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### Come to a Man's Store For a Man's Gift

You can hunt the map all over and you can't find another store in this vicinity where there are so many appropriate gifts for Men and Boys.

## Quick & Robertson

### JIM, THE PENMAN'S CAREER BROUGHT TO A CLOSE

James Henderson, alias McDonald, late of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, Deserter, Highway Robber, Jail Breaker, Forger, and Thief, is given Five Year Term in the Kingston Penitentiary by Magistrate Ranking of Napanee, for theft of an Auto in Napanee, on October 12, 1917.

(From the Napanee Express) Private James Henderson a deserter from the Canadian Mounted Rifles, who, since taking French leave, has posed as Sgt. James McDonald of the Canadian Military Police and who has blackjacked and robbed chauffeurs, stolen a number of automobiles, successfully passed bogus cheques in every place he visited totaling hundreds of dollars, caused the arrest and temporary detention of a number of innocent persons, bluffed the police in a dozen cities and towns, also an officer commanding an American battalion, and is very much wanted man by scores of police departments.

His career of crime in Canada and the United States would put many a movie thriller to shame. He has been described as the most cunning and desperate character the local police have been called upon to handle for some time.

After his arrest special precautions were taken to see that he did not repeat any of his former successes in getting away.

The ease with which people can be separated from their money in these days of prosperity will be shown by reading the escapades of Henderson, which have been compiled from documents and papers in the possession of the local chief of police.

Henderson who is twenty-five years of age, 5 feet 7 inches in height, weighs about 140 pounds, was born in Leith, Scotland, came to New York seven years ago and went from there to Texas, worked for the 191 Ranch and other concerns in that state nearly four years, having to make a sudden exit with two bullet wounds in his leg owing to being mixed up in a gun fight.

When the war broke out in Europe Henderson came across the border and enlisted with the Canadian Army, deserting a battalion after battle. His first appearance in Eastern Canada was in Chesterville, Ont., in June, 1917, where he passed several cheques, obtaining goods and money from the local merchants of that place. He was arrested in Smith's Falls, brought back to Chesterville, found guilty and sentenced to three months in the Cornwall jail. He was only there a short time when he escaped with the assistance of a girl with an automobile from Montreal, P.Q. Henderson took towels and bedding into a rope and when let into the yard for exercising one morning, escaped over the wall of the goal with the assistance of the improvised rope, jump-

Graham where the latter was going and requested to go along. Dr. Graham took him into the canoe and the journey continued. Night came on and they pitched camp at Raquette Falls. Henderson talked freely of Canadian Army life, but avoided saying anything which might identify him with the acts of outlawry he had committed. During the evening two men appeared in canoes and asked if they could stay at the camp overnight. Dr. Graham granted their request, and unconsciously worked out his own salvation and Henderson's downfall. The newcomers, after a few minutes, connected Henderson with the stories of the Canadian's deeds in other parts of the States. Henderson, however, remained so close to Dr. Graham during the night that the newcomers were unable to communicate their suspicions to the doctor. It was not until the party were ready to go away in the morning that Dr. Graham was made aware of who his companion was. During their conversation Henderson had been heard to remark that he could not swim. With this in mind the party proceeded to an island in Long Lake where the two men kept guard over Henderson while Dr. Graham went to Tupper Lake and informed the police who arrived shortly after and placed the deserter under arrest. He was later turned over to Provost Marshal J. J. Graham at Kingston, Ont., and by him brought back to Kingston where he appeared before a military court and was sentenced for being absent without leave to twenty-one days detention.

Henderson remained in Kingston (Ill) Oct. 12, 1917, when he succeeded in getting away with a military police badge, revolver and handcuffs. Coming to Napanee he registered at the Lennox Hotel as Sergeant James Henderson, announcing himself as a military policeman looking for deserters. Hiring an automobile from the proprietor of the Hotel Lennox with Star McDonald, an employee of the hotel, as chauffeur, presumably to go to Selby, about four miles north of Napanee. Instead, however, they went to Belleville, where Henderson prevailed upon the police sergeant there to detail an officer to assist him in searching two houses for a supposed deserter. Failing in the search, Henderson proceeded to Trenton, twelve miles west, where he succeeded in fooling the chief of police into believing his story, also borrowed a pair of handcuffs from him and incidentally passed a bogus cheque on a merchant of that town.

From there he went to Colborne, passing a couple more cheques, obtaining cash and goods. He returned to Brighton, passed a bogus cheque on the hotelkeeper there and borrowed a revolver. He learned that there were two men in that village who were absentees from the Imperial Munitions Guard at Trenton. Locating them, Henderson placed them under arrest, taking them to Castleton, where he had them locked up in the village lock-up. This was on Sunday, Oct. 14, 1917. While in Castleton Henderson had tire trouble. Going to a storekeeper he was informed that the proprietor of the store had gone to church. Henderson, however, went into the church during the service, getting the storekeeper to go to the store and get him an automobile tire and tube and some other accessories to the value of \$35, paying for them with a bogus cheque. Later the two men who were locked up by him in Castleton were released by order of Provost Marshal Graham, M.D. No. 3.

After getting the car fixed with new tires, Henderson then went to Warkworth, putting up at the hotel there, and succeeded in disconnecting \$15 in cash from the hotelkeeper by means of a bogus cheque. He also visited the storekeeper there and obtained another supply of gasoline, oil and another tire, to the value of \$50, which he paid for by another bogus cheque.

He then went to Eldorado, putting up at the hotel, and in payment for his account there tendered a cheque for \$52 which was accepted. Henderson getting \$20 in cash. He then went to Havelock, registering at the Armstrong Hotel, announcing that he was looking for deserters. He bought a rifle and a supply of ammunition, some civilian clothes from a storekeeper there, and paid for them by a cheque. He hired two local men to guide him to Stony Lake some twenty miles north of Havelock, promising them \$2 per day, on the pretense of looking for a deserter supposed to be in a lumber camp near Stony Lake. They went with the car as far as the road would permit, which was about ten miles. Here they broke a spring and the car was abandoned. The party then proceeded on foot until they came to a lake where they hired a canoe from a settler. They paddled about fifteen miles, but no deserter was discovered. Coming back to where the car had been left Henderson changed his uniform for

civilian clothes, telling the men he had hired to wait there until he returned, saying he had to go to Coe Hill to send a message to Kingston. Before going he borrowed a gold watch from one of the men and \$5 from another, and was not seen by them again. Meanwhile, the chief of police of Napanee had been trying to locate him by telephone and telegraph, also Capt. J. J. Graham, Provost Marshal of Kingston, had two men pursuing Henderson but they could not catch up with him. The car that was stolen from Napanee was later brought back here and all trace of Henderson was lost for a few days; but it afterwards transpired that after leaving the car at Havelock, Henderson hired a settler to drive him to Coe Hill. He was next heard of at Marmora where he engaged an auto from a liveryman, saying he would want it for a few days as he was looking for deserters. Displaying his handcuffs, revolver and badge, he was given a car with a chauffeur. He went through to Denbigh, registering at the Denbigh House as Sergeant McDonald, and making inquiries for deserters. He learned that there was an absentee from the C.E.F. at Slate Falls. Proceeding there Henderson located him and placed him under arrest, at the same time obtaining from him, the absentee, \$50 as security, saying he would be back again to take him to Kingston. He also passed a bogus cheque on the hotelkeeper at Denbigh in payment of his account there, obtaining the balance in cash. He also passed a bogus cheque on a local constable for \$5.25. He then went to Tweed where he paid the chauffeur from the Marmora garage by a cheque for \$50 which upon presentation at the bank, was returned marked "No Good."

He next went to Kaladar and by the time Sergeant Major Hayes and Sgt. Calhoun of the military police of Kingston were close on his trail, Henderson stayed at Kaladar over night and in the morning he saw the escort that was looking for him. When the C.P.R. train pulled in to Kaladar station going east, Henderson got on the back of the engine while the men were looking for him in the coaches. He rode on the same train as far as Sharbot Lake, where the escort left the train to go to Kingston, Henderson going on to Montreal.

Reaching Montreal, he went to the office of the provost marshal, there announcing himself as Sergeant McDonald, military police, Kingston, and asked for the assistance of a soldier in rounding up a deserter. Private M. J. Wall, 1st Quebec Infantry, was detailed to assist Henderson in the capture of the supposed deserter. Obtaining an automobile, Henderson with Pte. Wall and a girl left for LaSalle, P.Q. where he attempted to cross over to New York State. The customs officer held him up, as he had not the necessary passports, but again Henderson bluffed the officer by his display of revolver, handcuffs and badge until he was allowed to proceed, also obtaining from the customs officer a certificate directed to the provost marshal at Kingston to the effect that Sgt. Jas. McDonald had crossed the border at 12.45 p.m. Nov. 3, 1917, bound for Plattsburg, N.Y., looking for deserters from the Canadian Army, signed by the customs officer and stamped with the customs office stamp.

He was next heard of in Malone, N.Y., where he had evidently abandoned the car he had obtained in Montreal. In Malone he hired a car and chauffeur on the pretext of looking for deserters from the Canadian Army. After going a short distance out of the city he struck the chauffeur on the head, rendering him unconscious, dumped him out of the car on the side of the road and drove the car to Plattsburg, N.Y., where he reported to Colonel F. A. Wolfe, Officer Commanding an American battalion in training there, saying he was a military policeman from Canada and had been detailed to come to Plattsburg to arrest a deserter, and asked for assistance. On the strength of his story, Sgt. J. McCurley was sent by Col. Wolfe to assist him. Seizing a car from Benjamin Baker, a liveryman in Plattsburg, he went to Holyoke, Mass., going up to a munition factory there, he bluffed the guard into letting him into the factory. The first man he saw inside the factory Henderson placed under arrest, with the assistance of Sgt. McCurley, despite the protestations of the employees, taking him in the car to Patterson, N.J., where Henderson turned him over to the city police, asking to have him locked up until he was ready to call for him.

Sergeant McCurley became suspicious of Henderson and communicated his suspicions to the chief of police of Patterson, but Henderson succeeded in convincing the chief, as well as some detectives that were in the office at the time, that he really was a representative of the military police at Kingston, Ont., and

did it so well that he preferred charges against Sgt. McCurley of the American Army, and the police locked McCurley up, and then Henderson left. It was afterwards found out that the civilian whom Henderson had locked up at Patterson was not a soldier at all, was an American citizen and had worked at this particular munition factory for nearly two years. When the mistake was discovered he was allowed to go, with an apology from the American Government, and a military inquiry was ordered by the military authorities at Plattsburg.

Henderson next turned up at Tarrytown, N.Y., where he abandoned the car he obtained in Plattsburg after having driven it 2,199 miles, running up a livery bill of \$612, which the owner of the car is still trying to collect, without success. Walking into a garage in Tarrytown Henderson demanded a car again showing the emblems of his office. On the strength of his story he was given a seven-passenger Lottier car belonging to the sheriff of that county, and drove the car to Bridgeport, Conn. Driving the car into a garage there, he again repeated his story of being a military policeman from Canada but, however, his inability to handle the car properly aroused the suspicions of the owner of the garage who telephoned the police that a man was there with a car and he did not seem to understand it. Sgt. B. Coughlin of the city police force was sent down to bring Henderson to the police station where he was questioned by Captain Cronan. Not being satisfied with the answers given by Henderson, Capt. Cronan ordered him locked up for future investigation, Henderson being very indignant and threatening all kinds of reprisals against the captain for daring to lock up a representative of the Canadian military police. Within a few minutes after locking up Henderson the Bridgeport police received long distance telephone calls from Patterson, N.J., Tarrytown, N.Y., Plattsburg, N.Y., to try and locate and arrest if possible a man answering the description of Henderson as he was wanted in each place. Also a telephone message was received from the British consul general at New York to the effect that Henderson was wanted by the Canadian military authorities. He was later handed over to Capt. J. J. Graham, late provost marshal M.D. No. 3, Kingston, and by him brought back to Kingston.

The military authorities at Kingston concluded it was a case for trial by civil court for his many offences. He was ordered by the deputy assistant adjutant, M.D. No. 3, to be handed over to Chief of Police Barrett of Napanee, who held a warrant for Henderson's arrest on charges of theft and obtaining money by false pretences and was brought from Kingston by the chief to Napanee where he appeared before Magistrate Rankin charged with theft of an auto from Hugh Fitzpatrick, obtaining money under false pretences from Stein, Albert Lockwood and Harvey Thompson. Finding guilty to all the charges, he was sentenced to five years in the Kingston Penitentiary for the theft of an auto to two years on each of the other charges, sentences to run concurrently.

When asked what excuse he had to offer for committing this long list of crimes, Henderson said it was the result of a gaze by some of his charms in Kingston that he could not repeat his doings in Canada, in the United States, leaving Kingston with \$5 in his pocket and travel 5,000 miles, pass himself off to the various police authorities as a military policeman, and remain at large for thirty days, which he succeeded in doing, incidentally making a home for himself for the next five years in Kingston Penitentiary, also leaving a long list of storekeepers bewailing the loss of goods and money.

With all the money that Henderson secured, when arrested at Bridgeport, eleven cents was all he had in his possession. Unlike other offenders, Henderson committed the crime simply for the excitement it offered and not for gain. Putting his wits against those whom he defeated he succeeded in demonstrating the truth of that old saying, "there is one born every minute."

During his short but spectacular career since October 12, 1917, Henderson was successful in obtaining about \$500 by means of bogus cheques besides running up livery bills which he paid for by cheque to the amount of over \$1,000, victimizing the people in every place he visited until he ran against a snag at Bridgeport, Conn., when his career came to an abrupt end.

W. H. MARIE

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