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HOLDING \$35 IN ESCROW, HE CLAIMS

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more" about a municipal court charge of operating a vehicle with inadequate brakes.

Ridenour's affidavit, as recorded in safety board files, is as follows: Q—Are you the Grover Ridenour who was driving a Chevrolet sedan at about 1 p. m. on June 21 on Cen-

tral ave. when a child was struck by your car?

A—Yes.

Q—Were the police called?

A—Yes.

Q—What happened then?

"He Suggested \$30"

A—The police officers tested my brakes and gave me a court summons for inadequate brakes to appear in court on the 23d, but I went into court on the 23d and talked to the bailiff of Room 3. I told him what happened. He then told me he would take care of the case.

He said he had been on the police force 12 years and knew how to fix a case. Also that he was not against taking money. He then suggested that \$50 would take care of everything. I told him I did not have that much with me. He then told me to come back on the 29th of June. At this time, I had a United States Rubber Co. pay check for \$40, and I told this same bailiff that I would have to cash a check. I did this and this man accepted \$35, one twenty and one ten and one five in bills, leaving me only \$5.

Q—After he took the money, what did he tell you?

A—He wanted to buy me a drink. Then he told me that I would not have to worry anymore about the case.

Q—Where did this take place?

A—I went to the Western Auto at Washington and Alabama sts. to

get change, and this officer followed me there, where I gave him the money.

Q—Then what did he say?

A—He told me not to worry anymore about it, that the judge had already signed the affidavit.

The statement was signed by Ridenour, a United States Rubber Co. employee. Traffic Capt. Thomas Schlottman was the interrogator.

Sgt. Griffin, who joined the police department under his cousin, Former Police Chief Michael F. Morrissey, was said to be "out of town" by his mother, Mrs. John Griffin, 1614 E. Vermont st. She said she didn't know "where he's gone to."

Municipal Court Judge John L. McNelis, who dismissed the inadequate brakes charge against Ridenour in the absence of the defendant June 23, is attending the Democratic convention in Chicago.

Judge McNelis, Ridenour, Sgt. Griffin and other witnesses will be summoned to the safety board hearing next Tuesday.

BUTTONS FASTENED BY WIRE STAPLES

WASHINGTON.—Buttons are fastened to clothing with small wire staples instead of thread, by a newly patented device.

A turn of the knob on the gadget twists the ends of the wire so that they will hold and cannot scratch the skin.

Injured Driver Worries Over Passengers in Bus Crash

John Bridges, 128 E. St. Joseph st., driver of the city bus which crashed yesterday at Kentucky ave. and Missouri st., has cheated death twice in the past three years.

"I guess my number wasn't up," he said today from the bed in his home.

Mr. Bridges refused treatment at the scene and hospital until after all passengers had been cared for.

"I felt about the bus as though it were a ship. I just did my duty."

"I couldn't help it. Something snapped and the wheel spun like a top. Then we crashed."

Concerned About Trial

Mr. Bridges received lacerations and bruises of the head and body, chest injuries and a fractured left shoulder. He is being treated by a private physician.

"I don't see how I can appear in court today to answer the charge of reckless driving. I don't see how they base the charge, either," he said.

"I left the Circle on time schedule so there was no need to hurry. I had to stop for the red light at Kentucky and Capitol aves. The bus was heavily loaded and I could not get up much speed by the time I got to the underpass. In fact, I had just shifted into high. I know I wasn't going over 23 miles an hour. That's the first accident I ever have had and the first time arrested."

Wounded by Bandit

Three years ago Mr. Bridges was in the Vienna cafe when a hold-up was staged. He made a dive for the bandit who fired three times. He was hit twice in the stomach and in the right lung.

"I was pronounced dead and taken to the morgue. I lay there for two hours when the orderly came in



John Bridges, driver of the ill-fated city bus. . . "I feel sorry for the others."

with another body. He saw me move. Then they went to work in a hurry," he said.

Mr. Bridges has been employed by the Street Railways for six months, five of them as a driver.

BLAST INJURES HITLER, 12 AIDS

Assassination Attempt Is Hinted; Fuehrer Has Brain Concussion.

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in Holland and France.

The fact that the attempt evidently occurred inside Hitler's personal headquarters—as difficult to penetrate as the White House or No. 10 Downing st.—raised speculation in London that it might have been an "inside job" by Germans disgruntled with the conduct of the war and hopeful for a negotiated peace if the leader of nazism were removed.

This is the first assassination attempt, so far as is known, in which Hitler was injured. The only previous publicized attempt was on Nov. 8, 1939, when a bomb exploded in a Munich beer hall shortly after the Fuehrer appeared at a Nazi party meeting there. This was regarded at the time as a gesture to strengthen the German home front.

May Be More Serious

It was considered possible that Hitler's injuries were more serious than was broadcast to the world by DNB and that the agency's careful statement that the Fuehrer resumed his work and received Mussolini and Goering was a cover-up.

Observers believed the attempt on Hitler's life was in some way connected with a 14-hour interruption of communications between Germany and neutral countries yesterday and today.

Although DNB said the explosion occurred "today," it was considered possible that it occurred yesterday

and that communications with Sweden and Switzerland were cut to permit the German propagandists to get their stories in order.

European Underground?

London observers believed there was at least an outside chance that the explosion was the work of the European underground, which has been growing increasingly bold and adept at sabotage and killing. Some analysts also expressed interest in a possible connection with the recent reported estrangement between the conservative Prussian generals and the Nazi hierarchy.

Recalling "the reichstag fire" plant which enabled the Nazis to seize power by blaming the Communists, they believed some Nazi, possibly Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler, might have concocted this as a plot which could be blamed on the anti-Nazi generals, who now recognize that the war is lost.

Most authorities familiar with the Nazis leaned to the theory that it was an "inside job."

Conditions Ripe

Allied psychological warfare experts were surprised only that the attempt had not occurred earlier. They said that all the conditions prerequisite for some such drastic occurrence in Germany long had been bubbling beneath the surface.

The sequence included the dismissal of the old and trusted Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt from command of the defenses in France, the sacrifice of more than 500,000 men in an effort to hold untenable positions in Russia, failure to write off the Baltic states which now imperil defense of the reich itself, the growing army of discontented slave labor which is frightening the German home front, and inability to halt or even ameliorate the allied bombings.

NICOTINE KILLS INSECTS

WASHINGTON.—Nicotine serves an important role in insect control, because it has the unique properties of being a contact poison, stomach poison and fumigant.

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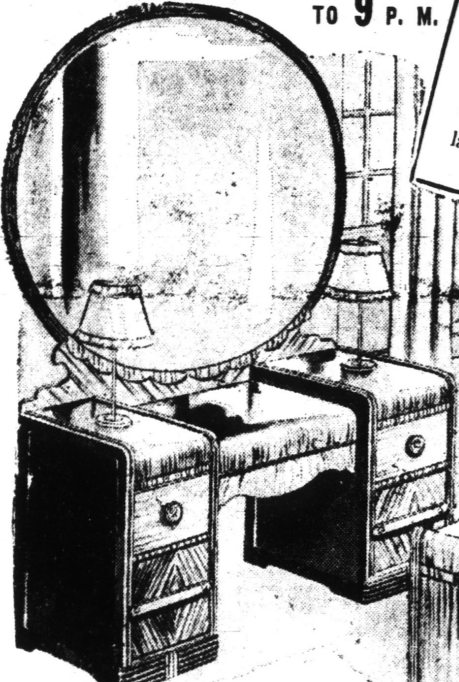
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