

The grain buyer was unable to identify the bills found on the men as unfortunately he had neglected to take the serial numbers, but the .25c note was identified by pin holes which coincided with holes in a letter on file at the Elevator.

Samples of the plaster and enamel from the safe, and numerous strands of wool found adhering both to its interior and to the wooden railing of the elevator, were taken as exhibits for comparison. It was further ascertained that the Bawlf Elevator and C.N.R. Tool Shed at Rama had been entered and that tools stolen from both places had been used to open the safe. Clothing worn by the suspects and other samples referred to herein were taken to Saskatoon for examination by Dr. Vigfusson of the University of Saskatchewan, and portions of plaster, enamel and a steel chip, proved, under microscopic examination, to be exactly similar to the samples taken from the safe at Rama.

The .25c note was photographed and enlargements made. On measurements being taken it was found that the two pin holes in the note and the two holes in the letter were exactly similar, which showed, without doubt, that the bill had been pinned to the letter.

On interrogation the suspects denied all knowledge of the offences and made no statement during the investigation or at the preliminary hearing. They appeared for trial on three charges of Breaking, Entering and Theft before His Honour Judge A. Ross at Yorkton and entered pleas of "Not Guilty." After hearing the witnesses, His Honour found the accused guilty, remarking upon the testimony given by the expert in connection with evidence of the pin holes in the .25c note and letter. Burtnick was sentenced to two years in the Saskatchewan Penitentiary and Kotovich to one year in the Regina jail.

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Recently when investigating a Breaking, Entering and Theft case at an Eastern City, the local Police found it necessary to send to our Finger Print Bureau several pieces of glass for examination, one faint portion of an impression being found thereon, apparently that of a thumb. The photographic copy showed that the pattern was that of the loop type. The Chief Constable was notified that insufficient area was available to establish the required number of points of similarity necessary for positive identification with respect to a single finger impression. The name of a suspect was later obtained and it was ascertained that his fingerprints were on file at the Bureau. His left thumb print being of the loop type, it was compared with the faint portion of an impression taken from the glass, and six points of similarity were found. The investigators were therefore advised as follows:

"This impression has been photographed and a comparison made with the fingerprints of the suspect, with the result that a sufficient number of characteristics or points of similarity have been found in the impression taken from the glass and his left thumb print to warrant his being questioned as to his whereabouts on the night of the crime.

It is not possible to establish a positive identification in this case; the impression taken from the glass is but a fragment and there is insufficient area available to establish the required number of points of similarity, namely, ten. In this case six points only can be definitely established."