

ONCE MORE IN CUSTODY

Delaney is Captured Near Creston and Brought to Nelson

Escaped Prisoner Had Hard Time Out on the Hills—Wilson's Plucky Act Ended Dream of Liberty

William Delaney, alias R. J. Johansen, is once more inmate of the provincial jail at Nelson. He returned by the Crow's Nest train last night in charge of provincial constable Wilson, who rescued him at Kootenay last night after a day from provincial constable Wilson of Creston, who arrested him near there Sunday afternoon about 6 o'clock.

Johansen escaped from the jail about 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon March 25th, and, enjoyed, or rather suffered, exactly a fortnight of uneasy and uncomfortable liberty. The first four days, according to his own story, were spent in Nelson in hiding in a Chinese shack below the railway track, near the mouth of Cottonwood creek. Afterward, he dug up clothes, blankets, and a gun, which had been "planted" for him in advance by faithful confederates, he travelled on foot to Procter. As he did not care to risk conversation with any one he kept away from all dwellings and lived by killing chickens, which he cooked himself.

After reaching the shore of the main Kootenay lake, he still avoided regular means of travel. He built a raft and, using one of his blankets for a sail, rowed the lake on that frail craft, landing again near the mouth of La France creek. Again he had to tramp through woods and over hills, trusting to his gun for food.

Having reached Creston he thought he was out of danger and entered the town. There he was apprehended by constable Wilson who had been watching him. He was near there by warden Lemon. The warden declines to reveal the sources of his information.

When constable Wilson arrived with his prisoner last night a representative of The Daily News was present by special invitation of warden Lemon, and, in company with the warden, interviewed the prisoner, Johansen, who is a good-looking man, of medium height and slender build, showed the effects of his long journeying on his face, and his clothing, and his general air of weariness and depression. His chin was covered with a beard which he had evidently not bothered about for some time.

In reply to questions by the warden and the reporter, he told his story tersely, and evidently frankly. He said: "I got out by walking the dog's hole, keys I made myself. I got a file from outside. I hid near a Chinese shack down below the track. I stayed in town four days. I got other clothes, hats, boots and a gun that had been planted outside for me. I knew where they were. At the end of four days I started out for Procter at night. I walked the whole way, generally on the railway track. I had a pretty hard time. I didn't carry anything at all. I shot chickens. "I threw my keys away in the hills. I don't know exactly where, and couldn't find them if I tried. But I know where I left my clothes. I have told Mr. Young, you (to the warden) can easily get them back."

"I made a raft and rigged up a blanket for a sail. The steamer passed near me, but the police on board saw me. After I got to the other side I tramped again, from La France down to near the Landing, then I struck in to Creston. "Mr. Wilson caught me there Sunday. He walked up behind me. I had the gun but I didn't try to use it. I didn't want to make bad worse."

"I am sorry I made the break. I'd rather put in an extra month here than live that fortnight over again. I suppose I'll have to stand worse now."

"When he was told that in six weeks he would have been liberated on ticket of leave, Johansen shook his head very sorrowfully, and remarked: "I guess I have made a pretty bad break."

The rest of the story was told by the warden as follows: "Delaney, that's the name he goes under here, is a very clever man, and a model prisoner. He is a Norwegian, and can speak four different languages. He is skilled in many trades and generally a handy man. He was employed here as cook. He never gave any trouble. He was always intelligent and obedient. He was allowed to go out in the morning to get his own wood."

"I have learned since that he was supplied from outside with nearly everything he needed, except whiskey. He got opium regularly, and finally he had to have medical attention. Then he asked for a heavy coat and a pair of trousers. He was given one. He still wore the regulation corduroy trousers."

"He must have had a good many confederates on the outside for he was able to get means to get out, and to hide first, and then get away without detection after he was told. We may be able to locate some of the people that helped him."

"I'm rather sorry that the impression got abroad that prison officials were remiss in their duties. I went to the provincial police office within three minutes of the discovery of the escape, and notified the outside guard at once. I also got word to chief Jarvis at once."

"I wish to say that chief Jarvis and the other city police did everything possible to assist in the search."

"I am sorry for Delaney, but he will have to be severely punished now, and made to regret his attempt to escape."

"No, he won't be employed as cook again."

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the taking of Delaney was a plucky act. Provincial constable Joseph Wilson knew that the escapee was in the neighborhood, was well armed, and expressed the determination not to be taken alive. When the constable started out to look for his man on Sunday he was joined by Fred Little, an old timer at Creston. Suddenly the two saw Delaney coming towards them with his pack on his back. "There's our man," said Wilson to Little, "take the hands, cut his hands, and I'll hold him up. He's dangerous." Both men got close to Delaney before the escaping prisoner took much notice of them and Wilson drew his gun and getting the drop on Delaney yelled "Hands up." Delaney's hands shot up and the pack tumbled off his back, but as his hands were up he made a last effort to draw his gun from its resting place in the breast of his coat. Wilson was on his man in a hurry and fired a shot past his head at the time grasping the man's hand now almost on the gun stock. The shot startled Delaney and before he could recover himself the iron was on his wrist and the constable, otherwise the capture might have resulted differently, and all credit is due Joe Wilson for his plucky act.

YESTERDAY AT OTTAWA

RAILWAY MEASURES EXPLAINED IN COMMITTEE

WANT A CHANGE IN FEDERAL ELECTION LAW.

(Special to The Daily News) Ottawa, April 10.—R. G. Macpherson, (conservative) member of parliament for Vancouver, Westminster & Yukon railway bill, explained its object this morning in committee. He said it was for the extension of the time and for the building of branches one branch from main line between Anderson lake and Green lake, along Lillooet lake, Lillooet river and Harpoon lake, and thence south to a point between Cottonwood and Williams rivers to Barkerville, and yet another from a point near Willow river to run along the Fraser river to Tete Jaune Cache, and thence through the Yellowhead pass to Edmonton. A clause was inserted in the bill providing for the commencement of work within three years and completion in five years.

In railway committee today an act to incorporate the Kamloops and Yellowhead Pass road was discussed. The incorporators are citizens of Vancouver, and the purpose to build from Kamloops thence running in a northerly direction following the valleys of the North Thompson river, Canoe river and the Lillooet river to Tete Jaune Cache in the province of British Columbia. J. T. C. Thompson, an Ottawa lawyer, explained the bill.

Duncan Ross (Yale Cariboo) asked him as to the difference between this bill and the one which the company had obtained from the local legislature. He said: "I got out by walking the dog's hole, keys I made myself. I got a file from outside. I hid near a Chinese shack down below the track. I stayed in town four days. I got other clothes, hats, boots and a gun that had been planted outside for me. I knew where they were. At the end of four days I started out for Procter at night. I walked the whole way, generally on the railway track. I had a pretty hard time. I didn't carry anything at all. I shot chickens. "I threw my keys away in the hills. I don't know exactly where, and couldn't find them if I tried. But I know where I left my clothes. I have told Mr. Young, you (to the warden) can easily get them back."

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We are selling no more land in the Kootenay valley and are withdrawing all the Pillsbury Western Canada Land Company.

By J. L. Hirsch, Secretary. Note: We have also withdrawn the fruit lands from sale since the March 25th sale was sent out.

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The Pillsbury company, which has been in the advertising department of this company and it was carried out very honestly, and we are sorry to hear that some of our customers have been misled.

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