

NOTARY SUPPLIES NEW LINK AGAINST BECKER

The story of Richard G. Barter, the notary, who acknowledged the affidavit made by "Bald Jack" Rose for Charles Becker's counsel, John W. Hart, on the night following the shooting of Herman Rosenthal at the home of Harry Pollok, brought out for the first time yesterday the fact that Becker was with them when they went to Harry Pollok's home. The notary's story furnishes another important link in the activities of Becker subsequent to the murder. Barter testified before the grand jury, and later went over his story in more careful detail with District Attorney Whitman.

SYSTEM IS HAMPERING HIM, WHITMAN THINKS

District Attorney Whitman let it be known yesterday that he was thoroughly incensed over the way in which the police had handled the search for the three fugitives still wanted in the Rosenthal murder. So far from receiving any material help from them, the county prosecutor is said to feel himself blocked at every turn by the "system."

SCHEPPS WENT ABOUT FEARLESS FOR DAYS

Evidence was discovered yesterday of the manner in which the "system" had extended its protection to "Sam" Schepps and made him so confident of his safety that he did not hesitate to show himself

Rosenthal, it will be recalled, stated in the affidavit which he made before his death charging Becker with corrupt relations with the gamblers, that Becker had loaned him the money in consideration of a 20 per cent interest in the Rosenthal gambling house.

Becker remained in the cab, the notary declared, and he did not see him again, as the cab and Becker had gone when he came out with Hart, two hours later. The notary said Hart rang the bell and Mrs. Pollok came to the door. At first she was not going to let them in, and told them that Rose did not want to see anybody.

Pollok was not at home while the three visitors were there, the notary said. He understood, he said, that Rose wanted Pollok to appear in the affidavit as the man who had loaned the \$1,500 to Rosenthal, and that it was expected that Pollok would later on make a second affidavit supporting Rose's statement that he, Pollok, had loaned the money to Rosenthal.

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The information received by Mr. Whitman in regard to Schepps's hiding place was only an illustration of the rivalry which the three men behind the West Side court prison bars are now exhibiting daily to supply the District Attorney with every piece of knowledge which they possess or gain that relates to the gambling situation.

James M. Sullivan, Rose's counsel, appeared several days ago in the capacity of attorney for Vallon. He stated yesterday that Vallon was now thoroughly convinced of the uselessness of holding out any longer. He was now as anxious to help the District Attorney as any of the others.

The fact that Rose, Weber and Vallon are able to furnish Mr. Whitman with the information regarding Schepps, shows also that they are still in close connection with the outside world, and are kept pretty well informed of the movements of the other men who were associated with them in the crime.

It is also considered as probable that Becker is in constant communication with the conspirators still at large. The fact that he knew where Rose was when the police were supposed to be looking for him, and omitted to furnish the proper authorities with his knowledge, leaves little doubt in the minds of those who are striving to unravel the mystery that he has a fairly good idea of the whereabouts of Schepps, "Gib" and "Leftie."

last days, it was learned that Schepps spent all the morning of August 18 in that place without evincing the least fear that an inquisitive detective attached to Police Headquarters might poke his nose into the baths and discover him by sheer accident. Yet the police must have known that Rosenthal, Rose "Bridgie" Weber and other gamblers had met in the place frequently.

After Rose surrendered to the police Schepps seemed to lose his confidence, and about 2 o'clock on the afternoon of August 18 he ordered a taxicab and left for parts that seemed more elusive to him. He went out of the place swinging his suit case, debonair and apparently absolutely certain that he would not be molested or followed.

It was also said that for days the trail of Headquarters detectives led in a big circle around the Lafayette Baths and that its employees were not examined until District Attorney Whitman took matters in hand and sent his own men to look up the men suspected to have murdered Rosenthal.

Rosenthal had been a frequent guest in the baths for the last fifteen years, and many of the men involved in his murder have been familiar figures in the hotel, the restaurant and the cafe attached to the baths. The police must have known this, because it was known to any man who managed to scrape up any kind of acquaintance with gamblers.

In the basement, in a long room adjoining the baths, there is a row of cubicles which have been shown during the last three weeks with a sort of mysterious awe. Here, it was said, had resided on various occasions Rosenthal, Weber, Rose and Lieutenant Becker, chatting and discussing their business affairs.

As a result of investigation yesterday by Assistant District Attorney James E. Smith, it was found that Becker and his wife, during the month of May, had deposited \$3,000 in the West Side Savings Bank. The money was deposited in four separate amounts of \$750 each. That is all the bank account of Becker's in this city which the District Attorney knows anything about so far, it was said.

The District Attorney yesterday started to make inquiry of certain bankers in nearby cities, where he had heard that Becker had kept accounts. Rose is said to have told Mr. Whitman that Becker had some other bank accounts in the city, but that he didn't know in what institutions they were or under what name they were deposited.

Mr. Rockefeller had collected in his investigation of the social evil. Mr. Whitman said that the statement issued Thursday by Starr J. Murphy, Mr. Rockefeller's personal representative, stated the facts completely.

Miss Lund told the District Attorney that she was on duty the night of the murder. Her attention was called to three men talking outside the window of the restaurant where she worked. The time was shortly after the fatal shots had been fired. Some one told her that the men were concerned in the shooting, and being naturally curious, she went to the door to get a good look at them.

Mr. Whitman was much excited by the story which the girl told. He announced through Assistant District Attorney James E. Smith that an effort would be made to obtain another place for Miss Lund and that all witnesses in the case would be fully taken care of. A subpoena has been issued for the manager of the restaurant to appear before the grand jury.

Commissioner Waldo dismissed yesterday the charges against Patrolman William J. File, of the East 67th street station, who had been placed on trial because he was accused of not having taken the proper course of action in trying to apprehend the murderers of Herman Rosenthal.

File was seated in the restaurant of the Hotel Metropole when Rosenthal stepped out and the fatal shots were fired. It was testified at the trial of File that he had followed as rapidly as possible. He was one of those who jumped into a taxicab and chased the "murder car," but was unable to overtake it.

File will be restored to duty in the East 67th street station. The charges against him were dismissed on the recommendation of Fourth Deputy Commissioner Dillon.

Lieutenant Dominick Reiley was called into Commissioner Waldo's office yesterday and remained there for some time. When the lieutenant, who has been in charge of one of the squads that had been raiding gambling places, issued forth he made an affidavit before Commissioner of Deeds William H. Kirk, which was afterward made public. It was that the statement made in some of the newspapers that he had said before the grand jury that "New York was never so wide open as during the last year," was untrue.

Reiley swore he had made no statement which could in any way be construed to justify the published statement.

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SAYS ALDERMANIC PROBE WILL BE DEEP

Alderman Curran issued a call yesterday for the first meeting of the special aldermanic committee that is to investigate the Police Department. It will be held at the City Hall at 3 p. m. on Monday, at which time it is hoped that an agreement will be reached on counsel for the committee. This is considered one of the most important steps that the committee has to take, as on the counsel will depend in a large measure the success of the investigation.

"We have got the list of men under consideration down to about twelve," said Alderman Curran last night. "I hope to cut it down to half that number before Monday. As a result of conferences that have been held we now see our way clear to getting the right sort of a man by Monday. I do not care to discuss any names, as it would be unfair to those who are under consideration."

A number of names were mentioned to Alderman Curran, but he would not give the slightest indication of his feeling toward any one of the lawyers mentioned. As a result of the announcement of the chairman of the committee that he would go into the ownership of the premises used for gambling and immoral purposes, Chairman Curran's mail yesterday contained a number of letters giving much information along that line.

GRAND JURY STARTLED BY AUSTRIAN'S STORY

The most important feature of the story told to the grand jury by the newly discovered eyewitness of the Rosenthal shooting, he is Giovanni Stanish, an Austrian gentleman, master of four languages and a personal friend of a close friend of District Attorney Whitman was that he fully identified "Jack" Sullivan as a companion of the four gunmen at the moment that the murder was committed. Stanish gave a vivid description of the quartet, which left little, if any, doubt as to their identity.

The importance of this witness's testimony is illustrated by what seems to be a well founded report that the police are bending every effort to find him for some purpose which is not stated. So far their attempts have been in vain, the District Attorney having succeeded in keeping him well under cover.

According to the story he told, Stanish was standing in a hallway next door to the Hotel Metropole about 2 o'clock on the morning of July 18. He was in such position that he commanded a clear view of the sidewalk in front of the hotel. He was deep in conversation with a woman companion, when he noticed five men come across the street and take up their position in front of the door of the Metropole.

A minute later, Stanish said, another man appeared in the doorway of the restaurant. Four of the men drew revolvers and fired at the new arrival. He staggered a moment and dropped in his tracks. The men turned and walked leisurely away.

Stanish said he took particular note of Sullivan, first, because he was not concerned in the actual shooting, and second, because he appeared considerably more excited than the others. He started to walk away with the four gunmen, Stanish swore, but turned back a moment later, and stooping over the prostrate form, said: "He's dead all right."

The gunmen hopped into the automobile across the street without any apparent hurry, Stanish continued, and Sullivan disappeared in another direction. At about that moment Detective William J. File, in civilian's clothes, rushed out of the restaurant, waving his revolver and shouting: "Where are they? Where are they?" This struck the Austrian as a particularly strange way for an officer of the law to act, with the body of a murdered man growing cold at his feet.

The murderers stepped leisurely into an automobile directly opposite him, he told the grand jury. He testified that he was astounded at the time watched before File and another policeman in uniform jumped into a taxi and started in pursuit of the gray machine. When the car was well out of sight, he said, patrolmen began to appear in numbers.

Grand Jury Startled. Stanish's story produced a profound effect upon the grand jury and every effort was made to clear it from every shadow of doubt. Stanish was asked to describe the men whom he said he saw on the fatal evening in detail. His recollection of "Jack" Sullivan's appearance was remarkably clear. It was said that a better description of the tipster could not have been made had he stood before him.

FIREBUG CONFESSES STARTING 30 FIRES

Young Man Tells of Imperiling the Lives of Hundreds of Guests in Hotels. COULDN'T RESIST IMPULSE Caused Losses Estimated at Nearly \$1,000,000 in Connecticut and Massachusetts in Last Four Months.

Greenfield, Mass., Aug. 9.—Declaring that he had set thirty fires in hotels and public buildings in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts within the last four months, Bernard C. Murray, son of a former fire commissioner of Hartford, made a confession to Chief of Police Thomas Manning to-night. Among the fires which Chief Manning says Murray admits being responsible for are:

April 22—Waterbury, Conn. City Hall and Chelsea Hotel. May 23—Greenfield, Mass. Taylor Block and Hollister House. June 1—Turner's Falls, Mass. Grand Trunk Hotel and Allen Block. June 8—Greenfield, Mass. Central House. June 22—Turner's Falls, Mass. Hotel and Bartlett Block. June 2—North Adams, Mass. Wilson House. July 5, and within a few days after that, eighteen fires in and about Springfield.

Murray, who is twenty-four years old, said in explanation of the acts to which he confessed: "I could not resist an impulse to do it, although I realized the consequences."

"The lives of hundreds of hotel guests were placed in jeopardy by the fires which Murray declares he started, and the total property loss is estimated by local officials at nearly \$1,000,000."

In most cases, his confession includes the setting of two fires at the same time. Chief Manning says he has received within the last two days independent information placing Murray in the vicinity of the scenes of the more important fires at the time they were started. Murray was an employe of hotels and travelled considerably, changing his place of occupation frequently.

Confession Made in Jail. Murray's confession, which was made in the Franklin County jail here, followed his arrest on the charge of larceny of a gold watch and \$50 on July 13 from a guest at a hotel here. He is now serving a sentence of thirty days on this charge, to which he has confessed.

Descriptions of him published in connection with this affair led several persons who were interested in property destroyed in fires to identify him as the man they thought responsible. Within the last two days Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Russell, of Waterbury, and other persons, have told the police they believed Murray was in Waterbury at the time of the fires there.

Murray explained that he "liked to see things burn." "I just had to do it," he added. The young man said he would go to the second or third floor of a hotel, open a closet and light anything inflammable that might be inside, such as a mop, dust rag, broom or bed linen. After closing the door he would escape from the building and generally go to another hotel or building across the street or nearby, and do the same thing.

Fire Destroys Catskill Summer Resort as Masqueraders Make Merry. Catskill, N. Y., Aug. 9.—The Shady Glen House, a summer hotel near Cernville, was destroyed by fire late last night. Most of the ninety guests were attending a masquerade in a nearby grove when the fire was discovered, and there were no casualties. Nearly all lost their wearing apparel, however.

MAY BE INDICTED IN THE ROSENTHAL CASE.



"JACK" SULLIVAN.



"SAM" SCHEPPS.

75 ROBBERIES HIS SCORE

Man Who Escaped in Handcuffs Gets This Credit from Police. (By Telegraph to The Tribune.) New Brunswick, N. J., Aug. 9.—Frank Henry, the alleged burglar, who was captured in Motuhen a few weeks ago but who outran his captors there, after Chief Flaherty had put handcuffs on him, was brought here to-day from New York on a requisition. He was caught in Brooklyn.

Henry is said by the police to have figured in seventy-five robberies in this state.

Band of 150 Held Up Autoists Near Atlantic City. Pleasantville, N. J., Aug. 9.—A band of 150 gypsies invaded Absecon, two miles from this place, to-day, and engaged in a pitched battle with the authorities. Eight of the men in the party, including the "king," was arrested. Absecon is only seven miles from Atlantic City.

Men and women on foot and in automobiles were held up by the nomads and forced to turn over their money and jewelry, while wholesale robberies at the stores and farms were made by the band. The party was first seen passing by the outskirts of Pleasantville, and was ordered on from here by Constable McDeer, reported in Absecon, and laughed at the remonstrances of the Absecon citizen to their wholesale pilfering.

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Becker Issues Denial. "Nothing to Confess and Never Felt Better," He Says. Charles Becker, who lost his title of lieutenant in the New York Police Department when he took up his residence in the Tombs, denied yesterday that he was weakening. He omitted to explain, however, why his counsel held a conference for two hours with the District Attorney and what made Mr. Whitman so confident that he would tell all he knew in the end.

Becker issued the following statement from his cell yesterday afternoon: "I want it to be distinctly understood for once and all that I have no confession to make, for the simple reason that I have nothing to confess. That will be proved very clearly at the proper time when I have my day in court."

I never felt better in my life, and every one who has had the privilege of seeing me will appreciate that. Warden William Hanley said Becker showed no signs of being nervous or troubled. The prisoner kept to himself a great deal, Hanley said, but apart from that appeared as cheerful and confident as could be expected of any one.

The story that Becker was breaking down might have arisen, said the warden, from the fact that an ambulance drew up at the front door of the Tombs Thursday to take two prisoners to Bellevue. "The sick prisoners are usually taken out by the back door," said the warden, "and when the crowd saw the ambulance at the front door it jumped to the conclusion that some one at least as important as Becker was being taken away."

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