

The teacher courageously attempted to seize the gun and in the ensuing scuffle the weapon was discharged, the bullet narrowly missing his side. The intruder broke free, quickly adjusted a black mask over his face, and threatened to shoot the young couple if they offered further resistance. Producing balls of wire, which he threw on the floor, he ordered the man and his wife to bind themselves. With no other course open to them and under threat of death they helplessly complied. The gunman then demanded money.

The fact that the teacher's wallet contained only five dollars seemed to arouse the bandit's anger. In quest of additional money, he rummaged through drawers, cupboards, and every conceivable corner. At last convinced that there was none, his fury turned to mock solicitude, as he turned his attention to the woman.

The unwelcome visitor asked her if she preferred the comfort of the bed. With a length of clothes-line, he bound her hands tightly behind her back and removed the wire. "Wire is nasty for girl's legs," he remarked.

No doubt divining the marauder's intentions, the now frantic husband started wriggling across the floor toward the bedroom. He was warned back, however, with the threat, "I'll put a slug into you."

The masked stranger struck the hysterical woman several times in the face but despite her continued screams he criminally assaulted her. Afterwards, he calmly entered the kitchen and helped himself to apples and cigarettes. Although his hands were protected by rubber gloves, he wiped away all possible fingerprints with a towel. Finding a shotgun he told the victims that he would take it along to prevent "any funny stuff." All the while he spoke subversively of social conditions, politics, sneered at school teachers, and derided the principles of democracy.

The teacher's car battery was kept in the basement of the school. Under compulsion the teacher directed the criminal how to install it. Then with extreme brutality the latter again had criminal intercourse with the unfortunate woman. Following this savagery, he took the teacher's watch and chain, combination cigarette-case and lighter, a flash-light and the bill-fold with the money. Finally, starting up the car, the desperado departed saying that he would be back for blankets.

When the investigator arrived, the house was a shambles. He collected various pieces of wire and rope, apple cores and cigarette butts. To these he added the bullet which had pierced the linoleum, then ricocheted to the wall and ceiling, finally landing on top of the kitchen cabinet. A tiny piece of red rubber, lodged in a crack in the flooring, proved upon examination in the R.C.M.P. Scientific Laboratory, Regina, to resemble the material from cheap rubber gloves such as the criminal had worn. Footprints evidently made by new rubbers were photographed. The stolen car was recovered. It had been abandoned in a deep snow drift seven miles east of Hay Lakes.

An extensive police net was spread to apprehend the fugitive and the case was given wide publicity. Two men, well-known to the police, were so incensed by the details of the affair that they reported a significant conversation which had occurred ten days before the crime was committed. A man who went by the name of Gordon Michaels, alias Mietz had told them he wanted a partner with a car to "pull off a job." He had a revolver,