 in a linen bag, wrapped in newspaper, such as is used by bank messengers. The man is employed as a laborer in the Communipaw yards and said that he had carried the payroll from New York every week for thirty-five years and never lost a cent. After leaving the Hudson Terminal Building he proceeded through the street, to Greenwich, and then turned into Cedar.

There were many pedestrians in the street, but little vehicular traffic. Geary, a bookkeeper, and O'Neill, cashier of the Communipaw yards, each of the concerned yards of the coal concern, walked just ahead of the messenger.

Dobbins told the police the first thing he knew that anything was wrong was when he felt a tug at his coat. He turned and looked into the eyes of a roughly dressed man.

"Put up your hands quick, or I'll blow your head off," said the thug. Before the man could obey he felt the payroll snatched from under his arm and saw the bandit dart across the street, where he entered the hallway of 224 Cedar Street. Dobbins shouted the alarm and his guards rushed back. Geary ran across the street to follow the robber, but the door was slammed in his face and locked. It was ten minutes before a policeman could be found, according to the guards, and then the man had escaped.

Geary and O'Neill had permits to carry revolvers, but explained that they had stopped carrying them two weeks ago.

Miss Cohen, as has been her practice for months, left the office where she is employed at 153 Watts Street shortly after noon for the People's Bank, at Canal Street and Thompson streets. There she drew \$875 in small bills for the payroll and started back to the office of the Casino Company.

When the girl neared the corner of Canal and Greenwich streets she noticed several young men loitering on the sidewalk. As she approached the men stepped back so that she was forced to walk between them. When she was almost surrounded a man in the group dashed a handful of white powder into her eyes and blinded her. To protect herself she threw up her hands and shaken by the pain in her eyes, she dropped the pocketbook containing the money.

The girl screamed as she felt the pocketbook leave her hands, and a number of truck drivers standing near by rushed over. He was groping about the corner, but managed to tell them what had happened. The truckmen saw some men racing down Greenwich Street and gave chase. At Charlton and Varick streets they caught the man who was rescued by Detective Gubinski. Simonelli, who is twenty-one and lives at 246 First Avenue, was identified by Miss Cohen as one of the men who was standing on the corner.

At Police Headquarters it was said by the police that Simonelli had confessed his part in the hold-up, but declined to give any information that might lead to the apprehension of others. The police say he served one term on Blackwell's Island for picking pockets.

Alarmed at the loss of \$750,000 worth of negotiable bonds stolen by messenger boys in the last few months, Wall Street brokers are considering plans for transferring the valuable bonds and securities by safer means. It was explained that many of the firms contemplate employing ex-police-men to carry them.

The police have found no trace of Leo Julofsky, the seventeen-year-old messenger boy who, with Levinson & Co., of 52 Broadway, who disappeared with \$11,000 worth of securities Friday. An alarm circular sent out for the boy stated that 132 Liberty bonds of the third issue worth \$1,000 each had been taken. The circular gave the following numbers of the missing bonds: 336,514 to 336,537 inclusive; 336,538 to 336,541 inclusive; 1,562,374 to 1,562,384 inclusive, and 1,562,474 to 1,562,549 inclusive.

The police have abandoned the theory that a band has been preying on boys who are entrusted with large sums of money in Wall Street. The hundreds of investigators employed by the insurance companies who are in close touch with the situation in all parts of the country, however, do believe that the boys are being used by members of a gang who have a "fence" in the Middle West.

List of Big Losses In addition to the Levinson company the following firms have lost bonds since March: L. M. Prince & Co. \$53,000; Fuchsinger-Lohn Company \$2,000; Hartsborne & Battle \$25,000; Columbia Trust Company \$8,000; Herzfeld & Stern \$29,000; Niagara Jones Bond \$100,000; Strong & Sturges \$2,000.

Two men who have served time as safe robbers were arrested while they were trying to break into a dentist's safe containing \$1,500 worth of gold. The prisoners said they were Harry Morgenstein, thirty, of 91 Clinton Street, and David Marks, twenty-five, of East Third Street. They were arrested in the dentist's laboratory, of Edward Schmeier at 5 Avenue B. A sectional jimmy, drills, gloves and other paraphernalia of professionals were found in front of the safe.

Fifty thousand dollars has been given by Thomas W. Spatt, of Wrentham, N. J., to the Presbyterian General Board of Education, it was announced yesterday, with the proviso that the income shall be assigned to those Presbyterian colleges which raises specified sums for the endowment of chairs for departments of bible and religion. The board believes the gift ultimately will amount to \$1,000,000 additional for the same purpose.

It was also reported that the board had completed plans for a five-year campaign to raise a fund of \$35,000,000 for Presbyterian colleges and universities. A seventh of this amount is to be raised in the next year by the colleges and synods, while \$2,000,000 is to be obtained through the New Era movement budget plan.

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Table with multiple columns listing clothing items such as Fall Suits, Women's Coats, Boys' Fall Suits, Children's Rompers, etc., with prices and savings.

Advertisement for Strauss Toy Shops featuring 'Hello Daddy' and 'A Model (Toy) Aeroplane That Flies 1000 Feet'.