



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.mnhs.org

BARTON. LEONARD
BEVOL. LAWRENCE
CARSON. LAWRENCE

29279

17	M	29	W	IOO	16
	I	32	W	IOI	16

89



20986

Bureau of
Criminal Apprehension
State of Minnesota
State Capitol - St. Paul, Minn.

Name Leondell Carson - Lawrence

Alias Brook - Larry O Kieft

Alias Jas. Harris

Age 24 Eyes lt Brown

Height 5' 8 1/2" Comp. med

Weight 150 Build

Hair Chestnut Born

Crime Murder of Polhemus

Place Sheriff Kirksville Mo

Marks & Scars

Bank Robber

F. P. Class 29 I 0

32 I 16?



[Leonard Barton]

Wanted

St. Peter State Hospital

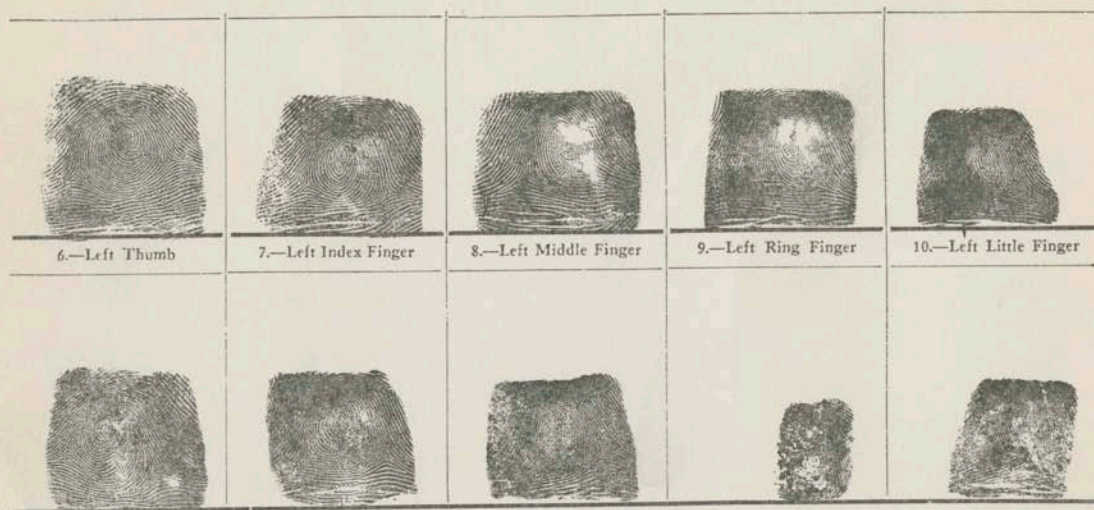
Fingerprint Classification

LAWRENCE DE VOL,
with aliases: Lawrence
M. Barton; Lawrence
Barker; Leonard Barton;

ST. PETER, MINN.

29 IO
32 I 18

Leonard Brady; Leonard Rayburn; Leonard Carlson; Leonard DeVault; Leonard E. Carson; R. L. Barton; A. H. DeVol; Harry Key; Harry Carlton; Lawrence O'Brien; James B. Henderson; B. E. Harriss; Larry O'Kiefe; Lawrence Devolo.



DESCRIPTION

Age: 31
Born in Rockford, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1905
Height: 5'7½"
Weight: 135 pounds
Build: Medium
Hair: Dark chestnut
Eyes: Hazel
Occupation: Plumber
Color: White
Nationality: American
Peculiarities: Skin infection on face and legs.
Habits: Intemperate; tobacco; gambles.
Education: High school, Brownsville, Texas.
Scars and marks: Deformed left ring finger, can't straighten out; cut scars both eyebrows; gunshot wound

top of left hand; two 3" knife scars right arm; appendicitis scar.
Relatives in St. Paul.
In Minnesota off and on for the last ten years. Member of Karpis-Barker mob. Claims \$15,000 hidden in St. Paul and that Harry Dutch Sawyer owes him \$5,000. In jail requested newspapers former homes: Tulsa World; Muskogee paper; Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City; Wichita, Beacon; Topeka Capital; Hutchinson Herald. Former employer: Mr. Frezzette, 4800 Block W. 22nd St., Chicago; employed as plumber, date unknown. This man is a paranoid maniac, suffers from persecutory delusions, and is apt to kill associates suddenly without warning.

CRIMINAL RECORD

As (name unknown); Brownsville, Texas Reformatory; 1914; truancy. As Lawrence Duvall, No. 918; PD, Tulsa, Okla.; 10/17/18; investigation (larceny) \$25.00. As Lawrence DeVol, No. 2239; SRef.; Granite, Okla., 5/21/19; grand larceny; 3 yrs. As Ray Clayton, No. 2112; PD, Tulsa, Okla.; 4/11/21; burglary; turned over to County. As Lawrence DeVol, No. 3266; SRef., Granite, Okla.; 11/3/21; burglary; 2 yrs. As Lawrence DeVol, No. 1903; PD, Oklahoma City, Okla.; 2/5/23; loitering; fined \$3.00. As Larry O'Keefe, No. 906, PD, Pittsburg, Kans.; 1/7/26; burglary and larceny. As Larry O'Keefe, No. 7108; St. Ind. Ref., Hutchinson, Kansas; 4/5/26; grand larceny; 5 yrs.; escaped 3/9/29. As Larry O'Keefe, 1048; SP, Lansing, Kans.; 7/28/29 trans. from Ref. As James B. Henderson; PD, Tonkawa, Okla.; 2/8/30; investigation. As Leonard E. Carson, No. 17901; PD, Kansas City, Mo.; 3/23/30; larceny of auto and safe blower. As Leonard E. Carson; SO, Howard, R. 1.; inquiry 12/31/30. As L. Barton; PD, St. Paul, Minn.; 12/18/32; inv.; turned over to Minn. Pol. As Leonard Barton, No. 23802; PD, Minneapolis, Minn.; 12/19/32; bank robbery—murder—fugitive.
* Received St. Pr., Stillwater, Minn., 1/10/33, from Hennepin Co., crime, murder, 2nd deg. * Arrested Tulsa several times, larceny; under bond, implicated murder, Tulsa. * As Lawrence Devol Reform School, Paul's Valley, Okla., 5/20/44, as incorrigible from Tulsa, Okla.
* Escaped 3/28/19; notify SO, Miami, Okla. * WANTED: Escaped Co Jail, Tulsa, Okla. * As Larry O'Keefe, Kansas City, Mo., 1925, vagrancy. * WANTED: As Leonard E. Carson, for murder; SO, Kirksville, Mo. WANTED: As Lawrence DeVol, murder, SO, Kirksville, Mo. Also PD, Milwaukee, Wis. * WANTED: As Leonard E. Carson, chg. not given; PD, Omaha, Nebr.
* WANTED: As Lawrence DeVol, (prob. ident) escape St. Hosp., St. Peter, Minn., 6/7/36. Notify SH, St. Peter, Minn., Warden St. P. Stillwater and St. Bu., St. Paul, Minn.

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints.

DEVOL, Uweerne - Barton, Leonard
associated with Barker gang
and Karpis

leader of escape from
St. Peter State Hospital in 1936

Killed in gun battle in Lind
Oklahoma. - killed 3 or more people

use B.C.A. wanted

St. Peter wanted

and news paper clippings

Register No. 17901.

20986



Class

29 W I O
32 W I145
WHITE
MALE

Name Leonard E. Carson

Lawrence DeValt, etc. RIGHT

HAND



Age	Hgt.	Wgt.	Eyes	Comp.	Build	Occ.	Born
24	5'8½	149	Lt.Br	Med	Slender	Plumber	Rockland, Va.



WANTED FOR MURDER

\$500. Reward for arrest & conviction

Lawrence Devol, alias Larry O'Keefe, Jas.B.Henderson, Leonard E.Carson, B.E.Harriss, Lawrence DeValt. Age 24 Hgt. 5.8½, Wgt. 150. Light brown eyes, chestnut hair. medium complex. Wanted for murder of a policeman and wounding an other, at Kirksville, Mo Notify by wire,

Joseph A. Winslow, Sheriff,
Kirksville. Mo.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING - ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Record from (Address)
On the above line please state whether Police Department, Sheriff's Office, or County Jail

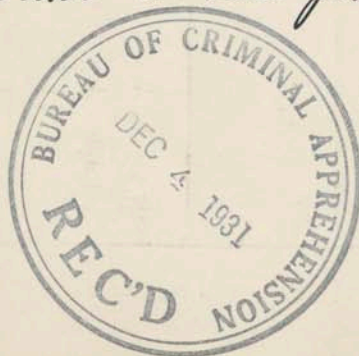
PLEASE PASTE PHOTO HERE


Received from.....County
Date received
Charge
Sentence
Place of birth.....
Nationality
Age Height.....
Weight Hair.....
Build Eyes.....
Complexion
Marks and Scars.....

Paroled
Discharged

CRIMINAL HISTORY

*a close friend of Karpis can get his record at Kansas city
Dec 16-1932 arrested St. Paul for Dr. W Bank robbery at
mpls. Mo.*





23802

12-20-32

Mpls

MBCA.
29279
C-135

Lawrence Devol
Leonard Barton
Lawrence DeNolt
Carson

Age	30 (1936)
Height	5 ft. 7½ in.
Weight	135 lbs.
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown

	F.	P.	C.	
29	W	IO		
32	W	I		16

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

December 20, 1932.

Chief of Police,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your print received December 20, 1932, regarding L. Barton, #---, the following is an abstract of subject's fingerprint record on file in the United States Bureau of Investigation:

Subject as Lawrence Duvall, #918, arrested P. D., Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 17, 1918, charge investigation (larceny); disposition not given.

As Lawrence Devol, #2239, received State Reformatory, Granite, Oklahoma, May 21, 1919, from Ottawa County, crime grand larceny; sentence 3 years.

As Ray Clayton, #2112, arrested P. D., Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 11, 1921, charge burglary; turned over to County.

As Lawrence Devol, #5266, received Oklahoma State Reformatory, November 3, 1921, from Tulsa, crime burglary; sentence 2 years.

As Lawrence Devol, #1903, arrested P. D., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, February 5, 1923, charge loitering; fined \$3.00.

As Larry O'Keffe, #906, arrested P. D., Pittsburg, Kansas, January 7, 1926, charge burglary and larceny; disposition not given.

As Larry O'Keefe, #7108, received State Industrial Reformatory, Hutchinson, Kansas, April 5, 1926, from Crawford County, crime grand larceny; sentence 5 years; wanted - escaped March 9, 1929.

As Larry O'Keefe, #1048, received State Penitentiary, Lansing, Kansas, July 28, 1929, from Crawford County, via Reformatory, crime grand larceny; sentence 1 to 5 years.

Page Two,
December 20, 1932,
L. Barton, #---,
P. D., St. Paul, Minn.

As James B. Henderson, #---, arrested P. D., Tonkawa, Oklahoma,
February 8, 1930, charge investigation; disposition not given.

As Leonard E. Carson, #17901, arrested P. D., Kansas City,
Missouri, March 23, 1930, charge larceny of auto and safe
blower (40 jobs); disposition not given.

As Leonard E. Carson, #---, inquiry made by S. O., Howard,
Rhode Island, December 31, 1930.

As L. Barton, #---, arrested P. D., St. Paul, Minnesota,
December 18, 1932, charge investigation; disposition not given.

The following notations appear on our records:

"Reform School, Paula Valley, Oklahoma.

Arrested at Tulsa, Oklahoma, several times for larceny;
now out on bond for burglary, also under bond for being
implicated in murder.

Escaped March 28, 1919, \$50 reward by Sheriff, Miami,
Okla.; notified Aug. 22, 1923.

WANTED, escaped from County Jail, Tulsa, Okla., (per letter
of 5-31-21); notified Aug. 22, 1923.

Larry O'Keffe, Kansas City, Mo., 1925, vagrancy.

WANTED: as Leonard E. Carson, (#17901, PD, Kansas City, Mo.),
for murder; Sheriff, Kirkeville, Mo.; still wanted (per inf.
rec. 5-18-32; notify SO, Kirkeville, Mo., and PD, Milwaukee,
Wis.

WANTED: as Leonard E. Carson, (Ident. #17901, PD, Kansas
City, Mo.); notify PD, Omaha, Nebr."

This information was communicated to Sheriff, Kirkeville, Missouri,
by wire, December 20, 1932.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
Director.

Air Mail.

Page Three.
December 20, 1932.
L. Barton, #~~100~~,
P. D., St. Paul, Minn.

Copy to:
State Bureau, St. Paul, Minnesota.
PD, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
State Reformatory, Granite, Oklahoma.
PD, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
PD, Pittsburg, Kansas.
State Industrial Reformatory,
Hutchinson, Kansas.
State Prison, Lansing, Kansas.
PD, Tonkawa, Oklahoma.
SO, Howard, Rhode Island.
PD, Kansas City, Missouri.
SO, Kirksville, Missouri.
PD, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
PD, Omaha, Nebraska.
SO, Miami, Oklahoma.
SO, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

OSCAR G. OLANDER
COMMISSIONER
CAPT. F. G. ARMSTRONG
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION
RECORDS AND STATISTICS
EAST LANSING

CAPT. IRA H. MARMON
SUPT. BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION
LIEUT. HUGO E. ERICSON
ASST. SUPT. BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION

RECORD COMPILED

BY: S.A.R.

WHEN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO
BUREAU NO. 86626

Jan. 5, 1933

Police Dept.,
Saint Paul, Minn.

Sir: The following identification is made on your #23683
Leonard Barton alias Leonard Brady alias C. A. Rayburn
alias Larry O'Keefe alias James B. Henderson alias B. E.
Harriss alias Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence Devolt:

??? As Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence DeValt #17901 Police
Dept., Kansas City, Mo. Charge and Disposition not given.

1-9-1931 Circular received, as Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence
DeValt alias Lawrence Devol alias Larry O'Keefe alias Jas.
B. Henderson, alias Leonard E. Carson alias B. E. Harriss
alias. WANTED FOR MURDER, by the Sheriff, ~~xxxxxx~~, Kirks-
ville, Mo. \$500 REWARD for arrest and conviction. Wanted
for Murder of a policeman and wounding another at Kirksville,
Mo. Notify by wire. Joseph A. Winslow, Sheriff, Kirksville,
Mo.

12-18-1932 As Leonard Barton ✓ alias Leonard Brady ✓ alias C. A. Rayburn
alias Larry O'Keefe alias James B. Henderson ✓ alias B.E.
Harriss alias Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence Devolt
#23683 Police Dept., St. Paul, Minn. Charge: Murder and
Bank Robbery. Disposition not given.

Respectfully yours,

I. H. Marmon,
Supt. of Bureau.

Copy to: Sheriff, Kirksville, Mo.
Police Dept., Kansas City, Mo.
Minn. State Bureau of Apprehension, St. Paul, Minn.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION
LANSING, MICHIGAN.

Dear Sir:

Please note the attached revised identification of a person whose record is on file in the Michigan State Bureau, Lansing, Michigan. This record has been compiled from numerous records received from the Departments named, and is correct to the best of our knowledge.

Please destroy all former identifications received from this Bureau regarding the attached.

Very truly yours,

Capt. I. H. Marmon, Supt.,
Bureau of Criminal Identification

STATE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY

BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION

Record compiled
by: S.A.R.

LANSING, MICHIGAN

When replying please re-
fer to Bureau #86626

Feb. 15, 1933

Police Dept.,
St. Paul, Minn.

REVISED IDENTIFICATION

Sir:

The following identification is made on your #23683
Leonard Barton alias Leonard Brady alias C. A. Ray-
burn alias Larry O'Keefe alias James E. Henderson
alias E.E. Harriss alias Leonard E. Carson alias
Lawrence Devolt:

Subject has served 1 term in the State Training School
for White Boys at Pauls Valley, Okla.

???

As Larry O'Keefe #? Police Dept., Pittsburgh, Kan.
Charge: Burglary & Larceny.
Sentenced to the State Ref., Hutchinson, Kan.

10-17-1918

As Lawrence Duvall #918 Police Dept., Tulsa, Okla.
Charge: Invest. Larceny. Disposition not given.
(Arrested several times in Tulsa for Larceny; now out
on bond for Burglary of jewelry store and is also under
bond for being implicated in a murder in Tulsa).

5-21-1919

As Lawrence DeVol #2239 Okla. State Ref., Granite, Okla.
Received from Ottawa Co., Okla. to serve 3 Yrs. for
Grand Larceny.

4-11-1921

As Ray Clayton #2112 Police Dept., Tulsa, Okla.
Charge: Burglary.
To County.

11-3-1921

As Lawrence Devol #3266 Okla. State Ref., Granite, Okla.
Received from Tulsa, Okla. to serve 2 Yrs. for Burglary.

2-5-1923

As Lawrence DeVol #1903 Police Dept., Oklahoma City,
Okla. Charge: Loitering.
Fined \$3.00.

1-7-1926

As Larry O'Keefe #906 Police Dept., Pittsburg, Kan.
Charge: Burglary & Larceny. Disposition not given.

4-5-1926

As Larry O'Keefe #7108 Kan. State Ref., Hutchinson, Kan.
Received from Crawford Co., Kan. to serve 5 Yrs. for
Grand Larceny.

7-28-1929

As Larry O'Keefe #1048 Kans. State Pen., Lansing, Kan.
Received from Crawford Co., via Reformatory to serve
1 to 5 Yrs. for Grand Larceny.

2-8-1930

As James E. Henderson #? Police Dept., Tonkawa, Okla.
Charge: Investigation. Disposition not given.

Page 2.

Bureau #86626 Continued

3-23-1930 As Leonard E. Carson alias Leonard O'Keefe alias Lawrence Davalt #17901 Police Dept., Kansas City, Mo. Charge: Larceny of Auto and Suspect Safe Blower. Forfeited a \$3000 Bond in Justice Court.

4-17-1930

12-31-1930 As Leonard E. Carson #? inquiry made by Sheriff's Dept., Howard, R. I.

1-9-1931 Circular received, as Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence DeValt alias Lawrence Devol alias Larry O'Keefe alias Jas E. Henderson alias Leonard E. ~~xxxx~~ Carson alias L. E. Harriss. WANTED FOR MURDER, by the Sheriff, Kirksville, Mo. \$500 REWARD for arrest and conviction. Wanted for Murder of a policeman and wounding another at Kirksville, Mo. Notify by wire. Joseph A. Winslow, Sheriff, Kirksville, Mo.

12-18-1932 As Leonard Barton alias Leonard Brady alias C.A. Rayburn alias Larry O'Keefe alias James E. Henderson alias B.E. Harriss alias Leonard E. Carson alias Lawrence Devolt #23682 Police Dept., St. Paul, Minn. Charge: Murder and Bank Robbery. Disposition not given.

Respectfully yours,

E. H. Marmon,
Supt. of Bureau.

Copy to: Police Dept., Kansas City, Mo.
Sheriff, Kirksville, Mo.
Minn. State Bureau, St. Paul, Minn.
Sheriff, Howard, R. I.
Police Dept., Tonkawa, Okla.
Okla. State Bureau, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Kan. State Pen., Lansing, Kan.
Kan. State Ref., Hutchinson, Kan.
Police, Pittsburg, ~~xxxx~~ Kan.
Police, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Okla. State Ref., Granite, Okla.
Police, Tulsa, Okla.
State Training School for White Boys, Pauls Valley, Okla.

June 8, 1936
File I

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing herewith a list of men who escaped from the State Hospital for Insane at St. Peter, Minn. They escaped from the Criminal Ward on Sunday, June 7th.

Will you kindly place a hold order in your files against these parties and notify us in the event that they are apprehended.

Thanking you for your assistance in this matter, I am

Yours very truly,

M. C. Passolt,
Superintendent.

Enc.
/B

June 10, 1936
File I

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to our letter of June 8th, regarding a number of men who escaped from the Criminal Insane Ward of the State Hospital at St. Peter, Minn. on June 7th.

Please cancel our wanted notices on the following men as they have been apprehended: Walter Hornstein, Wilburt Jorissen, Adolph Walworth, William Lammi, Percy Kenosha, and Lawrence L. Gunderson.

Lawrence Devol, alias Leonard Barton, alias Lawrence DeNolt, Tony Smith, Donald J. Reeder, Frank Gibson, and Albert Saroko are still at large.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Yours very truly,

M. C. Passolt,
Superintendent.

/E

29279

June 13, 1936

File I

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to our letter of June 8th, regarding men who escaped from the Criminal Insane ward of the State Hospital at St. Peter, on June 7th.

Please cancel our wanted notice on Anthony Smith, alias Tony Smith, alias Thomas Smith, as this man was apprehended on June 10th, at Nicollet, Minn.

Lawrence Devol, Donald J. Reeder, Frank Gibson, and Albert Saroko are still at large.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Yours very truly,

M. C. Passolt,
Superintendent.

/B

St. Peter State Hospital

DR. GEO. H. FREEMAN, SUPERINTENDENT

St. Peter, Minnesota

June 21, 1936

SUBJECT:

R29279

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1936

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Mr. M. C. Passolt

Minnesota State Crime Bureau

St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

We are inclosing "wanted" circulars on Donald Reader, Lawrence De Vol, and Albert Soroko; also certain supplemental information which may be of interest to you.

Yours very truly,

Geo. H. Freeman

Superintendent

Per Emg.

GHF:EMG

Inc.



ST. LOUIS-SAN FRANCISCO RAILWAY COMPANY

J. M. KURN AND JOHN G. LONSDALE
TRUSTEES

29279

St. Louis, June 25, 1936

1737

Mr. M. C. Passolt,
Superintendent,
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension,
State Office Building,
St. Paul, Minn.

RECEIVED

JUN 27 1936

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Dear Sir:

If consistent, would like to have ten additional copies of your Circular No. 255, issued June 22, 1936, advertising for the apprehension of Lawrence Devol.

This fellow formerly operated in Kansas-Oklahoma territory served by this Railroad, and we have been following his criminal career since 1930.

It is possible that he may return to our territory, and I would like to place copies of this circular in the hands of my division special agents for future reference; especially since his photograph reproduced in your bulletin bears only slight resemblance to those photographs of him which my men now have.

Yours very truly,

H. Wilson
Chief Special Agent.

A.

*Circular
sent
J.B.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING LAWRENCE DE VOL

Relatives

Father now dead

Mother: Mrs. Emma De Vol, alias Mrs C. L. Barton, last known at 2022 Palace St., St. Paul, Minn. Is native of Pennsylvania.

Brother: Clarence De Vol, alias A. H. Barton, alias A. H. De Vol, Minneapolis Police Department #23802E; last address 2022 Palace St., St. Paul, Minn.

Long time loyal sweet heart, Margaret Bryant, whose folks lived in Sioux City, Iowa, lived at 1400 Yale Place, Apt. 116, Mpls; 274 Dayton Ave., or 278 Dayton Ave., Apt. 8, St. Paul, Minn.; and 547 Wabasha St., St. Paul, who wrote from Kas Kas Kin Hotel, La Salle, Illinois and used St. Francis Hotel, St. Paul, Minn, stationery.

Miss Evelyn Larson, 1400 Yale Place, Apt. 116, Mpls., and 209 Lynn st., Sioux City, Iowa.

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1936

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

St. Peter State Hospital

DR. GEO. H. FREEMAN, SUPERINTENDENT

St. Peter, Minnesota

July 3, 1936

SUBJECT:

RECEIVED

JUL 4 1936

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

Department of Criminal Apprehension
State Capitol Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

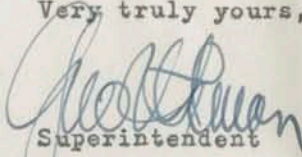
Gentlemen:

Glen Davis, Sheriff of Grant County, Medford, Oklahoma, sent me a sweater which we have identified as belonging to Lawrence DeVol, alias L. Barton.

He stated that three men burglarized a store in Grant County June 15, 1936 and left the sweater with that name on it.

We are sending him circulars of the men who escaped from here.

Very truly yours,


Superintendent

GHF:LV

GLEN L. SCHMIDT
CHIEF OF BUREAU

State of Iowa
Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Des Moines

EDWARD L. O'CONNOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 13
1936.

RECEIVED
AUG 14 1936
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

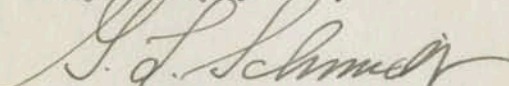
State of Minnesota Bureau of
Criminal Apprehension,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Gentlemen:

We have in our files circulars on Lawrence De Vol, #11519; Donald Reader, #10799; Frank Gibson, #8948 and Albert Soroko, #10487, which we received from the St. Peter State Hospital, St. Peter, Minnesota, at the time of their escape from this institution.

Will you please advise us which of these criminals were killed or captured and the ones still at large, together with dates etc.?

Very truly yours,



G. L. SCHMIDT.
Chief of Bureau.

GLS:gw

29279

August 14, 1936
File I

Mr. G. L. Schmidt, Chief,
State Department of Justice,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of August 13th regarding Lawrence Devol, Albert Soroko, Donald Reeder, and Frank Gibson, escapes from the State Hospital, St. Peter, Minn. on June 7, 1936.

Donald Reeder was apprehended by officers at Enid, Okla. on July 8th, after a gun battle in which Lawrence Devol was killed. Albert Soroko was shot and killed in a robbery at Oklahoma City, Okla. on June 26th. Frank Gibson has not yet been apprehended and is the only one left, of the sixteen escaping, who escapedlyat large.

Assuring you of our desire to be of assistance to you at all times, I am

Yours very truly,

M. C. Passolt,
Superintendent.

/B

isaac mcannally
4500 Broadway,
New York City.

Lorraine 7-6350

Dear Mr. Passolt:

Please mail me in the attached envelope
mug picture of Larry DuVal, former Barker-Karpis gunner who
was killed resisting arrest in Enid, Oklahoma, following his
escape in June, 1936, from the hospital at St. Peter.

Thanks very much and if any of your friends should be
coming this way and you should desire passes to a radio show, a
collect telegram well in advance to me might turn the trick.

Best Wishes,

But copying
Mr. Passolt.

Isaac Mcannally

RECEIVED

JAN 9 1939

Air mail special
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Lawrence Leval x ✓
Donald Ruder x ✓
Edward Rhoades x ✓
Tony Smith x ✓
Tom LeSango @ Holloway x ✓
Adolph Woolworth ~~no~~ *Woolworth 9868* ✓
~~Wilfred Jorgensen~~ ~~no~~ *Wilbert Jorgensen* ✓
Walter Hornstein. ✓
Frank Gibson ✓
Percy Kenosha (Indiana) ✓
Albert Saroke ~~no~~ ✓ *long not in file*
William Lanning ~~no~~ *Lanning* ✓ *not in file*
George Truett *Lanning 1006* x *not in file* F.P.
Lawrence Lundgren x ○

Bew Russell } recaptured.
Wm. Omit }

MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION



Name LEONARD BARTON
 Date of arrest 12/19/32
 Charge Bank Robber, Murder, Fugitive
 Disposition of case M. S. P. Life 1/10/33
 Residence 928 Grand Ave., St. Paul
 Place of birth ?
 Nationality ?
 Criminal specialty ?
 Age 27 Build Med.
 Height 5-8½ Comp. Dark
 Weight 157 Eyes Dk. Hazel
 Hair Med. Dk. Ch.
 Scars and marks ?

CRIMINAL HISTORY

With Robert Neuherr - Clarence De Vol - Owen Lewis
 robbed the N. W. branch bank on E. Henn Ave
 Mpls. Minn - Eddie De Vol the fifth man was
 not arrested. He is wanted

12/27/35 Transferred to St. Peter Insane Asylum.

6-7-36, Escaped State Hosp. St. Peter, Minn.

DEAD



R 29275 DEAD

LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK

17

M 29 W 10016

I 32 W 10116

Name BARTON, LEONARD













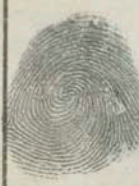





Classification

Alias Lawrence Devol, Carson

Ref.

Lawrence De Vott

No. 23802 Color W Sex M

1.—Right Thumb 	2.—R. Index Finger 	3.—R. Middle Finger 	4.—R. Ring Finger 	5.—R. Little Finger 
6.—Left Thumb 	7.—L. Index Finger 	8.—L. Middle Finger 	9.—L. Ring Finger 	10.—L. Little Finger 
Four fingers taken simultaneously Left hand 		Amputations	Right hand 	
		Left Thumb 	Right Thumb 	   

Taken

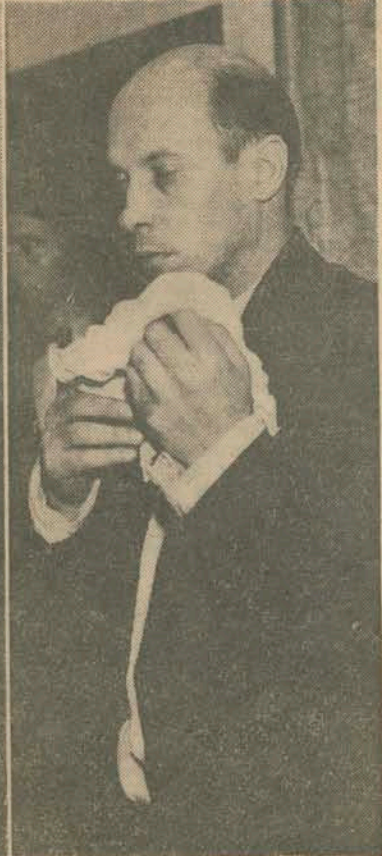
Prisoner's signature

Classified by

L. M. Barton

Date

MANIAC HUNT QUARRY AND CAPTORS



Scenes in the hunt for sixteen madmen-criminals who escaped Sunday night from the Minnesota State Hospital for the Insane at St. Peter are shown here.

At the upper left is a group after the capture of David Rhoades and Tom DeLargo, the latter from St. Paul. Standing, left to right, are Sheriff J. C. Berner of St. James, whose strategy outwitted the men and led them into a trap; Hub Fischer, guard at the hospital,

and Arthur Erickson of the State Crime bureau. Seated are Rhoades at the left and DeLargo at the right.

The upper right picture shows Rhoades as he was returned to the state hospital.

Lower left are George Tremont, of Minneapolis, who was captured at New Ulm, at the left, and Ernest Gustafson, assistant supervisor at the hospital.

Lower right is Lawrence Gunderson, seized at Belle Plaine.

16 CRIMINAL INSANE FLEE ST. PETER HOSPITAL

(Continued From Page 1.)

oughly cover the wooded river section with the aid of daylight.

DeVol, in company with four other machine-gun bandits, held up the Third Northwestern National bank on the afternoon of December 16, 1932, escaping with \$20,000 in currency.

As the robbers were leaving the bank, Ira L. Evans and Leo Gorsky, Minneapolis patrolmen, arrived and were greeted with a fusillade of machine gun bullets. Evans was instantly killed while Gorsky succumbed a few days later.

A St. Paul man, Oscar Erickson, stepped innocently into the path of the outlaws' fire while driving through Como park with a friend, Arthur Zachman. The pair chanced upon the gangsters as they were changing from their disabled getaway car to another machine. Slowing down his car to see what was happening, Erickson was sprayed with bullets and killed.

Three days later DeVol, James Colton, Owen Lewis and Robert Newbern were captured. DeVol, drunk, attempted to force his way into a bridge party in an apartment at 928 Grand avenue.

Haskett H. Burton, the tenant, ejected DeVol from his rooms and then followed him into the corridor to quiet him. At this point the bandit drew a gun on Burton, who retreated and called police.

Patrolmen George Hammergen and Harley Kast of St. Paul answered the call and took DeVol and Newbern, his companion in the apartment building, into custody.

Hornstein, another of the escaped prisoners, confessed to the killing of Patrolman Fred Nolan in St. Cloud April 29, 1934. The bandit claimed the gun was fired acci-

dentally when Nolan ordered him to hand it over. Witnesses, however, said the assailant walked up behind the patrolman and fired at him.

Hornstein is a native of Bemidji. Gibson, a Minneapolis man known as "Slim", and Tex McFarland, is the confessed slayer of H. N. Petersen, cashier of the Citizens' State bank of Wheelock, N. D. Petersen was slain November 12, 1926, in a holdup of the bank. Gibson also confessed with Jack Northrup, now serving a life term in Stillwater prison, the slaying of Frank Dahlin, marshal of Isanti, Minn., who was killed in December, 1927.

Gibson was arrested with Northrup and five others on May 9, 1927, in a gun fight at Elk River, Minn. Gibson escaped facing the charge of murdering the North Dakota bank cashier by pleading guilty to the charge of murdering the Isanti marshal. He was sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge E. A. Giddings of Anoka on May 14, 1927. He later was removed to the asylum.

Smith styled himself the "world's prize sap" at the time of his arrest in February of 1933 at Superior, Wis., where he got drunk and pulled an automatic pistol on a cab driver, and then was arrested by police.

He was implicated, police said, in the St. Stephen's bank robbery February 2, 1933, when thieves obtained \$800, and also was identified as one of the bandits who held up the Doran Coal Co., Plato and Eaton avenues, on February 1 of 1933. The loot at this stickup totalled \$210.

He also was said to be a member of a gang which robbed banks, hijacked liquor, threatened torture of at least one farmer and terrorized territory surrounding the Twin Cities.

DESCRIPTION OF CRIMINALS STILL AT LARGE GIVEN

(Continued From Page 1.)

to be one of the ringleaders in the escape with DeVol.

ADOLPH WALWORTH—35 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches, weight 145 pounds, has dark brown hair, brown eyes; was wearing dark blue pants, green shirt, no hat or coat. He came from Hennepin county on a first degree grand larceny charge, being admitted August 30, 1932.

TONY T. SMITH—36 years old. Five feet, 11½ inches tall; 147 lbs.; has brown hair, blue eyes; was wearing dark pants, a light shirt, a vest and no hat or coat. Listed as "very crazy, delusional". He came from Ramsey county, where he had been charged with first degree robbery. Admitted February 20, 1935.

WILBURT JORISSEN—23 years old, five feet, 5½ inches tall; weight 139; has light brown hair, blue eyes; was wearing dark brown corduroy pants; blue shirt, no hat or coat. He came from Carver county on a first degree robbery charge, being admitted May 25, 1933.

DONALD READER—27 years old, five feet, 9 inches; weight 134; has black hair, blue-grey eyes; was wearing blue striped dark pants; white shirt, no hat or coat. Residence unknown, although he originally came from Missouri. He was brought here on a charge of entering a bank, and was admitted February 21, 1936.

WALTER M. HORSTEIN—24 years old, five feet, 11½ inches tall; 179 pounds; has brown hair, blue eyes; was wearing brown corduroy pants, blue shirt. Was admitted December 27, 1935, on a second degree murder charge. (Authorities here said they believed he shot a St. Cloud officer).

FRANK GIBSON—38 years old, five feet, nine inches; weight 133; dark brown hair, light grey eyes; was wearing light blue pants and an oily undershirt; came from Texas originally. He was admitted September 8, 1931, on a first degree charge from Hennepin

county. (Authorities believed he had some connection with a haystack murder near Minneapolis).

PERCY KENOSHA—20, Indian, five feet, 9½ inches; 165 pounds, black hair, brown eyes; wearing dark pants, and light blue shirt. Although he came from Wisconsin originally, he gave his residence as Minneapolis. Admitted February 21, 1936, under dangerous practices law.

ALBERT SAROKO—40, five feet, 6½ inches, weight 142; has dark brown hair, blue-grey eyes; wearing light brown suit, light blue checkered shirt and a vest. He is a Russian. He was committed from Hennepin county on a first degree murder charge on July 17, 1935.

WILLIAM LANNENJI or Lamnei—Five feet, 6 inches tall, 144 pounds; has brown hair, blue eyes; wearing light colored checkered shirt, light striped pants; has only two fingers on his right hand. A truck driver, he came from St. Louis county, on a charge of using an automobile without the owner's permission, being admitted October 4, 1935.

DAVID RHOADES—33, 5 feet, 8 inches, weight 130 pounds; has brown hair and is getting bald; has brown eyes; wearing dark blue pants, white shirt, a laborer, came from Minneapolis, being admitted November 26, 1935.

GEORGE TREMONT—31, five feet, 8½ inches; weight, 163; dark brown hair, brown eyes; wearing dark grey suit and coat, light shirt. Authorities said he was very delusional. He was admitted May 27, 1935, from Minneapolis on a auto theft charge.

LAWRENCE L. GUNDERSON—35, six feet, two inches; 163 pounds; has light brown hair, hazel eyes; believed to be wearing blue striped overalls and shirt; a laborer, he came from Minneapolis on a dangerous person charge. He was admitted March 9, 1934.

PLAN CAPTURE OF FUGITIVES



State and county officials joined forces Sunday night and Monday in the hunt for sixteen maniacal convicts who escaped from the state insane hospital at St. Peter, Minn. All the escapers are criminals. In the picture, surveying a road map and figuring possible routes the criminals might use in their flight are, seated, Sheriff John A. Johnson, of Nicollet county, St. Peter, and standing, left to right, Agents H. H. Goetzinger, Fred H. Nelson and Arthur Erickson of the State Crime bureau.

Convicts---

Continued From Page One

keys from them. Then they herded the guards into a detention cell and locked them up. Hospital authorities denied an earlier report that the guards had been severely slugged.

The guards were George Fay, Hans Hanson, Roy Sampson, Bert Halvorsen and Norbert Stepple.

Using the chair legs as levers, the inmates forced apart the heavy iron bars of a second story window. From the storeroom, they took a length of firehose and used this to slide down into the asylum yard.

Scale Wire Fence

Boosting one of their number to the top of the heavy wire fence, another length of hose was used to pull the others to the top of



PERCY KENOSHA

An Indian

the fence. One by one they dropped from the wall to freedom.

Playing croquet on the lighted lawn nearby, was Harlan Walner, 20, son of an asylum physician. He saw the men, and almost at the same time, an asylum inmate reported to Arthur Danielson, a guard, that all was not as it should be on the second floor of the asylum. Both Danielson and Walner turned in the alarm.

Forced From Car

Meanwhile, a group of the escaped men descended upon Huettl's car, forcing him and his companion, Frieda Marske, Mankato, from the automobile. With several of the escaped men clinging to the running board, they raced madly away from the prison, nearly running down two nurses.

Others of the gang were believed to have crossed the Minnesota river on a nearby rail trestle while others were thought to have headed for the swampy river bottoms.

With state highway patrolmen spreading the alarm through the countryside Sheriff Johnson warned the criminal apprehension bureau which broadcast the alarm from its Redwood Falls radio sta-



DAVID RHOADES

No criminal record, captured

The Escape Window

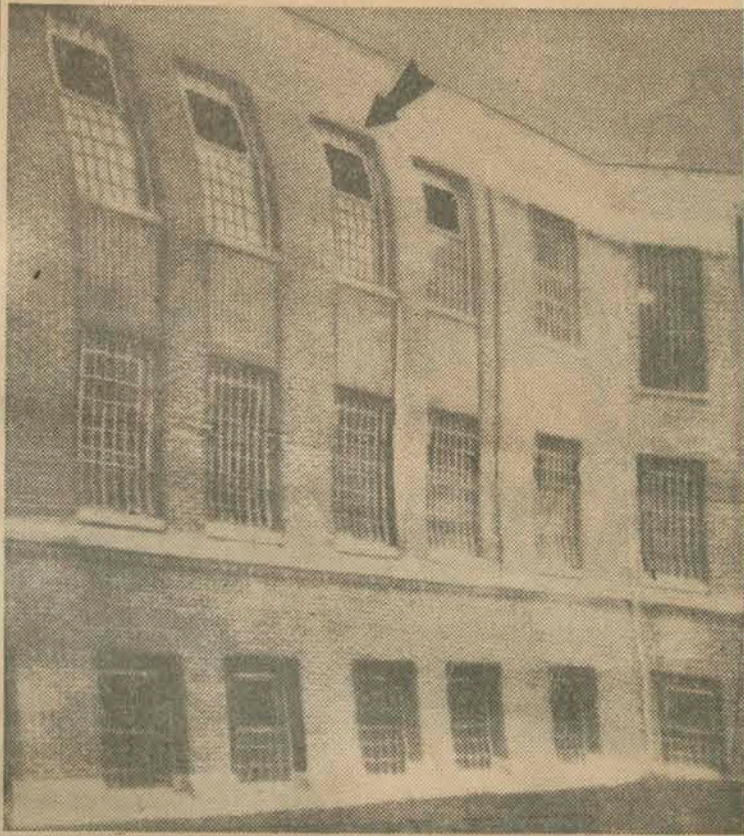
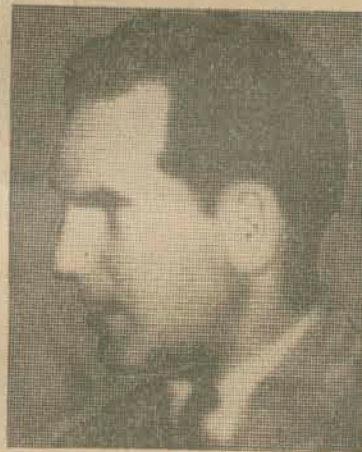


Photo TELEPHONED by Star Staff Photographer.

The window indicated by the arrow was the one from which 16 men escaped at St. Peter institution for the criminally insane Sunday evening. The criminal ward is a new structure.

tion. Through Adjutant General Ellard A. Walsh, Governor Olson ordered out 35 members of the national guard company here.

Meanwhile hospital authorities, aided by Emerson Hopp, former G-man and now an attorney here, ordered employees to prepare for a manhunt. At the same time, they



DR. RALPH ROSSON

He captured Drussel

set about questioning other inmates to secure a more detailed description of the escaped men.

Dark Hampers Hunt

Intense darkness hampered early efforts to search for the missing men. Not until daylight were the guardsmen and hospital employees able to beat their way through the surrounding woods and swamp-lands.

After the search got underway, only one clue was found—a farmer reported seeing a man creeping along a fence. Searchers found footprints there which soon faded away. Meanwhile another report from Kasota, Minn., failed to produce results. Residents there said they had seen a man, resembling one of the escaped inmates, creeping along a railroad bridge.

Panic Grows

Panic continued to grow. State patrolmen set out to inform farmers in the surrounding country after warning residents near the river bottom.

It was reported that terror-stricken farmers, already aware of the escape, several times mistook the highway policemen for the missing men and greeted them

Six Ringleaders

Victims of Dementia

Praecox Catatonia

All of the 11 men still uncaptured after the break from the St. Peter asylum for the criminally insane were committed to that institution after being found guilty of crime. DeVol was brought to the asylum from Stillwater penitentiary. Others were committed from county jails.

The six ring leaders of the break, DeVol, Smith, Jorrison, Saroko, Gibson and Hornstein, are described as victims of a type of insanity known as dementia praecox catatonia.

The mania is characterized by unbalanced judgment, delusions of persecution, hallucinations, alternating apathy and indifference, and tremendous and often violent excitement. The victim's memory remains good, however, and he does not lose capacity to understand situations or to act.

with blasts of shotgun fire.

In another instance, police approached a car parked on a lonely road. Its passengers, later found to be hospital authorities, opened fire on the police but no one was injured.

Comb Rail Yards

Operatives from the criminal bureau combed railway yards in the entire area. Five times they spotted sulking figures, surrounded them, and in each case it proved to be a vagabond, awaiting an outgoing freight. One man was captured at the depot here and taken to the sheriff's office where he was fingerprinted but hospital authorities were unable to identify him.

The criminal bureau also was keeping constant check for any re-

ports of burglaries or automobile thefts that might prove a clue to the escaped patients.

Learning of the escape, Dr. Ralph Rossen, assistant hospital superintendent, started immediately for the institution from town. A short distance from the hospital he saw a man hiding behind a tree. Dr. Rossen halted his car and with the aid of his dog, ran the escaped man down. After a short struggle, the man was subdued. It later was found to be Drussel.

A short distance from the hospital, guards captured the second inmate, O'Neill.

Set Up Machine Guns

The national guardsmen, fearing further trouble, set up machine guns at strategic points around the hospital, but the scene remained quiet there.

There was an unconfirmed report that a witness had seen a car waiting beyond the edge of the prison property at the time of the break. Hospital authorities said that none of the escaped men had received visitors for several days.

Guardsmen Called In

Muddy and weary, after three hours of futile search through the river bottom, the guardsmen were called in this morning. Dr. George H. Freeman, hospital superintendent, remained on the scene throughout most of the night directing operations.

In 1921, three men escaped after holding several guards at bay with revolvers. Two of them were recaptured but one never was apprehended. The last escape from the institution was that of Jack Dolphin in 1932.

Authorities said today they believed the men who commandeered the car near the institution and escaped in it were Wilbert Jorri-

Only Dangerously Insane Confined in St. Peter Hospital

The St. Peter hospital is reserved for the dangerously violent insane.

Most of the inmates come here from other state mental hospitals where psychiatrists have determined that close confinement is necessary.

The division for the criminally insane, separate from the rest of the institution, is reserved for persons who have committed crimes.

Criminally insane persons are certified to St. Peter by alienists, employed either by county commissioners or by prison authorities.

These alienists examine criminals to determine whether insanity caused them to commit the crime with which they are charged.

sen, Walter Herstein, Frank Kenosha and Adolph Walworth.

Kenosha, an Indian, may have fallen from the car as it sped away. He was clinging to the running board.

Police at noon broadcast a warning for a man driving a car toward Mankato. A hitch-hiker reported he was picked up by a man he described as "wild-eyed," wearing dirty white shoes and a brown suit. The man drove recklessly, the hitch-hiker reported to police, swinging wide and driving faster each time he came to a parked car. The hitch-hiker said that he became so alarmed that he leaped from the car.

MEN WHO GOT AWAY

A history and descriptions of the 14 inmates of St. Peter insane asylum who escaped Sunday night follow:

LAWRENCE DEVOL — 30, 5 feet, 7½ inches tall, weighing 135 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes; wearing cream colored pants, no hat or coat, light brown shirt. Admitted December 22, 1935, from Stillwater penitentiary. Bank robber and Barker-Karpis gangster.

TOM DE LARGO, alias Hallowsay—24 years old, 5 feet, 7½ inches tall, weight 156 pounds; has black hair, hazel eyes; was wearing light gray pants, blue shirt, no hat or coat. Is an Assyrian. He came from Ramsey county on a robbery charge, being admitted February 22, 1934. Said by authorities to be foolish and daring, and is believed to be one of the ringleaders with Devol.

ADOLPH WALWORTH — 35 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches. Weight 145 pounds. Has dark brown hair, brown eyes; was wearing dark blue pants, green shirt, no hat or coat. He came from Hennepin county on a first degree grand larceny charge, being admitted August 30, 1932.

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DONALD READER—27 years old, 5 feet, 9 inches; weight 134 pounds; has black hair, blue-gray eyes; was wearing blue striped dark pants, white shirt, no hat or coat. Residence unknown, although he originally came from Missouri. He was brought here February 21, 1936, on a charge of entering a bank.

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originally. He was admitted September 8, 1931, from Hennepin county where he committed two murders.

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LAWRENCE LEONARD GUNDERSON—35 years old, 6 feet, 2 inches tall, 163 pounds; has light brown hair, hazel eyes, believed to be wearing blue striped overalls and shirt; a laborer, he came from Minneapolis on a dangerous person charge. He was admitted March 9, 1934.

11 OF 16 CRIMINAL INSANE IN BOLD ST. PETER BREAK



Pictures of eleven of the sixteen criminals, who escaped Sunday night from the state insane hospital in St. Peter, appear above. Left to right are: Lawrence DeVol, Tony T. Smith, St. Paul; Frank Gibson, Texas; Wilbert Jorisen, Carver county; Tom DeLargo, Ramsey county; George Tremont, Minneapolis; David Rhoades, Minneapolis; Albert Soroko, Minneapolis; Percy Kenosha, Minneapolis; Lawrence L. Gunderson, Minneapolis; Donald Reader, Missouri.

150,000 MINERS GO

Devol Killed In Oklahoma Battle; Slays A Policeman

A man slain at Enid, Okla., Wednesday night after killing one policeman and wounding two others in a gun battle, was identified today as Lawrence Devol, former Barker-Karpis machine-gunner and leader of the St. Peter asylum break June 7.

A short time after Devol was killed, Donald Reader, his aid and coleader of the break of 16 criminally insane convicts, was captured, leaving only one of the original 16 still at large. He is Frank Gibson, murderer.

Reader, police said, confessed this morning that he and Devol, in making their escape had robbed three banks in Kansas at Attica, Turon and Little River.

In Fatal Bank Holdup.

Devol, trigger-man in the Third Northwestern National bank holdup and triple murder in the Twin Cities Dec. 16, 1932, met the same fate as did Albert Saroko, bank robber and another leader of the break, who was shot and killed June 27 in an attempted holdup at Oklahoma City.

Killed in the capture of Devol was Patrolman Cal Palmer, shot three times, and in critical condition is Patrolman Ralph Knarr. The two officers had spotted Devol, with a girl in a beer parlor and had gone inside to question him.

Battle In Beer Parlor.

Devol was seated at a table with the other two, and, as the officer approached, he finished his beer first; then arose, whipped out a pistol, shot Palmer to death and continued firing at Knarr. He then ran out of the parlor and the girl escaped. Assistant Chief of Police Lelon Coyle and Patrolman Ted Robinson, who were posted outside, pursued Devol as he fled, cornered him in an alley two blocks away and riddled him with bullets. In the exchange of shots, Coyle was shot in the hand.

As Devol ran from the beer parlor and saw the two other officers standing outside, he jumped on the running board of a passing car.

Cornered, Killed.

The driver, seeing police in pursuit, stopped the car and Devol, continuing to fire at the two officers, fled into the alley where he was cornered and killed.

Reader was arrested several hours later after identification of Devol had been established. Reader

was found in a hotel room which he and Devol had occupied.

Police said that on Devol's person they found \$106 and in his automobile, reported stolen in Oklahoma City, was a bag containing \$132 in silver. In a hotel room occupied by Devol and Reader was \$126 in nickels.

Identification of both was established through fingerprints.

Devol, believed to have been the mastermind behind the St. Peter break, was committed to the asylum last December. It developed, on subsequent investigation that most of those who made the break with Devol had been transferred to St. Peter as a result of mental conditions bearing striking similarities. The bulk of them were transferred at the same time.

He was serving a life term in connection with the Third Northwestern job in which Patrolmen Leo Gorski and Ira Evans, Minneapolis, were machine-gunned to death, and Oscar Erickson, St. Paul, was shot and killed when he came across the bandits as they were changing cars in Como park.

Britain To Spend Billion On Armaments

LONDON, July 9.—(INS)—A billion dollar 1936 armaments budget appeared likely for Britain today with announcement of supplementary estimates of nearly \$100,000,000 for the British arms program.

The sum provides for more new warships and airplanes, acceleration of land armaments and increases in personnel.

With the supplementary estimates, expenditures on the three fighting services now stands at 21,289,000 pounds sterling for the navy, 55,881,000 for the army, and 50,700,000 for the air force.

An authoritative explanation of the supplementary estimates said:

"Britain is following the international situation closely, and felt, without being the least bit 'panicky,' the sooner it can get the rearmament program completed, the stronger will be the stabilizing force of British defenses in the world at large."



AFTER KILLING ONE POLICEMAN and wounding another, LAWRENCE DEVOL, (above) former Barker-Karpis gangster who escaped with 15 other convicts inmates of the St. Peter insane asylum a month ago, was shot to death Wednesday night at Enid, Okla. DONALD READER, (below) another of the St. Peter escapees, was captured by Oklahoma officers shortly after.

FIGURES AND SCENES IN THE BREAK



LAWRENCE DEVOL
A hardened gangster



TOM DE LARGO
A dangerous person



LAWRENCE GUNDERSON
A ringleader with De Vol



TONY T. SMITH
Listed as "very crazy"



Photo TELEPHONED by Star staff photographer
Bert Halvorsen and Roy Sampson, two of the St. Peter asylum guards attacked by the gang of insane convicts.



WILBURT JORISSEN
A robber



Photo TELEPHONED by Star staff photographer
National guardsmen were mobilized hurriedly to help hunt the escaped convicts.



FRANK GIBSON
Killed two men



GEORGE TREMONT
He was captured



ARTHUR SAROKO
A murderer



WALTER HORNSTEIN
Another murderer

Minnesota Weather
Showers today, warmer extreme
east and south; unsettled, con-
siderably cooler Tuesday.
Detailed weather report on Page 16.

St. Paul Pioneer Press

Today's Editorials
The Republican Task
Rivals for Queen Mary
Japan Makes the Most of It
Land Grant Agreements
An Italian Lafayette

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KARPIS GANGSTER AND 15 OTHER CRIMINAL INSANE ESCAPE FROM ST. PETER HOSPITAL

5 Guards Clubbed Unconscious as Mob Dashes Over Fence

Escape



LAWRENCE DEVOL.



TONY SMITH.



WALTER HORNSTEIN.

Lawrence DeVol, Convicted in Minneapolis Bank Holdup and Murder of Two Policemen, Called Leader of Gang; Two Recaptured; Others in Break Listed as Robbers and Killers; 10 Steal Girl's Car.

ALL ROADS GUARDED AS OFFICERS SEARCH RIVER BOTTOMS; TROOPS SENT TO SCENE

Sixteen inmates of the St. Peter State Insane asylum criminal ward, led by a former Barker-Karpis gangster, escaped Sunday night after slugging five guards unconscious and early today fourteen of them still were at large.

Thirty-five National Guardsmen, equipped with machine guns, immediately joined a large force of local and state officers in the search which was centered in the brushy bottomlands of the Minnesota river which skirt the asylum grounds.

L. G. Foley of St. Paul, member of the state Board of Control, and other officials declined to comment on the break pending reports from officials.

Ring leader of the fugitives was Lawrence Devol, alias George Barton, transferred here from Stillwater State penitentiary last December. DeVol, once an associate of the notorious Alvin Karpis and the Barker brothers, was sentenced for life January 9, 1933, for aiding in the robbery of the Third Northwestern National bank in Minneapolis which resulted in the slaying of three persons, including two policemen.

Among the fourteen still at liberty were two other bank robbers, Donald Reader and Tony Smith. Like DeVol they had been transferred here as dangerous mental defectives.

The others were listed as Tom DeLargo, alias Halloway; Adolph Woolworth, Wilfred Jorgenson, Walter Hornstein, Frank Gibson, Percy Kenosha, an Indian; Albert Sareko, William Lannenji, David Rhoades, George Tremont and Lawrence L. Gunderson.

The two recaptured were Ben Drussell and William O'Neil.

In a carefully conceived plot the sixteen made their successful break for liberty shortly after 7 P. M. Five guards in the criminal ward on the second floor of the institution were overpowered. Six of the inmates leaped upon the unarmed attendants, slugging them with chair legs which they concealed in their clothing.

Then the prisoners locked the guards in a small room, broke open a supply room, seized tools to pry open a barred window, and took a fire hose which they used to slide to the ground about 20 feet below.

The criminals climbed a 10-foot steel fence and six of them commandeered a parked coupe in which Miss Freida Marske of Mankato sat. She was pushed into the road and the fugitives raced away in the machine, while the others fled on foot. One report to hospital authorities was that several of the inmates were picked up by a large automobile near the hospital grounds.

The break was discovered by Guard Arthur Danielson, stationed on the first floor. The ensuing general alarm sent guards, sheriff posses, and police scurrying to the scene. They were joined

promptly by 35 members of a machine gun company of the 205th Infantry commanded by Captain Clifford Nutter of St. Peter.

Governor Olson, spending the week-end at his summer camp at Gull lake, 200 miles north of here, ordered out the guardsmen after consultation with Adjutant General Ellard A. Walsh.

A machine gun detail was posted at the entrance to the hospital grounds on the theory, authorities said, that some of the escaped men might try to free others confined in the criminal ward.

Descriptions Given of Men Still at Large

St. Peter, Minn., June 7.—Descriptions and histories of the 14 inmates of St. Peter insane asylum who are still at large after an escape tonight follow

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(Please Turn to Page 6, Col. 2.)

machine gun company of the 205th Infantry commanded by Captain Clifford Nutter of St. Peter.

Governor Olson, spending the week-end at his summer camp at Gull lake, 200 miles north of here, ordered out the guardsmen after consultation with Adjutant General Ellard A. Walsh.

A machine gun detail was posted at the entrance to the hospital grounds on the theory, authorities said, that some of the escaped men might try to free others confined in the criminal ward.

SEARCH RIVER BOTTOMS.

While the heavily armed guardsmen and officers searched the river bottoms, details of peace officials stopped all automobiles in this general vicinity, while all available means of communication flashed warning to residents that their homes might be invaded by the fleeing men. All the fugitives were lightly clad, none of them possessing coats or hats when they escaped.

The alarm that sent scores of armed men into action also prompted residents of the nearby countryside to barricade their homes and prepare for any eventuality. This was by request of the authorities who emphasized that the fleeing men were armed with clubs, knives and possibly firearms.

The darkness hampered the possemen who also were harassed by fears of being ambushed by their quarries. Powerful flash lights were used where possible to illuminate the dense underbrush as the armed details stumbled through a morass of mud and brambles.

HIGHWAYS WATCHED.

Authorities at the asylum ordered heavy cordons of armed men posted at highways entering Mankato, 12 miles away. Some of the fleeing men who got away in the stolen automobile were believed trying to reach that city, which is the largest center of population in this part of the state.

Preparations were underway for a concerted search of the river bottom area starting at daybreak. Asylum authorities expressed confidence that they would have several of the fugitives back in confinement as soon as they could thor-

(Please Turn to Page 6, Col. 2.)

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION
ST. PAUL

M.C. PASSOLT, Supt.
22 State Office Bldg.
Tel. - Cedar 3557
8:00 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Residence telephone
M.C. Passolt, Wa. 3918
F.W. Sommer, Chief Agt.
Midway 2582

BULLETIN

Vol. V

June 8, 1936

No. 22

Case #6504

W A R N I N G

ESCAPE - St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minn. The following described men, who are dangerous criminals and insane, escaped from the St. Peter State Hospital at about 7 P.M., Sunday evening, June 8th:

LAWRENCE DEVOL @ LEONARD BARTON
@ CARSON @ LAWRENCE DeNOLT

Age 30 (1936)
Height 5 ft. 7½ in.
Weight 135 lbs.
Hair Brown
Eyes Brown
Wore cream colored pants and light brown shirt, no hat or coat. Was sentenced for life imprisonment for murder and bank robbery from Hennepin County. Has a long record. Was an associate of Alvin Karpis and the Barker Gang.

F. P. C.

29 W IO
32 W I 16

DONALD J. REEDER

Age 22 (1931)
Height 5 ft. 8 in.
Weight 140 lbs.
Eyes Hazel
Hair Black
Comp. Dark
Build Medium
Has tattoos on both arms - scar on right ring finger. Wore blue striped dark pants, white shirt, no hat or coat.

F. P. C.

21 W I 17
19 W O 12

Was sentenced to life imprisonment for bank robbery from Rock County.

FRANK GIBSON

Age 29 (1927)
Height 5 ft. 8¾ in.
Weight 141 lbs.
Eyes Hazel
Hair Dark chestnut
Comp. Fair
Build Medium
Wore light blue pants and an oily undershirt.

F. P. C.

21 W I 13
17 U IO 18

Was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, first degree from Isanti County, Minn.

ADOLPH WALWORTH

Age 29 (1929)
Weight 160 lbs.
Hair Dark brown
Build Slender
Wore dark blue pants and green shirt, no hat or coat.
Fingerprint Class: 25 W O 11
2 U OO 8

TONY SMITH

Age 33 (1933)
Height 6 ft. 3/8 in.
Weight 193 lbs.
Eyes Blue
Hair Medium chestnut
Comp. Medium florid
Build Medium
Nose has been broken which shows scar on ridge and nose is flat. Wore dark pants, light shirt and a vest - no hat or coat.

F. P. C.

9 Ra
5 U 13

Sentenced for bank robbery from Stearns County, Minn.

WALTER HORNSTEIN

Age 22 (1934)
Height 5 ft. 11½ in.
Weight 175 lbs.
Eyes Light blue
Hair Brown
Comp. Sallow
Build Medium large
Wore brown corduroy pants, blue shirt.

F. P. C.

5 U OO 17
3 W O 10

Was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, second degree, from Stearns County, Minn.

WILBURT JORISSEN

Age 20 (1931)
Height 5 ft. 5 in.
Weight 150 lbs.
Eyes Grey blue
Hair Light brown
Comp. Fair
Build Medium
Has a bullet wound in wrist - both sides. Wore dark brown corduroy pants and blue shirt - no hat or coat.

F. P. C.

29 W M 9
17 R OO 8
Was sentenced to a term of 5 to 40 years for robbery, from Carver County, Minn.

(continued on next page)

(Case #6504 continued from preceding page)

Adolph Walworth was sentenced for Grand Larceny, first degree, and prior convictions from Chisago County, Minn.

WILLIAM LAMMI

Age 23 (1930)
Height 5 ft. 7 in.
Weight 153 lbs.
Eyes Hazel
Hair Medium chestnut
Comp. Florid
Build Medium
Wore light colored checkered shirt, and light striped pants. Right ring and middle finger amputated.

	F.	P.	C.	
17	W	I	13	Ref: 17
17	U	00	13	1

Was sentenced for auto theft from St. Louis County, Minn.

PERCY KENOSHA

Age 19 (1936)
Height 5 ft. 8 in.
Weight 175 lbs.
Eyes Dark chestnut
Hair Black
Comp. Light copper - rough skin.
Build Medium. Is an Indian.
Wore dark pants and light blue shirt.

	F.	P.	C.	
17	1	R	000	10
	1	U	010	10

Was sentenced from Minneapolis under dangerous practice law. (Attempted rape)

ALBERT SAROKO

Age 35 (1931)
Height 5 ft. 7½ in.
Weight 156 lbs.
Eyes Hazel
Hair Dark brown
Comp. Dark
Build Medium
Wore light brown suit, light blue checkered shirt and a vest.

	F.	P.	C.	
29	W	I	18	
18	U	00	18	

Was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, first degree, from Hennepin County, Minn.

LAWRENCE L. GUNDERSON

Age 35 (1936)
Height 6 ft. 2 in.
Weight 163 lbs.
Hair Light brown
Eyes Hazel
Wore blue striped overalls and a shirt. He was sentenced from Minneapolis, Minn., on a dangerous person charge.

USE EXTREME CARE IN APPREHENDING any of the above men, as they are all very dangerous and may be armed. Shortly after the escape two of the men, Ben Drussell and William O'Neil, were captured near the asylum grounds, and on Monday, June 8th, George Tremont was captured in New Ulm, and Tom Delarge alias Halloway and David Rhodes were captured in St. James, Minn.

Notify: Sheriff John A. Johnson, St. Peter, Minn., and this Bureau.

Case #6492

BANK ROBBERY - Cold Springs, Stearns County, Minn. On June 5th, three men came into the State Bank of Cold Springs at about 3 P.M. and remained there until 4:30 P.M. They were all armed and got away with about \$2500.00, exact amount unknown at this time. Bandits described as follows: No. 1. (apparently leader) Age 48-50 years. Height 5 ft. 8 or 10 in. Weight 165-170 lbs. Comp. very dark - swarthy. Wore dark clothes. Low gruff voice. Carried an automatic, which looked like a .45. Wore gloves. No. 2. Age 43-45 years. Height 5 ft. 7 or 8 in. Weight 155-165 lbs. Comp. dark - tanned but not as dark as No. 1. Eyes blue. Thin face - sharp features - very pointed nose - sandy Charlie Chaplin mustache. Wore light brown suit, grey hat. Smooth voice. Had some kind of a scar or wrinkles on side of face. Carried an automatic calibre unknown. No. 3. About 20 years. Height 5 ft. 10 in. Weight 130 lbs. Hair light. Comp. light. Build slim. Index finger of right hand amputated. Rims of eyes red as though he needed sleep. Wore striped overalls. Carried two guns. They used a Ford V8 Sedan, color dark blue, bearing dealers license D 264-1. (These plates are stolen) The above car and men answer the description of men who robbed the bank at Merrill, Iowa, on June 3rd. Case 6466, this Bulletin. The Ford V8 Sedan answers the description of the one stolen at Faribault on June 1st. Case 6445, this Bulletin.

Notify: Sheriff Art McIntee, St. Cloud, Minn., and this Bureau.

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

STATE OFFICE BLDG., ST. PAUL, MINN.

Circular No. 255

June 22, 1936

WANTED FOR ESCAPE

Case No. 6504

Age 27 (1932)
Height 5 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.
Weight 157 lbs.
Hair Medium dark chestnut
Build Medium
Comp. Dark
Eyes Dark hazel

Fingerprint Classification:

17 29 W IO
32 W I 16



Vaccination scar on upper left arm. Prominent cut scar on elbow Post. of right arm. Faint dimple in chin. Sunken cheeks. Acne rash on face and body. Cut scar over left eye.

LAWRENCE DEVOL

alias

LEONARD BARTON
LAWRENCE DeVOLT
CARSON

On June 8, 1936, this man and fifteen others escaped from the Criminal Ward of the State Insane Hospital, St. Peter, Minn. Twelve of these men have been apprehended and the following are still at large: Lawrence Devol, Frank Gibson, Donald J. Reeder and Albert Soroko.

Lawrence Devol has a long criminal record and was once an associate of Alvin Karpis and the Barker Gang. He was sentenced to the Minnesota State Prison on January 1, 1933, on a life sentence for bank robbery and murder. On December 27, 1935, he was transferred to the St. Peter Hospital. He is a very dangerous criminal and extreme caution should be used in apprehending him.

If located, arrest, hold and notify:

JOHN A. JOHNSON, Sheriff
Nicollet County,
St. Peter, Minnesota

M. C. PASSOLT, Superintendent
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
State Office Building, St. Paul, Minn

DR. GEORGE H. FREEMAN, Supt.
St. Peter State Hospital, St. Peter, Minnesota

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

Form 6

July 16, 1936.

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning our number

FBI-4,0771.

RECEIVED

JUL 19 1936

29279

J. E. Hoover

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

J. E. HOOVER, Director

Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
PD, Tulsa, Okla.	Lawrence Duvall, #918	10-17-18	inv. (larceny)	\$25 and costs
St. Ref., Granite, Okla.	Lawrence DeVol, #2239	5-21-19	G.I.	3 yrs.; 3-13-21 rel., exp. short term
PD, Tulsa, Okla.	Ray Clayton, #112	4-11-21	burglary	turned over to the County
St. Ref., Granite, Okla.	Lawrence Devol, #3266	11-3-21	burglary	3 yrs.; 1-28-23 rel., exp. short term
PD, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Lawrence Devol, #1903	2-5-23	loitering	fined \$3
PD, Pittsburg, Kansas	Larry O'Keefe, #906	1-7-26	B. and L.	sent. to indef. sent. St. Ref., Hutchinson, Kans.
St. Ind. Ref., Hutchinson, Kansas	Larry O'Keefe, #7108	4-5-26	G.I.	5 yrs.; escaped 3-9-29; notified 6-21-29
St. Pen., Lansing, Kansas	Larry O'Keefe, #1046	7-28-29 in trans. from Ref.	G.I.	1-5 yrs.; 1-6-30 rel., exp. sent.
PD, Tonkawa, Okla.	James B. Henderson, #1000	2-8-30	inv.	
PD, Kansas City, Mo.	Leonard E. Carson, #17901	3-23-30	larceny of auto and safe blower	
SO, Board, R.I.	Leonard E. Carson, #17901	inquiry 12-31-30		

*Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.

For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD, St. Paul, Minn.	L. Barton, #123002	12-18-32	inv.	turned over to Minneapolis Police
PD, Minneapolis, Minn.	Leonard Barton, #123002	12-19-32	bank robbery, murder, fugitive	Received St. Prison, Stillwater, Minn., 1-10-33, from Hennepin Co., crime murder 2nd degree; sentence, life - per inf. rec. 2-1-33 from St. Police, Hartford, Conn.
PD, Enid, Okla. AIR MAIL	Lawrence DeVol, #A-6713	Killed 7-8-36	killed one Enid Police Officer and wounded another	
*	Arrested at Tulsa, several times for larceny; now out on bond for burglary of a jewelry store in Tulsa, also under bond for being implicated in murder in Tulsa, (as appearing on print 9-18 PD, Tulsa, Okla.).			
*	Lawrence DeVol, committed to Oklahoma Reform School, Pauls Valley, Okla., 5-20-14, as incorrigible from Tulsa, Okla.			
*	WANTED: Escaped 3-28-19. Notify SO, Miami, Okla. Notified 8-22-23.			
*	WANTED: Escaped from Co. Jail, Tulsa, Okla., (per letter of 5-31-21). Notified 8-22-23.			
*	Larry O'Keefe, Kansas City, Mo., 1925, vag.			
*	WANTED: As Leonard E. Carson, for murder, (per inf. rec. 1-30-31 in National Police Officer for January 1931). Notify SO, Kirksville, Mo. Notified 12-20-32.			
*	WANTED: As Leonard E. Carson, charge not given. Notify PD, Omaha, Neb., (per inf. rec. therefrom 2-8-32). Notified 12-20-32.			
*	STILL WANTED: As Lawrence DeVol, for murder, (per inf. rec. 5-18-32 in PD, Bulletin). Notify SO, Kirksville, Mo. Also notify PD, Milwaukee, Wis., (per inf. rec. 9-13-32). Notified 12-20-32. NO LONGER WANTED: As Lawrence DeVol, for bank robbery. Apprehended St. Paul, Minn., (per inf. rec. Bulletin, St. Bu., St. Paul, Minn., 12-19-32).			
*	WANTED: As L. B. Barton, (prob. ident.) for escape from St. Hospital, St. Peter, Minn. Notify St. Pen., Stillwater, Minn., (per inf. rec. therefrom 6-11-36). Notified 7-16-36.			
*	WANTED: As Lawrence DeVol, (prob. ident.) for escape from St. Hospital, St. Peter, Minn., 6-8-36. (Sentenced from Hennepin Co., to serve life for murder and bank robbery). Notify SO, St. Peter, Minn., and St. Bu., St. Paul, Minn., (per inf. rec. from latter's bulletin of 6-8-36). Notified 7-16-36.			
(CC-Supt., St. Hosp., St. Peter, Minn.)				
(CC-S., Stillwater, Minn.)				
(CC-SO, St. Peter, Minn.)				
(CC-St. Bu., St. Paul, Minn.)				

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.

For completion of our records, please supply dispositions to this Bureau in any of the foregoing cases where they do not appear.