

## CHAPMAN TO BE TAKEN BACK TO FEDERAL PRISON

U. S. Wardens on Way to Get Notorious Bandit Captured by Police at Muncie, Ind.

MADE ESCAPE IN 1923

Staged \$2,000,000 Hold-up in New York—Murder Also Charged.

Two deputy wardens from Atlanta (Ga.) Federal Prison were on their way to Indianapolis this afternoon to get Gerald Chapman, notorious bandit, to return him to prison. Chapman was captured by police at Muncie, Ind., Sunday and brought to the Marion County jail.

He had been sought since March 27, 1922, when he escaped from the prison hospital at Atlanta.

Chapman was thoroughly at ease in the jail, refusing to answer questions about his escapades.

## Dressed as Gentleman

He was dressed as a gentleman—in a dark blue suit, neat cravat and a gray soft hat.

Chapman is held without bond. United States Marshal Linus Meredith said he would be held here awaiting instructions from the warden of the Atlanta prison.

Meanwhile two police inspectors from New York City were on their way here to claim Chapman. This raised the question of whether Chapman would be taken to Atlanta or to New Britain, Conn., where he is charged with the murder of a policeman. It was reported from Hartford, Conn., that Connecticut officials would put up a fight for custody of the prisoner.

Chapman is being closely guarded.

Jailers say he will not escape here. To do so he would have to saw through three sets of iron bars in the day time, or two sets at night. Chapman, during the day is with other prisoners in a room with two rows of cells. At night he is locked in a cell.

His latest "job" prior to his arrest in Muncie was the shooting of the policeman at New Britain, Conn., it is alleged. He was the leader, or an accomplice, in the robbery of a customs truck in New York City when jewels and watches valued at \$145,000 were stolen. Oct. 24, 1921, he and his gang robbed a mail truck at New York, obtaining \$2,400,000 in money and securities, it is charged.

He was sentenced to Atlanta July 3, 1922, for twenty-five years, but escaped March 3, 1923. After being wounded he was recaptured and placed in the hospital. Three weeks later he escaped by overpowering a nurse and sliding down a rope of sheets.

## Cop Lands Blow

Muncie police, having known Chapman was hiding in the city for four weeks, surrounded a house in which he was hiding and when he left in an automobile leaped on its running boards and overpowered the bandit. As Chapman drew a gun Detective Harry Brown knocked him down with a blow on the jaw.

A pint and a half of nitro glycerine, stolen jewelry and \$1,500 in cash were found on his person and in his baggage.

"Don't jar the grip," Chapman said, as he was captured. "There's enough soup in there to blow up the courthouse."

Chapman was rushed to Indianapolis in an automobile under a heavy escort of detectives and sheriffs.

Meredith received a telegram today from U. M. Alcorn, state's attorney at New Britain, Conn., asking that Chapman be removed there for trial for the murder of a policeman there.

Chapman was a member of a gang who last October blew a safe in the Stillman department store at Muncie and escaped with \$2,500. Muncie police charge. They also say they believe he was in robberies in several small towns near Muncie.

## Laconic

Captured Bandit Says He Believes Beatrice Fairfax Handles All the Advice to Young.

"**A**DVICE?—well, I think perhaps I need a little myself," said Gerald Chapman, nationally-known crook, as he sat in the Marion County jail today.

"Wouldn't you advise young men to stay out of your game?" he was asked.

He smiled.

"I thought Beatrice Fairfax handled all that. You know I don't like that kind of stuff—it's all trash."

"What started you on your career as a bandit?"

"Well, you know—I can't remember."

"Did you go to school when you were young?"

"Oh, yes, I went to high school."

"Would you attribute your getting into crooked work to bad associates?"

"There were a number of circumstances which the public wouldn't be interested in. Why go into it?"

Chapman sat with folded hands, the handcuffs removed temporarily to be taken to dinner with the other prisoners. At every question fired by the reporter he made a grimace or yawned as if tremendously bored.

"I'd really like to accommodate you. I know you're supposed to bring something in, but I can't oblige you."

He said he was 37 years old.

"Do you think it would be a hard job to get out of this jail?"

Chapman's face was expressionless. He pursed his lips and very slowly said, "I really don't know."

Prisoners in the "bull pen" at the county jail were provided with diversion as they watched Chapman turn his back on one reporter after another.

"You're just wasting your time," he said.

"Use your imagination—that's what you'll do anyway," was the reporter's parting shot, as he walked back to the cell and laughed at the other prisoners.

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Heavy Rains Swell Rivers in Five States.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 19.—Nine persons have lost their lives and enormous property damage resulted from flood waters sweeping sections of five southern States today.

Swollen rivers caused by ten days of heavy rains have flooded vast areas in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi, causing two train wrecks and made hundreds homeless.

C. L. Dunham, engineer, and T. F. Forer, yardmaster, were killed when a Southern Railway passenger train plunged through a trestle weakened by flood water near Selma.

Engineer H. V. Hartzell was killed and Fireman J. M. Cooper injured when a Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis passenger train struck a slide near Cartersville, Ga., and overturned.

ENGINEER KILLED IN LEAP FOR LIFE

John F. Wrassman Funeral to Be Held Tuesday.

A quarter of a century spent in piloting locomotives on the Pennsylvania railroad was ended with the death Sunday of John F. Wrassman, 52, of 25 Hendricks Pl. He died after he jumped from his engine which he thought was about to crash into another train section near Greenfield.

Mr. Wrassman shut off the steam, set the brakes, warned the fireman and jumped. Harry Herron, fireman, 4022 Southeastern Ave., was bruised about the head and face in his jump. He was taken to St. Vincent Hospital.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Tuesday at the residence, Burial in Crown Hill Cemetery. The widow, a son and two daughters survive.

BALTZELL TAKES OATH

Sworn in Before Judge Anderson, Whom He Succeeds.

Judge Robert C. Baltzell, former judge of the Gibson Circuit Court, was sworn in as judge of the Federal District of Indiana by William P. Kappes, clerk of the Federal Court, before Judge A. E. Anderson at 2 p. m. The brief ceremony was held in the law library of the Federal building with only a few friends of the new judge present.

Judge Baltzell succeeds Judge Andrew J. T. Tamm, who was recently promoted to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

Watch for Bandits

Police today blocked roads leading in from Lebanon, Ind., in hopes of capturing the two young men who held up a filling station there Sunday night and escaped with \$30.

## BUSINESS—NOT POLITICS

## This Is the City's Greatest Need

How long will Indianapolis stand for the kind of thing that took place at the Marion County Courthouse Saturday?

How long will the city permit itself to be governed by parties, factions of parties, injunctions, conventions and just plain brawls?

Is there any possibility in the world that clean, efficient government can come out of the kind of politics now being played in Indianapolis?

THESE are pertinent questions. They are questions in which every voter and taxpayer in Indianapolis should be vitally interested.

Right now the Republican party—and it happens to be the Republican party because Republicans are in the majority—has two city chairmen. The city council has two presidents. The courts are being worked overtime issuing injunctions, counter injunctions, writs of prohibition and restraining orders.

Why?

Simply because the people of Indianapolis have not yet awakened to the fact that business and not politics should be the guiding factor in the administration of a city.

DOES anyone think for an instant that the men who are playing the strenuous political game, combined with underhand practices and even physical violence, can possibly put the welfare of Indianapolis ahead of their personal political fortunes?

Yet these are the men who are governing our city. They are the men who are seeking to govern it for four years to come.

Other cities have solved the problem. Why not Indianapolis?

Indianapolis is a business institution. It has property valued at \$600,000,000 or more. It is an important business institution. Every citizen is a stockholder.

How long would a private business institution continue to exist under conditions such as those prevailing in politics in Indianapolis?

Can anyone imagine the stockholders of a huge corporation dividing themselves into factions and fighting after the manner of Indianapolis politicians?

It might happen, but the chances of the business being successful wouldn't be worth a dime.

And yet the stockholders of Indianapolis continue to permit this sort of thing to go on.

HERE is no distinction between a Republican party and a Democratic party in city politics. They are simply opposing groups.

They don't stand for anything.

Scores of other cities, big and little, have solved their problems by adopting the same plan of management used by business institutions.

They elect a board of directors and the board elects a BUSINESS manager, who manages the affairs of the city.

He is not a politician, but he is the BUSINESS head of the city.

It can be done, for it has been done—repeatedly.

The best argument in favor of the CITY MANAGER PLAN of city government is that the politicians oppose it.

Let's put Indianapolis on a business basis. Let's do away with political elections.

LET'S ELECT A BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT A NON-PARTISAN ELECTION AND PUT A BUSINESS MANAGER AT THE HEAD OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

## Politics at the City Hall

Here is an example of the way politics operate in the city government, taking precedence over efficiency:

Mayor Shank says:

"If any city employee voted for Coffin he will be fired just as soon as I find it out."

## BILL TO PROTECT CHURCHES READY

## Would Halt Seizure for Memorial Plaza.

Senator W. K. Penrod, Logooch, will introduce a measure in the Senate Tuesday which will prohibit the State from acquiring property of the First Baptist Church and the Second Presbyterian Church on the site of the World War Memorial Plaza.

The measure as first drafted would have prohibited work or erection of any building by the World War commission in the block occupied by the two churches until title to all property within the block had been secured by the State. This would have prevented any work being carried on within the block.

The bill, however, is to be re-drafted and will protect the church property, but will not interfere in any other plans of the commission.

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## UNIFORM MAKES APPEAL

Stranger in Army Coat Given Bed—Takes \$8.

The Army overcoat rouses stirring memories for some.

When Frank White saw a stranger with one on the Oneida Hotel, he let him share his room.

This morning White discovered the stranger and \$8 were gone.

He left the Army coat, police were told.

WOMAN TAKES POISON

Mrs. Alberta Robinson in Serious Condition at Hospital.

Mrs. Alberta Robinson, 29, of Apt. 116, Van Cortland Apts., 2010 N. Meridian St., was taken to the Methodist Hospital in a city ambulance today after taking about ten poison tablets, police report showed. Her condition was reported to be serious.

Police were called by Henry Spearling, manager of the apartments, who said Mrs. Robinson told him she had taken the poison, officers said.

Mrs. Robinson is a widow with a 9-year-old child, according to police information.

CIVIL WAR MEN ELECT

Leonidas N. Baxter Heads Chapmon Post of G. A. R.

Leonidas N. Baxter is now commander of George H. Chapman Post No. 209 G. A. R., at 112 N. Illinois St.

Other officers are: James Ferry and E. F. Smith, vice commanders; George E. Gilchrist, surgeon; Paul F. Blank, officer of the day; James F. Bird, officer of the guard; David Kinney, chaplain; Thomas E. Clapp, patriotic instructor; Daniel Murray, adjutant; H. L. Trueblood, quartermaster; Thomas E. Clapp, sergeant major; Andrew J. Stephens, quartermaster sergeant; A. B. Crumpton, recruiting officer and assistant quartermaster general.

Lighting Fixtures on Monument in Bad Condition.

Discovery that candelabra of Soldiers and Sailors Monument are in bad condition may result in recommendation for new ones which would go with the proposed flood lighting arrangement.

James Ferry, supervisor of the monument, said today.

NEW CANDLABRA, TOO?

Senate Committee Passes on Senate's Court Nomination.

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