

The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XV.

CHATHAM, ONT., TUESDAY JULY 24, 1906.

NO. 176

8c. a Yard...

...8c. a Yard

WEDNESDAY WASH GOODS DAY. 8c. Yard

We offer you for Wednesday a big choice at a big snap.

40 pieces of wash suitings, including fine Striped Gingham, Flaked Linen Suitings, Polka Dot Zephyrs, Polka Spot Cotton Delaines, Mercerized Suitings, &c. Not one piece worth under 12 1-2c. a yd. Many worth over 25c. a yard. For Wednesday only, we offer the entire lot at one price, 8c. a yard.

WEDNESDAY WASH GOODS DAY

Thos. Stone & Son

Carpets and Wall Papers

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...8c. a Yard

GREAT SWEEPING SALE

—OF—

Summer Hardware!

25 per cent. cut off all Refrigerators, Hammocks, Oil Gas Stoves, Go-Carts, Express Wagons.

Come for one of the bargains to

WESTMAN BROS.

BIG HARDWARE

TWINE!

10c. a Pound

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GEO. STEPHENS & Co.

Mason & Risch Pianos, White Sewing Machines.

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SURPRISED IN THEIR DEN, NEW YORK FUR THIEVES ARE ROUNDED UP BY POLICE

Five Men are Now Awaiting Trial on the Charge of Stealing
\$16,000 Worth of Furs from a New York Firm--A

Detailed Account of the Capture Near Wallaceburg--Good Work Done by
Local Policemen

Trapped in their den, like rats in a trap, three daring fur thieves, busy at the work of tanning the stolen goods, were surprised at their labors and rounded up by the local police force, in their shack near Wallaceburg last night.

The haul made by the Chatham Police force, assisted by Detective Campbell, of Windsor, last night, was undoubtedly the biggest and most sensational criminal round-up in this section for many a day.

The prisoners who were rounded up in the act of tanning \$16,000 worth of stolen furs, in their den near Wallaceburg, are Jacob Gubitski, Simon Gubitski and Samuel Gubitski.

Sam. Kovinski, of this city, was also arrested. It is said that he is in league with the three other prisoners in tanning and disposing of the furs.

The furs were stolen from the warehouse of Seifter & Son, of Brooklyn, New York, on May 28th, of last spring, the warehouse being broken into in the night and the furs carried away in wagons. The burglary baffled all the sagacity of the police and detective forces of New York, and though every means was employed, no trace could be found of the missing goods, or the men who stole them. The value of the furs stolen was estimated at \$16,000.

Detectives have been at work all over the country since that date, endeavoring to clear up the mystery. It was a great surprise to discover that the men who baffled the American police for so long a time, all lived in this city. The burglary and the transportation of the booty must have been all carefully planned beforehand.

In last night's sensational raid the police found the furs in the shack with the Seifter mark on them.

The first clue to the hiding place of the furs came through a Toronto fur man, who received a request from certain machinery and chemicals used in the tanning of furs. As he did not know of any firm in Chatham going by the name signed to the letter, he became suspicious, and it was through him that the police got an inkling that the stolen goods must be hidden in Chatham.

The local police force had been quietly working on the affair for some days, and on Sunday they decided that they had things just about ripe enough for a haul. They at once telephoned to Detective Campbell, of Windsor, who arrived in the city last night, accompanied by Mr. F. Seifter, who is a member of the Brooklyn firm from whom the furs were stolen. These two gentlemen, along with Chief of Police Holmes, Officers Dezelia, Groves, Dodson and Darr, have been working night and day since. All Sunday night and in the early hours of Monday morning they were on the scent, and quietly gaining what information they could. They had to work coolly and silently lest the birds take flight before they could be nabbed.

Suspicious, gathered from certain clues followed out, pointed toward Sam. Kovinski, but what at first baffled the police was, as to where the furs were hidden. The officers are quite reticent as to where they got their first clue that the goods were located near Wallaceburg, but it is rumored that a woman, who was in some way connected with the affair, gave the gang away.

Reporters, who suspected from recent manoeuvres of the police that there was something out of the ordinary doing, made persistent inquiry at the station, but everyone there was mum, and there was no intimation as to what was going on until the officers arrived in the city with their quarry last night. The prisoners and the stolen furs were brought up on the car from Wallaceburg last night. The Police Station looked like a warehouse after the goods had all been brought in and stacked up.

The roundup was made early in the evening, the police surrounding the house in which the culprits were working and taking them by surprise while they were yet busy at the work of tanning the raw furs. It was an awful awakening to them, and so completely surprised were they that all were arrested without resistance, with the exception of one, who made an endeavor to escape through

one of the windows of the house. He had barely got his head out of the window when he found himself looking down Detective Campbell's revolver from the outside, and Officer Dezelia had seized him by the legs from within.

All four were handcuffed, and it was a matter of a few moments to march them off to the station. A delivery rig was secured to bring the furs down to the train.

In the house, besides the stolen furs, a complete apparatus for tanning furs was found. The gang had been carrying on their work of tanning the furs unmolested for some time. The visit of the police came as a rude awaker.

The house in which the gang tanned and kept the furs was all rigged up in comfortable style, and there was a couple of beds in which it is supposed one or more of the bunch slept in turn, although some of their number must have returned to Chatham each night.

When the prisoners were first brought into the city a large crowd gathered around the Police Station and watched the unloading of the furs from the wagon. All was mystery, and the curious were unable to learn what it was all about. At first the will rumors flew around that it was a bunch of counterfeit money which had been rounded up in the country by the police. This was eagerly taken up by the crowd, but they were unable to get any further information, as the doors of the Police Court were closed as soon as the prisoners were taken inside.

When The Planet gained admittance, the prisoners were all looked safely in the cells, and Officers Dodson and Groves were standing guard over them.

Detective Campbell, when seen, could not say anything too good for the work of the Chatham policemen, who, with himself, rounded up the gang.

"Everybody did their work well," he said, "and it was one of the neatest hauls I have ever been my pleasure to witness."

Mr. Seifter was also seen. He told how the goods had been first stolen from the New York warehouse, and how the police had been puzzled over the burglary.

The whole scheme of the burglary was so bold and daring as to be almost incredible. The goods, after they were stolen, were brought to the border and by some cunning scheme smuggled across the line by the thieves. The furs were first brought to Chatham and hidden in two shacks here—one near the Grand Trunk on Queen St., and the other on Park Avenue. It is since been learned that the culprits and their accomplices made an endeavor to dispose of a portion of the booty to local fur dealers.

Unable to dispose of the raw material, they next formed the idea of tanning them themselves. The furs were smuggled across the line to Wallaceburg, where the work of tanning began. Nearly all of the furs were recovered in the raid last night, and Mr. Seifter identified the goods by the firm's private mark, which is perforated into each piece.

The four prisoners were assigned before Judge Houston last night, and were remanded until next Tuesday, when they will come up for hearing. In the meantime they will be held in custody at the gaol. An attempt is being made to secure bail for Kovinski.

The part played by Kovinski in the deal seems to be, according to the information as given out, the local accomplice of the New York thieves—the Gubitskis. He has, it is said, been actively connected with the concealing of the furs, and in their disposal. It is said that the police have strong evidence against him. The Gubitskis have often been seen in his company, and every Sunday, it is said that the four of them spent the day together at Kovinski's home.

Nelson Stringer, when interviewed by The Planet, said that Kovinski, in company with the elder Gubitski, came to him and wanted to sell some furs. Mr. Stringer said that he would want to see a sample, but the men never brought the sample. Mr. Kovinski also went to Agar & Neff, so it is said, and wanted to sell some furs. The suspicions of this firm were aroused when they found that a local man had so many valuable furs, and they were particularly interested when they saw an "ad." in a furrier journal giving a description of the stolen furs. They notified

the police, but the local authorities had been on to the game for some time previous, and were then watching the suspected men, and spreading the net for the thieves.

It is also given out that some of the men suspected tried to get storage for some furs from Fleming, Tillson & Co. It is supposed that they hoped to get a storage check, and then raise money on it.

There are many other clues in the possession of the police, which will be worked out during the coming week, and others may be drawn into the affair. The local police force has worked hard on this case, and to it belongs the major portion of the credit for the capture.

The elder Gubitski is rather a stout man with a moustache, and rather coarse looking. The other two Gubitskis are his sons. They are young men, rather good looking and well dressed. They look like anything but criminals.

Much local interest has been aroused in the case. When the prisoners were brought into the city last night there was a big crowd around to see what they could see, and this morning, although the prisoners did not come up in the Police Court, there was a large crowd around the station, all anxious to catch a glimpse of the prisoners. Their curiosity, however, was not satisfied, as all visitors to the station were excluded from the building.

THE FIRST CLUE.

To-day it was learned that the real source of information came through Messrs. Agar & Neff, furriers of this city. It was through these gentlemen that the original clue to the mystery was secured. The Toronto firm to whom Kovinski had written asking for twelve bags of sawdust for the alleged purpose of using it for metal polishing, wrote to Agar & Neff asking them who Kovinski of Chatham was, and what business he was engaged in. The local firm replied that Kovinski was a junk dealer.

Later Messrs. Agar & Neff seeing an item in the Fur Trade News, regarding the big New York robbery in which Seifter & Son lost \$16,000 worth of furs, became suspicious that certain local parties knew something about the whereabouts of the missing goods. They immediately telegraphed Mr. Seifter to come at once. He arrived here Saturday morning, and the ultimate result was the arrest of the quartette last night.

ONE MORE ARRESTED.

Chief Holmes this afternoon received a message that a man named Putereau was arrested in Montreal. He is the fifth man in the gang. He had \$2,200 worth of furs with him which was his intention to sell. He had already sold \$5,000 worth of furs to M. S. John, of Montreal. Pete Dezelia left for Montreal to bring Putereau here.

THE BEST TALKER

The off fields in Tilbury East and Raleigh Townships are extending rapidly to the north, almost all work being done north of the Middle Road—in fact only two strings of the score or more in the field are at work south of the Middle Road. Almost every oil man of experience makes his way for territory just where the J. W. Smith farm, which is most southerly of profitable developments. Those who thought they knew—but to their dismay discovered that they did not know—are now making frantic—almost desperate—efforts to get territory just where their wisdom taught them there was no oil. It is generally acknowledged that the drill alone will tell correctly just where there is—or is not—oil. But as an elderly gentleman in Chatham puts it—it takes lots of money to make the drill talk—Tilbury Times.

\$10.00 ATLANTIC CITY, CAPE MAY AND RETURN

Four seashore excursions via Lehigh Valley Railroad July 20th, August 3rd, 17th and 31st. Tickets good 15 days, stopover allowed at Philadelphia. Tickets only \$10.00 round trip from Suspension Bridge, Niagara Falls. For tickets, call on or write Robert S. Lewis, Canadian Passenger Agent, 10 King Street East, Toronto.

THE RATE IS 28 MILLS

The City Council Will Pay
Off Last Year's Deficit,
This Year

REVENUES ARE LOWER

The civic rate this year will be 28 mills on the dollar. This was the decision arrived at by the City Council at their meeting last evening. This is considered a high rate but the Council decided to pay as they are going along, and if they stick to this resolution they cannot get on with a smaller rate.

In explaining the high rate Ald. Scullard said that the citizens generally have been looking for a high rate of taxation and are in a measure prepared for it when it comes. This year our sources of income are not as large as those of last year. We have not got coming in \$17,600 from the Pere Marquette, nor \$5,000 from the Waterworks Department. The Water Commissioners find that they will have expenditures that will require all their money, in the shape of new boilers, repairs to the stand pipe, and repairing a leak in the water pipe at the foot of Third street. There was an income of \$4,980.16 from the licenses last year, as there were three half years to draw from. This time there are only two half years to draw from and as a result the city is \$1,600 short in this revenue compared with last year. The Board of Health this year also is a great expense. Already \$725.24 has been paid for groceries for quarantined people alone. Then there is the overdraft from last year that the Council of this year decided to pay off. It is the intention to pay up everything this year so that there will be no overdraft for next year's Council to look after.

Ald. Potter did not want the rate to be so high, and he favored making the rate 26 mills even if there is a small overdraft at the end of the year. Next year the Council might think of paying off some of the overdrafts.

It was finally decided to adopt the 28 mill rate.

The following were the estimates: The required sum, \$23,293.95. C. C. I., \$10,100. Public Library, \$1,850. Consolidated debt on debentures, \$20,443.34.

Queen and Thames street debentures, \$12,783.33. Electric light debentures, \$1,553.14. Interest on the Dowley, Chaplin, and DeLancey, \$1,341.19. General Local Improvement, \$14,000. Waterworks Debentures, \$10,120.67. Administration of Justice, \$2,300. Registry Office, \$325. Inquests, etc., \$100. Harrison Hall, \$800. Cemetery, \$2,000. Election expenses, \$500. Electric light department, \$7,925. Fire Department, \$5,600. Isolation Hospital, \$1,000. Legal expenses, \$1,000. Market, \$1,300. Police Department, \$4,800. Pounds, \$180. Printing and stationery, \$1,000. Salaries, \$5,000. Street sprinkling, \$296.69. Parks, \$750. Board of Health, \$2,200. Bridges, \$1,000. Charity, \$2,100. Contingencies, \$2,000. Jail improvement, \$110. Board of Works, \$7,500. Interest account, \$3,500.

It is a woman's privilege to change her mind and prevaricate about her age.

There is nothing so powerful as example. By it we put others straight ourselves.

DON'T GO MARKETING ANY MORE

with an old basket
when new ones are
so cheap.

Lunch Baskets,
covered, white
wicker.

Waste Paper Baskets,
the best.

Clothes Baskets,
better than the
best.

Work and Kindergarten Baskets,
largest assortment
ever in the city.

SULMAN'S

BEEHIVE

King and
Sixth
Streets...

PHONE 96

P.S.—All of these are imported goods, so you may look for bargains.

IT'S EASY

To sell goods if the quality and prices are right. The amount of business we do proves this to be a fact.

Fresh Ginger Snaps, 6c. a pound.
3 lbs. Mixed Biscuits, 25c.
6 Bars Comfort Soap, 25c.
6 Richards Pure Soap, 25c.
2 lbs. Coarse Jap Tea, 25c.
Wash Boards, 15c. each.
3 Packages Jelly Powder, 25c.
Fruit Jars—Pints 60c, quarts 70c., half-gallons 80c. per dozen.
1 lb. Cans Sunlight Baking Powder, 10c.
Prunes, 8c. per lb.
Good Corn Starch, 8c. a packet.

COME QUICK

and save dollars by purchasing your Dinner, Tea, or Chamber Sets, at our Clearing Sale. China lots left for wedding presents, birthday presents, or you can buy yourself a present for little money. The goods must go.

JOHN McCONNELL
PARK ST. PHONE 190

BATHING SHOES!

Children's (sizes 6 to 10) - 30c

Misses' (size 11 to 2) - 35c

Women's (size 3 to 7) - 40c

Tennis, Bowling, Lacrosse and all sorts of outing and summer footwear

GEO. W. COWAN