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# The Roxboro Courier

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NO. 8.

# Assassin Attempts To Kill Roosevelt

## Mayor Of Chicago And Four Others Wounded By Assassins' Bullets

### ROOSEVELT WAVES TO CROWD TO SHOW HE IS NOT WOUNDED

President-Elect Target Of Six Shots Fired At Conclusion Of Speech At Miami Reception

### ITALIAN BRICK LAYER SAYS HE AIMED SHOTS AT PRESIDENT-ELECT

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—Six shots were fired at President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt tonight wounding five persons including Mayor Anton Cermak, of Chicago.

The President-elect was uninjured.

The assailant, who was captured by a rush of secret service men, police and sheriff's officers, was described as Guiseppe Zingara, an Italian brick layer. He was spirited away by officers to save him from an angry crowd. Police said he admitted he bought his gun with the intention to kill Mr. Roosevelt.

The shooting took place in Bay Front Park here a few minutes after Mr. Roosevelt had come ashore from the yacht Nourmahal on which he had been cruising through the Bahamas. The President-elect was responding to a welcome of 10,000 people gathered in the park when the crack of pistol shots cut short his speech.

Zingara was said to have admitted that 10 years ago he was party to a plot against the life of King Victor Emmanuel, of Italy.

An attempt was made in 1911 on the life of King Victor Emmanuel and the assailant was imprisoned until 1928 when, at the King's order, he was given full freedom in a general amnesty.

The injured in addition to Mayor Cermak, who was shot through the chest, the bullet coming out his back and who may be fatally wounded, were:

William Sinnott, of New York, detective, shot in head.  
Mrs. Jos. Gill, wife of the President of the Florida Power and Light Company, shot twice in the abdomen.

Mrs. Margaret Keyes, of Newark, N. J., shot in the hand.  
Russell Caldwell, aged five, of Cocanut Grove, Fla., slightly injured.

First reports had been that a secret service man named Brodneux, who was with the President, had been shot in the head. It developed, however, that he had leaped to a position in front of Mr. Roosevelt to shield him and then had joined in the rush to capture the would-be assassin. In the confusion it had seemed that he had been shot.

Mr. Roosevelt cancelled plans for his return to New York tonight. He will remain here at least another day.

He will spend the night aboard the Nourmahal, Vincent Astor's yacht, on which he had returned earlier tonight from an 11-day trip.

The President-elect had just completed a brief address of welcome to thousands of cheering winter resort residents, in a setting that was colorful and in keeping with the occasion when the shots, six of them, split the air.

Mayor Cermak, who had been standing on the running board of the shiny black automobile in which Mr. Roosevelt was in the back, dropped to his knees in the fusillade.

Mrs. Gill wife of the President of the Florida Power and Light Company, was struck as she stood on the outer fringe of the crowd about 50 feet from the car.

"I got Cermak," Zingara was heard to shout before the crowd recovered from the first shock of the attempt at wholesale killing.

Mr. Roosevelt owes his life to the fact that a split second before the

## Escapes Gunman's Bullets



FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

### Guard at White House Doubled

Washington, Feb. 15.—The secret service detail assigned to protect the life of President Hoover immediately was doubled tonight upon receipt of word here of apparent attempt to assassinate President-elect Roosevelt.

shots were discharged he had lowered himself down to the rear of his motor. He had been standing, braced by his arms on the lowered top of the car.

He was in the process of sliding into his accustomed seat when the bullets cut through the air. No sooner had the shots been fired, it seemed, than the Roosevelt car was thrown into gear by the chauffeur and it was sent into motion through a path cleared by police sirens.

Mr. Roosevelt was heard to remark, "I'm all right." He waved his arms to the crowd as an indication that he had been spared. He was driven to his special train on a siding of the Florida East Coast Railroad, and later to the hospital, where the wounded were rushed.

After urging that all possible comforts be given the victims he was driven back to the Nourmahal, where but a few hours ago he laughed and joked with the newspapermen who boarded the yacht to greet him after his absence.

Reports brought back to the train by Robert H. Gore, a member of the Roosevelt party, said that hospital authorities expected Mayor Cermak to die of his injuries.

"The bullet struck Cermak full in the chest and came out through his back," Gore declared.

Mrs. M. J. Cross, of N. W. Second Street, Miami, was standing close to Zingara as he arose from a crouching position with the gun in his hand. She sensed the impending tragedy and tried to wrest the weapon from his hand. He climbed a chair to get an accurate aim.

He was about 35 feet from the Roosevelt automobile which had stopped to allow the President-elect to extend a greeting to this city. (Continued on last page)

## SPEECH OF ROOSEVELT PRIOR TO SHOOTING

Response To Welcome Hardly Finished When Shots Ring Out

TELLS NO FISH STORIES

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—President-elect Roosevelt had just finished a brief speech to a welcoming crowd, thanking them for the reception when the six shots rang out tonight.

The text of Mr. Roosevelt's remarks was: "Mr. Mayor, my friends of Miami, I am not a stranger here because for a great many years I used to come down here. I haven't been here for seven years, but I am coming back. I have firmly resolved not to make this the last time. I have had a very wonderful 12 days of fishing in these Florida and Bahama waters. It has been wonderful rest and we have caught a great many fish.

"I am not going to attempt to tell you any fish stories and the only fly in the ointment on my trip has been that I have put on about 10 pounds. So that means, among other duties which I shall have to perform when I get North is taking those 10 pounds off.

"I hope very much to come down here next winter and to see all of you and to have another wonderful 10 days or two weeks in Florida waters."

Then, as he said "Many thanks," and sat down, the firing began.

## Chronology Of Assassinations

New York, Feb. 15.—Three American presidents met death at the hands of assassins. A lunatic attempted to kill President Theodore Roosevelt on September 1, 1903.

Abraham Lincoln was shot by J. Wilkes Booth in a Washington theater on April 14, 1865.

President Garfield was shot by Charles J. Guiteau in a Washington railway station on July 2, 1881.

President McKinley on September 6, 1901, was assassinated by Leon Czolgosz while attending the Pan-American exposition in Buffalo.

Mayor William J. Gaynor of New York was badly wounded by an assassin's bullet aboard a steamer in New York harbor August 9, 1910.

The wounding of Mayor Cermak of Chicago recalls that on October 28, 1893, Carter H. Harrison, then mayor of Chicago, was assassinated.

There have been many attempts on the lives of European rulers, but comparatively few on American political leaders.

William Goebel, governor of Kentucky, was killed on January 30, 1900. Frank Steuener, former governor of Idaho, was slain in December, 1905.

Among other assassinations of world famous leaders are: Emperor Alexander II of Russia in 1881; King Humbert I of Italy in 1900; President Madero of Mexico in 1913;

King George of Greece in 1913; Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in 1914.

### Mayor Cermak Glad It Was He, Not Roosevelt

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—"I'm glad it was me, not you."

With that expression of loyalty to his Chief, Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago, tonight greeted President-elect Roosevelt at Jackson Memorial hospital here, where Cermak was taken after being shot in an abortive attempt to assassinate the President-elect.

Roosevelt visited the hospital after the five victims were taken there, and spent some time with all save one. He then returned to the Astor yacht, Nourmahal.

### Al Smith Shocked By Miami Shooting

New York, Feb. 15.—Of the tragedy tonight at Miami, Former Gov. Alfred E. Smith tonight said:

"I am deeply shocked to learn such a thing could happen. My joy at learning that Governor Roosevelt was not hit is tempered only by my distress at the misfortune of Mayor Cermak and the others.

## Roosevelt And Party Just Before Shooting As They Arrived At Miami From Cruise



Pictured here are the President-elect, Franklin D. Roosevelt, with his cousin, Kermit Roosevelt, on left, and Vincent Astor, his host and owner of the yacht used for the cruise. A short while later the happy occasion was turned into a near-tragedy as an assassin's bullets crashed into the party.

## EYE WITNESSES GIVE DETAILS OF SHOOTING

Radio Station Broadcasts Actual Revolver Shots, Amid Scenes of Confusion

FIRST SHOTS FROM CHAIR

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—A camera man's cry to his photographer, "action!" was the signal for the six shots fired at President-elect Roosevelt, William W. Wood, 27, Miami, told the United Press tonight.

Wood, a member of the Dade County Democratic committee and assigned to Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago as a local guide, was standing between Cermak and the would-be assassin when the shooting started.

"I was holding a lapel mike passing over a cable for a radio announcer when the shooting began," Wood said.

"The first shot went over my shoulder just as the President-elect reached over another man to shake hands with the Chicago Mayor and remarked jovially, 'Hello Tony.'

"A cameraman had just cried, 'action,' to his photographer. It was the cue for all the action."

Meanwhile thousands of Miamians and winter visitors who could not jam into the enormous amphitheatre at the park discussed their own little drama as heard over radio from Miami's station WQAM.

Mr. Roosevelt had just uttered a farewell, "Thank you," when the listeners were startled by two shots fired in quick succession. Some freak of radio operation cut out the reports of the other four blasts.

Someone in the crowd yelled loudly, near the microphone:

"Get that man."  
The announcer began describing the tumultuous scene. He attempted to minimize the importance of the shots.

"There seems to be some confusion here," the announcer said. "Don't be alarmed." He then said the shots were flash light explosion guns.

But the confusion and loud shouting continued on the radio until the station suddenly cut off.

It was nearly half an hour before the announcer returned to the air and told the actual occurrences of that exciting moment.

Roy A. Dobs of Johnson City, N. Y., was seated directly behind the would-be assassin, Zingara.

"As Roosevelt sat down I saw the would-be assassin half rise and shoot from just above his hip between the heads of those in front of us.

"From this position he fired two shots. A tall man grabbed him by the wrist and elevated the gun hand. The third shot went wild into the platform.

"The tall man began to wrestle with Zingara. The would-be assassin rose and stood on a chair.

"He was in this position still shooting when a woman tackled him around the knees and the chair collapsed. Then the police came."

### Mayor Cermak Expected To Recover From Wound

Miami, Fla., Feb. 16.—Mayor Anton Cermak, of Chicago, has a good chance to recover from the bullet wound he received last night, Dr. Gerald Rapp announced after an X-ray examination of the Mayor early today.

"The bullet entered the right side of the back and passed below the tip of the scapula downward towards the midline and lays at the interior of the eleventh dorsal vertebrae," Dr. Rapp said.

He added that he believed the Mayor will live.

"The bullet may have tipped the liver," he said. "Pulse 80, respiration 26, condition considered very very good," was the brief bulletin.

### Notice

The regular monthly meeting of the Boy Scout Council will be held at Hotel Shirley Tuesday night, Feb. 21st, at 7:30 p. m. Please attend if possible.

A number of Cumberland County tobacco growers will try out the new plan of covering their tobacco beds with a light scattering of grain straw this season.

## Admits Buying Gun To Kill President-Elect

### Seriously Wounded



Mayor Anton Cermak, of Chicago, who was probably fatally wounded by one of the shots fired by the would-be assassin of President-elect Roosevelt.

### President Hoover Deeply Shocked By News Of Attack

Washington, Feb. 16.—President Hoover issued a statement tonight saying he was "deeply shocked" by news that shots had been fired at President-elect Roosevelt.

He described the incident as a "dastardly act." Mr. Hoover also sent a telegram to the President-elect rejoicing at his escape and asking for the condition of Mayor Cermak.

In his telegram to Roosevelt, President Hoover said:

"Together with every citizen I rejoice that you have not been injured. I shall be grateful to you for news of Mayor Cermak's condition."

The President-elect replied: "I deeply appreciate your message. Mayor Cermak is resting but his condition is still serious. I will wire you in the morning after I have been to the hospital."

Stranger—And what are you going to be when you grow up, my little man?

Little Man—Well, after I have been a minister to please mother and a lawyer to please father, I'm going to be a policeman.

## MRS. ROOSEVELT IS CALM WHEN NOTIFIED

Says "These Things Are To Be Expected"; Is Anxious About Cermak

New York, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt bustled into the room of the Roosevelt mansion on East 65 Street while Colonel Louis Howe, confidential secretary to the President-elect, was talking to reporters and calmly asked "What is it all about?"

Her daughter, Mrs. Anna Curtis Dall, followed her into the room anxiously.

When Howe explained that Mr. Roosevelt was unhurt, Mrs. Roosevelt sat on the edge of her chair, smiled broadly and said, "pshaw, that's great."

Then she noticed that reporters were in the room, smiled graciously and said:

"You've got to expect these things."

Advised that Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago had been wounded, she expressed great anxiety and said she would wait by a telephone until she could get details from Mr. Roosevelt himself.

Colonel Howe expressed great surprise tonight at news of the unsuccessful attempt made upon Mr. Roosevelt's life in Miami.

"The President-elect's mail has been especially free of any crank mail or threats of any kind," he said.

"I seriously doubt," Howe continued, "whether the bullets were meant for Mr. Roosevelt as he is not the type of man who would be target of such an assault."

### Italian Brick Layer Says He Tried To Kill King Victor Emmanuel

BLAMES CROWD FOR MISS

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—Guiseppe Zingara, 33, Italian brick layer, admitted he purchased the gun with which he attempted to assassinate President-elect Roosevelt here tonight, police announced shortly before midnight.

Zingara also told police he attempted to assassinate King Emmanuel of Italy ten years ago, police said.

"When I read in the Miami newspapers that Roosevelt was coming to Miami I bought with \$8 a gun with which to kill him," Zingara was quoted as having told police.

"I got to the scene early but the crowd was too big for me to get near the platform.

"I meant to shoot him while he was talking but the crowd was in my way and I am a short man.

"I have always hated the rich and powerful and I hoped tonight that I would have better luck than I did ten years ago when in Italy I purchased the pistol with which to kill King Emmanuel with."

He blamed the dense crowd for his failure.

"By a queer trick of fate," he continued, "the same thing that failed me in Italy was the same thing that prevented me from killing Roosevelt tonight—too dense a crowd.

"I suppose I tried to kill Roosevelt because I have been in constant trouble from a stomach operation."

"I would not shoot a working man or a policeman," Zingara continued. "It is the rich and powerful I hate. As a child I had to work hard in the field, and when I was 16 I had to go to war. Life has been bad for me."

The Italian brick layer was stripped of all his clothes as he reached the jail and his clothing thoroughly searched.

Rogue's gallery pictures were taken of him clad only in his underwear. Later even that bit of clothing was taken from him.

When news syndicate photographers attempted to take his picture as he stood nude in his cell, Zingara demanded a shirt which he held in front of him.

"I was too short to shoot as I wanted to," Zingara continued. "My big chance came, however, when some people got tired standing and sat down.

"I stood on a chair and pointed the gun at Roosevelt but people pushing and milling around made it wobbly. The gun started to shake but I pulled the trigger anyway. I don't remember how many times.

"I do not hate Mr. Roosevelt personally but I hate all Presidents, no matter from what country. I hate all officials and anybody who is rich. I am 35 years old and was born in Caladria, Italy."

Zingara came here by bus two months ago. He came from New York City but has been making his home in Hackensack.

### MENACING GROWD GATHERS AROUND JAIL IN MIAMI

Miami, Fla., Feb. 15.—At midnight reports came to police headquarters here that a menacing crowd was forming around the Miami jail where Guiseppe Zingara who fired six shots at President-elect Roosevelt and party tonight, was being questioned.

Precautions were being taken to keep the crowd moving, however. There was little danger of the mob reaching Zingara, for Miami's jail is 27 stories above the street.

### Foot Hurt By Tractor

Charlie Barnett, an employee of the State Highway Commission, was the victim of a painful accident last Wednesday morning when one of the heavy caterpillar tractors used by the highway force ran over his foot. The accident happened near Helena, where some roads were being repaired. He was brought to Roxboro and the injured member dressed. No bones were broken, it was stated, and he is now getting along nicely, at the home of his father.