

Youth Of Country Caught On Crest Of Crime Wave

Never in History of Country Have Police Had to Deal With So Many Juvenile Delinquents and Desperadoes as Is the Case Today

By ROBERT T. SMALL
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New York, June 9.—Expert criminologists are non-plussed at the rapid spread of crime among what may be termed the children of the country. The unbelievable murder of the Franks boy in Chicago by two youths of 19 has served merely as a climax to a long record of crimes by boys, and girls too for that matter, which has been piling up in every large city during the past five or six years.

Scarcely a day goes by here in New York that some lad but recently in long pants is taken into the toils of the law for some daring or reckless defiance of the stated rules of society.

Lingering in the hospital today, a bullet wound in his head, is a boy of 17—a "hold up man." The lad was caught redhanded in an effort to rob a jewelry store in broad daylight.

The arrest of a boy of this age is nothing out of the ordinary, but this case was interesting because Howard Weiss says the last ten years of his life have been spent in crime. This means he left the straight and narrow path at the age of seven.

Cecilia Cooney, New York's notorious bobbed hair bandit, now doing her bit up the river, said that she, too, had been sent out on the street at even a younger age than that. Weiss told the police today that he had lived in Los Angeles but he did not remember his parents because he was so young when he took to getting a living out of the world in the only way which seemed natural to him. Rather boastfully the boy told of having done "jobs" in Portland, Oregon, Vancouver, B. C., Seattle, San Francisco and various smaller cities. When shot down by a policeman as he was attempting to escape it was found the boy's world wealth consisted of two revolvers and a pawn ticket for a watch.

The police are at a loss to know just what has set the youth of the country afire but that it is flaming there is no doubt. Some of New York's boldest crimes have been committed by boys in their teens or early twenties. Bank messengers have been shot down by them in coldest blood. Highway robbery appears to have the greatest appeal to the criminals of supposedly tender years. The boy with the gun is giving more trouble to the police of New York today than almost any other criminal.

Girls go in for shoplifting as a rule and some of these have told the juvenile court that they have been pilfering since they were eight or nine years old.

Not only is youth rampant in overt criminal acts, but the traffic courts of the city are filled with young men and women arrested for speeding. Even Miss Abby Rockefeller, the 21-year-old granddaughter of John D., himself could not resist the call for the dazzling pace and twice was taken into custody for breaking the speed limit into exceedingly small fractions. Reckless driving almost invariably is traced to mere boys and only too often there has been gin or some other sort of liquor in the party.

Every city and town in the country has its modern problem of dealing with youth. There never has been a time when youth has so freely found expression. The extent to which parents are responsible for the manners and customs of children which sometimes grow into criminal acts can only be conjectured.

Eminent doctors, who specialize in studies of the brain, both normal and abnormal, have agreed at their convention in Atlantic City that the Chicago boys who murdered Robert Franks might have conducted themselves as law-abiding citizens if something had not gone wrong with their early training. Just where modern parents fall in the upbringing of their offspring the doctors have not disclosed but they place at the hearthstone the wild flings that youth is having today. Too much indulgence, too much liberty, too much spending money, too many automobiles and too little chaperonage—all these are the customary explanations of the world life that is being led by what the doctors call children.

The spirit of adventure burns stronger today than at any time in the history of the country. Youth is being served as never before. In the British flying corps during the World War they would not take boys over 23 years of age. They wanted the recklessness and the abandon of youth; they wanted flyers who would not count the cost. These same youthful traits which served so well in battle, are rampant today, as the criminal records of every big city will show.

\$50.08; Maiden \$26.03; Oxford \$221.22; Plymouth \$83.08; Raleigh \$1,561.20; Red Springs \$63.43; Reidsville \$278.15; Roanoke Rapids \$158.74; Rockingham \$204.84; Rocky Mount \$730.78; Rowland \$40.71; Roxboro \$113.70; Rutherfordton \$54.11; Salisbury \$587.09; Sanford \$51.84; Selma \$45.71; Shelby \$233.69; Smithfield \$237.70; Southern Pines \$139.59; Southport \$29.84; Spencer \$80.54; Statesville \$516.61; Spring Hope \$70.15; Snow Hill \$32.07; Tarboro \$209.65; Thomasville \$198.70; Tyron \$44.36; Wadesboro \$166.61; Wake Forest \$58.86; Warrenton \$107.93; Washington \$340.45; Wilson \$883.89; Waynesville \$165.39; Wilmington \$1,732.76; Winston Salem \$2,656.32; Warsaw \$99.11.

Richard Loeb in his confession made a week ago to United States Attorney Crowe and made public today. "I want to say I offer no excuse, but if it was not for the suggestion and stimulus of Leopold the crime would not have been committed," Loeb said.

MANTEO BRIEFS

Manteo, June 9.—Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wescott are spending a few days with Mrs. Wescott's parents at Atlanta, Ga.

Louis Simpson, salesman for W. J. Woodley of Elizabeth City was in town Wednesday.

Miss Bonnie Bell Evans returned to her home here Tuesday from where she has been teaching school this past term.

Miss Annie Etheridge has just finished her years work at the Eastern Carolina Teachers College at Greenville, and returned to her home here Wednesday.

Moody Baum, formerly of Wanchese but now of Norfolk, Virginia, passed through here Wednesday en route to Wanchese where he will spend a short time with his mother, Mrs. Mollie Baum.

Mr. Vernon Gaskill of Wanchese spent the day in town Thursday on business.

Mr. Joe Tom Daniels of Wanchese was in town Thursday on business. He was accompanied by Captain C. W. Pugh.

CITY FIREMAN TO GET \$461.07 SOON

Insurance Commissioner Wade Has Mailed Check for That Amount to Local Fire Company This Week.

Raleigh, June 7.—The State Insurance Department has just mailed checks for an amount totalling \$33,837.92 to the trustees of the Firemen's relief fund in 160 cities and towns in the state from taxes derived during the fiscal year from fire insurance premiums, Insurance Commissioner Stacy W. Wade announced today. The gross amount is \$5,000 in excess of \$28,760.10 collected last year, indicating, Mr. Wade stated, five million dollars state increase insurance business.

The amount each city and town received is proportioned according to the fire insurance premium receipts.

The names of the towns and cities together with the amount each will receive follows:

Albemarle \$170.64; Asheville \$1,892.32; Ayden \$98.57; Andrews \$48.72; Aberdeen \$61.27; Beaufort \$44.72; Belhaven \$48.58; Biltmore \$21.07; Black Mountain \$23.09; Brevard \$82.74; Burlington \$449.98; Bryson City \$32.90; Canton \$87.96; Carthage \$41.51; Chapel Hill \$99.01; Charlotte \$3,324.29; Cherryville \$65.26; Clayton \$82.65; Clinton \$118.91; Concord \$342.14; Dunn \$210.19; Durham \$1,438.07; East Spencer \$5.56; Edenton \$137.82; Elizabeth City \$461.07; Elkin \$116.55; Enfield \$106.22; Farmville \$88.47; Fayetteville \$569.13; Forest City \$88.63; Franklinton \$32.77; Granite Falls \$25.85; Gastonia \$701.33; Goldsboro \$963.46; Graham \$83.68; Greensboro \$1,840.45; Greenville \$447.25; Gibsonville \$32.30; Mamlet \$204.89; Henderson \$455.25; Hendersonville \$278.00; Hertford \$71.92; Hickory \$399.71; High Point \$1,065.90; Leaksville \$150.98; Kings Mountain \$98.58; Kinston \$531.39; Lillington \$38.73; LeGrange \$61.40; Laurinburg \$214.81; Lenoir \$195.43; Lexington \$336.31; Lincolnton \$145.65; Louisburg \$161.64; Lumberton \$195.56; Littleton \$55.58; Marion \$113.95; Marshall \$51.85; Maxton \$104.75; Monroe \$217.95; Mooresville \$123.56; Morehead City \$99.77; Morganton \$210.33; Mount Airy \$317.10; Mount Olive \$145.74; Murphy \$48.42; Mocksville \$34.93; New Bern \$576.12; Newton \$75.35; North Wilkesboro \$177.21; Madison

GOODING INSISTS ON BEING INVESTIGATED

Washington, June 9.—Investigation of the transactions of the War Finance Corporation "particularly as regards the alleged favoritism" in dealings with Senator Gooding, Republican, of Idaho, was ordered by the Senate on motion of Senator Gooding.

The action was requested by Senator Gooding despite the withdrawal by Senator Glass, Democrat, of Virginia, of the charge he made on the floor last night that the Idaho Senator had violated the Federal statutes in his dealings with the War Finance Corporation.

TOKIO RUFFIANS STAGE RIOT OVER EXCLUSION

Tokio, June 9.—Ruffians broke up a Saturday night dance at the Imperial Hotel which was attended by many members of the foreign community with a demonstration of opposition to the exclusion clause of the new American immigration law. The police made no move to halt the demonstration, although, according to reliable information, they had known of plans for it since this afternoon.

LOEB PUTS THE BLAME ALL ON LEOPOLD, JR.

Chicago, June 9.—All blame for the murder of Robert Franks was placed upon Nathan Leopold, Jr., by

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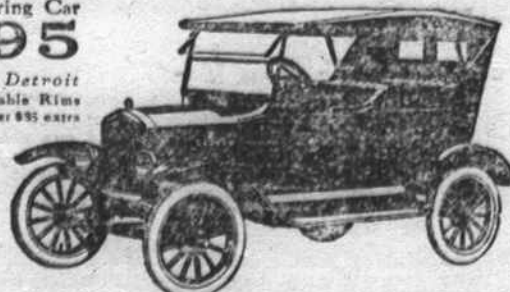
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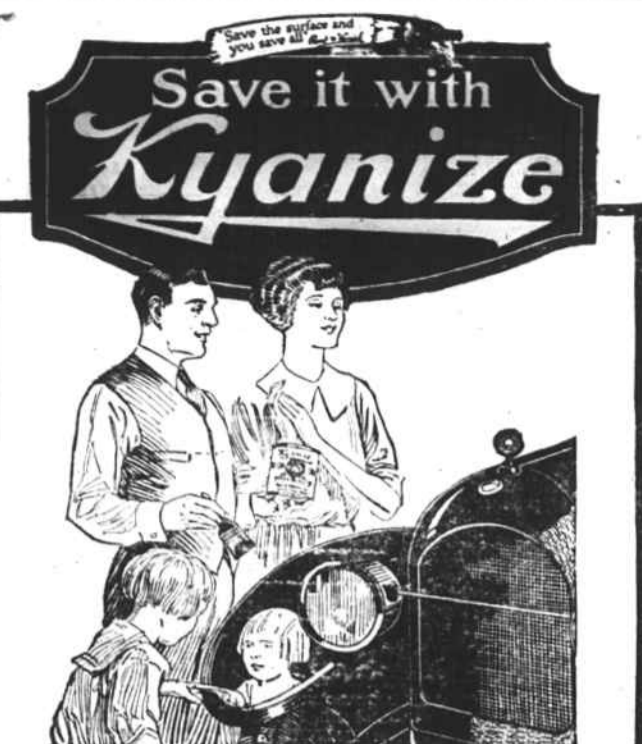
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