

KIDNAP RACKET IS GOLD MINE FOR GANGSTERS

Huge Profits Are Made With Little Risk by Czars of Organized Crime.
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little groups of half a dozen or more took to preying on the shadowy and wealthy big shots of gangland.

A big-time gambler would be taken captive and held until he could get his family or his associates to cough up anywhere from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

A head of a vice syndicate would be the victim in one city; in another, a race track luminary; in another, a liquor distributor.

From city to city the racket spread. It worked like a charm. Almost without exception the kidnapers collected with a minimum of trouble. In most cases the police never even found out what was happening.

Then began the development which ought to relieve the ordinary citizen forever of his comfortable belief that gang wars don't really matter because the gangsters only shoot one another.

EMBOLDENED by their success, the kidnaping rings started to reach out for law-abiding citizens—men of money and position and of absolute integrity.

In New York last summer Charles M. Rosenthal, wealthy broker, was kidnaped and held prisoner for eighteen days until \$50,000 had been paid for his release.

As it happened, the police got the four men who had seized him, and all four now are in Sing Sing prison serving sixty-year sentences.

Max Price, a rich real estate man in New Haven, Conn., was kidnaped last spring and held until \$25,000 ransom had been paid. His captors could not be found.

In the west even more cases of this kind are on record.

Mrs. Nell Donnelly, wealthy Kansas City woman, was kidnaped a few months ago and held for \$50,000 ransom. She later was returned to her home, and it has not been made public whether the money was paid.

Dr. Isaac D. Kelly of St. Louis was kidnaped last year and held for \$150,000 ransom. He, too, was released after an undisclosed sum had been paid.

Michael H. Katz, wealthy Kansas City business man, was another of the kidnapers' victims a year ago. His freedom cost him \$100,000.

THOSE are just a few citations from the record of the last year or two. They could be duplicated and reduplicated.

From New York to Denver, well-to-do people of the highest standing have been seized by gang kidnapers in this newest and most dangerous of all the underworld's activities.

There are today highly organized kidnaping gangs in at least half a dozen large American cities. These gangs have working agreements with one another.

A man kidnaped in Detroit, for example, can be sent to St. Louis and kept in custody by gangsters there; a New York gang can have men come on from Chicago to pull a job on Long Island.

In Chicago, during the last two years, it is believed that at least 400 kidnapings have taken place. Some 300 have taken place in and around New York.

In the country as a whole, it is believed that fully 2,000 kidnapings have been committed by organized gangs since the beginning of 1930.

New York, oddly enough, has not been as effectively organized by the kidnapers as many middle-western cities have been. The racket there is still largely in the hands of small fry, the police say; one of its most profitable subdivisions, for example, is said to be a crew that specializes in kidnaping the children of east side Italians and extracting payment from the parents on the installment plan.

BUT the New York gangsters are learning. Shortly before he was machine-gunned, the notorious Vincent Coll was reported to have tried to kidnap one of the lieutenants of Owney Madden, generally credited with being head of New York's biggest liquor ring. It is rumored that it was this exploit which led to Coll's murder.

Coll also is believed to have been responsible for the kidnaping of "Big French" De Mange, one of Dutch Schultz's beer-running mob. De Mange's release cost his gang \$35,000.

Legs Diamond, a small-time racketeer who got big-time publicity before he was shot down, also is said to have taken part in kidnaping ventures now and then.

It is because the modern kidnaping racket stems directly out of the whole highly organized underworld framework that public officials everywhere are growing so alarmed over it.

Washington, bills have been introduced by Senator Patterson and Congressman Cochran of Missouri, to make interstate kidnaping a federal offense punishable by death or life imprisonment.

CONGRESSMAN HATTON W. SUMMERS of Texas, chairman of the house judiciary committee which is considering the Cochran bill, makes the following point in connection with kidnaping cases:

"Passage of any federal law should not divert public attention from the fact that if communities are going to let gangsters and criminals live in their midst those criminals are going to commit crimes in order to live."

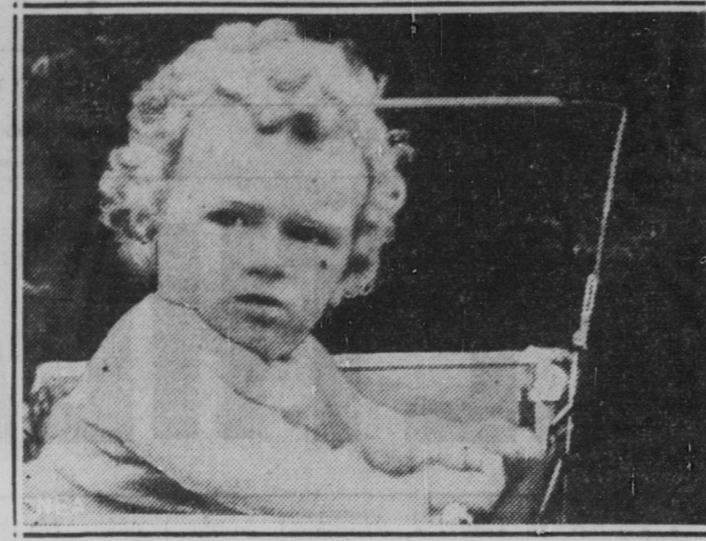
Congressman Summers believes the death penalty should be provided for kidnaping. Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the senate judiciary committee which is considering the Patterson bill, is not so sure.

"It is probable," he says, "that certainty of the death penalty would cause some kidnapers to kill their victims in order to destroy the witness."

But criminals must be adequately punished as a protection to society, and some crimes are so inhuman that proper punishment is hard to conceive."

Next—How the kidnap ring works in Detroit and Chicago.

Lindy Jr. Poses Before Father's New Movie Camera



Looks like his father, doesn't he? Baby Lindy in his crib.



A merrily smiling Charles A. Lindbergh Jr.



Here Charles Jr., has his father's own calm demeanor.



An excellent profile view.

All pictures above are NEA Service photos from Pathé News.

Here is 20-months-old Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. in the role of "film actor"—in the pictures taken recently with a home movie camera by Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh. They give an excellent impression of the child as he appears viewed from different angles.



Universal Newsreel photo from Acme.

GRILL SWEETHEART OF LINDYS' NURSE

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kidnaping case because of her close association with the child.

Her name, similar to that of a past racketeer reported in other points, and her nationality which brought Scotland Yard into the case, have attracted world-wide attention to her.

Guard Film Children

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, March 5.—Prominent motion picture stars took precautions today to prevent possible kidnaping of their children as an outgrowth of the Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. abduction.

Palatial estates were patrolled by

JOSEPH BARON NAMED ELKS EXALTED RULER

Other Officers Are Elected by Indianapolis Lodge.

Joseph E. Baron was named exalted ruler of Elks Lodge No. 13 at the annual meeting at Elks Club Friday night.

Others elected office are: Dr. O. Carter, esteemed leading knight; C. J. Antetokoun, esteemed loyal knight; James W. Atwell, esteemed lecturing knight; W. G. Taylor, secretary; Timothy F. Sexton, treasurer; F. L. Bodenmiller, tiler; F. W. Spooner, trustee, and James C. Gibbons, delegate to the grand lodge.

Members of the board of trustees who continue in office are: W. J. Fahey, C. C. Cohee, Paul C. Beckner and John Minia.

JESTERS ADMIT CLASS

Order Initiates Thirteen at Annual Ceremony at Murat Temple.

Royal Order of Jesters, Indianapolis court No. 15, initiated the annual quota of thirteen candidates at a ceremonial Friday afternoon and night at Murat temple.

Initiates were: Albert R. Worm, William I. Burton, Carl Lindemann, Marion E. Ensley, Herbert Bartholomew, Byron K. Elliott, Arthur Burrell, Harold E. Howe, Rudolph J. Ritter, S. A. Tomlinson and James Gould.

Guest of the occasion was Fred E. Pierce of New York, royal impresario.

HURLS COURT THREAT

Utility Rate Cut Cases May Go to Supreme Bench, Says Rothermel.

Indianapolis utility rate cut cases may be carried to the United States supreme court, if relief is not obtained through the public service commission or the lower courts.

This was the statement of W. C. Othermel, South Side Civic Club central committee utility chairman, speaking before the East New York Street Civic League Friday night.

Rothermel urged aggressive methods in efforts to reduce the city's utility rates.

INDIANAPOLIS NEVER HAS HAD KIDNAPING

Reported Child Abductions

Usually 'Spite Work' of Quarreling Parents.

Children have been safe from kidnapers in Indianapolis.

Detective Chief Fred Simon today said that records of the last quarter of a century and more, which he has checked, reveal Indianapolis never has been the scene on a bona fide child abduction.

But, detective and police divisions of the department continually are harassed by marital troubles that have their climax in the possession of a child by one of the combatants.

But criminals must be adequately punished as a protection to society, and some crimes are so inhuman that proper punishment is hard to conceive."

Next—How the kidnap ring works in Detroit and Chicago.

HOOVER SEEKS EASIER LOANS FOR BUSINESS

President's Next Move Will Be to Allay Fears of Timorous Bankers.

By LYLE C. WILSON

United Press Staff Correspondent

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WASHINGTON, March 5.—President Hoover is going after the bankers next.

The bulk of emergency legislation has been enacted. Treasury plans for "baby bonds" to entice hoarded money from hiding are ready for announcement.

Mr. Hoover believes the government's next big job is to soothe the nerves of frightened bankers.

He accepts without reservation the public charge of Senator Carter Glass (Dem., Va.) that the bankers are the worst hoarders of all.

That accusation is predicated on the fact that while many banks were failing in the last two years, the majority of them have been liquid in the fullest sense of the word.

They have called loans and refused to make new ones in order to accumulate cash reserves against the possibility of runs.

Merchants Complaining

White House secretaries are deluged with letters from merchants throughout the United States complaining that bankers are refusing to extend credit regardless of how good the collateral may be. Many of those letters have reached Mr. Hoover's desk.

White House opinion is that the bankers are panic stricken and must be reassured.

The administration is not expecting that vast numbers of persons will buy the 2 per cent "baby bonds" soon to be offered. They merely are the basis upon which Colonel Frank Knox, publisher of the Chicago Daily News, will conduct for Mr. Hoover an anti-hoarding campaign.

The interest rate was placed at 2 per cent with the deliberate purpose of making a savings account in a bank more attractive than the bonds.

Hoarding Seen Dwindling

The bonds are to afford shelter only for the most timorous, who fail to regain confidence through the enactment of the Glass-Steagall bill to expand federal reserve currency and credit, and the \$2,000,000 reconstruction finance corporation project.

Mr. Hoover believes the people are reacting favorably to these measures, that they are returning their money to the banks. His purpose now is to persuade bankers that their fears are without foundation and that they should release the accumulating cash reserves into the loan channels which create trade.

Two emergency measures await congressional action. One would create a permanent organization for the relief of depositors of closed bank. The other would create a system of home loan discounts. The former has an excellent chance to be enacted.

Mothers, whose children, during play hours, wander a few houses or blocks away, keep up a running cry at police headquarters of "My baby has been kidnaped." So far, all these cases have turned out to be instances in which the child has found "another place to play," Simon said.

Scores of reports of "kidnapings" which really turned out to be spite



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ABDUCTED OHIO BOY FEARED MURDERED

Police Are Unable to Find Clew: Father Denies Deal Made.

By United Press

NILES, O., March 5.—Presidental hope held out stoutly today against increasing fears of authorities that Jimmy Dejute Jr., 12-year-old schoolboy who was kidnaped Wednesday by two men, had been killed by his abductors.

As the third day of search started without having expect any known word from the boy's captors, police became more alarmed by fears he has been put to death. Whispers of a "black hand" plot rumbled in the investigation.

In contrast to this feeling of alarm was the attitude of the boy's father and other members of his family who consistently have expressed the conviction Jimmy would be returned home safely. Even his mother, who at first was stricken by despair that she would never see her boy alive, has become more hopeful.

Denies Deal Made

This optimism has led freely to the opinion the father has been negotiating with the kidnapers and has lessened the intensity of the search. But he firmly denies any dealings while refusing to discuss fully his plans and hopes.

Neighbors Friday night reported to him a healthy contractor had told them he expected word from the abductors during the night, but insofar as could be learned, he received none.

Authorities planned to intensify the search today, aided by federal and state authorities.

Department of justice operatives were ordered by Edgar Hoover, head of the bureau of investigation, to extend "full resources of the department" to police in tracking down the criminals.

At Columbus, Governor George White offered the aid of state adjourning states, principally Pennsylvania and West Virginia, to cooperate.

Fled to Pennsylvania

Convinced that the kidnapers fled with the boy to Pennsylvania, Police Chief Nicholas planned to push the hunt in that direction. Pennsylvania state police were seeking information of a suspect, residing near Mercer, who was described as strongly resembling one of the abductors.

Sergeant E. C. Berges of Mercer reported to Chief Nicholas that the suspect is notorious in that section. He formerly resided here.

The sorrow of Mrs. Dejute, Jimmy's mother, was epitomized in

5103 Winthrop avenue.

BABY SWALLS PIN

Rests Easy at Hospital After Successful Operation.

Louis John Bartels, Stage, Screen Star, Is Heart Victim.

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, March 5.—A heart ailment was given today as cause of the death of Louis John Martels, 36, stage and screen actor. Bartels appeared in "Seventeen" and "The Show-Off," on the New York stage, and in numerous films.

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